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**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**ASSESSING THE CONTRIBUTION OF FISHERIES ACTIVITIES TO POVERTY  
REDUCTION IN NAMASAGALI FISHING VILLAGE, KAMULI DISTRICT**

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF GEO-  
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MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

**APRIL 2022**

DECLARATION

I **WAFULA MORIS** declare that this research proposal submitted to the Faculty of Natural Resource and Environmental Sciences is my original work and to the best of my knowledge, it has not been submitted by any other person to any institution for the award of a degree or any other purposes.

Signature: .....

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**CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL**

I the undersigned, certify that this thesis is a result of the students (**WAFULA MORIS BU/UP/2018/3860**) own work. To the best of my knowledge, it has never been submitted for any other academic qualification within Busitema University or elsewhere and has been submitted with my approval.

**Supervisor:**

Dr. Chloe Kemigabo

Signature:.....

Date:.....

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this report to my beloved parents Mr. Wanyama Joseph and his beloved wife Ruth Wanyama. My Uncle Sam, my Grand Mother Mrs. Debora Mangeni and the rest of the family members for your tireless efforts towards my education.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION .....	i
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.....	ii
DEDICATION .....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF TABLES .....	viii
LIST OF FIGURES .....	ix
LIST OF ACRONYMS .....	x
ABSTRACT.....	Er
ror! Bookmark not defined.	
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Problem statement.....	3
1.3.Objectives of the study.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1.3.1 Main objective .....	3
1.3.2 Specific Objectives.....	4
1.4 Research Questions .....	4

1.5 Justification of the study .....	4
1.6 Significance of the study.....	4
1.7 Conceptual framework.....	5
1.7.1 Theoretical framework.....	5
1.7.2 Pictorial conceptual framework .....	5
<b>CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW.....</b>	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.1 Defining poverty .....	7
2.2 Forms of poverty.....	11
2.3 Types of poverty in Uganda.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.4 Importance of measuring poverty .....	11
2.5 Commonly used indicators of poverty.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.6 Defining a fishery and its components.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.6.1 Major challenges of the fisheries sector in past ten(10) years .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2.6.2 Major solutions that are being put in place to overcome the challenges.....	13
<b>CHAPTER THREE: MATERIALS AND METHODS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
3.1 Research design .....	14
3.2 Research approach .....	14
3.3 Description of the study area .....	14
3.4 Research tools .....	15

3.5 Sampling strategies .....	15
3.5.1 Sample selection .....	15
3.5.2 Methods of data collection used.....	15
3.5.3 Data treatment.....	15
3.6 Data collection .....	15
3.7 Major challenges faced during the study period .....	16
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND THEIR DISCUSSIONS.....</b>	<b>17</b>
4.1 Key characteristics of respondents.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1.1 Sex of respondents .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1.2 Age of the respondents.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1.3 Education level of respondents.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1.4 Marital status of respondents.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.1.5 Major fish species that contribute to respondents household income.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.2 Activities in the study area.....	23
4.2.2 Major economic activities that contribute to the respondent's household income.....	24
<b>5.0 conclusion.....</b>	<b>32</b>
5.1 Recommendation.....	32
5.2 Areas of further studies.....	33
<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>3335</b>



APPENDICES .....	36
Appendix 1: Qustionnaire .....	348
<b>Appendix 2:</b> Nile Perch and cat fish as some of the major fish species caught .....	<b>39</b>
<b>Appendix 3:</b> The researcher and one of the respondents sundrying silverfish cypridinid .....	<b>40</b>
<b>Appendix 4:</b> Some of the illegal small sized boats and fish(Nile Tilapia) .....	<b>41</b>

#### LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Major fisheries activities by the respondents .....	22
Table 2: showing annual income estimation of different economic activities .....	23
Table 3: number of respondents who access and those that do not access the services .....	26
Table 4: showing how local leaders have responded to people challenges .....	31

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 : Pictorial conceptual frame work.....	6
Figure 2 Map of the study area.....	14
Figure 3: Showing sex of the respondents.....	17
Figure 4: Showing the age of the respondents .....	18
Figure 5: Education status of the respondents .....	19
Figure 6: Marital status of respondents.....	20
Figure 7: Major fish species that contribute to the respondent’s house hold income .....	21
Figure 8: Economics that majorly contribute to the respondents house hold income.....	22
Figure 9: Daily income earned from the fisheries activities .....	23
Figure 10: Showing major expences on which income from fisheries activities is spent.....	24
Figure 11: special services gained from fisheries activities.....	25
Figure 12: Major Challenges facing FA in the NFV.....	28
Figure 13: Suggested solutions to challenges facing Fisheries Activities in the NFV.....	29

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

NFV	Namasagali Fishing Village.
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defense Force
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UBOS	Uganda National Bureau of Statistics
USD	United States Dollar
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

## **Abstract**

The study was conducted on assessing fisheries activities as a tool of poverty reduction in Namasagali Fishing Village, Namasagali sub-county, Kamuli District. This study was conducted in about two weeks and a total number of 52 respondents were randomly selected and interviewed. A questionnaire was used as tool of data collection which was backed up by observation of the study area and use of the phone to take some photos in the study area. The objectives of the study included assessing the present income value that fisheries activities contribute to participating households, identifying five major challenges that constrain income generation from fisheries activities among participating individuals in Namasagali Fishing Village and finding out five major strategies that can be adopted to enhance the contribution of fisheries activities to house hold income in NFV. The results showed that Fisheries activities are the major economic activities that generate house hold income to the participating households and the five major challenges that constrained income generation from fisheries activities among participating individuals were poor fishing methods, poor fish handling, poor enforcement, low fish markets and poor climatic conditions and major strategies that were adopted to enhance the contribution of fisheries activities to house hold income in NFV were; use of better preservation methods, supporting government interventions, adhering to fisheries regulations and training of the UPDF soldiers and it was therefore recommended that the local leaders in conjunction with the government to advise the participants in the fisheries activities on how to productively invest their money appropriately to curb poverty and it was therefore recommended that local governments together local leaders should advise the participants in Fisheries Activities on how to productively invest wisely with appropriate saving strategies to curb poverty.

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The share of the world's workers living in extreme poverty fell by more than half from 2010 to 2019 from 14 per cent to 6.6 per cent. However, lockdowns and related public health measures due to COVID-19 have severely affected the informal economy, where the vast majority of the working poor are employed. The related income losses threaten to roll back global progress on reducing working poverty. Although the gender gap in working poverty globally has narrowed over the years, a substantial gap persists in many parts of the world, particularly in the least developed countries (LDCs). There, one third (33.5%) of employed women were living in poverty in 2019, compared with 28.3 % of employed men. Worldwide, young workers are twice as likely to be living in poverty as adults, reflecting lower earnings and poorer quality jobs. Since the COVID-19 crisis has had a disproportionate impact on the livelihoods of women and young people, it is likely to exacerbate these longstanding disparities.(Guterres, 2020)

Over the past two decades, Uganda has achieved remarkable economic growth and substantial poverty reduction. The share of the Ugandan population living below the national poverty line fell from 31.1 percent in 2006 to 19.7 percent in 2013 (UBOS 2013). Meanwhile, the share of the population living on less than US\$1.90 per day dropped from 53.2 percent in 2006 to 34.6 percent in 2013, one of the fastest declines in Sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank 2016). However, the 2016/2017 drought stalled the pace of poverty reduction. According to the World Bank's recent report (World Bank 2019), the poverty rate increased by 1.7 percentage points since 2013 to 21.4 percent. Also, the 2016 drought changed the geography of poverty in the country. For example, the poorest region in the country had always been the northern region until 2013, but it is now the eastern region. As of 2016, the poverty headcount rate in the northern region was 32.5 percent while that of the eastern region was 35.7 percent.

The average annual consumption expenditure per adult equivalent in 2016/17 prices is UGX 46,233.65, which is Uganda's current national poverty line. However, statistics based on the national poverty line mask variations in the incidence and severity of poverty across regions and districts. (UBOS, 2018)

The contribution of fishing to poverty reduction in developing countries cannot be underestimated. The sector has been named as one of the major contributors to rural income, food, rural developments and above all poverty reduction.

According to recent research and policy, the importance of small scale fisheries has been highly recognized in terms of wealth generation, poverty alleviation and food security (Garcia and Rosenberg, 2010). The fact that fishing in developing countries requires low capital, low level technologies and house hold unit entities, this low capital requirement has thus opened the ground for majority of the people to get involved in fishing activities according to world bank, FAO and World Fish Center, 2010, over 90% of the people are employed globally in capture fisheries and related activities classified under small scale fisheries.

The poverty Eradication Action Plan (2004) estimates indicates that 1.2 million Ugandans depend on fishery related activities (PEAP, 2004). Lake Victoria employs about 700,000 Ugandans, which among these people include; fish traders, fish processors, boat builders and net makers or repairs. It provides livelihood to more than 1.2 million people at different levels of the value chain and nearly 40% of the unskilled indirect employment are women involved in support of the fishing activities. The contribution of the fisheries to the country's GDP is 2.1%

Uganda has recorded impressive rates of poverty reduction in the last two decades. The proportion of the Ugandan population living in poverty whether measured using the national poverty line or the international poverty line, more than halved from 1993 to 2013. The proportion of the population living under the national poverty line declined from 56.4 percent in 1993 to 19.7 percent in 2013.<sup>7</sup> The proportion of households living beneath the international extreme poverty line of US\$1.90 a day (2011 prices) fell from 68.1 percent in 1993 to 34.6 percent in 2013. The rate of progress has been particularly fast in the last decade with international extreme poverty falling from 62.2 percent in 2003. (WorldBank, 2016)

The national poverty line used to define an individual as poor or non-poor in Uganda is low about three-quarters of the international extreme poverty line of US\$1.90 and results in a low national poverty rate. Uganda has different poverty lines for different regions to allow for the fact that the cost of living varies across different parts of the country. When these poverty lines are converted

into 2011 PPP they vary from US\$1.36 to US\$1.55, 72 percent to 82 percent of the international extreme poverty line of US\$1.90. The international extreme poverty line is designed to capture the average national poverty line among the world's poorest countries, so the fact that Uganda's poverty lines are much lower suggests that the poverty line in Uganda is perhaps too low. (WorldBank, 2016)

## **1.2 Problem statement**

Uganda remains one of the poor countries in the world with poverty rates standing at 19.7 percent despite high rates of poverty reduction from 31.1 percent in 2006 to 19.7 percent in 2013. The actual poverty situation on the ground is pathetic because of ethical, ecological, historical, political, economic and social inequalities/imbbalances. This persistent poverty situation underscores the need for more governmental commitment, ethics and ecological justice as well as global contribution. (Lubaale, 2019)

The overall poverty rate in the eastern region particularly Busoga region remains (37.7%) higher than other regions and national average rate (21.4 percent). coefficients range from 0.29 in Manawa to 0.43 (UBOS, 2018)

There is limited information on use of fishing activities as an avenue for poverty reduction/eradication. There is no significant research that has been conducted in such a field in the area to address the problem of poverty. This study investigated how fishing is providing both direct and indirect economic benefits to the people in the efforts to reduce poverty in the Namasagali fishing village and the whole country at large.

## **1.3 Objectives of the study**

### **1.3.1 Main objective**

To investigate the role of fisheries activities in reducing poverty in Namasagali sub county

### **1.3.2. Specific objectives**

1. To assess the present income value that fisheries activities contribute to participating households

2. To identify five major challenges that constrain income generation from fisheries activities among participating individuals in Namasagali Fishing Village.
3. To find out five major strategies that can be adopted to enhance the contribution of fisheries activities to house hold income in NFV.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

1. To what extent are fisheries activities contributing towards income in households that participate in fisheries activities within Namasagali fishing village?
2. What are the major challenges constraining the potential of fisheries activities to contribute to income generation among households that participate in the fisheries activities in Namasagali fishing village?
3. What can be the possible ways to curb the challenges that reduce the contribution of fishing to poverty reduction in Namasagali fishing village?

#### **1.5 Justification of the study**

Most of the Busoga region is bordered by water bodies whose contribution to family income, food supplies and improvement in social amenities among others can be enhanced by research based guidance.

#### **1.6 Significance of the study**

Results of this research will show or explain the role of fisheries activities in poverty reduction in Namasagali Fishing Village in relation to the country at large. This will guide support to the sector by the government can be improved. It will also help national and local investors to invest wisely after understanding the role and constraints to fisheries activities in poverty reduction/ eradication in the country if well managed. The research results acts as reference for further research in the same field as well as adding more information on the role of fishing activities and poverty reduction by both academicians and local governments. The recommendations provided will guide



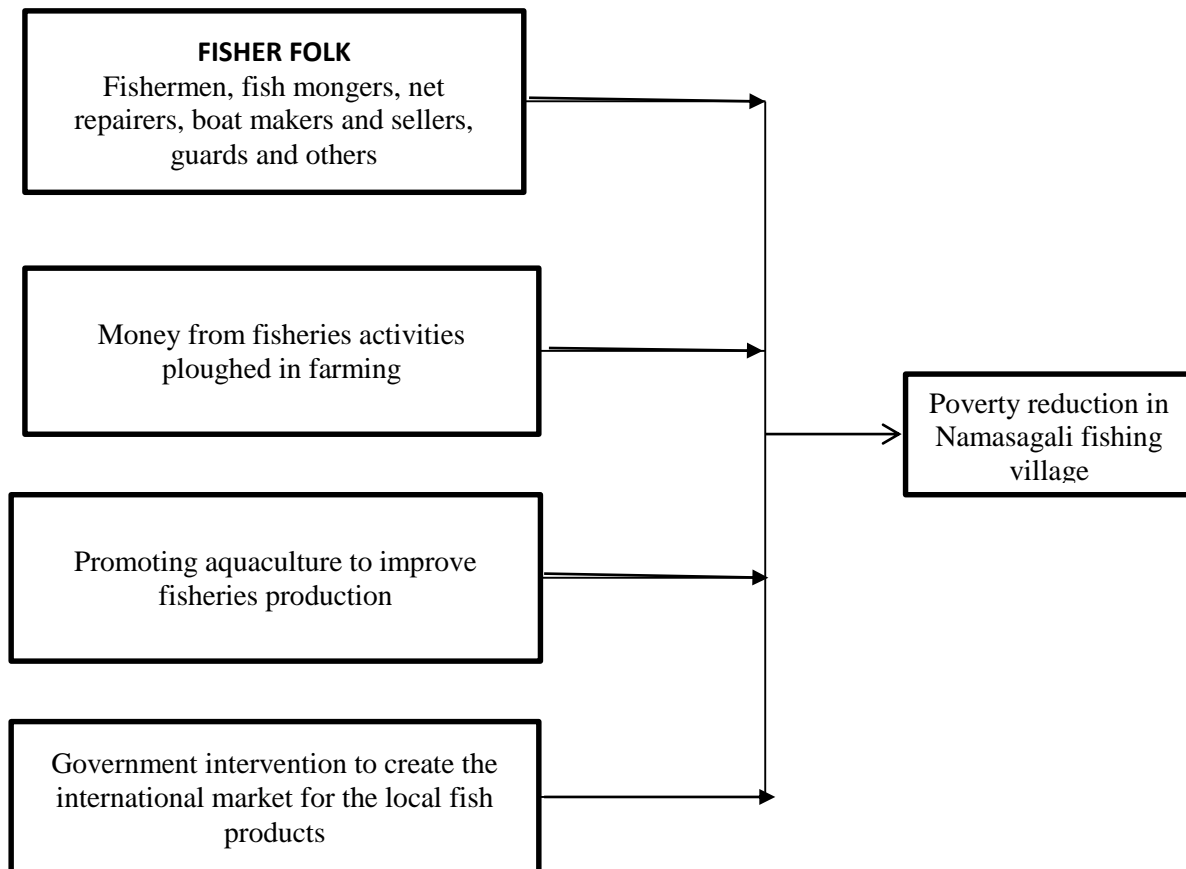
informed decision making to advance appropriate policies and programs that foster development of the fisheries sector.

## 1.7 Conceptual framework

### 1.7.1 Theoretical framework

Activities under the fisher folk, where the fishers, fish mongers, net repairers, boat makers and sellers then money from fisheries activities ploughed into farming, promotion of aquaculture to improve fisheries production and Government intervention to create international market for local fish products all results into poverty reduction in Namasagali Fishing Village.

### 1.7.2 Pictorial conceptual framework



**Figure 1 : Pictorial conceptual frame work**

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