

## **Project Update: January 2010**

ReefDoctor's Miamby Fano turtle programme, in collaboration with the Ifaty public school, held the inaugural Turtle Day on 19th November 2009 to expand on the marine education curriculum currently being taught

The focal point of the day was moving education out of the classroom and making it interactive, fun and practical to the young generation of Vezo whose lives are so intricately linked to the health of the coral reef ecosystem. Presentations and games brought subjects like turtle ecology, ecosystem function and the role of the food web to life and emphasised the importance of the marine environment and the species that inhabit this unique and fragile system.

Turtle Day was a great success and children from the local community were able to interact with ReefDoctor staff and volunteers as well as students from the local marine university, Institut Halieutique et des Sciences Marines (IH.SM) who stood out as role-models for an alternative future working in the reef environment.