



MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN AUGUST 2026

1. Introduction

This bulletin provides an overview of the climatic conditions observed across Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue during August 2026, highlighting the key meteorological features and notable weather events recorded during the month. Generally, rainfall was below the August climatological average across most of Seychelles, although a small pocket around Au Cap district experienced normal to above-normal rainfall conditions. Mean air temperature was also above the 1991-2020 climatological average, making August 2026 the warmest August on record since observations began in 1972.

The climate of Seychelles is influenced by global and regional climate drivers, as well as local topography. El Niño conditions, which developed in June 2026, persisted throughout August, with sea surface temperatures across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean and the associated atmospheric response remaining consistent with El Niño conditions. El Niño conditions were anticipated to strengthen further by September 2026 and persist through the February-April (FMA) 2027 season. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remained in a neutral phase throughout August 2026. Meanwhile, the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) remained relatively weak, lingering in Phases 7 and 8 during the month. These phases are generally associated with suppressed rainfall activity over Seychelles.

2. Monthly rainfall performance in August 2026

2.1. Distribution of rainfall for August 2026

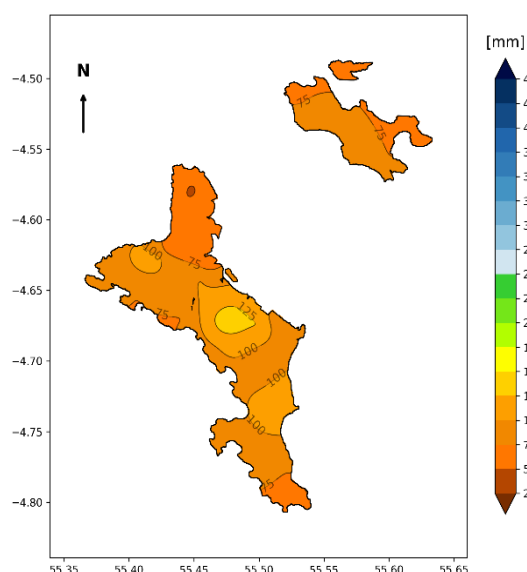


Figure 1: Monthly total rainfall in mm during August 2026

Figure 1 illustrates the spatial distribution of total rainfall across Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue during August 2026.

Across Mahe, monthly rainfall totals ranged from 47.6 mm to 143.7 mm, with the lowest accumulation recorded at Machabee and the highest at La Misere Rose rain gauge station respectively. Rainfall below 75 mm was observed across substantial portions of the northern and southern parts of the island. In contrast, accumulation exceeding 100 mm occurred in localized areas of northwestern and southern Mahe, as well as parts of the central region. Overall, rainfall generally decreased from the central parts of the island towards the northern and southern extremities.

On Praslin, monthly rainfall totals ranged from 52.2 mm to 98.5 mm. The highest accumulation was recorded at Vallée de Mai Shelter (98.5 mm), while the lowest was observed at Praslin Desalination PUC rain gauge station (52.2 mm). On La Digue, monthly rainfall totals ranged from 71.1 mm to 86.2 mm during August 2026.



2.1 Monthly rainfall performance, anomaly and percentage of normal rainfall during August 2026

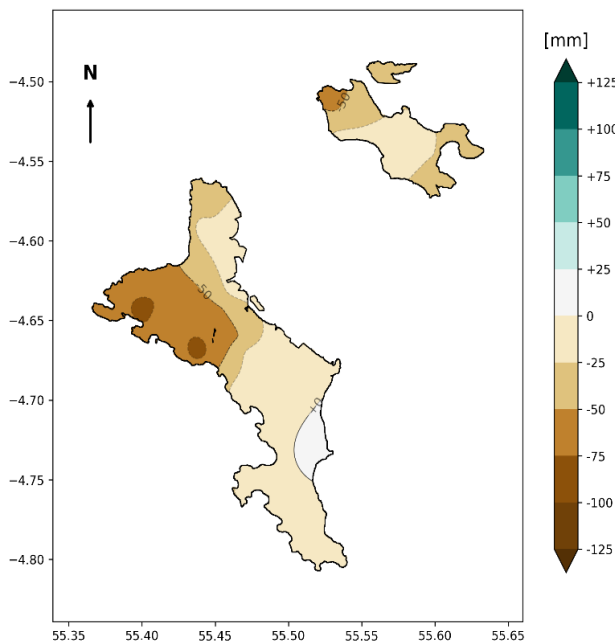


Figure 2: Monthly rainfall anomaly in mm during August 2026

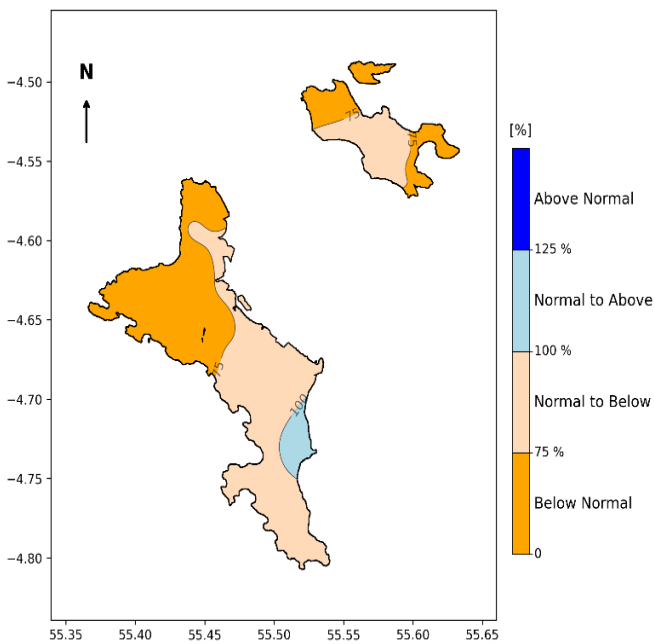


Figure 3: Percent of normal rainfall during August 2026

Figure 2 illustrates the spatial distribution of rainfall anomalies across Mahe and Praslin during August 2026. Brown shades represent negative rainfall anomalies (rainfall deficits), while green shades indicate positive anomalies (rainfall surpluses).

Across Mahe, negative rainfall anomalies predominated during August 2026, indicating that most areas received less rainfall than the long-term monthly average. Rainfall deficits ranged from -23.9 mm to -65.9 mm. However, localized positive anomalies were observed in the Au Cap district, where rainfall surpluses ranged from approximately +4.3 mm to +23.9 mm.

Similarly, Praslin experienced predominantly negative rainfall anomalies during August 2026, reflecting drier than normal conditions across most of the island. Rainfall deficits ranged from -25.0 mm to -56.0 mm.

Figure 3 illustrates the spatial distribution of rainfall anomaly categories across Mahe and Praslin during August 2026. Across Mahe, below-normal rainfall conditions predominated over

SEYCHELLES METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

Seychelles International Airport

P O Box 1604, Victoria, Mahé, Republic of Seychelles

Telephone: (248) 4670700/711 /718

E-mail: info@meteo.sc Web: www.meteo.sc



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SMA/CLI/FM/011

Created by : T. Nomenjanahary

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the northern and western parts of the island, while normal-to-below-normal rainfall conditions were observed across much of the central and southern regions. However, a localized area around Au Cap experienced normal-to-above-normal rainfall conditions.

On Praslin, normal to below-normal rainfall conditions prevailed across most areas, while localized areas experienced below-normal rainfall conditions during August 2026.

Figure 4 compares the observed rainfall totals with their respective long-term monthly averages across the monitoring stations during August 2026. The results indicate that most stations recorded rainfall below their long-term averages, reflecting generally drier-than-normal conditions across Seychelles.

Stations located on La Digue, Silhouette, Curieuse, and Denis islands also recorded rainfall totals below their respective long-term mean. This widespread deficit highlights the predominantly below-average rainfall conditions experienced across the monitored islands during August 2026.

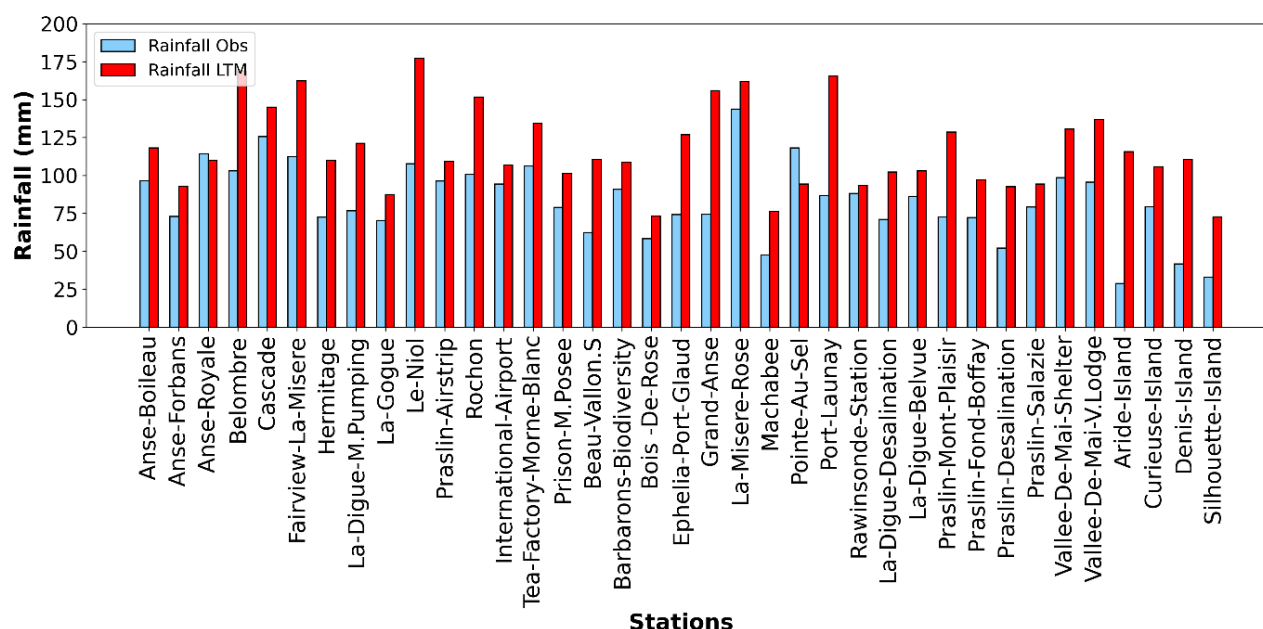


Figure 4: August 2026 rainfall total against August Long Term Mean (LTM)



3. Mean temperature anomaly - August 2026 at Seychelles International Airport

The monthly mean air temperature recorded in August 2026 was 27.6 °C, representing a positive anomaly of +1.0 °C relative to the 1991-2020 climatological reference period (Figure 5). This indicates that August 2026 was considerably warmer than the climatological average.

The long-term temperature record at Seychelles International Airport also indicates that August mean temperatures have remained above the 1991-2020 climatological normal since 2023. Furthermore, August 2026 was the warmest August on record since observations began in 1972 at the Seychelles International Airport weather station, highlighting the exceptional warmth observed during the month.

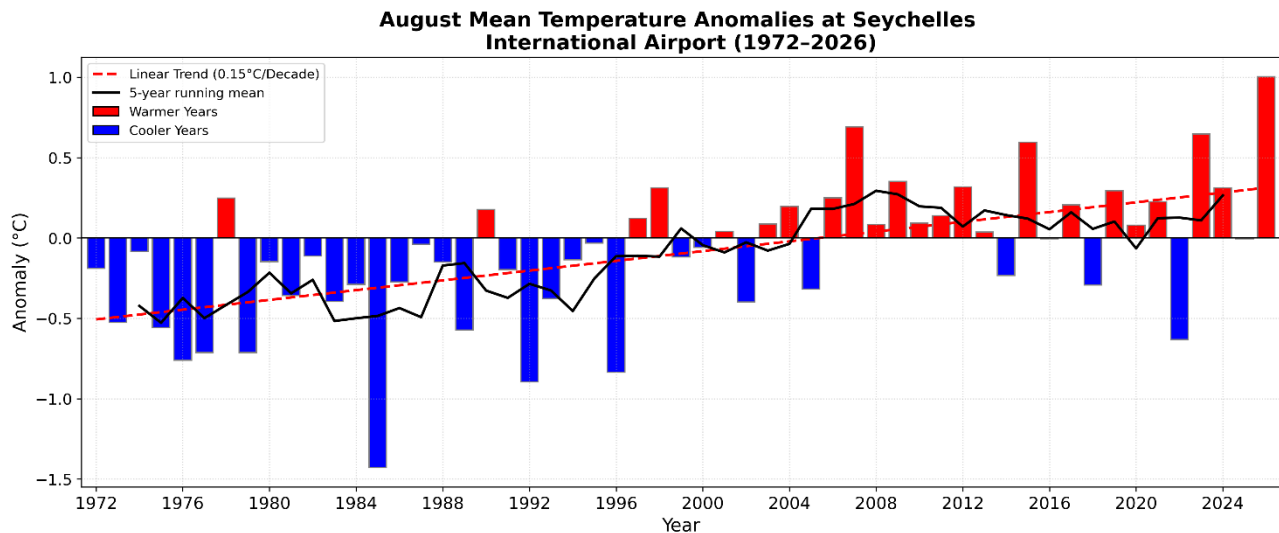


Figure 5: August Mean temperature anomalies relative to the 1991-2020 reference period. *Note:* Anomalies refer to deviations from the mean or average temperatures. Positive anomalies (in red bars) imply that temperatures were warmer than average while negative anomalies (in blue bars) imply that temperatures were cooler than average.

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E-mail: info@meteo.sc Web: www.meteo.sc**MONTHLY CLIMATE BULLETIN****SMA/CLI/FM/011****Created by : T. Nomenjanahary****Revision Number : 001****Page 5 of 10****4. Daily weather for August 2026 at Seychelles International Airport****4.1. Daily rainfall, relative humidity, maximum and minimum temperature in August 2026**

During August 2026, a total of 94.4 mm of rainfall was recorded at Seychelles International Airport. This was slightly below the climatological normal of 114.9 mm for the month. The temporal distribution shows that 18.9 mm was recorded during the first dekad (1-10 August), followed by 18.2 mm during the second dekad (11-20 August). The rainfall accumulation during the last dekad (21-31 August) was 57.3 mm, which accounted for approximately 61% of the total monthly rainfall. The highest 24-hour rainfall accumulation was recorded towards the end of the month, with 35.2 mm. Further analysis shows that the month was characterized by 15 rainy days and 16 dry days (A rainy day is defined as a day with a daily rainfall accumulation of at least 1 mm). The first and second dekads each recorded 6 rainy days, while only 3 rainy days occurred during the last dekad. Despite the higher number of rainy days during the first two dekads, daily rainfall amounts generally remained below 5 mm. In contrast, rainfall during the last dekad was less frequent but heavier, accounting for most of the monthly total. A dry spell of 9 consecutive dry days was also observed from 19th to 27th August.

At the Seychelles International Airport, the relative humidity varied from 71 % to 85 % during August 2026. The monthly average value was 77 %, slightly below the climatological normal of 79.5 %. The lowest relative humidity (71 %) was recorded on the 7th of August, while the highest values (85 %) occurred on the 28th of August.

In August 2026, the daily maximum temperature at Seychelles International Airport ranged from 29.0°C to 30.9°C. The highest maximum temperature of 30.9°C was recorded on two consecutive days of 12th and 13th August, while the lowest value of 29.0°C occurred on 29th August. The average daily maximum temperature for the month was 30.0°C, which was 1.2°C above the 1991-2020 climatological normal of 28.8°C. Further analysis shows that daily maximum temperatures remained above the climatological normal throughout the month, indicating consistently warmer-than-normal daytime conditions during August 2026.

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At Seychelles International Airport, the daily minimum temperature ranged from 23.4°C to 26.4°C during August 2026. The lowest minimum temperature of 23.4°C was recorded on 4th August, while the highest value of 26.4°C occurred on 20th August. The average daily minimum temperature for the month was 25.1°C, which was 0.7°C above the 1991-2020 climatological normal of 24.4°C. Further analysis shows that daily minimum temperatures remained above the climatological normal for most of the month, except on 4th, 5th, 28th, 29th and 31st August. Overall, this indicates that nighttime conditions were generally warmer than normal during August 2026.

Refer to Figures 6 and 7 below for graphical presentation of observed rainfall, relative humidity, maximum and minimum temperature for August 2026.

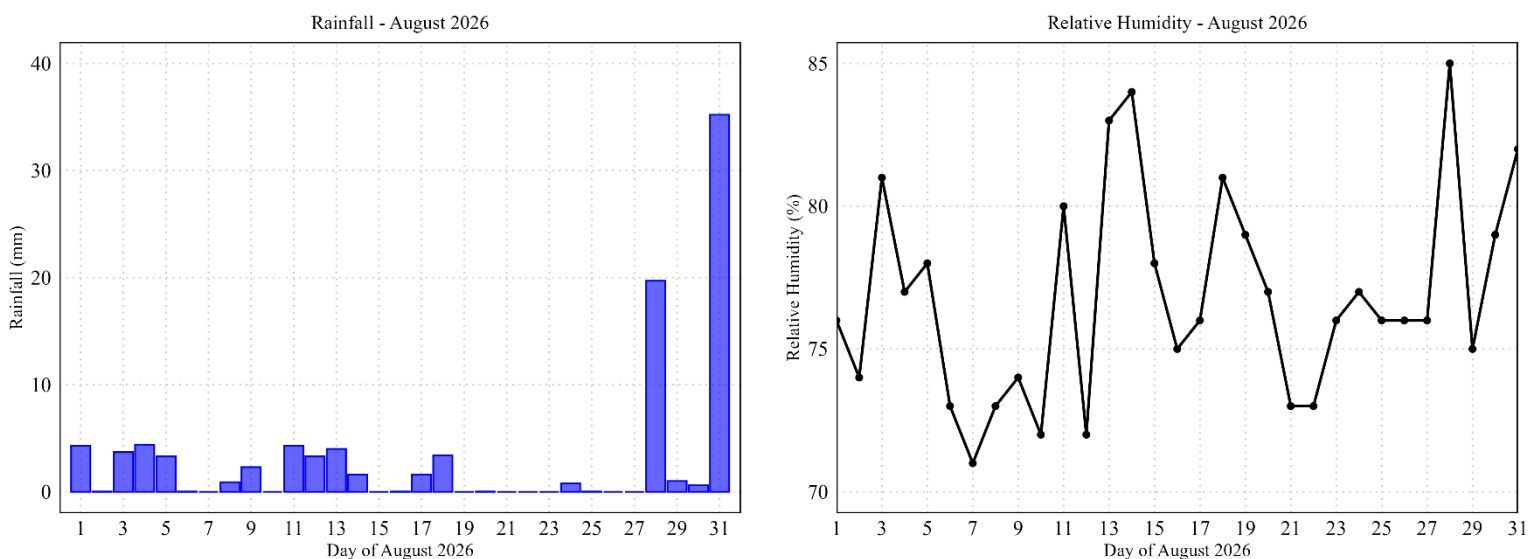
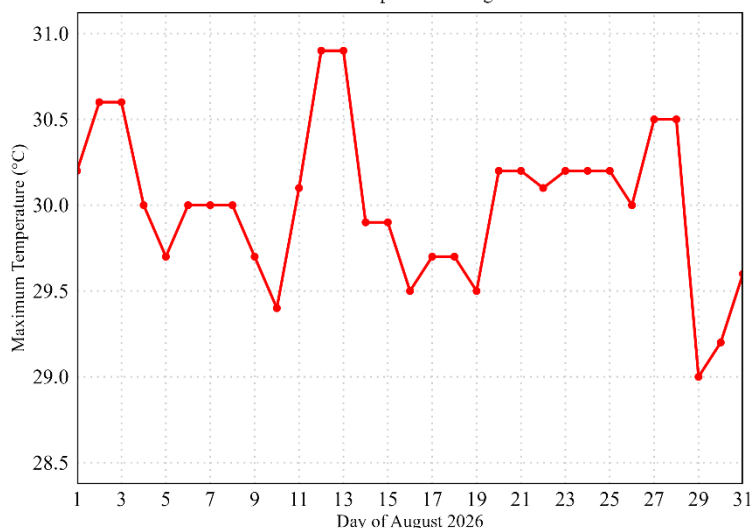


Figure 6: Analytical plots of daily rainfall and relative humidity in August 2026



Maximum Temperature - August 2026



Minimum Temperature - August 2026

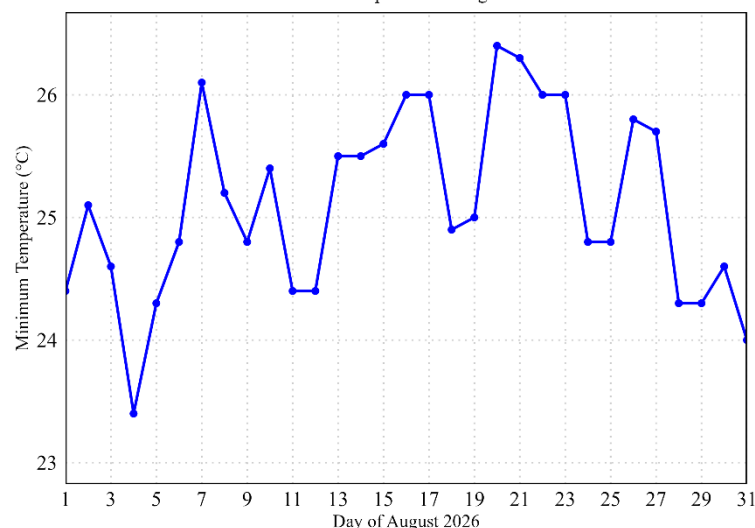


Figure 7: Analytical plots of daily maximum and minimum temperature in August 2026

4.2. Daily sunshine hours, Mean Sea level pressure and surface wind in August 2026

In August 2026, the daily mean wind speed at Seychelles International Airport ranged from 4.4 to 17.9 knots. The monthly average was 12.3 knots, slightly above the climatological normal of 11.7 knots. The highest mean wind speed of 17.9 knots was recorded on 29th August, while the lowest value of 4.4 knots occurred on 3rd August. Mean wind speeds were above the climatological normal during several periods of the month, particularly from 4th to 9th, 14th to 16th, 20th to 25th and 29th to 31st of August. The wind rose indicates that winds were predominantly from the southeast during the month, with wind speeds most frequently ranging between 11 and 17 knots.

Mean sea level pressure at the Seychelles International Airport during August 2026 ranged from 1010.5 hPa to 1015.3 hPa. The lowest value of 1010.5 hPa was recorded on 3rd August, while the highest value of 1015.3 hPa occurred on 29th August. The monthly mean sea level pressure was 1013.9 hPa, slightly above the 1991-2020 climatological normal of 1012.7 hPa for August. A gradual increase in mean sea level pressure was observed from the beginning towards the end of the month.

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The mean daily sunshine duration during August 2026 was 8.1 hours, which was 0.5 hours above the 1991-2020 climatological normal of 7.6 hours. The highest daily sunshine duration of 11.1 hours was recorded on 10th August, while the lowest value of 2.0 hours occurred on 6th August. Sunshine duration was generally high during the month, although relatively low values of less than 3 hours were recorded the 6th, 28th and 29th August 2026.

Refer to Figure 8 and 9 below for graphical and wind rose presentation of wind Speed and direction, Sea level pressure and Sunshine during the month of August 2026.

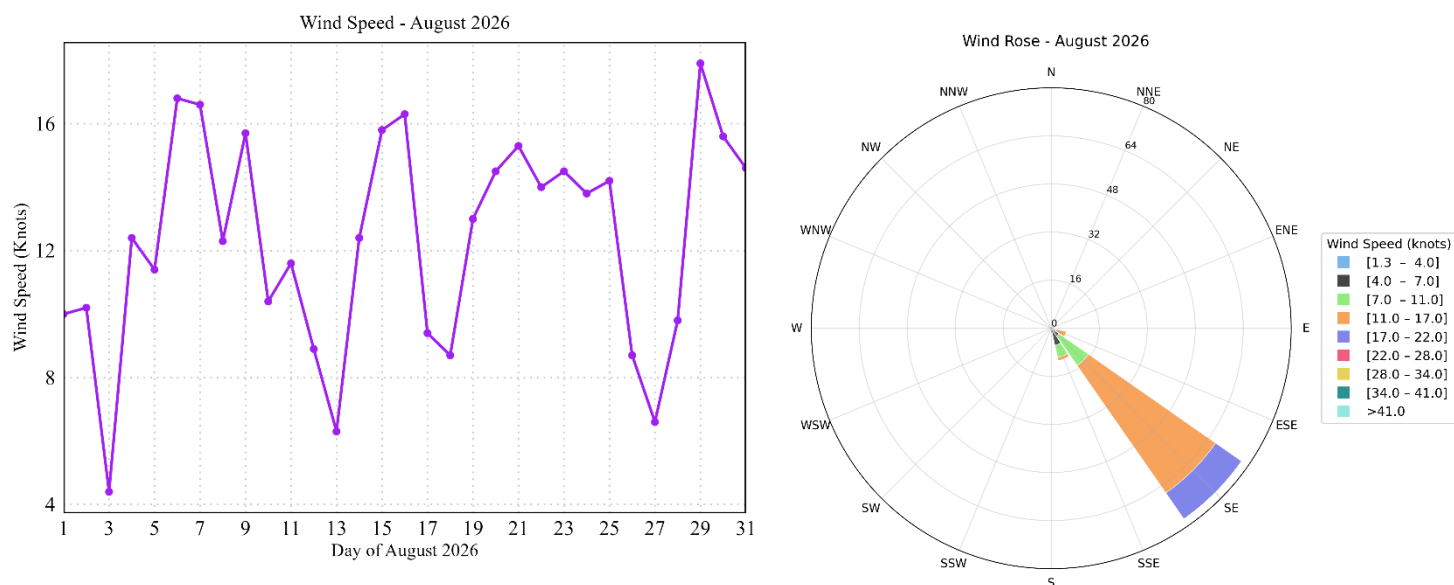
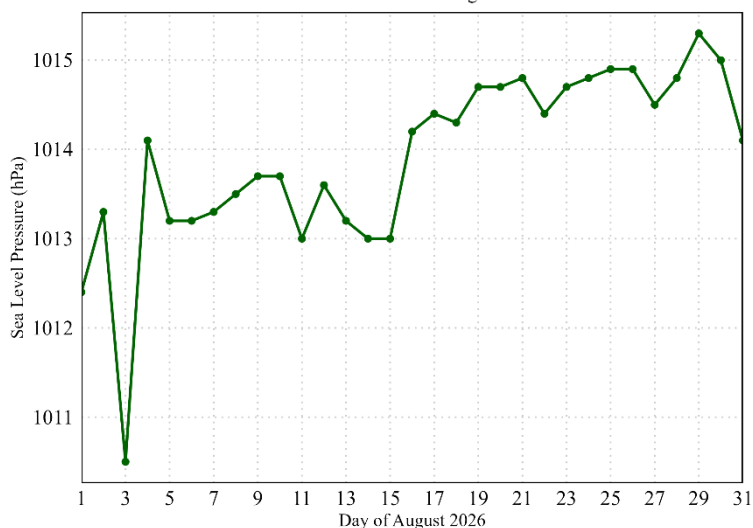


Figure 8: Analytical plots of daily wind speed, wind direction in August 2026



Sea Level Pressure - August 2026



Sunshine Hours - August 2026

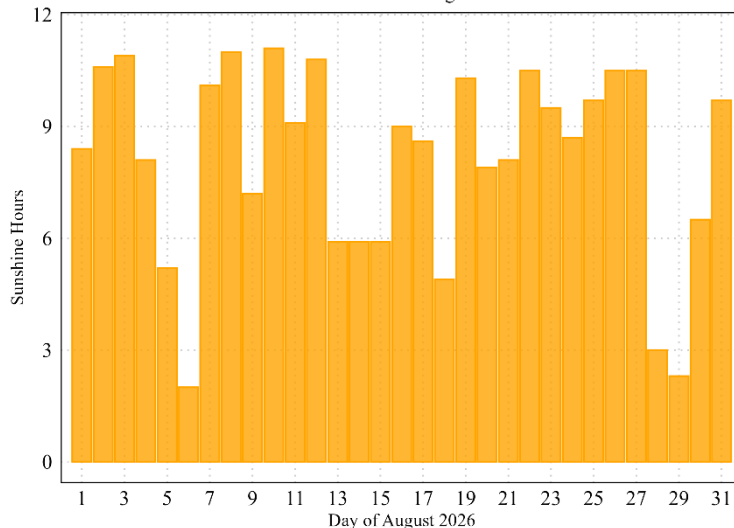


Figure 9: Analytical plots of Sea Level pressure, sunshine hours in August 2026

4.3. Wind Pattern in August 2026

Figure 10 shows the spatial configuration of the atmospheric circulation at 1000 hPa and 700 hPa over the Indian Ocean basin during August 2026. In general, the basin was in its winter configuration.

At 1000 hPa, the circulation over the southern Indian Ocean basin was predominantly characterized by strong southeasterly trade winds associated with the Mascarene High, centered at approximately 35°S, 60°E. The southeasterly flow turned progressively southerly to southwesterly as it crossed the equator into the Northern Hemisphere. Around Mahe and the Inner Islands, southeasterly winds prevailed, with speeds generally ranging from approximately 6 to 9 m/s. Stronger winds of about 9 to 12 m/s were evident in the south of Mahe and east of Madagascar. The cross-equatorial flow intensified further along the East African coast, particularly off Somalia and toward the southern Arabian Peninsula, where wind speeds exceeded 12 m/s.

At 700 hPa, southeasterly flow remained evident around Mahe and the Inner Islands, although winds were weaker, generally around 2 to 4 m/s. The circulation also shows the influence of

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the Southeasterly flow toward the equatorial region and progressively turning to southwesterly over the Northern Indian Ocean, with winds of approximately 4 to 8 m/s farther north.

The prevailing southeasterly winds during August were characterized by stronger winds at the lower levels and weaker to moderate winds at 700 hPa over the Seychelles region, indicating vertical wind-speed shear within the lower troposphere. Further, such a pattern of wind is often associated with the passing showers characteristics of rainfall observed during the month.

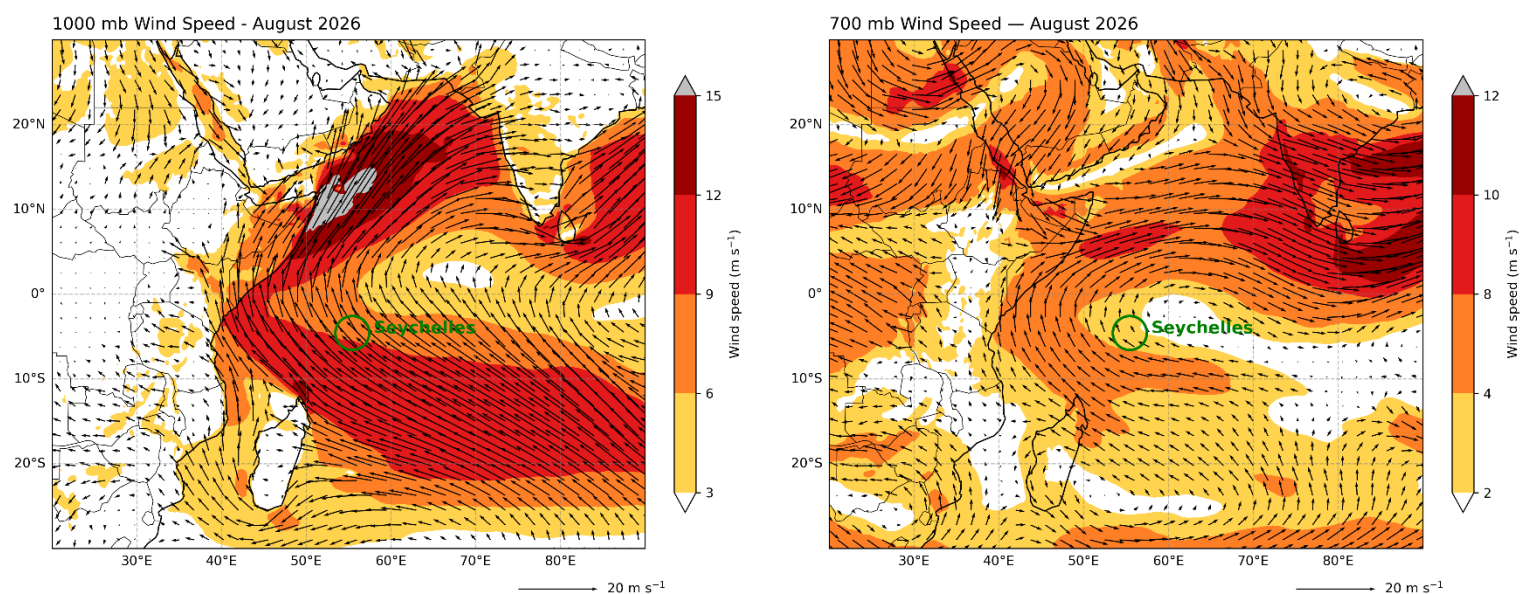


Figure 10: Surface wind flow-1000 mb (left) and wind flow at 700 mb (right) in August 2026