



FishFORCE

25 August 2020

FISHFORCE COURSE ON FISHERIES TRADE MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE



Fisheries and Customs officials from six east and southern African coastal States (Comoros, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and United Republic of Tanzania) are currently part of a dynamic training course in fisheries trade monitoring and compliance. The course has been made possible by FishFORCE - an Academy established at the Nelson Mandela University for the training of officials who are involved in the fight against fisheries crime, through collaboration between the Nelson Mandela University and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The overall objective of the training is to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge, understanding and practical skills relating to the international trade in fisheries products, in order to reduce IUU fishing and fisheries crime and to support fisheries management.

Due to the Covid-19 situation, the course has successfully been transferred to an online training platform. Participants are exposed to information on national and international laws and policies associated with fisheries trade as well as relevant institutions and private sector stakeholders. Training is provided on how to source, extract and analyse fisheries trade and catch data and to conduct comparative analysis of this data towards enhancing knowledge of possible trade in products sourced from illegal fishing, and to inform fisheries management decision-making.

Participants are joining the training one day a week for five weeks and at the end of the course will complete an assessment that will evaluate their knowledge and skills on fisheries trade.

The course is being run by Markus Burgener, Senior Programme Coordinator with TRAFFIC - an international wildlife trade monitoring network that works to ensure that trade in wild animals and plants is not a threat to the conservation of nature.