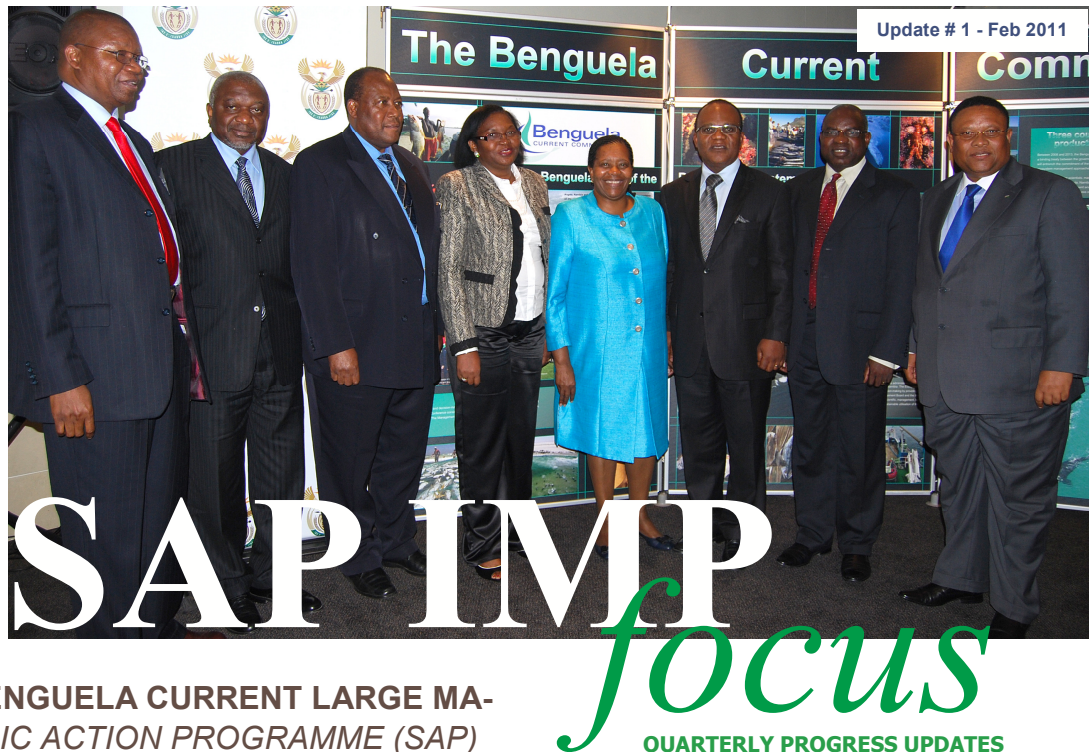


## Features in this Edition

- ▶ 2ND BCC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE HELD IN CAPE TOWN IN SEP 2010.....1
- ▶ 1ST REGIONAL CONVENTION CONSULTATION AND NEGOTIATION A SUCCESS.....2
- ▶ PARTNERSHIPS FOR LONG-TERM RESEARCH AND CAPACITY BUILDING..2



## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BENGUELA CURRENT LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP)

**SAP IMP**  
*focus*  
QUARTERLY PROGRESS UPDATES

This is the first edition of "SAP IMP focus" which will provide Quarterly Progress Updates from the BCLME Strategic Action Programme Implementation (SAP IMP) Project. The "SAP IMP Project" is a 4-year initiative co-financed by the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility (UNDP-GEF) and the Governments of Angola, Namibia and South Africa. The Project supports the implementation of the Benguela Current Commission's Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

## BCC held its 2nd Ministerial Conference

The Benguela Current Commission (BCC) held its second Ministerial Conference (MC) since the establishment of the Commission at the Lagoon Beach Hotel and Spa in Cape Town on 2 September 2010. The MC is the highest policy making body of the Commission and comprises of Ministers from the BCC's participating ministries in Angola, Namibia and South Africa. The picture in the header of this edition shows the Ministers who participated in the conference.

The SAP IMP Project supported the BCC with the planning, arrangement and staging of the 2nd MC. This is an important event of the Commission where progress is reviewed, decisions are made and where the Ministers approve the operational mandate of the BCC for the coming year. The following are noteworthy from the MC in relation to the goals of the project;

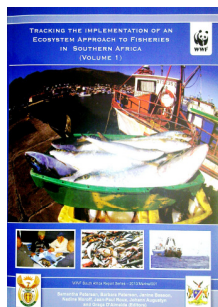
- The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Commission, its work in the region and the Convention Development process. The Ministers requested that the Convention process is fast tracked and that they are kept informed of progress and called upon in good time for advice and guidance;
- The Ministers requested that the Transport ministries in Angola and South Africa are included in the Commission due to their importance in

naval transport and maritime affairs;

- The Ministers noted the National Action Planning process supported by SAP IMP and called for this process to be owned and driven nationally;
- The Ministers commended the Secretariat with the partnerships that are in place and encouraged these to support the work of the Commission
- The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to mainstream sectors other than fisheries in the Commission, such as minerals, oil and gas, marine pollution, law, governance and socio-economics.

The MC conference is chaired by the South African Minister for Water and Environmental Affairs. The first chair of the MC was the Minister of Fisheries of Marine Resources from Namibia.

**ABOVE PICTURE from left-to-right:** Dr. Hashali Hamukuaya, Executive Secretary of BCC; Hon. Anibal Da Silva, Dep. Minister of Petroleum Angola; Hon. Erkki Nghimtina, Minister of Works and Transport Namibia; Hon. Dr. Victoria De Barros Neto, Secretary of State for Fisheries Angola; Hon. Ms. Buyelwa Sonjica, Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs South Africa (MC Chair); Hon. Siyanga Abilio, Dep. Minister of Environment Angola; Hon. Isak Katali, Minister of Mines and Energy Namibia and, Hon. Bernard Esau, Minister of Fisheries and Min Resources Namibia.



**LEFT PICTURE:**  
Cover of the report on Tracking the Implementation of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries in southern Africa. This report presented the initial ERAs conducted for Namibia and South Africa

## EAF Projects launched in the BCLME Region

The BCC, in partnership with the UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation's Nansen Project and WWF Marine, launched three Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management project's in May 2010. These projects include, i) implementing an EAF Tracking Tool, ii) assessing institutional capacities for EAF in the BCLME Region and, iii) mainstreaming the human dimension in EAF.

SAP IMP supported the Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) workshop held in Swakopmund in Sep 2010 to build the capacities of staff for ERAs to serve as baseline for EAF Tracking.



**ABOVE PICTURE:** Mr. Nathan van Wyk demonstrating the multifunctional digital photocopier purchased by the Project for the BCC in Jul 2010.

This was followed by the purchasing of a server for BCC and computer hard- and software and cellular phones for the National Coordinators and the project's Finance and Administrative Assistant.

The server will in future facilitate the storage, maintenance, sharing and exchange of information within the BCC and outside. It will host the **State of the Ecosystem Information System (SEIS)**.

#### Abidjan Convention (AC) and BCC

Mr. Abou Bama of the AC participated in the first regional negotiation of the BCC Convention as an observer. Mr. Bama initiated a partnership discussion between Abidjan and BCC to work together toward achieving common goals and objectives.

## 1st and 2nd Regional Convention Consultation and Negotiation meetings a big success!

The drafting, consultation and negotiation of a BCC Convention commenced in Feb 2010 and the first regional consultation and negotiation meeting was held from 4-7 October 2010 in Swakopmund, Namibia. The second meeting was held in Cape Town, South Africa from 6-9 December 2010.

Negotiating Teams of the Governments of Angola, Namibia and South Africa met from 4-7 Oct 2010 in Swakopmund and for the second time from 06-09 Dec 2010 in Cape Town during

which they participated in the consultation and negotiation of the draft Benguela Current Convention. The Convention will form the overarching regional policy framework for the integrated management and sustainable utilisation of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME), shared by the three countries. Its objective, as stated in the draft text, *is to promote a coordinated regional approach to the long-term conservation, protection, rehabilitation, enhancement and sustainable management of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem, to provide economic, environmental and social benefits.*

Noting that all substantive issues have been agreed, the meeting recommended that a Technical Editing Working Group shall be established with a mandate to undertake a

legal scrub of the Convention text. This Working Group shall meet in Luanda, Angola on 24-25 Feb 2011.

The deliberations of both meetings were chaired by Mr. Terje Lobach, an international legal specialist,

who also produced the first draft of the Convention. A co-operative spirit ensured smooth consultations and negotiations which resulted in the meeting successfully concluding a review of the entire draft Convention text. Each country was represented by a Team Leader and Chief Negotiator supported by technical and scientific experts to ensure all sectors and issues are covered in the Convention.

Dr. Hashali Hamukuaya, the Executive Secretary of the BCC, expressed his satisfaction with the progress made during these regional meetings and expressed his gratitude to the countries for their cooperation and contributions toward enhancing the Convention.

A draft of the Convention is available on the BCC website at [www.benguelacc.org](http://www.benguelacc.org).

*"In my history with negotiation meetings, we have never gone through the entire draft text during the first meeting."*

TERJE LOBACH  
Convention Development Consultant (his comment on the last

## CONTACT US ANY TIME

Contact the BCLME SAP IMP Project staff any time at the following details for information about **implementation status, planned activities** and **how to get involved**:

**Nico E. WILLEMSE**, Sr. Project Manager, [NicoW@unops.org](mailto:NicoW@unops.org) or +264 -61 246 948 or +264-811 289 272;

**Maria SARDINHA**, National Coordinator for Angola, [MariaDL@unops.org](mailto:MariaDL@unops.org) or +244-917 487 687;

**Frederik BOTES**, National Coordinator for Namibia, [FrederikB@unops.org](mailto:FrederikB@unops.org) or +264-811 424 006;

**Gcobani POPOSE**, National Coordinator for South Africa, [gpopose@environment.co.za](mailto:gpopose@environment.co.za) or +27-794 757 108;

### Planned Events and Activities:

- BCC Convention Technical Editing Committee meeting on 24-25 Feb 2011 in Luanda, Angola.
- BCC Data and Information Management Working Group meeting, 19 Nov 2010, Cape Town
- 2nd Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, 22 Feb 2011, Stellenbosch.
- 7th meeting of the BCC Management Board, 23-24 Feb 2011, Stellenbosch
- Jan-Feb 2011— Appoint consultants for the 9 assignments posted on [www.benguelacc.org](http://www.benguelacc.org)

### SUPPORTING THE BCC

#### BCC Partnerships:

- **University of Bergen, Norway:** To engage in research and training and capacity building activities of mutual interest and benefit.
- **EAF—Nansen Project:** to advance the application of an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) in the Benguela region, and contribute to global commitments to implement an EAF by 2012.
- **DTU (Denmark):** to implement the project "Development of ecological sustainable fisheries practices in the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ECOFISH)"

**Training and Capacity Building:** Courses delivered include *Data Manage-*

*ment* (78 participants); *Time Series Analysis* (20 participants); *Introduction to Population Modelling and Fish Stock Assessment* (11 participants); *Multivariate Analysis using Primer and PERMANOVA Software* (14 participants); *Fish Age Determination Methods* (10 participants); and an intermediate level course in hydro acoustic methods (11 participants). Courses in fish taxonomy, geographical information systems (GIS) and mapping and marine management mis-matches are planned for 2011.

**Data and Information Management:** A draft regional BCC Data Policy is in place and will be finalized through stakeholder consultations in 2011. The proposed policy aims to improve the sharing and exchange of data in the region for planning and decision making while honouring country-specific issues around data privacy and sensitivity. This is an important milestone as the BCC relies on pertinent information and data for planning and to make recommendations to the Management Board.