Project Update: June 2016

From December 2015 to March 2016, we carried out field activities in the islands of São Tomé and Príncipe. In these occasions we were able to sample fish assemblages in five sites of São Tomé Island (51 surveys) and seven of Principe Island (146 surveys). We also interviewed fishermen from both: 43 in Principe and 189 in São Tomé. These spanned a comprehensible range of fishing experience (from around 5 years to more than 40) and were distributed proportionally to the number of fishermen in each island. In addition to this, we spent 8 days at the museum and historical archives in search of written and photographic records of old fisheries. All these data gathered will hopefully reveal more about how fish assemblages and fishing activities have changed over time in this small island nation.



Left: Fish visual surveys. Photo by Luiz Rocha. Right: Rhodolith bank Principe Island. Photo by Luiz Rocha.