

The importance of torrential erosion, the consequences of deforestation, eruptions, cyclone events, tourist developments, urban pressure are all threats to the richness of Réunion island's plant biodiversity.

Urban pressure

In Reunion Island, there were 130 different types of natural environment, from volcanic mineral areas to sugar cane plantations The island still has important areas of endemic primary vegetation (forests, highland meadows); they cover nearly 30% of the territory. On the other hand, this strong wealth is fragile, the settlement of man from the 17th century has led to the disappearance of many species, by the destruction of their habitat by urbanization (Barau Petrel). The island has a population density of 341 inhabitants/km² in 2017 more than 3 times higher than the density of the whole of France and this in 10 years. Rapid urbznization will have an impact on the quality of the environment. Human activity causes degradation of the forest massif and pollution.



