

Knowledge lives in the lake

Case studies in environmental and customary law
from southern Africa

Like its predecessor, *Biodiversity and the ancestors: Challenges to customary and environmental law. Case studies from Namibia*, which was published in 2008, *Knowledge lives in the lake* presents research within the framework of the international Biodiversity Monitoring Transect Analysis in Africa (BIOTA) Project. Both publications were supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The BIOTA Project was inspired by the movement to translate the demand for sustainable development into international and national policies, which gained worldwide recognition at the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992 and has remained on the national and international agenda since then. It was fortunate that some of the questions dealt with in the BIOTA Project could be continued in a new initiative, namely The Future of the Okavango (TFO) Project, which is still in progress. The focus of the TFO Project is the sustainability of the Kavango River Basin, which spans from Angola through Namibia to Botswana. Some of the contributions in this volume mark the interface between the BIOTA and TFO Projects. The emphasis on water and water management in other contributions expresses this interface as well. This publication will be of special value to lawyers, anthropologists, students, policymakers and all members of the public interested in the sustainable development of mother earth.

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