

(Newsletter of the project The Future Okavango, covering the period April and May 2014)

## What is coming up? TFO activities and deadlines, events of interest

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- **Water, Soil and Waste DRESDEN NEXUS CONFERENCE** – DNC 2015 25.-27. March 2015 Dresden Germany. Deadline for call for session proposals is the 31 of May 2014. A call for abstracts for papers runs from 20 June – 30 September 2014. See <http://flores.unu.edu/Dresden-nexus-conference> for all information.
- **2014 Okavango Research Symposium** due to be held in Maun, Botswana on 28<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> July. For Conference details visit : [www.ori.ub.bw/welands-symposium-2014](http://www.ori.ub.bw/welands-symposium-2014) also see the following link:  
<http://www.ub.bw/eventdet/tid/2235/Symposium-on-Sustainable-Use-of-Wetlands:-Challenges-of-Conservation-and-Management-in-Dynamic-Socio-Ecological-Systems/>

## Inside TFO: What has been done recently?

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- Several new documents are available on the TFO homepage:
  - The booklet “**Visions 2030: Food for thought – Stakeholders’ visions for the future of the Okavango River Basin**”, presented to the public at the Stakeholder Public Evening during the TFO symposium in Rundu
  - the **talks** presented at the **Scientific Symposium in Rundu**, Namibia, 24 - 27 Feb 2014
  - the report of the **6<sup>th</sup> Scenario Task Force Meeting** in Rundu, 27 February 2014
  - the web link to the TFO Special Volume '**Biodiversity & Ecology 5**' under New TFO publication
  - the third participatory **film “Honey”** in the Video Portal
  - The **Joint Partner Interim Report 2013** in the Internal Documents Section of MyTFO.

## Inside TFO: News, communication & other information

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*(Topics: New TFO members, new uploads or features in MyTFO, OBIS or website, information by PT/BMBF/GLUES)*

- Copies of TFO films and flyers are available at the SASSCAL office in Windhoek.
- TFO **online calendar** available on OBIS: Please be so kind to take the time to **always add all events, deadlines, field-trips, conference dates** etc. that are of relevance for the TFO community and make use of the calendar as much as possible. You will need an OBIS account to get access to the calendar which is accessible for TFO members only. You can register on the OBIS website, in case you don't have an account yet. Link to the calendar (link can also be found at the upper right corner on the TFO website):

<http://leutra.geogr.uni-jena.de/obis/metadata/login.php?url=%2Fobis%2Fmetadata%2Fcalendar.php>

- Please make use of the TFO webpages internal area called **MyTFO** which allows you to update your participant details, generate mailing lists and download internal documents such as reports, minutes, presentations etc. You will find the MyTFO link in the upper right corner. You can receive your personal MyTFO - login from the TFO - webmaster at [webmaster@future-okavango.org](mailto:webmaster@future-okavango.org)
- All SPs and Institutions please spend a minute to **update your participant details on the TFO Webpage in the MyTFO area** (see above) so that we get a clear picture who is participating at this stage. Please also provide information on your function and thematic and regional expertise within TFO. If you identify colleagues of your SP who have left the project please send an email to the TFO - webmaster at [webmaster@future-okavango.org](mailto:webmaster@future-okavango.org)

## Outside TFO: Reports from stakeholders' activities

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*(Topics: Feedback from stakeholder meetings TFO attended, TFO members on stakeholders contacts, stakeholder activities....)*

## New Publications by us and/or others

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*(Topics: new publications by TFO members or other publication being of interest; interesting websites, data etc.)*

- Roan News can be found at: <http://www.news-namibia.org/activities.html>. In short : it is the magazine published by the Namibian Environment & Wildlife Society and publishes stories, research findings and project updates on the Namibian environment, from aspects of wildlife management, ecology, environmental policies and environmental education. The magazine aims to inform its readers of ongoing research efforts and findings, environmental issues, sustainable development and tourism and wildlife management.
- Recommended reading: The review article **“Soil science contributions towards Sustainable Development Goals and their implementation: linking soil functions with ecosystem services”** by Johan Bouma (J. Plant Nutr. Soil Sci. 2014, 177, 111–120) is focusing on soil science contributions towards interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies on land-related SDG's.

All TFO participants who have completed MA, BA, PhD theses or other publications, please contact us if you would like to use the opportunity to have your work advertised here and please use the opportunity to contribute your work to the TFO publication-database on our webpage.

## News from the Okavango region

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*(Topics: new policies, happenings etc. relevant for resource management in the Okavango Basin)*

## Anything else...

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From now on, the TFO newsletter will appear regularly every two months. Therefore, the next deadline for submission of contributions will be 01 July 2014.

*(Here we offer space for all other information, which might be of interest for the TFO community)*

**\*\*\* Do you have any information for the TFO-community? \*\*\***

**Upcoming events, new SP-members, publications, research results, news from the basin or interesting events to share – please let us know:**

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