



# PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 1 June 2021

Briefing on the update relating to Fisheries  
programmes to assist Small-scale fisheries



forestry, fisheries  
& the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- BACKGROUND
- OBJECTIVES
- SUPPORT TO CO-OPERATIVES
- INTERVENTIONS
- CHALLENGES and SOLUTIONS
- ADDITIONAL MITIGATIVE MEASURES



# BACKGROUND

- Since the Marine Living Resource Act (MLRA) was amended to accommodate the small-scale fishing sector, much progress has been made in rolling out the small-scale fishing sector.
- The following is a breakdown of declared small-scale fishers (SSF) and registered co-operatives with 15-year fishing rights granted to date:

Province	Number of SSF	# Coops
Northern Cape	103	2
Western Cape	2741	Under review
Eastern Cape	5335	72
KwaZulu-Natal	2184	35



# OBJECTIVES

- Create a sustainable, equitable, small-scale fishing sector
- Secure the well-being and livelihood of small-scale fishing communities
- Maintain the health of marine ecosystems
- Uplift fishing communities by providing appropriate support mechanisms, education and training, infrastructure and participatory management practices.
- Communities and Government co-manage near-shore marine living resources
- Takes fundamental human rights, MLRA principles and international obligations into account
- Give due regard to promoting interests of women, disabled and child-headed households



# SUPPORT TO CO-OPERATIVES

- The Small Scale Fisheries Policy (SSFP) acknowledges the general short-comings of fishing communities;
- It emphasizes the need for government to prioritize and facilitate support programmes in order to equip and capacitate the small-scale fishers;
- The Department has been engaging with various organisations such as other government departments, government agencies, NGOs and the private sector
- Some of the interventions implemented include:



# INTERVENTIONS

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The department is facilitating the registration of a secondary co-operative and development of a business plan in Tshani-Mankosi. This involves two co-operatives established in this area. One co-operative was granted 15-year fishing rights and the other co-operative has a fish processing factory.</li> <li>A service provider was appointed and is currently working with the co-operatives.</li> </ul>
OR TAMBO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY: Ingquza Hill (Cuthwini)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business Entrepreneurship training was provided at Ingquza Hill Local Municipality: Sikhatsha Fishing Primary Co-operative</li> </ul>
OR Tambo District Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Municipality has committed to provide fish processing equipment such as refrigeration to small-scale fishing co-operatives under the municipality;</li> <li>The Department is currently waiting on the OR Tambo District Municipality to confirm delivery date to communities</li> </ul>



# INTERVENTIONS....cont

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
National Skills Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A training centre and holding tanks were built in the Coffee Bay area . A total of twelve (12) Fishing Primary Co-operatives were handed containers designed to be used as holding tanks for live marine species. Seven Additional containers and generators are currently being handed over to seven additional co-operatives.</li><li>• Some of the Co-operatives that have benefited are: King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality: Sikhaleni Fishing Primary Co-operative, Siyaloba Fishing Primary Co-operative, Jonga Fishing Primary Co-operative, Lutatweni Kob Fishing Primary Co-operative. Nyandeni: Hluleka Fishing Primary Co-operative, Tshani Fishing Primary Co-operative, Presely Bay Fishing Primary Co-operative</li></ul>



# INTERVENTIONS....cont

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
<b>South African Fisheries Development Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Fund continues to support the Northern Cape co-operatives with various training interventions, provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during National lock down in partnership with the Department.</li><li>• For the first time in three fishing seasons, the Port Nolloth co-operatives operated at a profit of over R100 000 for the 2020/21 financial year.</li></ul>
<b>Oceana Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided training intervention for small-scale fishing communities in Port Elizabeth.</li><li>• Training planned for all co-operatives in Eastern Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal has been developed and training is due to start in May 2021 through to June 2021.</li><li>• The training will focus on business management and co-operative training.</li></ul>





# INTERVENTIONS....cont

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
<b>First National Bank</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First National Bank is in the process of assisting with the opening of Bank Accounts for co-operatives. The bank has opened a number of accounts for the co-operatives and for individual members;</li> <li>This work will continue from May through to June 2021</li> </ul>
<b>National Skills Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Skills Fund has approved the training of all co-operatives under the OR Tambo District Municipality, Alfred Ndzo District Municipality and Amathole District Municipality. This training will focus on Business acumen, safety at sea, the value chain, etc...</li> <li>Logistics and procuring of training providers are under way and training will take place soon.</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform procured fishing equipment for Small-Scale Fishing co-operatives in Port St Johns.</li> <li>The National lockdown has caused the delays in handing over the equipment.</li> <li>The Department is waiting for the provincial department to announce the date to deliver the equipment.</li> </ul>



# INTERVENTIONS....cont

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
<b>World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership with WWF on Fisheries Improvement Project in the Kogelberg area, Hamburg and Port St Johns;</li> <li>The Kogelberg project site has been delayed due to the court process for Western Cape,</li> <li>Hamburg project site is operational and capacitated by WWF</li> </ul>
<b>KZN Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The KZN provincial department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs is assisting with the procurement and installation of Fish Processing Plans for small-scale fishing co-operatives under Ugu District Municipality. The budget for the nine (9) cooperatives was approved during the 2020/2021 financial year. The bids for the purchase of refrigerated containers was out in March 2021, and briefing for bids as well. Successful bidder is set to work for six (6) months, estimated time of completion will be September/October 2021.</li> </ul>



# INTERVENTIONS....cont

ORGANISATIONS	INTERVENTION
<b>KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs &amp; Moses Kotane Institute</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The intervention focussed on Co-operative capacitation through Business Management skills.</li> <li>The following co-operatives were trained: Ntabende Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Nyakaza Mazambane Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Nhlabane Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Senzakwenzeke Fisheries Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Ingule Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Siyadida Tuna Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Mduduzi Fishing Cooperative, Isiphethosohwebede Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Wangu Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Amatikulu Mouth Fisheries Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Nkunzebomvu Fishing Primary Co-Operative</li> </ul>
<b>Ilembe District Municipality: Mandeni Local Municipality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase of Fishing Equipment</li> <li>The budget for the three (3) co-operatives was approved during 2020/2021 financial year and will be utilised before the end of June 2021,</li> <li>The following co-operatives benefited: Isiphethosohwebede Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Wangu Fishing Primary Co-Operative Ltd, Amatikulu Mouth Fisheries Primary Co-Operative Ltd.</li> </ul>



# CHALLENGES

## National Lockdown

- Most of the co-operatives were granted fishing rights in March 2020.
- The national lockdown started at the end of March 2020 and co-operatives had limited operations.

## Covid-19 related restrictions

- Since the various Alert levels announced under regulations promulgated under the Disaster Management Act, travel and gathering restrictions have affected the facilitation and delivery of support interventions.



# CHALLENGES

## Funding

- Limited funding from other government institutions due to reprioritisation of funds to covid-19 related programs.
- **Solution: Strengthen partnership with District Municipalities and influence SSF support through Integrated Development Plan (IDPs) and District Model**
- **Continuous engagement with government departments mandated to support SMMEs**

## Markets and infrastructure

- Impact of Covid-19 on access to markets
- Limited infrastructure to further develop co-operatives
- **Solution: facilitate the development and promotion of local markets such as access to restaurants, hotels, local fish markets, etc.**
- **Prioritisation of infrastructure projects under Working for Fisheries aimed at capacitating SSF**
- **Strengthen partnership with District Municipalities and influence SSF support through IDPs and District Model**



# CHALLENGES

## Limited basket of species

- Much of the nearshore marine resources that are required for the small-scale fisheries sector have been allocated in the commercial sector.
- Status of certain nearshore marine resources does not allow for additional allocation/ apportionment to be issued.
- **Solution: Apportionment split between small-scale fishing and local commercial sector are being considered after a public consultation process was concluded.**

## Staff Capacity

- The directorate: small-scale fisheries management is responsible for the development of small-scale fisheries with over 120 co-operatives in the four coastal provinces.
- Only 7 permanent staff (Director and PA inclusive) to deliver on this national programme
- Departmental services not easily accessible to fishing communities
- **Solution: The Branch is restructuring and the directorate will be realigned to receive additional capacity. Two additional contract positions are being added to the directorate for a period of two years.**



# CHALLENGES

## Delays in the Western Cape

- The Minister is taking the process and decisions on verification and recognition of small-scale fishers in the Western Cape to court for review and setting aside.
- This is after the Minister responded to complaints from various communities regarding the verification process. The process and its decisions were audited and a legal opinion obtained advised for the Minister to take the process and its decision on review.
- **Solution: Court papers have been lodged. The Department is preparing for the new process. Access to fishing will be provided while court process and new recognition process is taking place.**



# ADDITIONAL MITIGATIVE MEASURES

- Department to intensify facilitation of partnerships with other government departments and private sector for support programs.
- The Department has developed a strategy and it is being implemented as of 2021/22 financial year.
- Prioritisation of Western Cape verification and recognition process.
- Finalisation of apportionment split between SSF and local commercial.
- Improve capacity of the Directorate: Small-Scale fisheries to serve and be accessible to all the small-scale fishing communities.





# THANK YOU!

MS SUE MIDDLETON  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Thank You



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