

SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES IN SOUTH AFRICA:



The Uneven Road from Recognition to Governance

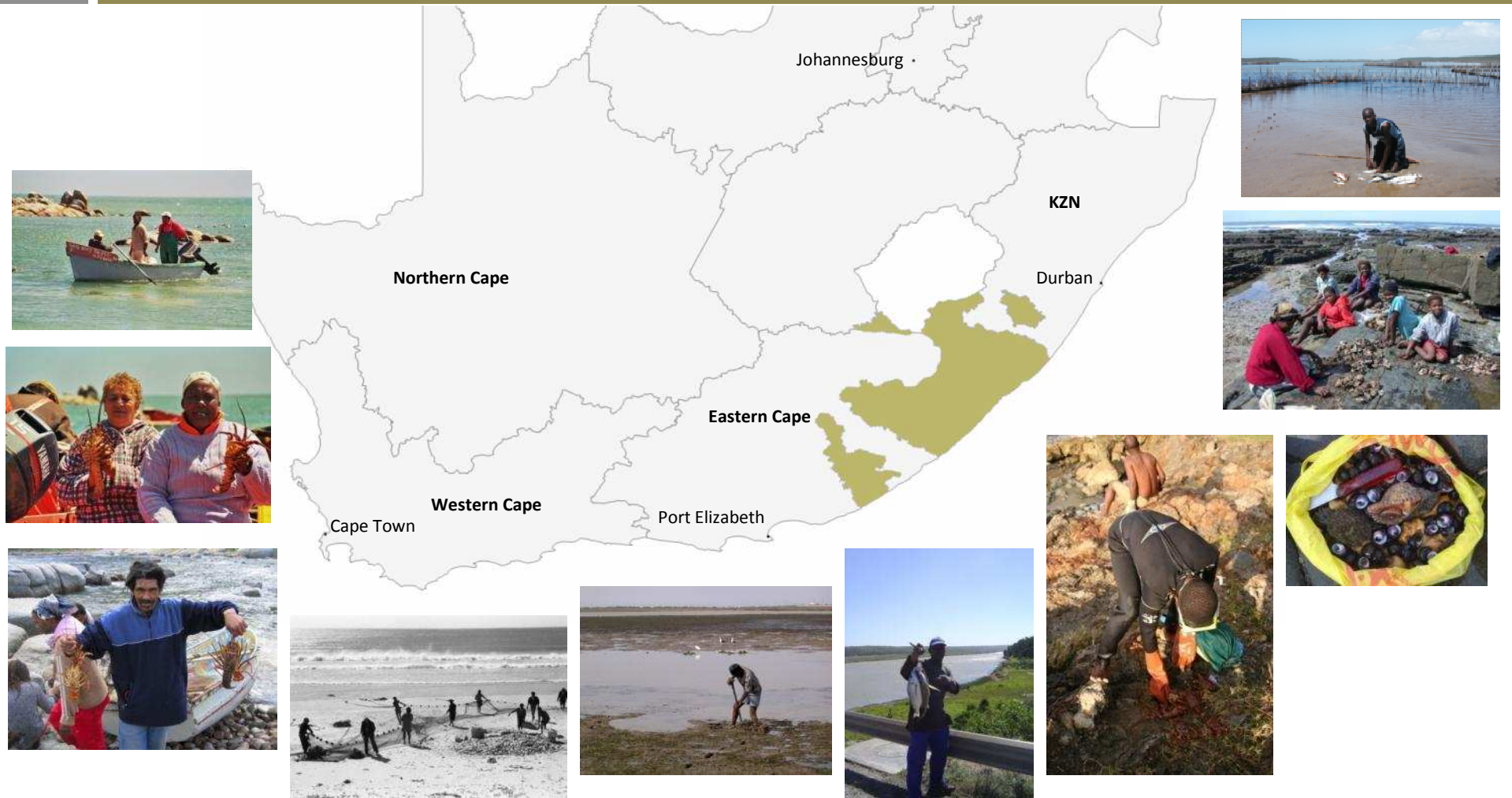
Outline



- Who are the small-scale fishers in SA
- Historic overview
- Management measures
- Protests and policy redraft
- Challenges in complex playfield
- Conclusion

Who?

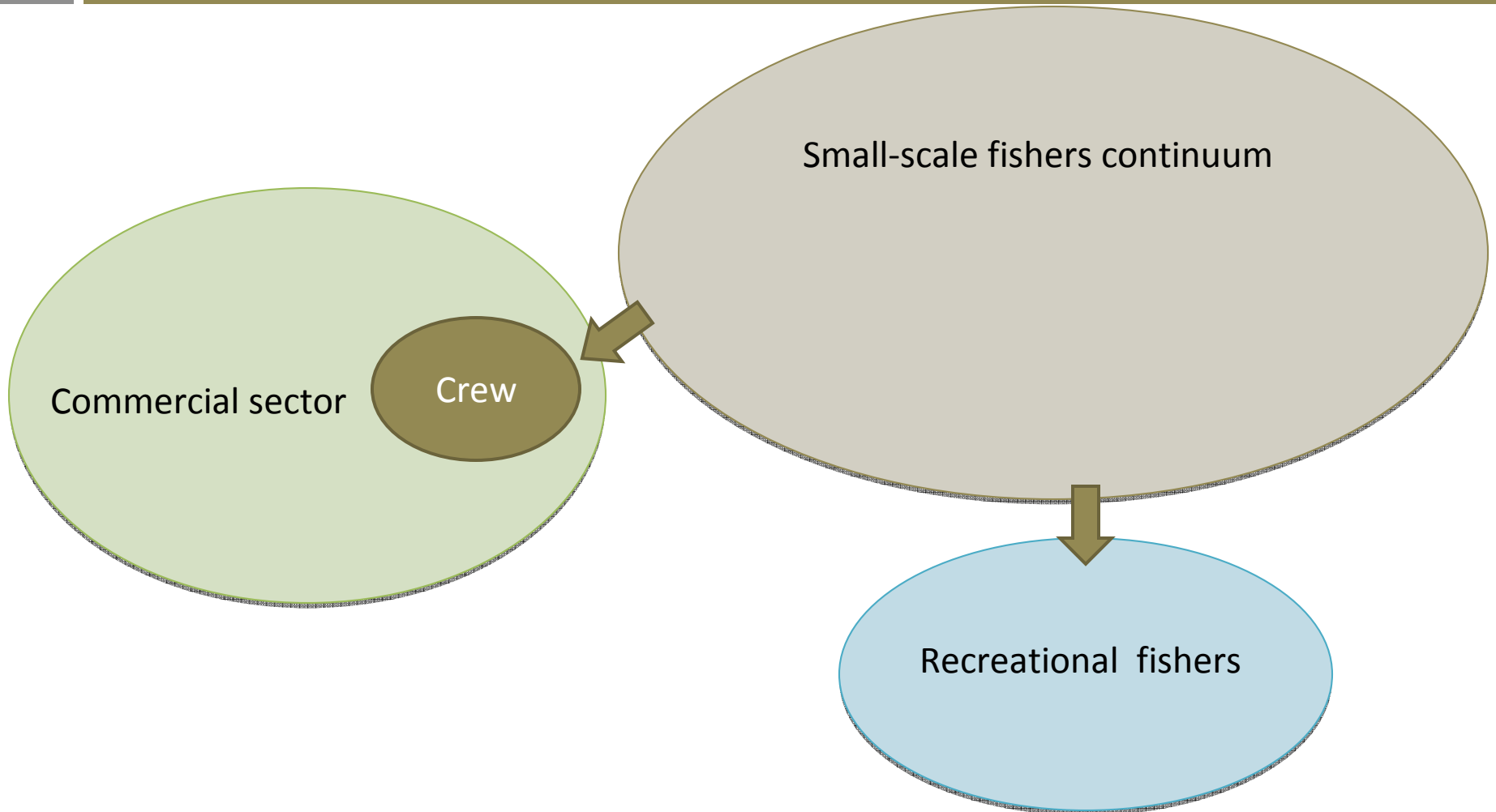
Small-scale fishers continuum





Historic overview

Prior to 1994: informal

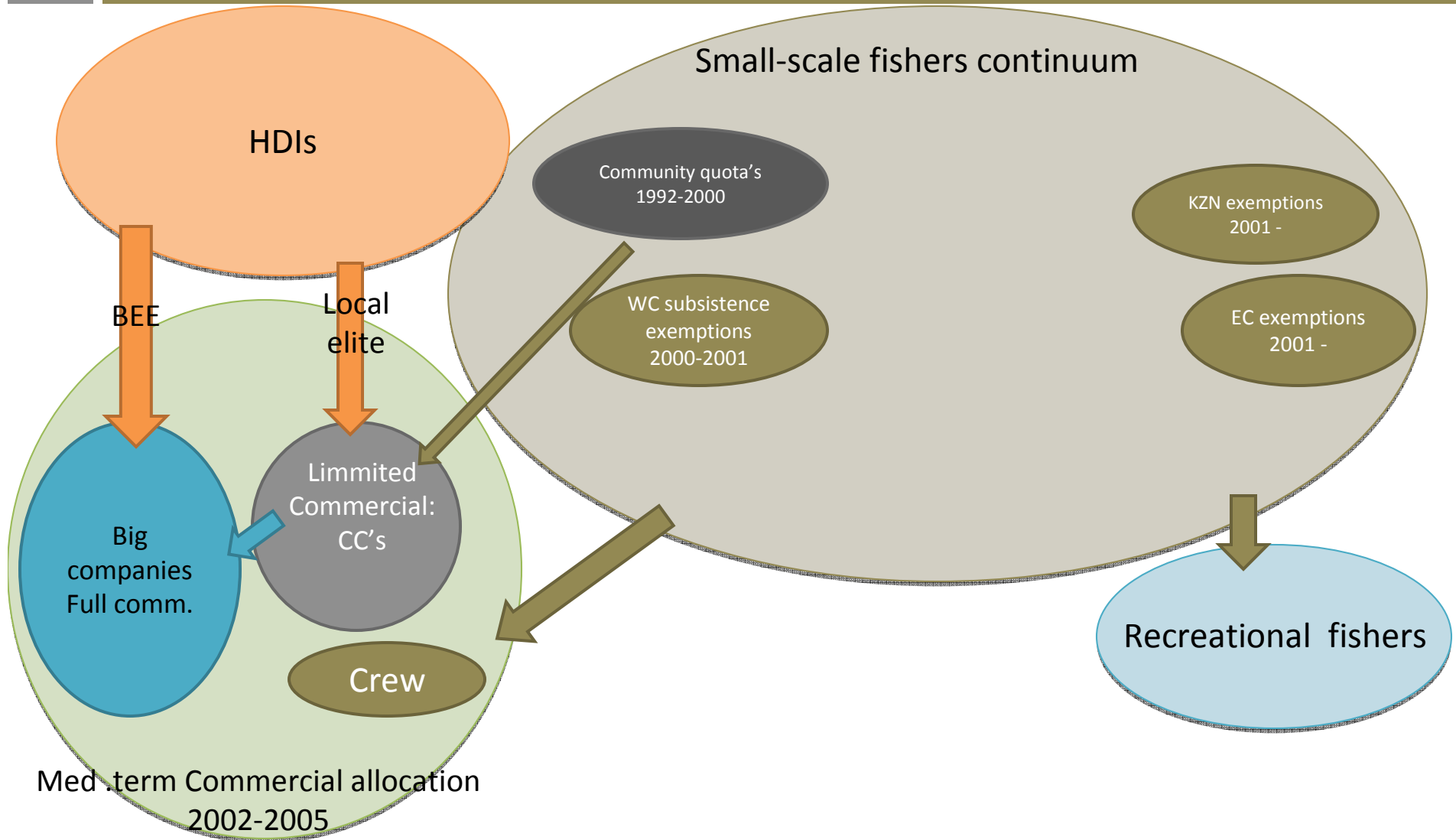


Recognition

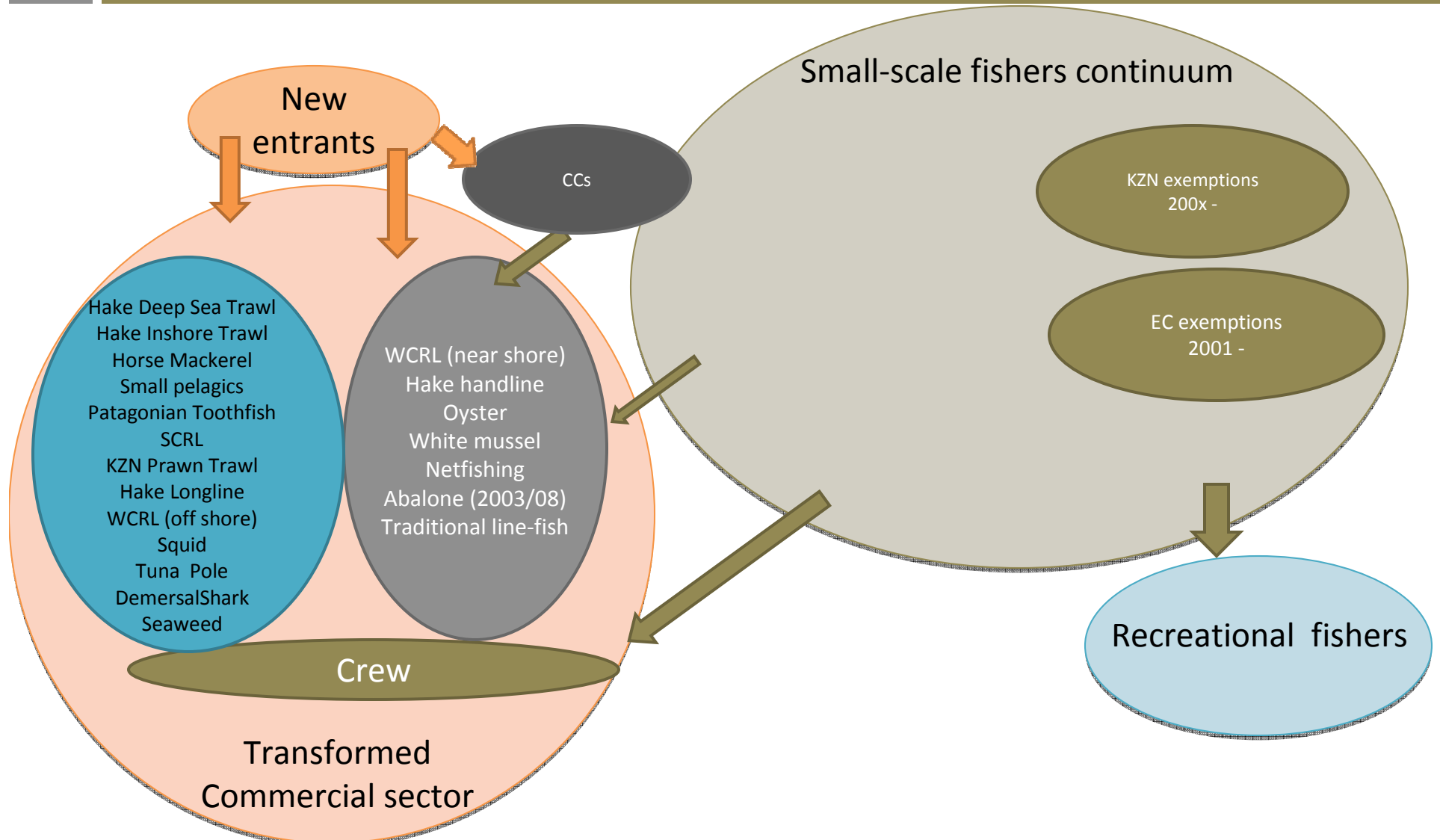


- Democracy
- Marine Living Resources Act (1998)
 - ▣ State control of a public good
 - ▣ Objective: Balance economic stability, ecological sustainability, and social equity
 - Equity:
 - Redistribution of access rights
 - Internal transformation
 - Recognition of subsistence fishers
 - co-management

1994 – 2005: transformation & access



2005/06 – 2013/18: Long term commercial rights





Management measures

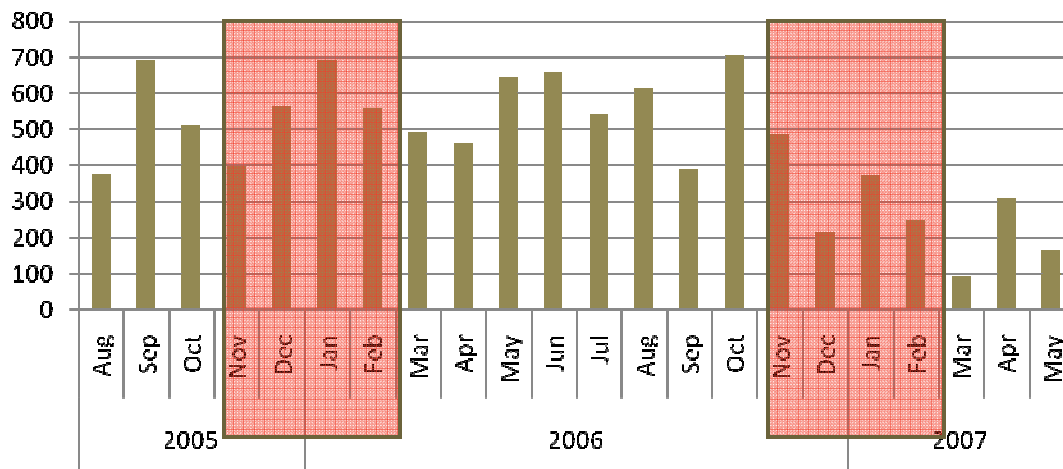
1st draft policy

- Policy: Nov 2006
 - ▣ Subsistence and small-scale commercial
 - ▣ “Co-management”
- E.g. Eastern Cape exemptions
 - ▣ Lack of legitimacy
 - ▣ Mismatches
 - ▣ Commercialisation

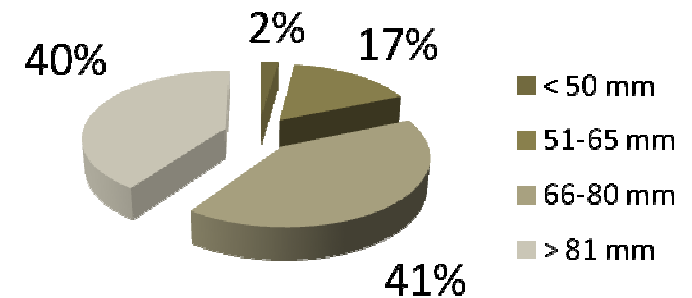


Regulating the Transkei lobster fishery

Number of crayfish caught

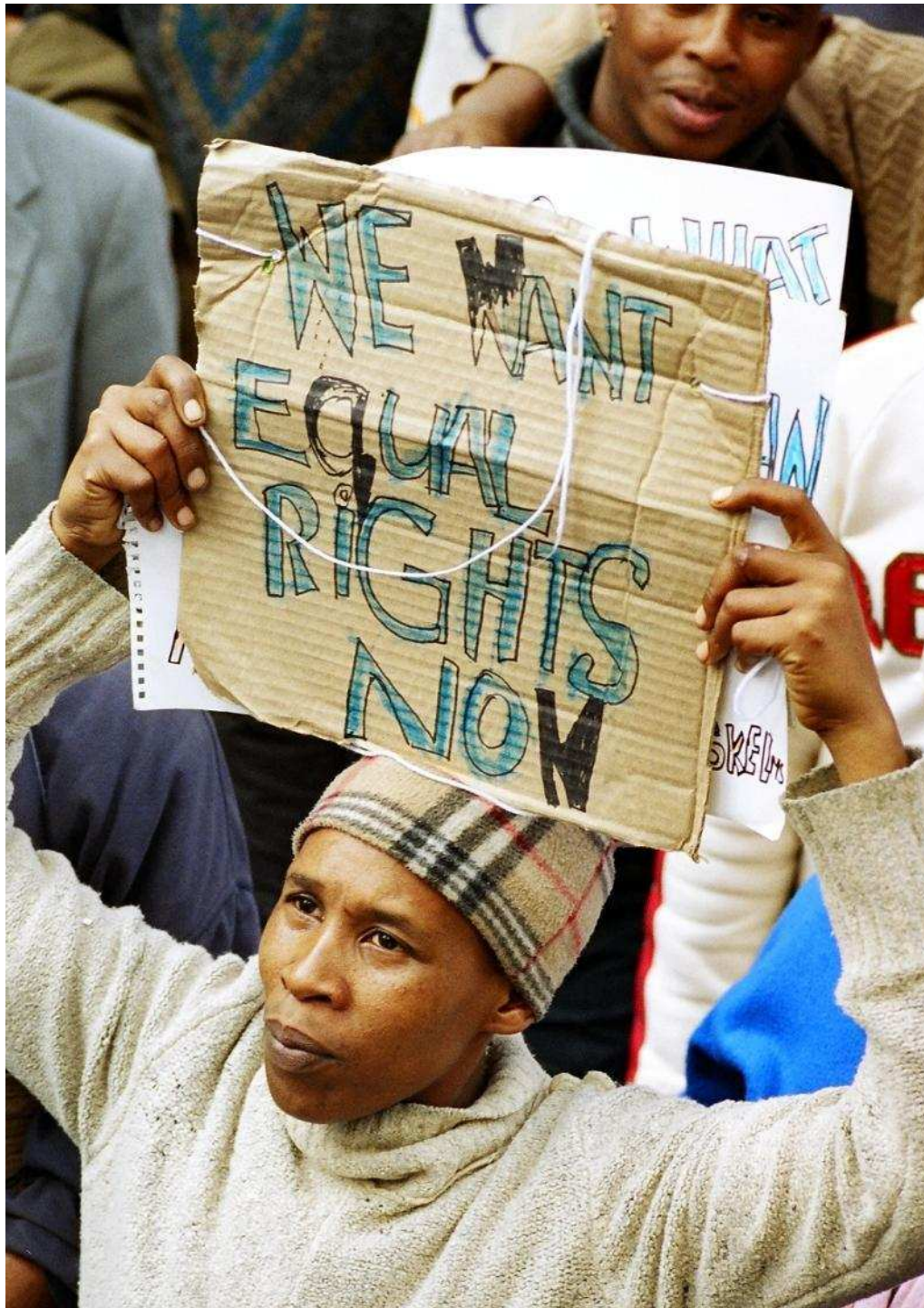


Size classes



Protests & policy redraft





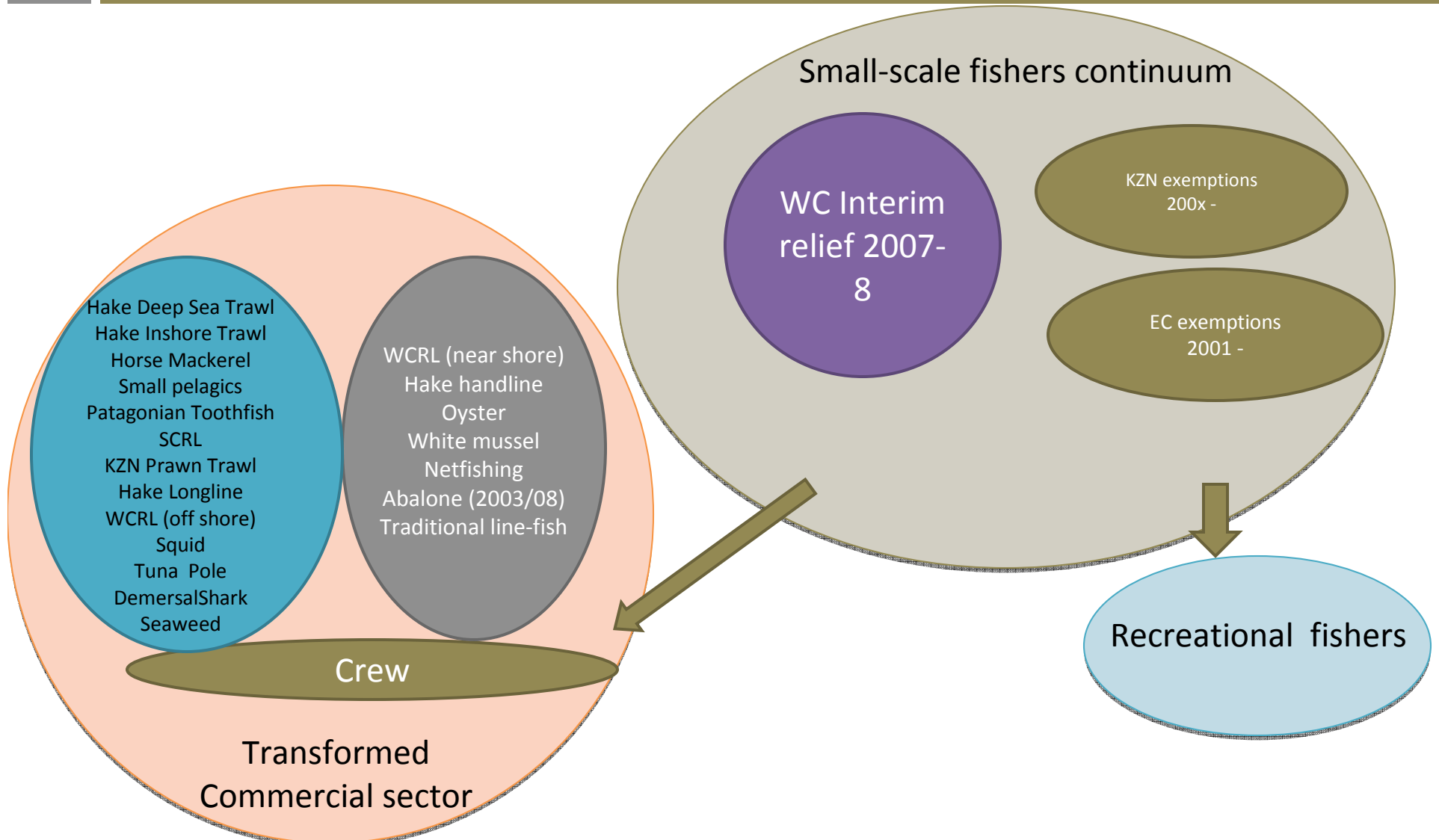
Court order



- Long-term allocation + Nov 2006: 1st draft
 - ▣ Protests
 - ▣ Flawed public participation
 - ▣ Many comments from CBO, NGO & academics

- Litigation
 - ▣ May 2007: Equality Court Order

Court order: interim relief



Court order: a small-scale fisheries policy



- Participation
 - ▣ Series of provincial and national workshops
 - Aspirations
 - ▣ Joint statement
 - ▣ Multi-stakeholder Task team

Fishers' wish list



- And NGO's and other stakeholders (incl. donors)
- People centred approach
- Right to fish for a livelihood
- Basket system
- TURF and register managed by group/community
- Co-management – active participation in management
- Integrated coastal and small-scale fisheries management and development

Challenges in complex playfield



Challenges

- Define given added complexity
 - ▣ Continuum
 - ▣ Socio-economic changes made by management interventions
 - Long-term rights holders
 - Crew
 - Unsuccessful
- TURF zones
 - ▣ Displaced fishermen
 - ▣ Commercial fishing areas
 - ▣ Economic viability of basket system
- Lack of local & Nat. Govt. capacity

Conclusion

Fisheries management change

- Paradigm shift
 - ▣ Quota based management
 - Resource focus
 - Individual rights
 - ▣ Developmental TURF policy?
 - Human rights emphasis
 - Very complex playfield
 - Adaptive co-management

-Thank you-



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**BELGISCH FONDS
VOOR
ROEPING**

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