



CALL FOR PAPERS TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL

FRONTIERS IN WATER:

1. TITLE:

Water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa

2. INTRODUCTION:

The essential and complex nature of water is well-known. Contestations over access, use and management of it have given rise to a wide variety of legal and institutional arrangements across the world through time. Whether equitable or inequitable, stable or fractious, deeply embedded or loosely articulated, our arrangements for governing and managing water are everywhere under stress from a combination of natural and human made factors, perhaps the most serious of which is climate change. Serious questions have arisen regarding the capacity of existing ways and means of governing and managing water to cope with these stresses. How robust are our water institutions? Are they capable of channeling emerging conflicts into productive, collective practices? Or is our future likely to be beset by more and more violent water conflicts?

3. THEME AND SCOPE

In this collection we aim to draw together a set of papers that interrogate issues and questions of water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on both surface and groundwater. We are looking for contributions that focus on the following topics:

- A historical perspective of water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Drivers & Dynamics of Water Rights and Conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- A multi-perspective analysis of water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Factors underpinning water conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- A legal perspective of water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- A look at local and national water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Transboundary water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa
- A gendered perspective of water rights and conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa

4. TARGET AUDIENCE

The editors are seeking contributions from researchers, scholars, policymakers and practitioners.

5. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Expressions of interest should be submitted via email no later than 15 December 2023 to the Special Issue Editor-in-Chief, Professor Tamuka Nhiwatiwa (Dept. of Biological Sciences and Ecology, University of Zimbabwe): drtnhiwatiwa@gmail.com. The expression of interest must include: the paper's title, a list of authors and affiliations, an extended abstract (including description of methodology and summary of findings), and a preliminary list of references.

The special issue editors will vet the expressions of interest and invite those deemed suitable for inclusion to submit a full paper. Full papers should be 6,000 – 8,000 words in length, 12 point font, 1.5 line spacing, A4 margins, and APA citation style. Submissions must be submitted in Word and sent via email to the Special Issue Editor-in-Chief at drtnhiwatiwa@gmail.com. Full papers will be due no later than 15 February 2024.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Expressions of interest will be judged based on originality, relevance to the theme, methodology and overall quality.

7. REVIEW PROCESS

Papers will be subject to a double-blind review process. Articles are published and appear online as soon as they have completed the peer review process and have been accepted, without waiting for the completion of all of the manuscripts in the Research Topic.

8. JOURNAL DETAILS

Frontiers in Water is the Journal in which the collection is to appear. More details about the journal may be found [here](#). Frontiers in Water is a Gold Open Access publisher, meaning that submitting authors incur publishing fees for their accepted manuscripts. We are aware of the obstacle that APCs can represent and the Journal offers a very strong [Fee Support Scheme](#) which aims at covering partially or even fully publishing charges for authors lacking funding for Open Access publication (prioritizing authors from the Global South). On top of that, Frontiers in Water also has 200+ [Institutional Memberships](#) with Universities globally, meaning that submitting authors who are affiliated with any of these institutions may already be eligible for a discount via their libraries - they remain free to apply also for Fee Support.

We thank you in advance for your interest and hope that you are as excited to participate in this project as are we!