



Stakeholder Consultation Report

South Africa

Prepared for the
Benguela Current Convention
February 2017



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Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Benguela Current Convention and / or Norway.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Stakeholder Consultation

Development of the Review Report included an inclusive and transparent stakeholder involvement process to provide all relevant stakeholders an opportunity to contribute their opinions on managing the marine ecosystems. The interests, needs and values of all relevant stakeholders had to be included as far as possible. A participatory approach cultivates buy-in and contributes to the long-term support of relevant stakeholders to the conservation of the site.

1.1.1. Objective

The objective of stakeholder engagement is to have all relevant stakeholders benefit from the protection and sustainable use of the marine ecosystem without damaging its integrity. As part of this process, existing threats as well as current and proposed mitigation measures for particularly seabirds and turtles were reviewed and assessed.

The Review Report therefore provides a framework for interaction between relevant stakeholders. The various views of the stakeholders can be debated in an open and transparent manner and can be balanced through *inter alia* i) appropriate conflict resolution procedures; ii) relevant legal instruments; and iii) the principles of co-operative governance in accordance with the Constitution of Angola, Namibia or South Africa.

2. Government

2.1. Relevant Government departments

2.1.1. Meeting with DEA and DAFF

Date: 25 November 2016

Objective: Brief DEA and DAFF on the project to receive their support and input on the 3 BCC projects

Present in the meeting: Tembisa Sineke, Herman Oosthuysen, Alan Boyd, Mandisile Mqoqi, Deon Derholtz, Zintle Langa, Millicent Makaola, Samantha Peterson, Umaymah Jattiem and Olga van den Pol

The key points discussed were:

1. General
 - a. BCC adopted a strategic action programme on shared issues. The objective of the meeting is to align the 3 BCC projects with the plans of DEA and to obtain their support.
 - b. DE would like to know: i) what assistance is needed from DEA for these projects; ii) What are the specific activities within these projects?; and iii) How much involvement of DEA would this require?
 - c. DEA is developing Biodiversity Management Plans (BMPs) and DAFF is developing the NPOAs and report these to the FAO.

2. Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity: Reduce Threat to species and habitats
 - a. How to prevent duplication between the BMP and the NPOA? The NPOA focuses on seabirds and fisheries and the BMP focuses on seabirds and other animals.
 - b. For seabirds, the research falls within DEA and the management within DAFF.
 - c. In South Africa, there are currently only 2 NPOAs: for seabirds and sharks. DEA developed a BMP for sharks and is looking how these two documents can best be aligned.

2.2 Turtles

- a. There is a (draft) BMP for turtles and a MoU for West Coast turtles and MoU with IUCN, but there is no NPOA. Samantha indicated that the project would consult the BMP when developing a draft NPOA to avoid duplication.
- b. DEA mentioned there is no time within the scope of the project to develop a new NPOA for turtles, as it will take more than 2 years. Within DEA there is currently more need to align the sharks BMP and NPOA and it was requested if there is some flexibility within the scope of work to amend this? Unfortunately, the project has to adhere to the ToR as it stands and cannot be amended.
- c. Taking the above 2 points into account, the project can start with the first component of the NPOA, a review on the status of by-catch for turtles and based on that decide if there is a need for an NPOA. For example, 10 years ago a similar review was undertaken and based on that it was decided there was no need for a NPOA for turtles as the by-catch is low.
- d. The review can identify gaps that need to be addressed and how the project can be used to address these gaps. Use the existing process of BMP to address issues and consult with DAFF. Gaps between DEA and DAFF need to be minimised.

2.1.2. Follow up meeting with DEA and DAFF

Date: 6 December 2016

Objective: to agree on a process for developing the NPOA-Seabirds

3. The Private Sector

3.1. Deep Sea Trawl

Date: 11 August 2016

Name: Johan Augustyn

Company: South Africa Deep Sea Trawling Industry Association SADSTIA¹

It was felt that DEA and DAFF coordination can be improved. Particularly with regards to BCC, DEA is the focal point, however, the Commission is mostly concerned with fishing and the fisheries environment. It is encouraging that the DAFF does attend occasionally.

Industry has initiated several measures to curb bycatch and ghost fishing, such as trawl warps with bird scaring devices, and seabird by-catch are not few and far in between after the introduction. low after introduction.

¹ www.sadstia.co.za/

Ghost fishing – introduced the Code of Conduct from the Responsible Fishing Alliance – incidents of gear losses that can result in ghost fishing are reported
MSC certification 2015 indicated very few areas of concern, primarily data and survey aspects related to the science for biomass estimates.

3.2. Tuna Pole and line and Hake longline

Date: 11 August 2016

Name: Clyde Bodenham,

Company: Tuna Pole and Line and Hake Longline Association

Mr. Bodenham indicated that the associations were willing to cooperate. He indicated that there were challenges with bycatch, but that there were programs with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and together they (the hake longline fishery) have initiated a Fisheries improvement project, with the MSC. This program has also initiated tests for bird scaring devices.

3.3. SA Tuna longline association

Date: 12 August 2016

Name: Don Lucas SA

Company: Tuna Longline Association

Mr Lucas had recently resigned as chair of the SA Tuna Longline association, but indicated that in the past the industry had worked well with the government on introducing mitigation measures. He provided the name of the new chair, Mr Trevor Watson.

4. Other Stakeholders

Organisation: BirdLife

Date: 22 August

Objective: Brief BirdLife on the project and obtain their initial input

Present in the meeting: Ross Wanless and Bronwyn Marree, BirdLife South Africa, Samantha de Villiers