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Maria-Elena Vorrath, Niko Lahajnar, Gerhard Fischer, Viktor Miti Libuku, Martin Schmidt, Kay-Christian Emeis



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# Spatiotemporal variation of vertical particle fluxes and modelled chlorophyll $\alpha$ standing stocks in the Benguela Upwelling System

**Maria-Elena Vorrath**, Universität Hamburg, Inst. for Geology, Bundesstrasse 55, 20146 Hamburg, Germany

Now at Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Am Alten Hafen 26, 27568 Bremerhaven, Germany

**Niko Lahajnar**, Universität Hamburg, Inst. for Geology, Bundesstrasse 55, 20146 Hamburg, Germany

**Gerhard Fischer**, Universität Bremen, Dept. Geosciences and MARUM, Leobener Str. 8, 28359 Bremen, Germany

**Viktor Miti Libuku**, National Marine Information and Research Centre (NatMIRC), PO Box 912, Swakopmund, Namibia

**Martin Schmidt**, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research, Seestrasse 15, 18119 Rostock, Germany

**Kay-Christian Emeis**, Universität Hamburg, Inst. for Geology, Bundesstrasse 55, 20146 Hamburg, Germany; Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Inst. of Coastal Research, Max-Planck-Str. 1, 21502 Geesthacht, Germany

## Abstract

Marine particle fluxes from high productive coastal upwelling systems return upwelled CO<sub>2</sub> and nutrients to the deep ocean and sediments and have a substantial impact on the global carbon cycle. This study examines relations between production regimes on the shelf and over the continental margin of the Benguela Upwelling System (BUS) in the SE Atlantic Ocean. Data of composition and timing of vertical particle flux come from sediment trap time series (deployed intermittently between 1988 and 2014) in the regions Walvis Ridge, Walvis Bay, Luederitz and Orange River. We compare their seasonal variability to modelled patterns of chlorophyll concentrations in a 3-D ecosystem model. Both modelled seasonal chlorophyll  $\alpha$  standing stocks and sampled particle flux patterns are highly correspondent with a bimodal

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