## **Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)**

## **Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba**

## **CBRM Database**

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Case Study Name:	Common Pool Resource Management Among San Communities in Ngamiland, Botswana
Authors:	Magole, L. I
Document Type:	paper in scientific journal
Year:	2009
Language:	English
Document Location:	Development Southern Africa 26, (4), 597-610.
Full Citation:	Magole, L. I. 2009. Common Pool Resource Management Among San Communities in Ngamiland, Botswana. Development Southern Africa 26, (4), 597-610.
Region:	Africa - south of Sahara
Country:	Botswana
Ecosystem Type:	tropical grassland and/or savanna
Social Characteristics:	community inside protected area
Scale of Study:	community
Resource Type:	subsistence harvesting
Type of Initiative:	
Community-Based Work:	resource management
Keywords:	common-pool resources, community-based natural resource management, marginalisation, San communities, Ngamiland, Botswana
Summary:	The contestation for common pool resources in Botswana pits powerful institutions such as

national governments and international organisations against powerless local communities who continue to rely heavily on these resources despite all attempts to dislodge them. This paper explores how common pool resource management has shifted from locally based and people centred endogenous resource management to state-defined and controlled forms. This shift has marginalised San communities, who have historically relied on their commons for survival. The paper is informed by case studies of two San villages in Ngamiland District in northwestern Botswana, Mababe and Phuduhudu, both situated adjacent to national parks. The government and donor agencies introduced community-based natural resource management with the promise of reversing the loss of the commons for such groups as the San; however, the evidence on the ground suggests the promise has not been translated into practice.