



RV SONNE cruise SO299 DYNAMET

06.06. – 29.07.2023
Townsville (Australia) – Singapore

Weekly Report No. 7
17.-23.07.2023

At sea, 5° 25'N, 119° 44'E

At the beginning of the week, the work in the laboratories was completed. The last samples were described, documented and packed for transport to Germany. Then it was time to clean up the laboratories and pack the containers. The diving robot ROV Kiel 6000 is also safely packed in the transport container. For the ROV it goes directly to the expedition M194 with RV *Meteor* to the Red Sea. For the scientific participants, there will be lectures every morning on exciting topics such as the current United Nations Ocean Decade (Rebecca Zitoun), the importance of the trace element composition of sulphides (Jan Falkenberg) or the sustainable curation of samples and data (Doris Maicher).



RV *Sonne* sails through rough seas. Foto: Christoph Beier.

During the first two sections of the transit through the Caroline Sea and Celebes Sea, we felt the distant effects of a tropical low that is currently developing into a typhoon further north: on Tuesday, many a wave crashed over the mighty bow of the *Sonne*, and on Wednesday evening and Saturday, some gusts of wind reached Beaufort 10 to 11. Now and then we also pass through tropical rain showers. The aforementioned low-pressure system was also the reason

for the decision not to sail north of the Philippines towards Singapore as originally planned, but to take the more southerly route through the Celebes and Sulu Seas instead.

Saturday evening's programme also included the joint barbecue of crew and science. On this occasion, a long-time member of the deck crew was also given a farewell ceremony for his well-deserved retirement after this cruise.

All participants are well and the first half of the 13.5-day transit is over. Not surprisingly, the general anticipation of entering the port of Singapore next week is slowly rising.

On behalf of all participants, greetings from aboard the RV *Sonne*,

Philipp Brandl

Chief Scientist