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WP3 case study 1: Namibian Hake Fishery – Results and analysis

Abstract

The Namibian hake fishery targeting both *Merluccius capensis* and *Merluccius paradoxus* is one of the most important fisheries in the northern Benguela. In spite of attempts to rebuild the hake stocks that were severely depleted by distant water fleets before independence in 1990, they have failed to recover. Because the ecological goal of stock rebuilding competes with social and economic objectives on the political stage, accurate abundance estimates and close stakeholder collaboration are important. This presentation reports on results from interviews with stakeholders which show that closer collaboration between scientists, managers and industry has the potential to improve the accuracy of stock assessments and provides important management information for future rebuilding of hake stocks and the hake fishery.