

French Southern and Antarctic Lands

(overseas territory of France)

Geography

Location: Southern Africa, islands in the southern Indian Ocean, about equidistant between Africa, Antarctica, and Australia; note - "French Southern and Antarctic Lands" includes Ile Amsterdam, Ile Saint-Paul, Iles Crozet, and Iles Kerguelen in the southern Indian Ocean, along with the French-claimed sector of Antarctica, "Terre Adelie

Area:

total area: 7,781 sq km

land area: 7,781 sq km

Land boundaries: 0 km

Coastline: 1,232 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm from Iles Kerguelen only

territorial sea: 12 nm

Climate: antarctic

Terrain: volcanic

Natural resources: fish, crayfish

Land use:

arable land: 0%

permanent crops: 0%

meadows and pastures: 0%

forest and woodland: 0%

other: 100%

Irrigated land: 0 sq km

Environment:

natural hazards: Ile Amsterdam and Ile Saint-Paul are extinct

volcanoes

Note: remote location in the southern Indian Ocean

People

Population: no indigenous inhabitants; note - there are researchers whose numbers vary from 150 in winter (July) to 200 in summer (January)

Government

Names:

conventional long form: Territory of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands

conventional short form: French Southern and Antarctic Lands

local long form: Territoire des Terres Australes et Antarctiques Francaises

local short form: Terres Australes et Antarctiques Francaises

Capital: none; administered from Paris, France

Independence: none (overseas territory of France)

Flag: the flag of France is used

Economy

Overview: Economic activity is limited to servicing meteorological and geophysical research stations and French and other fishing fleets. The fish catches landed on Iles Kerguelen by foreign ships are exported to France and Reunion.

Transportation

Highways:
total: NA

Ports: none; offshore anchorage only

Airports: none

Defence Forces

Note: defence is the responsibility of France