

Results of Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) in Namibia

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Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) method, which is qualitative, has the support of southern African countries (Namibia, South Africa and Angola) through the Benguela Current Commission (BCC), with the assistance of WWF-South Africa and FAO EAF Nansen project. The method was chosen as it is simple and has structured guidelines for tracking EAF implementations. ERA helped in identifying issues and prioritizing them. The method provided clear objectives and issues for some of the fisheries in the Benguela Current Region. Steps required towards addressing issues/risk are recommended and regular reviews are needed to assess whether progress is being made in addressing the issues. One advantage of these ERA approach is that the method can aid consensus on different issues from a diversity of stakeholders. A total of six (6) Namibian fisheries were assessed using this methodology and 4 ERA - reviews were conducted. This presentation will cover results of some of the ERAs that were conducted in Namibia during 2013.