



**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS**

**IMPACT OF LAND DEGRADATION ON COMMUNITIES OF KYEGEGWA TOWN  
COUNCIL, KYEGEGWA DISTRICT.**

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**BU/UG/2018/4114**

**MARCH 2022**

**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE IN BACHELOR OF  
SCIENCE IN NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS AT BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

**DECLARATION**

I MARUNGA WINNIE hereby declare that this is my own original work and has never been submitted to any other institution or university for the award of the degree.

Signature .....

Name: MARUNGA WINNIE

Date.....

## APPROVAL

This is to certify that the work entitled “Impact of land degradation on communities of Kyegegwa town council” has been done under supervision and is now ready for submission to the faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, Department of Natural Resource Economics, Busitema University.

Research supervisor



Signature.....

**Professor Isabirye Moses**

Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2022

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate my piece of work to my mum Mrs. Mucunguzi Samalie Juliet and my dad Mr. Mucunguzi Isaiah Rubbani who have tirelessly looked at ensuring my success in academics through various forms of support. And my siblings Ruth, Natu, Abwooli, Mujwera and all my friends Paul Amidia, Oliver, Hellen, Agatha, Jane, Daisy during the struggle in studies.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I extend my sincere gratitude and thanks to my best friend the Almighty God who has guided me to this academic progress, my family for their unfailing support mentally, morally and financially and encouragement of study even when there were hard times in life.

I am grateful to my supervisor Professor Isabirye Moses for his endeavors and guidance till the success of my research project.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the staff of Busitema University-Namasagali campus that have supported me academically, encouraged and guided me till the end of my scheduled program.

I also thank my course mates for the cooperation we built to achieve the same end goal.

MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS YOU

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.**

FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
GLASOD	Global Assessment of Soil Degradation
GNP	Gross National Product
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPES Food	International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems
LADA	Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands Project
MWLE	Ministry of Water, Lands and the Environment
MWLE	Ministry of Water, Lands and the Environment
NEAP	National Environment Action Plan for Uganda
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NFA	National Forest Authority
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.**

The study assessed the impacts of land degradation on communities of Kyegegwa town council in Kyegegwa district. The overall objective was to assess the impacts of land degradation on the livelihood of people in Kyegegwa town council.

The study was based on primary data collected through use of questionnaires, semi-structured interviews and administered to the randomly sampled respondents in villages of Kibambali, Musabwe, Kibira, Nkaaka, Kyamutagobwa, and Kasambya in Kyegegwa town council.

The study was descriptive and cross sectional and used both qualitative and quantitative approaches to establish the magnitude of land degradation. The methods of data collection used were questionnaires with both open and close ended questions. Semi structured interviews from a sample of sixty respondents were conducted and analyzed using chi-square tests and correlation statistics in SPSS and Excel program. The results are presented as frequencies, tables, pie charts and bar graphs.

Findings indicate five major causes of land degradation; poor farming methods, over application of fertilizers, deforestation, swamp reclamation, change in climate which are basically driven by farming. Areas with destructed vegetation are prone to soil erosion and swamps are exposed to toxicity from agrochemicals which change the system. This creates concern to the government to come up with policies and laws to govern the use of land resources. Community members respond by planting trees, reduce the rate of cutting trees down, resort to appropriate application of fertilizers so as to increase yield, avoiding cultivation in swamps, planting elephant grass for their animals, deep ploughing adopting alternative businesses.

Basing on the findings its recommended that the government officials should show flexibility by reaching down to the swamps in deep villages to emphasize the avoidance of planting rice and sugarcanes, cabbages in swamps as that leads to swamp / wetland destruction as the people there tend to freely cultivate there with an excuse that the uplands are dry so the government can sensitize the public and elaborate more on the meanings of various policies so as to avoid ignorance and resistance from communities to following the guidelines in them.