

Panel discussion on fishery certification

Taking advantage of the presence of four leading international fisheries scientists visiting South Africa to participate in the annual International Stock Assessment Review Workshop.

Wednesday 30 November 2016
at 4.00 to 5.15 pm
Room M304, Mathematics Building
University of Cape Town

TOPIC:

ECOLABELLING: the most successful initiative to improve fisheries' sustainability over the last decade, or an intervention that restricts developing countries from market access?

Certification of fisheries has grown substantially across the world. The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is the most respected seafood certification in the world and is crucial for South African hake exports. Besides the price premium on hake exports, MSC certification helps the industry to maintain large numbers of good quality, permanent jobs. However, there are aspects of fishery certification systems that can be disadvantageous to developing countries and remedies need to be sought.

The objective of the panel discussion is to examine the merits of certification systems and to engage different perspectives on ecolabelling in general so as to lead to suggested improvements, particularly in the context of developing countries.

The format will comprise five brief introductory talks (35 minutes), followed by a panel-led discussion in which audience participation will be invited.

Chair: Emeritus Professor George Branch

Speakers: – Emeritus Professor Doug Butterworth: **Background**

– DAFF representative (to be confirmed): **The government view of fisheries certification**

– Phillipe Lallemand (OLRAC): **Socio-economic implications of MSC**

certification for the South African hake trawl fishery

– Serge Raemakers (UCT): **Implications for small-scale fisheries**

– Michael Marriot (MSC): **A perspective from the MSC**

This event is a joint initiative of FishSA, the University of Cape Town's Marine Resources Assessment Group and the South African Deep-Sea Trawling Industry Association

