



**forestry, fisheries  
& the environment**

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

**Ref: O2/1/5/2**

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 319 {CW323E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2022**

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**Mr A Arnolds (Western Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) Whether cooperatives are considered to be the most feasible model to operate in small-scale fisheries; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) how many cooperatives are operational in each province?

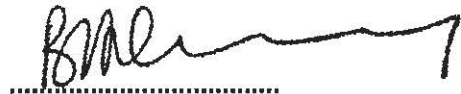
**319. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- 1) During the amendment of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) in 2013/2014, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) facilitated and participated in a public participation process through NEDLAC, the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. One of the matters addressed was the best possible form of community-based legal entities, as advocated for by the Small-Scale Fisheries Policy (2015), which would be granted small-scale fishing rights. Based on this exercise, the DFFE recognised cooperatives as the most suitable form of community-based legal entities to be allocated small-scale fishing rights.

2) The table below provides details of the number of small-scale fishing cooperatives that are operational:

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

Regards



MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 31/05/2022