**Appendix S2: 135 Articles included in the analysis**

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|  | Country | Authors | Title | Year |
| 1 | Angola | Mogomotsi G.E.J., Mogomotsi P.K., Mosepele K. | Legal aspects of transboundary water management: An analysis of the intergovernmental institutional arrangements in the Okavango River Basin | 2020 |
| 2 | Angola | Rodrigues C.U., Russo V. | No walk in the park: Transboundary cooperation in the angolan war-torn okavango | 2017 |
| 3 | Angola | Marcantonio R.A. | The Okavango River Basin agreement: an analysis | 2016 |
| 4 | Botswana | Basupi L.V., Dougill A.J., Quinn C.H. | Institutional challenges in pastoral landscape management: Towards sustainable land management in Ngamiland, Botswana | 2019 |
| 5 | Botswana | Blackie I. | The impact of wildlife hunting prohibition on the rural livelihoods of local communities in Ngamiland and Chobe District Areas, Botswana | 2019 |
| 6 | Botswana | Shinn J.E. | Adaptive environmental governance of changing social-ecological systems: Empirical insights from the Okavango Delta, Botswana | 2016 |
| 7 | Botswana | Mogende E., Kolawole O. | Dynamics of local governance in natural resource conservation in the Okavango Delta, Botswana | 2016 |
| 8 | Botswana | Mbaiwa J.E. | Community-based natural resource management in Botswana | 2015 |
| 9 | Botswana | Stone M.T. | Community empowerment through community-based tourism: The case of chobe enclave conservation trust in Botswana | 2015 |
| 10 | Botswana | Cassidy L., Wilk J., Kgathi D.L., Bendsen H., Ngwenya B.N., Mosepele K. | Indigenous knowledge, livelihoods and government policy in the Okavango Delta, Botswana | 2014 |
| 11 | Botswana | Mooketsane K., Bolilenyane K., Motsekgwa K. | Is decentralisation in Botswanaa democratic fallacy? | 2017 |
| 12 | Botswana | Mulale K., Chanda R., Perkins J.S., Magole L., Sebego R.J., Atlhopheng J.R., Mphinyane W., Reed M.S. | Formal institutions and their role in promoting sustainable land management in Boteti, Botswana | 2014 |
| 13 | Botswana | Stone M.T., Nyaupane G. | Rethinking community in community-based natural resource management | 2014 |
| 14 | Botswana | Ngwenya B.N. | Village level institutions at the margins of natural resource management: The case of VDCS in Ngamiland, Botswana | 2014 |
| 15 | Botswana | Nelson F. | Democratizing natural resource governance: Searching for institutional change | 2010 |
| 16 | Botswana | Mulale K., Mbaiwa J., | The Effects of CBNRM Integration into Local Government Structures and Poverty Alleviation in Botswana | 2011 |
| 17 | Botswana | Mbaiwa J.E., Stronza A., Kreuter U.R.S. | From collaboration to conservation: Insights from the Okavango Delta, Botswana | 2011 |
| 18 | Botswana | Stone L.S., Stone T.M. | Community-based tourism enterprises: Challenges and prospects for community participation; Khama Rhino Sanctuary trust, Botswana | 2011 |
| 19 | Regional | Child B., Barnes G. | The conceptual evolution and practice of community-based natural resource management in southern Africa: Past, present and future | 2010 |
| 20 | Botswana | Lepper C.M., Goebel J.S. | Community-based natural resource management, poverty alleviation and livelihood diversification: A case study from northern Botswana | 2010 |
| 21 | drc | Nackoney J., Hickey J., Williams D., Facheux C., Furuichi T., Dupain J. | Geospatial information informs bonobo conservation efforts | 2018 |
| 22 | Regional | Dyer J., Stringer L.C., Dougill A.J., Leventon J., Nshimbi M., Chama F., Kafwifwi A., Muledi J.I., Kaumbu J.-M.K., Falcao M., Muhorro S., Munyemba F., Kalaba G.M., Syampungani S. | Assessing participatory practices in community-based natural resource management: Experiences in community engagement from southern Africa | 2014 |
| 23 | Swaziland | Orchard S.E., Stringer L.C. | Challenges to polycentric governance of an international development project tackling land degradation in Swaziland | 2016 |
| 24 | Swaziland | Wilkinson M.J., Magagula T.K., Hassan R.M. | Piloting a method to evaluate the implementation of integrated water resource management in the Inkomati river Basin | 2015 |
| 25 | Lesotho | Shale L., Rantšo T.A. | A community based model of environmental resource conservation and livelihoods: Non-Governmental Organisation supported Tšenekeng Botanical Garden in Semonkong, Lesotho | 2019 |
| 26 | Madagscar | Long S., Thurlow G., Jones P.J.S., Turner A., Randrianantenaina S.M., Gammage T., Savage J., Ndriamanja J.R. | Critical analysis of the governance of the Sainte Luce Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA), southeast Madagascar | 2019 |
| 27 | Madagscar | Garden et al | A decade and a half of learning from Madagascar's first locally managed marine area | 2019 |
| 28 | Madagscar | Bodonirina N., Reibelt L.M., Stoudmann N., Chamagne J., Jones T.G., Ravaka A., Ranjaharivelo H.V.F., Ravonimanantsoa T., Moser G., De Grave A., Garcia C., Ramamonjisoa B.S., Wilmé L., Waeber P.O. | Approaching local perceptions of forest governance and livelihood challenges with companion modeling from a case study around Zahamena National Park, Madagascar | 2018 |
| 29 | Madagscar | Augustave | Governing for Viability: The Case of Velondriake Locally Managed Marine Area in Madagascar | 2018 |
| 30 | Madagscar | Ward C., Stringer L., Holmes G. | Changing governance, changing inequalities: Protected area co-management and access to forest ecosystem services: a Madagascar case study | 2018 |
| 31 | Madagscar | Lammers P.L., Richter T., Lux M., Ratsimbazafy J., Mantilla-Contreras J. | The challenges of community-based conservation in developing countries—A case study from Lake Alaotra, Madagascar | 2017 |
| 32 | Madagscar | Baker-Médard M. | Gendering Marine Conservation: The Politics of Marine Protected Areas and Fisheries Access | 2017 |
| 33 | Madagscar | Long S., Jones P.J.S., Randriana Z., Hadj-Hammou J. | Governance analysis of a community managed small-scale crab fishery in Madagascar: Novel use of an empirical framework | 2017 |
| 34 | Madagscar | Cullman G. | Community forest management as virtualism in northeastern Madagascar | 2015 |
| 35 | Madagscar | Randrianalijaona M., Ballet J. | When inequalities of opportunities control the pressure on forestry resources: A comparison of two sites in the SAVA region of North-Eastern Madagascar | 2015 |
| 36 | Madagscar | Pollini J., Lassoie J.P. | Trapping farmer communities within global environmental regimes: The case of the GELOSE legislation in Madagascar | 2011 |
| 37 | Malawi | Adams E.A., Juran L., Ajibade I. | ‘Spaces of Exclusion’ in community water governance: A Feminist Political Ecology of gender and participation in Malawi's Urban Water User Associations | 2018 |
| 38 | Malawi | Zuka S.P. | Contesting Institutional Engineering for Decentralized Natural Resource Governance in Malawi | 2016 |
| 39 | Malawi | Chinangwa L., Sinclair F., Pullin A.S., Hockley N. | Can co-management of government forest reserves achieve devolution? Evidence from Malawi | 2016 |
| 40 | Malawi | Adams E.A., Zulu L.C. | Participants or customers in water governance? Community-public partnerships for peri-urban water supply | 2015 |
| 41 | Malawi | Chiluwe Q.W., Nkhata B. | Analysis of water governance in Malawi: Towards a favourable enabling environment? | 2014 |
| 42 | Malawi | Kamoto J., Clarkson G., Dorward P., Shepherd D. | Doing more harm than good? Community based natural resource management and the neglect of local institutions in policy development | 2013 |
| 43 | Malawi | Zuka S. | Myths and realities in community management of common pool resources in Malawi: Social stratification as a negative side-effect of social capital | 2013 |
| 44 | Mozambique | McClanahan T.R., Abunge C.A. | Conservation needs exposed by variability in common-pool governance principles | 2019 |
| 45 | Mozambique | Suich H. | The effectiveness of economic incentives for sustaining community based natural resource management | 2013 |
| 46 | Mozambique | Rosendo S., Brown K., Joubert A., Jiddawi N., Mechisso M. | A clash of values and approaches: A case study of marine protected area planning in Mozambique | 2011 |
| 47 | Namibia | Hegga S., Kunamwene I., Ziervogel G. | Local participation in decentralized water governance: insights from north-central Namibia | 2020 |
| 48 | Namibia | Menestrey Schwieger D.A. | Negotiating water on unequal terms: Cattle loans, dependencies and power in communal water management in Northwest Namibia | 2019 |
| 49 | Namibia | Wiederkehr C., Berghöfer A., Otsuki K. | Ostrom’s Governance Principles and Sustainable Financing of Fish Reserves | 2019 |
| 50 | Namibia | Schnegg M. | Institutional multiplexity: social networks and community-based natural resource management | 2018 |
| 51 | Namibia | Schnegg M., Kiaka R.D. | Subsidized elephants: Community-based resource governance and environmental (in)justice in Namibia | 2018 |
| 52 | Namibia | Schnegg M., Bollig M. | Institutions put to the test: Community-based water management in Namibia during a drought | 2016 |
| 53 | Namibia | Bollig M., Menestrey Schwieger D.A. | Fragmentation, Cooperation and Power: Institutional Dynamics in Natural Resource Governance in North-Western Namibia | 2014 |
| 54 | Namibia | Boudreaux K., Nelson F. | Community conservation in namibia: Empowering the poor with property rights | 2011 |
| 55 | Namibia | Collomb J.G.E., Mupeta P., Barnes G., Child B. | Integrating governance and socioeconomic indicators to assess the performance of community-based natural resources management in Caprivi (Namibia) | 2010 |
| 56 | South Africa | Falayi M., Gambiza J., Schoon M. | Unpacking changing multi-actor and multi-level actor ties in transformative spaces: Insights from a degraded landscape, Machubeni, South Africa | 2020 |
| 57 | South Africa | Cockburn J., Cundill G., Shackleton S., Rouget M., Zwinkels M., Cornelius S.A., Metcalfe L., van den Broeck D. | Collaborative stewardship in multifunctional landscapes: Toward relational, pluralistic approaches | 2019 |
| 58 | South Africa | Salmoral G., Schaap N.C.E., Walschebauer J., Alhajaj A. | Water diplomacy and nexus governance in a transboundary context: In the search for complementarities | 2019 |
| 59 | South Africa | Gwiriri, L.C., Bennett, J.E. | Balancing democracy with service delivery: Power relations, politics and accountability in cooperatives supporting emergent livestock farmers in South Africa | 2019 |
| 60 | South Africa | Makaya E., Rohse M., Day R., Vogel C., Mehta L., McEwen L., Rangecroft S., Van Loon A.F. | Water governance challenges in rural South Africa: Exploring institutional coordination in drought management | 2020 |
| 61 | South Africa | Dirwai T.L., Senzanje A., Mudhara M. | Water governance impacts on water adequacy in smallholder irrigation schemes in KwaZulu-Natal province, South Africa | 2019 |
| 62 | South Africa | Sowman M., Sunde J. | Social impacts of marine protected areas in South Africa on coastal fishing communities | 2018 |
| 63 | South Africa | Madigele P.K. | Efficiency of common-pool resource institutions: focusing on water users associations in South Africa | 2018 |
| 64 | South Africa | Cobbing J., Rose-Innes C. | Groundwater governance: The case of the Grootfontein Aquifer at Mahikeng, South Africa | 2018 |
| 65 | South Africa | Elias F. | The practice of integrated water resources management in South Africa: Challenges of women in water user associations | 2017 |
| 66 | South Africa | Chikozho C., Danga L., Saruchera D. | Articulating the history and major departure points evident in post-apartheid South African national water policy and law | 2017 |
| 67 | South Africa | Goble B.J., Hill T.R., Phillips M.R. | An Assessment of Integrated Coastal Management Governance and Implementation Using the DPSIR Framework: KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa | 2017 |
| 68 | South Africa | Mdiniso J.M., Ezeuduji I.O., Nzama A.T. | Evaluating nature conservation and tourism development effectiveness: Local communities around Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Park, South Africa | 2017 |
| 69 | South Africa | Musavengane R., Simatele D.M. | Community-based natural resource management: The role of social capital in collaborative environmental management of tribal resources in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa | 2016 |
| 70 | South Africa | Knüppe K., Meissner R. | Drivers and barriers towards sustainable water and land management in the Olifants-Doorn Water Management Area, South Africa | 2016 |
| 71 | South Africa | Thondhlana G., Cundill G., Kepe T. | Co-Management, Land Rights, and Conflicts Around South Africa’s Silaka Nature Reserve | 2016 |
| 72 | South Africa | Denby K., Movik S., Mehta L., van Koppen B. | The 'trickle down' of IWRM: A case study of local-level realities in the Inkomati Water Management Area, South Africa | 2016 |
| 73 | South Africa | Britz P. | The history of south african inland fisheries policy with governance recommendations for the democratic era | 2015 |
| 74 | South Africa | Grecksch K. | Adaptive capacity and water governance in the keiskamma river catchment, Eastern Cape province, South Africa | 2015 |
| 75 | South Africa | Thondhlana G., Shackleton S., Blignaut J. | Local institutions, actors, and natural resource governance in Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and surrounds, South Africa | 2015 |
| 76 | Regional | Schoon M. | Governance in transboundary conservation: How institutional structure and path dependence matter | 2013 |
| 77 | South Africa | Kamuti T. | The fractured state in the governance of private game farming: The case of KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa | 2014 |
| 78 | South Africa | Hara M.M., Backeberg G.R. | An institutional approach for developing South African inland freshwater fisheries for improved food security and rural livelihoods | 2014 |
| 79 | South Africa | Mehta L., Alba R., Bolding A., Denby K., Derman B., Hove T., Manzungu E., Movik S., Prabhakaran P., van Koppen B. | The politics of IWRM in Southern Africa | 2014 |
| 80 | South Africa | Meer T., Schnurr M.A. | The community versus community-based natural resource management: The case of Ndumo game reserve, South Africa | 2013 |
| 81 | South Africa | Blore M.L., Cundill G., Mkhulisi M. | Towards measuring the transaction costs of co-management in Mkambati Nature Reserve, Eastern Cape, South Africa | 2013 |
| 82 | South Africa | Bennett J., Ainslie A., Davis J. | Fenced in: Common property struggles in the management of communal rangelands in central Eastern Cape Province, South Africa | 2010 |
| 83 | South Africa | Bennett J., Ainslie A., Davis J. | Contested institutions? Traditional leaders and land access and control in communal areas of Eastern Cape Province, South Africa | 2013 |
| 84 | South Africa | Bennett J.E. | Institutions and governance of communal rangelands in South Africa | 2013 |
| 85 | South Africa | Muller M. | Polycentric governance: Water management in South Africa | 2012 |
| 86 | South Africa | Quinn N. | Water governance, ecosystems and sustainability: A review of progress in South Africa | 2012 |
| 87 | South Africa | Bourblanc M. | Transforming water resources management in South Africa. 'Catchment management agencies' and the ideal of democratic development | 2012 |
| 88 | South Africa | Herrfahrdt-Pähle E. | The South African Water Sector: on its Way Towards Adaptive Water Governance? | 2012 |
| 89 | South Africa | Pietersen K., Beekman H.E., Holland M., Adams S. | Groundwater governance in South Africa: A status assessment | 2012 |
| 90 | South Africa | Musvoto C., Nortje K., Murambadoro M., Dube S. | Relevance of national and local government policy to sustainable community natural resource management in South Africa | 2011 |
| 91 | South Africa | Thondhlana G., Shackleton S., Muchapondwa E. | Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and its land claimants: A pre-and post-land claim conservation and development history | 2011 |
| 92 | South Africa | Cundill G. | Monitoring social learning processes in adaptive comanagement: Three case studies from South Africa | 2010 |
| 93 | South Africa | Mirumachi N., Van Wyk E. | Cooperation at different scales: Challenges for local and international water resource governance in South Africa | 2010 |
| 94 | Tanzania | Janssens de Bisthoven L., Vanhove M.P.M., Rochette A.-J., Hugé J., Verbesselt S., Machunda R., Munishi L., Wynants M., Steensels A., Malan-Meerkotter M., Henok S., Nhiwatiwa T., Casier B., Kiwango Y.A., Kaitila R., Komakech H., Brendonck L. | Social-ecological assessment of Lake Manyara basin, Tanzania: A mixed method approach | 2020 |
| 95 | Tanzania | Richards N. | Water users associations in Tanzania: Local governance for whom? | 2019 |
| 96 | Tanzania | Fatch J., Swatuk L.A. | Boundaries of benefit sharing: Mapping conflict and cooperation in the Lake Malawi/Niassa/Nyasa sub-basin | 2018 |
| 97 | Tanzania | Duvail S., Paul J.-L., Hamerlynck O., Majule A., Nyingi W.D., Mwakalinga A., Kindinda K. | Participatory research in Tanzania: A local observatory for a dialogue on land and water management [Recherches participatives en Tanzanie: un observatoire local pour un dialogue autour de la gestion des territoires et de l'Eau?] | 2017 |
| 98 | Tanzania | Katomero J., Georgiadou Y., Lungo J., Hoppe R. | Tensions in rural water governance: The elusive functioning of rural water points in Tanzania | 2017 |
| 99 | Tanzania | Mandara C.G., Niehof A., van der Horst H. | Women and rural water management: Token representatives or paving the way to power? | 2017 |
| 100 | Tanzania | Pedersen R.H. | Access to land reconsidered: The land grab, polycentric governance and Tanzania's new wave land reform | 2016 |
| 101 | Tanzania | Medard M., Van Dijk H., Hebinck P., Geheb K. | Governance in a beach seine fishery: a case study from Lake Victoria, Tanzania | 2016 |
| 102 | Tanzania | van Koppen B., Tarimo A.K.P.R., van Eeden A., Manzungu E., Sumuni P.M. | Winners and losers of IWRM in Tanzania | 2016 |
| 103 | Regional | Derman B., Prabhakaran P. | Reflections on the formulation and implementation of IWRM in Southern Africa from a gender perspective | 2016 |
| 104 | Tanzania | Eilola S., Fagerholm N., Mäki S., Khamis M., Käyhkö N. | Realization of participation and spatiality in participatory forest management – a policy–practice analysis from Zanzibar, Tanzania | 2015 |
| 105 | Tanzania | Katikiro R.E., Macusi E.D., Ashoka Deepananda K.H.M. | Challenges facing local communities in Tanzania in realising locally-managed marine areas | 2015 |
| 106 | Tanzania | Lalika M.C.S., Meire P., Ngaga Y.M. | Exploring watershed conservation and water governance along Pangani River Basin, Tanzania | 2015 |
| 107 | Tanzania | Colbert-Sangree N., Suter J.F. | Community based fishery management within the Menai bay conservation area: A survey of the resource user | 2015 |
| 108 | Tanzania | Dyngeland C., Vedeld P., Vatn A. | REDD+ at work? Implementing consistent REDD+ policies at local levels- A case from Kilosa District, Tanzania | 2014 |
| 109 | Tanzania | Komakech H.C., van der Zaag P. | Polycentrism and pitfalls: the formation of water users forums in the Kikuletwa catchment, Tanzania | 2013 |
| 110 | Tanzania | de la Torre-Castro M. | Governance for Sustainability: Insights from Marine Resource Use in a Tropical Setting in the Western Indian Ocean | 2012 |
| 111 | Tanzania | Stein C., Ernstson H., Barron J. | A social network approach to analyzing water governance: The case of the Mkindo catchment, Tanzania | 2011 |
| 112 | Tanzania | Lecoutere E. | Institutions under construction: Resolving resource conflicts in tanzanian irrigation schemes | 2011 |
| 113 | Tanzania | Saunders F., Mohammed S.M., Jiddawi N., Nordin K., Lundèn B., Sjöling S. | The changing social relations of a community-based mangrove forest project in Zanzibar | 2010 |
| 114 | Tanzania | Jiménez A., Pérez-Foguet A. | Challenges for water governance in rural water supply: Lessons learned from Tanzania | 2010 |
| 115 | Tanzania | de la Torre-Castro M., Lindström L. | Fishing institutions: Addressing regulative, normative and cultural-cognitive elements to enhance fisheries management | 2010 |
| 116 | Zambia | Milupi I.D., Somers M.J., Ferguson W. | Inadequate community engagement hamstrings sustainable wildlife resource management in Zambia | 2020 |
| 117 | Zambia | Kapembwa S., Gardiner A., Pétursson J.G. | Governance assessment of small-scale inland fishing: The case of Lake Itezhi-Tezhi, Zambia | 2020 |
| 118 | Zambia | Caron C., Fenner S. | Forest Access and Polycentric Governance in Zambia's Eastern Province: Insights for REDD+1 | 2017 |
| 119 | Zambia | Chikozho C., Mapedza E. | In search of socio-ecological resilience and adaptive capacity: Articulating the governance imperatives for improved canal management on the Barotse floodplain, Zambia | 2017 |
| 120 | Zambia | Chomba M.J., Nkhata B.A. | Property rights and benefit sharing: A case study of the Barotse floodplain of Zambia | 2016 |
| 121 | Zambia | Leventon J., Kalaba F.K., Dyer J.C., Stringer L.C., Dougill A.J. | Delivering community benefits through REDD+: Lessons from Joint Forest Management in Zambia | 2014 |
| 122 | Zambia | Lyons A. | The rise and fall of a second-generation CBNRM project in Zambia: Insights from a project perspective | 2013 |
| 123 | Zambia | Uhlendahl T., Salian P., Casarotto C., Doetsch J. | Good water governance and IWRM in Zambia: Challenges and chances | 2011 |
| 124 | Zambia | Nkhata B.A., Breen C.M. | Performance of community-based natural resource governance for the Kafue Flats (Zambia) | 2010 |
| 125 | Zambia | Lubilo R., Child B. | The rise and fall of community-based natural resource management in Zambia's Luangwa Valley: An illustration of micro-and macro-governance issues | 2010 |
| 126 | Zambia | Funder M., Mweemba C., Nyambe I., van Koppen B., Ravnborg H.M. | Understanding local water conflict and cooperation: The case of Namwala District, Zambia | 2010 |
| 127 | Zimbabwe | Chitakira M., Nyikadzino B. | Effectiveness of environmental management institutions in sustainable water resources management in the upper Pungwe River basin, Zimbabwe | 2020 |
| 128 | Zimbabwe | Shereni N.C., Saarinen J. | Community perceptions on the benefits and challenges of community-based natural resources management in Zimbabwe | 2020 |
| 129 | Zimbabwe | Mutekwa V.T., Gambiza J. | Forest protected areas governance in Zimbabwe: Shift needed away from a long history of local community exclusion | 2017 |
| 130 | Regional | Soyapi C.B. | Water security and the right to water in southern Africa: An overview | 2017 |
| 131 | Zimbabwe | Mapedza E., Manzungu E., Rosen T., Ncube P., van Koppen B. | Decentralised water governance in Zimbabwe: Disorder within order | 2016 |
| 132 | Zimbabwe | Kozanayi W., Wynberg R., Matose F. | Customary governance of baobab in eastern Zimbabwe: Impacts of state-led interventions | 2014 |
| 133 | Zimbabwe | Nyikadzino B., Chibisa P., Makurira H. | Exploring the effectiveness of sustainable water management structures in the Upper Pungwe river basin | 2014 |
| 134 | Zimbabwe | Matose F., Scotney Watss | Towards community-based forest management in Southern Africa: do decentralization experiments work for local livelihoods? | 2010 |
| 135 | Zimbabwe | Mutekwa and Gambiza | Assessment of governance principles application in forest protected areas: the case of six state forests in western Zimbabwe | 2016 |