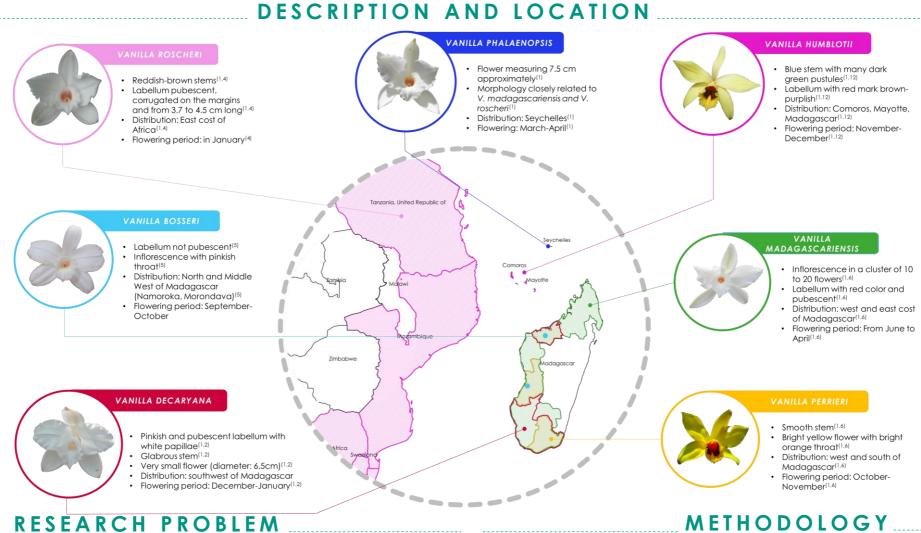
CHARACTERIZATION AND CONSERVATION OF GENETIC RESOURCES OF VANILLA GENUS NATIVE TO THE SOUTH WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION

7 aphyllous Vanilla species are endemics to **SWIO** region. They form a recent monophyletic group with a great potentiality for the future.



- **Difficulty to identify species** despite some differences in flower color, labellum ornementation, stem texture and flower size.
- Geographical distribution and flowering season overlap in Madagascar, increasing the probability of finding some sympatric species and therefore possible hybrids.

