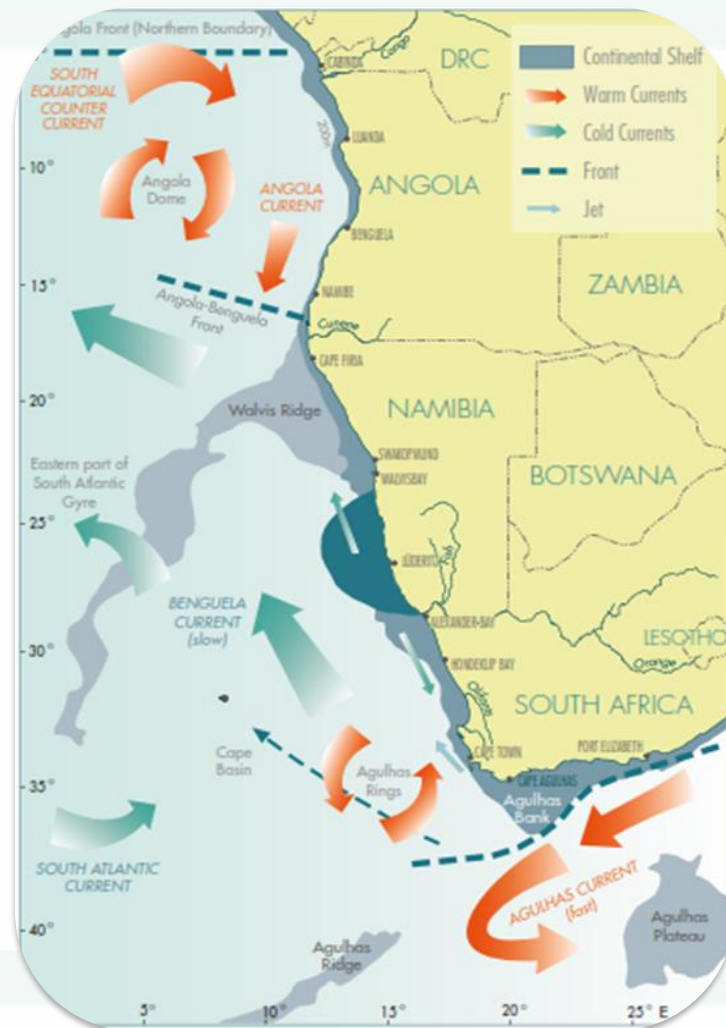
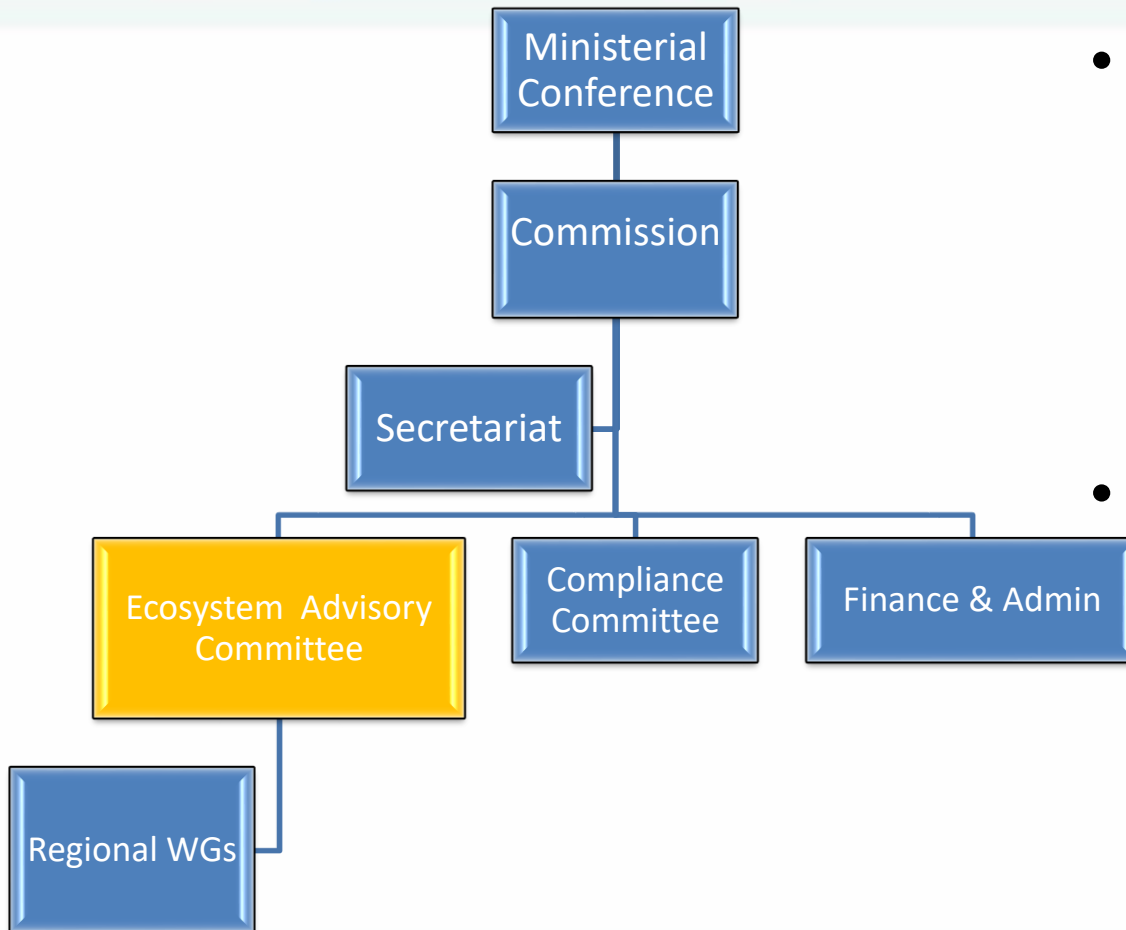


Background the Benguela Current Convention

- Convention signed by Angola, Namibia and South Africa on 18 March 2013, following years of preparatory work and collaboration
- An inter-governmental Convention based on the Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) concept of ocean governance
- A move towards managing transboundary resources at the larger ecosystem level and balancing human needs with conservation imperatives



Organizational structure



- The Secretariat is registered as a non-profit association in the Republic of Namibia
- Party contributions and projects



Science to governance/management

Science

“Pursuit and application of knowledge and understanding of the natural and social world following a systematic methodology based on evidence” (Science Council, UK)

Governance

“The public and private interactions undertaken to address challenges and create opportunities within society.

Development and application of principles, rules, norms and enabling instructions that guide public and private interactions (Armitage et al, 2008)

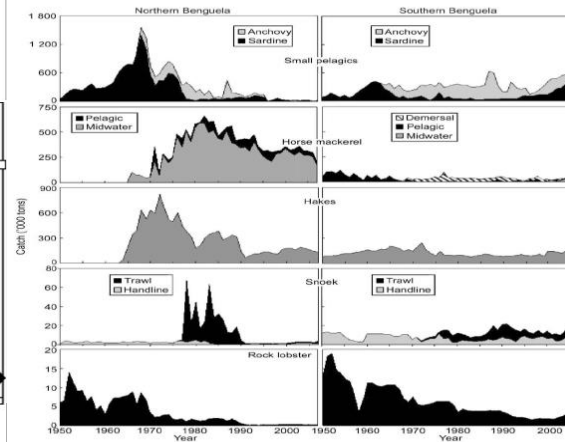
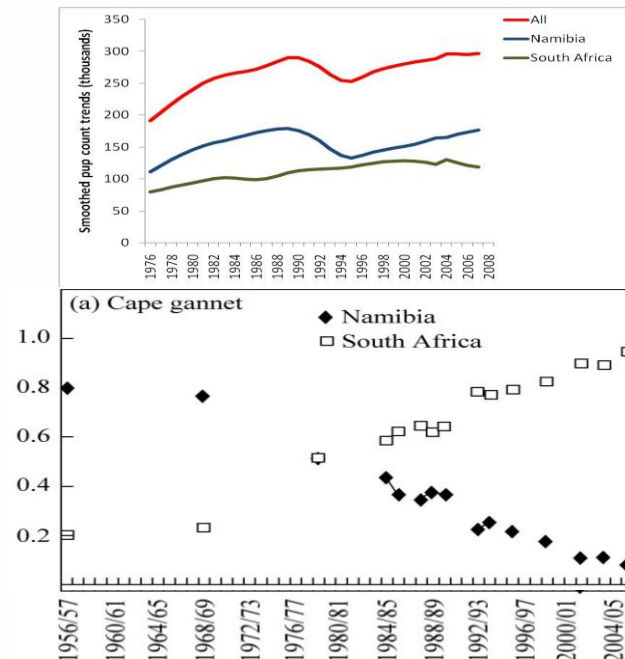
Science to governance at BCC – our journey

- BENEFIT Programme: 1996-2008
 - Increasing knowledge of fluctuations in living marine resources and improving understanding of the way in which environmental factors influence these fluctuations
 - Human capacity development
- BCLME Programme: 2002-2008
 - TDA
 - Various scientific studies (fish stocks, impacts of minerals and extractive industry, impacts of hydrogen sulfide and low oxygen on inshore marine species etc)
- SAP (2014 to 2019)
- Interim Benguela Current Commission
- Benguela Current Convention – from sectoral to ecosystem approach
- Institutional mechanisms
 - Ministerial Conference
 - Ecosystem Advisory Committee – spearhead the science programme
 - Compliance Committee (adherence to governance commitments)
- Direct cash contributions to the BCC operations and indirect contributions

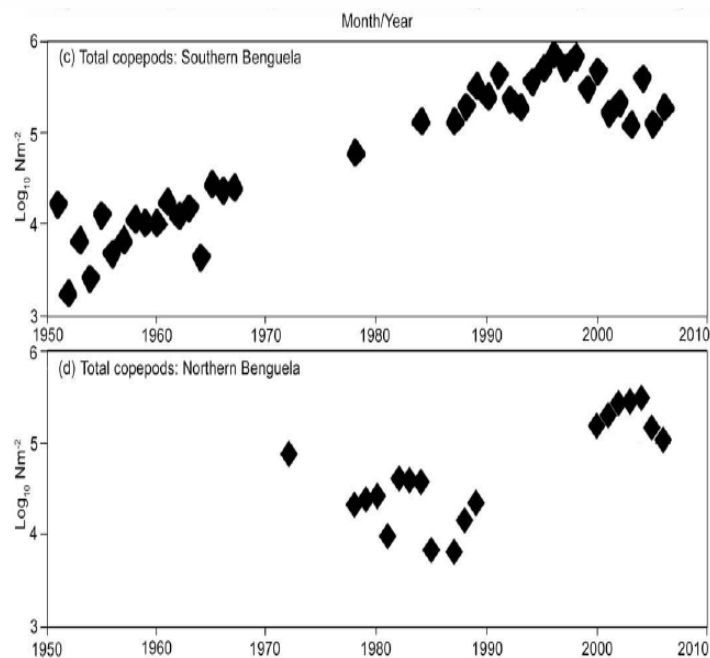
Development of long-term time series for sustainable fisheries

Three countries sharing a productive ecosystem

- Annual surveys of shared fish stocks
- Stock assessments
- Assessments of climate variability on the resources
- Best available scientific advice



Productivity



- **Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) Programme**
- Real-time environ monitoring stations
- **Assessment of long-term environmental variability and trends as a basis for climate change studies.**



Assessments of Impacts of Marine Mining



- ✓ Assessment of cumulative effects offshore and coastal diamond mining and oil exploration and production



Science to governance at BCC – journey...

ECOFISH Project 2010 to 2018 (EU funded)

- Fish stock assessments
- Improvement in stock assessment methods

Ecosystem based management programme

- Ecological Risk Assessment to fisheries
- Identification of pollution hotspots
- Threats affecting seabirds and turtles
- A study to strengthen capacity of the region to monitor ecosystem health

Recommendation on management approaches

- Framework for joint fisheries management Namibia and South Africa under consideration
- Regional oil spills contingency and response planning
- Water quality monitoring pilot project in South Africa – management options
- Recognition and promotion of engagement of stakeholders beyond the “four” BCC sectors
- Science Forum - remained to Science and Governance Forum
- Revision of ToR for EAC to take into account lessons learned (notably role of social sciences and strengthening contribution of science to ecosystem based approach

1. BCC organizational structures (from EAC to Ministerial Conference)
2. Science and Governance Forum
3. State of Marine Ecosystem Report

BCLME III Programme: 2017 to 2022...next steps

- Strengthen policy, legislative, institutional and management to further ecosystem-based management in the BCLME;
- Develop more effective stakeholder engagement and strengthen partnerships to ensure the long-term future of the BCC;
- Developing stronger capacity within the region for ecosystem-based management;
- Addressing marketing and resource mobilisation challenges



- It is science that convinced Parties to work collaboratively at regional level
- As a transboundary LME which is very complex, transboundary research collaboration on both the marine environment and on resources is essential.
- The regional approach for eventual joint / aligned policies of maritime activities is fundamental and this is recognized by the participating States.

Thank you