EOH Coastal & Environmental Services

Expertise in Ports & Harbours

EOH COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (CES) specialises in environmental and social advisory services.

Established in 1990, we gained invaluable experience as lead environmental consultants for a large mineral mining environmental impact assessment (EIA) on the eastern shores of Lake St Lucia in South Africa. Since those early days we have expanded our offerings and now to provide a wide variety of environmental advisory services to public and private-sector clients both in South Africa and internationally. This has included numerous projects for operators of ports and harbours.

In 2013 EOH Mthombo (Pty) Ltd acquired all the shares in CES (Pty) Ltd, and CES now operates as EOH Coastal & Environmental Services.

EOH is the largest provider of enterprise applications, technology, outsourcing, cloud and managed services. The group is active in South Africa, Africa and the United Kingdom and has a strong Black Economic Empowerment profile.

Environmental management within ports and harbours requires a sound knowledge of marine, coastal and terrestrial biophysical processes, national and international legislation, and an understanding of the risks and appropriate mitigation strategies more commonly associated with industrial operations. Other factors that increase the complexity of environmental management in the port environment include the legacies of past environmental management practices, the need to consider potentially contradictory views of multiple stakeholders (including tenants and the general public) and ensuring that management strategies complement the routine operations of ports.

EOH CES has provided extensive environmental services to South Africa’s Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA), both at a national level and to the operators of seven individual ports in South Africa. Moreover, we have been involved in port operations for other African countries including Angola, Liberia, Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Nigeria.

EOH CES have a sound knowledge of marine, coastal and terrestrial biophysical processes and national and international legislation, which allows us to understand the risks associated with port operations.

In addition to completing an EIA for the deep-water port of Ngqura, EOH CES’s services to the port sector have included strategic environmental assessments, a national climate change risk assessment, environmental risk, contaminated land and due diligence assessments, smaller EIAs and Basic Assessments, general audits and waste management planning. The products of many of these assessments have subsequently been incorporated into standard risk management procedures for the ports.

EOH CES staff are all exceptionally well qualified, with many being recognised experts in their particular disciplines. Several of our staff hold PhD degrees, and most have post-graduate qualifications in the environmental sciences with both national and international certifications.

For more information see www.cesnet.co.za

Environmental Projects Specific to Ports and Harbours

Environmental Impact Assessments:
- Ngqura Port, part of the Coega Industrial Development Zone, outside Port Elizabeth. CES was lead consultant and obtained the environmental approval for this new port.
- East London Port's Reclamation Project
- Deepening of the East London Port
- Luanda Bay Waterfront Development (Angola)
- Industrial jetties for the export of heavy minerals, for three heavy mineral mining projects in Mozambique.

Environmental risk assessment:
- Environmental risk assessment of alternative bunkering modes. This project involved a detailed environmental risk assessment of alternative modes for bunkering of fuel in the Port Elizabeth Port and development of risk management guidelines.
- Risk assessment and rehabilitation recommendations for ash contamination at TNPA’s Burgersdorp railway shunting yard.
- Climate change risk assessment for all South African ports (2009). This project involved a detailed assessment of direct and indirect climate change-related risks and appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies for all of the ports.
- Risk assessment for proposed coal terminal at the East London Port
Audits and due diligence:
- Environmental asset liability assessment for the Durban Port
- Final environmental audit works to prevent sand migration at PE harbour
- Environmental due diligence assessments for sites near Port Elizabeth

Environmental management:
- Long-term rehabilitation plan for the Ngqura Port
- Bioremediation at a contaminated site in the Port Elizabeth harbour area.
- Integrated Environmental, Health and Safety Management Programme for the levelling works and dune rehabilitation at the Port Elizabeth Port.
- Environmental input into a breakwater rehabilitation programme for the Cape Town Harbour (2015).

Other:
- Basic Assessment and water use licence application for a security wall between an informal housing area and a TNPA site in Port Elizabeth.
- Strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) for the ports of East London and Port Elizabeth and the scoping phase of the SEA for the Mossel Bay Port (2008)
- Environmental pre-feasibility assessment for the upgrade of the Buchanan Port (Liberia)
- Marine specialist studies including the dredge, coral reef, fisheries and bathymetric survey assessments related to the Port Expansion, as well as the assessment of the Marine Outfall of mining effluent.
- Marine Monitoring Programme for the Ambatovy Nickel Latarite Project, Tamatave, Madagascar.