
**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS**

**SOCIAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF OPEN DUMPING DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL
SOLID WASTE ON COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS: CASE OF BIGAJUKA
WETLAND HOIMA CITY**

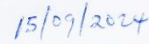
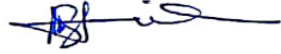
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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF NATURAL
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OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A DEGREE OF BACHALOR OF
SCIENCE IN NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY.**

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DECLARATION

I **MUSIIMENTA FREDRICK** hereby declare that unless otherwise references quoted, the work embodied in this research dissertation is entirely a result of my own efforts and has never been submitted to any other institution of higher learning for the award of bachelor's degree.



SIGNATURE..... DATE.....

MUSIIMENTA FREDRICK

APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research has been submitted with my approval as supervisor.

SIGNATURE..... DATE 17/09/2024

Mr. KIFUMBA DAVID NSAJJU

DEDICATION

This research is dedicated to my beloved parents **Mr.** and **Mrs. KATO FRED**, my sisters, and all friends for their continued support towards the achievement of this report.

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I express my gratitude to the Almighty God for blessing me with a good life, knowledge, wisdom, and understanding throughout my academic journey, enabling me to come this far. May his name be praised and glorified.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
ISWD	Illegal Solid Waste Dumping
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
HDLG	Hoima District Local Government
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
GOU	Government of Uganda
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority

ABSTRACT

Open dumping which involves disposing the waste in unlined pits or on open ground without any protective cover is an unsanitary and environmentally harmful method of disposing municipal solid waste (MSW) and has serious negative social, economic, and environmental impacts on residents, especially in poor neighborhoods. The study was done in Bigajuka wetland located in west division Hoima city during the month of June to September 2024.

The general objective was to evaluate the social economic impacts of open dumping disposal of municipal solid waste on community livelihoods. The specific objectives were to identify the sources of municipal solid waste components found dumped in the wetland, establish reasons from municipal authorities for dumping the current solid waste components in the wetland, establish social challenges among different communities living along the wetland due to the different municipal solid waste components dumped into the wetland, and establish sustainable management practices for municipal solid waste components dumped in wetland. A pilot study was done to ensure validity and clarity of the questionnaire.

A descriptive cross-sectional research design involved qualitative data gathering and analysis techniques then accompanied with interpretation to direct the reader's attention to important values for comparisons. A total of 50 respondents were randomly sampled and data collected using questionnaires, interview guides and observation.

It was found out that households, institutions including food markets, restaurants, schools, butchery, retailers and shops, health clinics and agriculture were the sources of municipal solid waste dumped in Bigajuka wetland. Municipal authorities dumped MSWs in wetlands due to lack of financial resources, enforcement and regulatory oversight from higher levels of government, technical know-how, the rapid population growth and lack proper facilities such as landfill sites and recycling plants.

The dumped MSWs in the wetland caused bad smell due to decomposition, chokes rivers through excessive sediment deposition and causes foul smell to drinking water. Composting of the organic wastes, recycling of the plastics and metals, incineration, reusing the items such polythene and plastic containers and sanitary landfilling of the inorganic municipal solid waste components were the sustainable waste management practices implemented to reduce the impacts of open dumping disposal of municipal solid waste components in Bigajuka wetland in Hoima city.