

National Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Workshop

NRCS presentation

11 March 2021

presentation by: Maphuti Kutu

Technical Specialist: Foods

Presentation outline

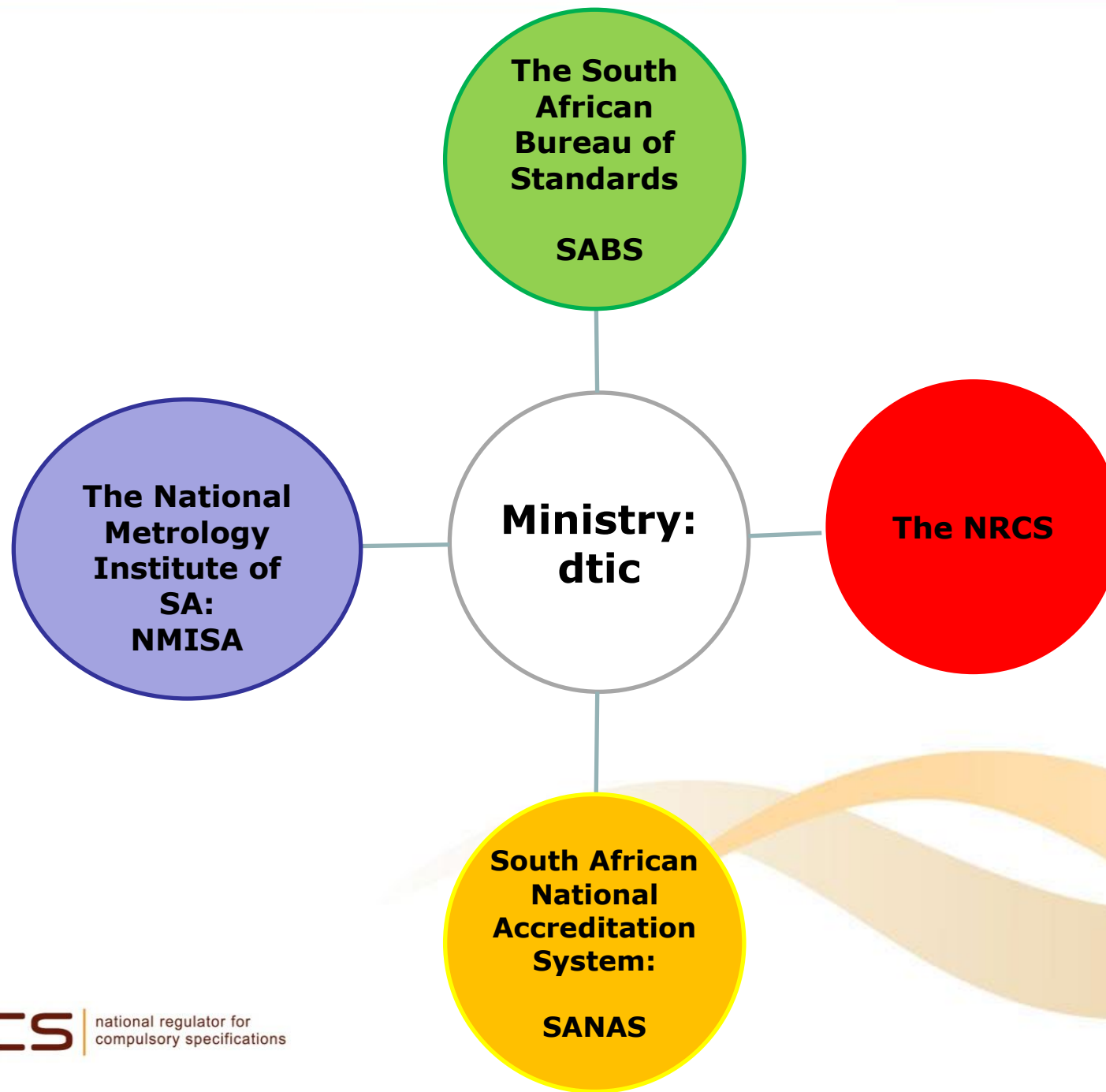
- Introduction to NRCS
- Key Provisions: SPS Agreement
- NRCS Act - Mandate
- Development of technical regulations & NRCS VCs
- FAI inspection program
- Challenges/ Opportunities



The NRCS

- Public entity
- Reports to the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition
- Administration of Compulsory Specifications (technical regulations)
- Competent authority for fish and fishery products
- Value chain approach - To co-ordinate the for fish and fishery products including aquaculture, NRCS has a MOU with DEFF- Fisheries.

Part of the DTIC technical infrastructure entities



Key Provisions: SPS Agreement

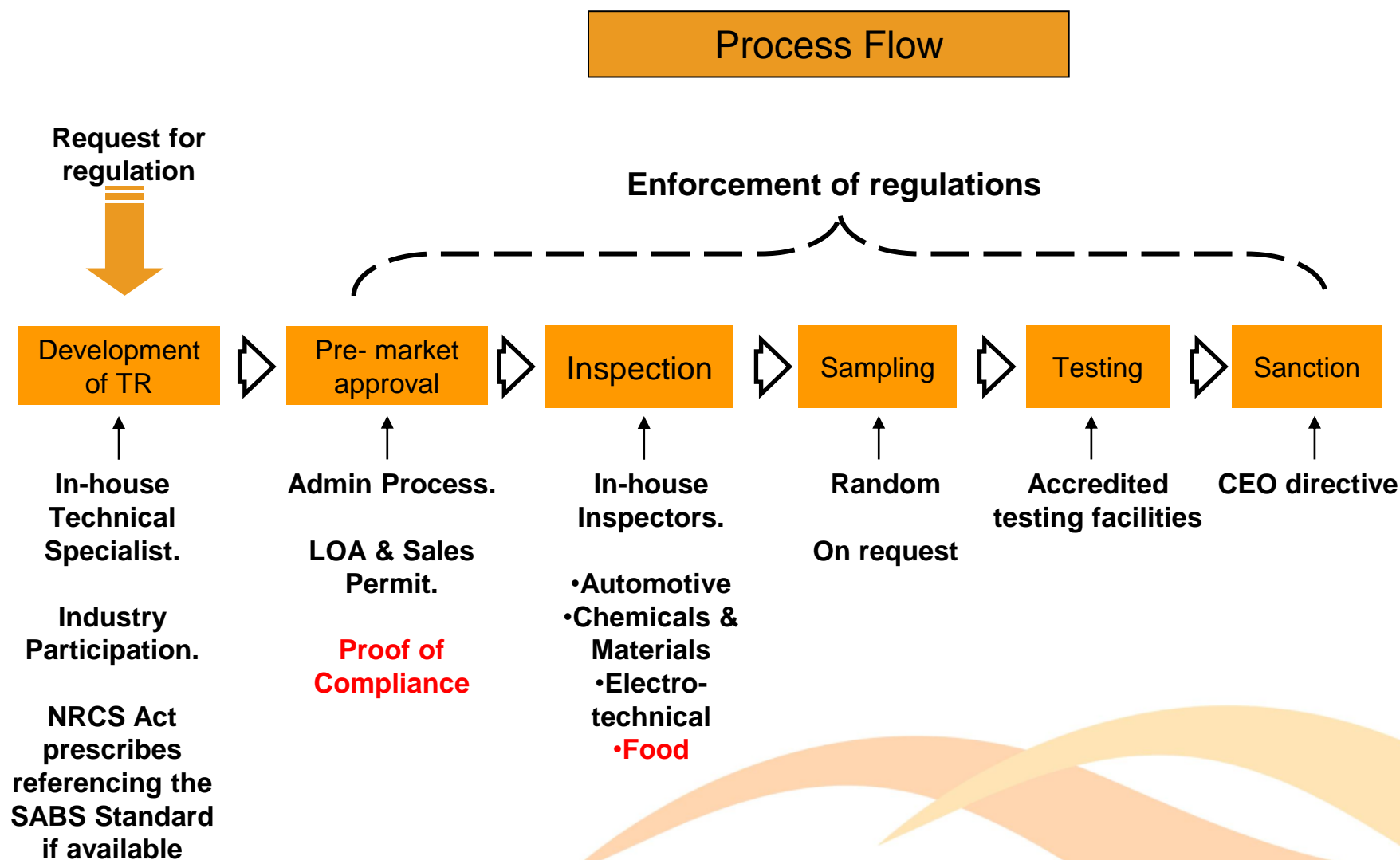
- Non-discrimination
- Scientific justification
- Harmonization (Codex, IPPC & OIE)
- Risk assessment
- Consistency
- Least trade-restrictiveness
- Equivalence
- Regionalization
- Transparency
- Technical assistance/special treatment
- Control, inspection and approval procedures

NRCS Act (Act No. 5 of 2008)

- Compulsory Specifications mandate:
 - “13. (1) The Minister may, in respect of any commodity, product or service which may affect public safety, health or the environment, by notice in the Gazette (a) declare a SANS or a provision of a SANS to be a compulsory specification...”
- Applicable to products that are IMPORTED, MANUFACTURED, SOLD and/or EXPORTED - must comply with mandatory requirements if within scope of VC
- Technical regulations/ Compulsory Specifications lay down compulsory requirements for
 - Technical requirements: product or service characteristics or their related processes; production methods (may refer to SANS/international standards);
 - Administrative requirements ; and
 - Conformity assessment requirements...

...with which compliance is mandatory – NRCS inspection/enforcement.

NRCS Process flow



Development and approval of technical regulations



Development and approval of technical regulations – RA

- Principle one: recognized international standards and/or code of practices – mainly Codex
 - measures which conform to international standards, guidelines or recommendations shall be deemed to be necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health, and presumed to be consistent with the relevant provisions of the WTO SPS Agreement.
- Principle two: Applying international standards to national realities
 - Available quantitative data e.g. import and export data, trends analysis etc.
- Principle three: Using qualitative and assumed data from international sources
- Principle four: identified problem statements for official research in collaboration with national available institutions

NRCS Foods Compulsory Specifications (VCs)

1. **Compulsory Specification for Frozen Fish, Frozen Marine Molluscs and Frozen products Derived there from VC8017 (SANS 585)**
2. **The Manufacture, Production, Processing and Treatment of Canned Fish, Canned Marine Mollusks and Canned Crustaceans VC8014 (SANS 587)**
3. **The Manufacture, Production, Processing and Treatment of Canned Meat Products VC8019 (SANS 1675)**
4. **Compulsory Specification for Frozen Rock Lobster Products Derived there from VC8020 (SANS 2074)**
5. **Compulsory Specification for Frozen Shrimps (Prawns), Langoustines and Crabs VC8031 (SANS 788)**
6. **Compulsory Specification for Smoked Snoek (to include all smoked fish species) VC8021 (SANS 2877)**
7. **Compulsory Specification for Live Aquaculture Abalone VC9001 (SANS 729)**
8. **Compulsory Specification for Live Lobster VC9104 (SANS 1680)**
9. **Compulsory Specification for Aquaculture live and raw chilled bivalves (oysters, mussels etc.) VC9107 (SANS 2879)**
10. **Compulsory Specification for Processed meat products VC 9100 (SANS 885)**

FAI Inspection program

- Factory requirements
- Equipment for production
- Pre-requisite requirements (GMP)
- Processing/ product requirements
- Requirements for employees

- Safety and quality product evaluation
- (As per pre-determined schedules and/or sampling plans)
- Sanctioning of non-compliant product

Test methods

- Water/Ice
- Chemical evaluation (As per sampling plans)
- Microbiological evaluation (As per sampling plans)

- Traceability of products
- Legal Metrology requirements
- Labeling requirements (R146 & SANS/VC)

- Food Safety Management System (e.g. HACCP)
- Risks Management throughout the value chain

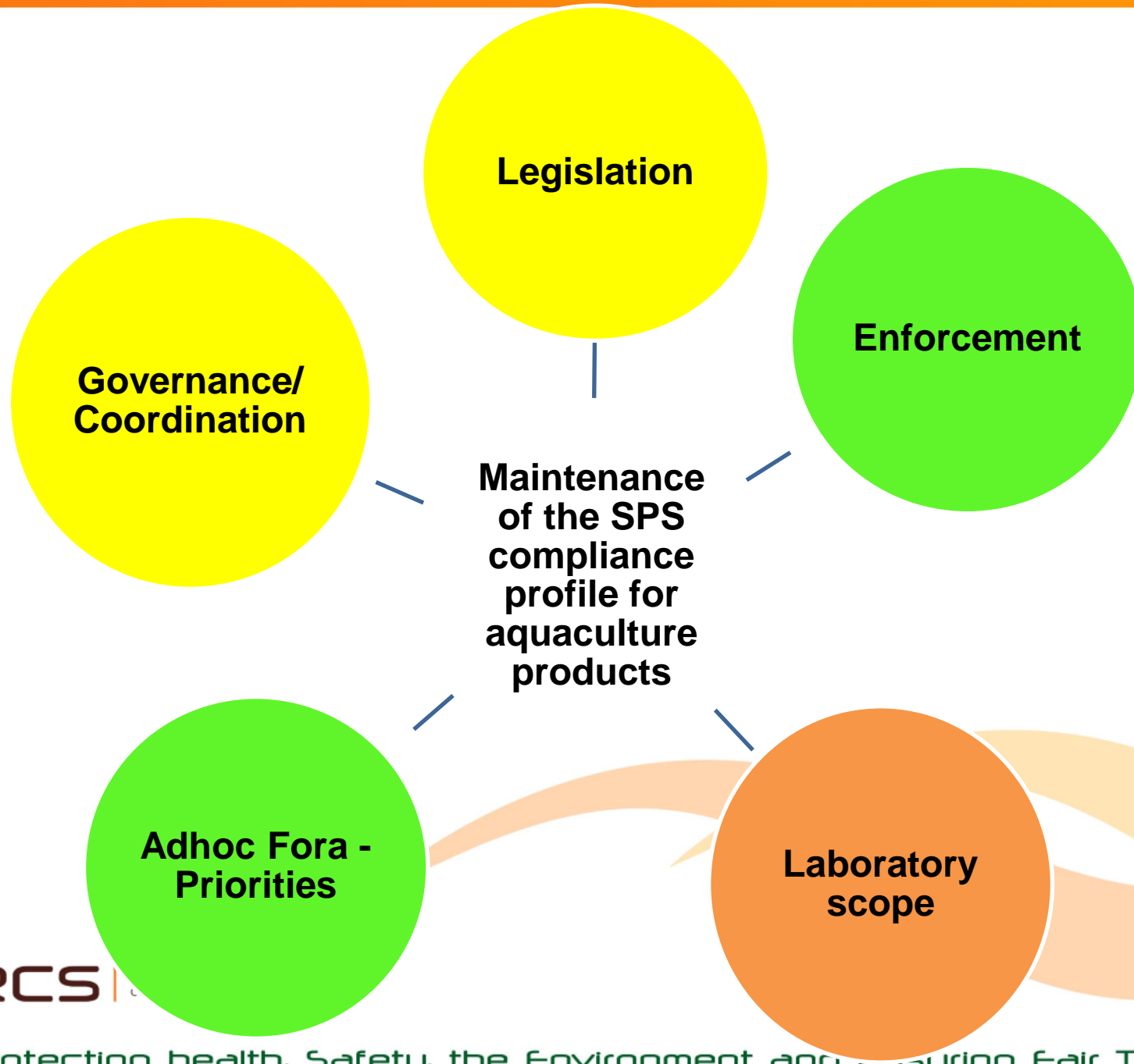
Accredited Inspection Program

Conformity Assessments – Testing labs

- NRCS uses external laboratories – mainly Microbiological tests - Check accreditation status at the SANAS Website
- SABS Commercial (Pty) Ltd and private labs
- Monitoring for fishery products export – NRCS (CA) wild species
 - DEFF farmed species
 - additional testing requirements from importing countries
 - Some of the testing that cannot be conducted in SA



Challenges/Opportunities



Challenges/Opportunities

- Diverse/improved market access for aquaculture products to be still pursued from a sanitary compliance point
 - Monitoring for fishery products export = NRCS/DEFF e.g. Contaminants, Marine Biotoxins, Micro, drug residues etc.
 - Stakeholder engagement, specialized tests – DEFF = other national labs ARC/OVI, NHLS etc.
- Harmonization drives - The NRCS represent South Africa and leads the delegation at the Codex Committee for Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP). Also participate in CCFH & CCFICS
- Other harmonization drives e.g. ARSO, SADCstan, SADCTLRC
- Participate in the national SPS committee and related regional/international committees
- Technical cooperation with trading partners



012 4828700/0215263400

www.nrccs.org.za

Maphuti.kutu@nrccs.org.za/Thandeka.zulu@nrccs.org.za

Thank You



shutterstock.com · 591968987