

Physiological characteristics of plankton organisms and their role for ecosystem functioning. Results from GENUS I and II

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Abstract

The goal of the GENUS (Geochemistry and Ecology of the Namibian Upwelling System) is to analyse the interrelationships between climate change, oceanic nutrients and greenhouse gases and the structure of ecosystems in the coastal upwelling area off Namibia. The project is in its second phase (2012-2015; Project phase I: 2009-2012) and has produced new insights in the physiology and ecology of various plankton organisms in the Northern Benguela Upwelling system. The presentation will provide an overview on the work done so far and summarize the main findings of the work package "Production/Consumption".