



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

FOREST MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

BY

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BU/UG/2016/98

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**FINAL YEAR PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT
FOR THE AWARD OF A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING OF
BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

January, 2021.

DECLARATION

I Turyahebwa Victor declare that this project report has not been submitted for any award to any university or higher institution of learning.

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Date *23/01/2021*



APPROVAL

The final year project report titled “Forest Monitoring and Notification System” has been submitted for examination with the approval of;

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Date

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Completing this work has been possible with the input of many people and friends. My first recognition goes to my parents; Mrs. Twinomugisha Josephine and Mr. Twinomujuni Gershom, my grandparents who have been my mentors throughout.

I recognize the contribution of my fellow academic giants, my supervisor; Mr. Odongtoo Godfrey, and the entire Department of Computer Engineering at Busitema University for their overwhelming support.

I thank God for days filled with blessings that have brought me this far, to the completion of this project.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CFR	Central Forest Reserves
CO	Carbon monoxide
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CSS	Cascading Style Sheets
DSP	Digital signal processing
EPPU	Environment Protection Police Unit
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HTML	Hypertext Markup Language
I/O	Input Output
IDE	Integrated Development Environment
IoT	Internet of Things
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NDP	National Development Plan
NFA	National Forestry Authority
NFP	National Forest Plan
PHP	Hypertext Preprocessor
ppm	parts per million
UML	Unified Modelling Language

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1: Data Acquisition Layer	10
Figure 3.2: Data Transmission Layer	11
Figure 3.3: Application Layer.....	11
Figure 3.4: System Architecture	12
Figure 4.1: Logical design	15
Figure 4.2: Physical Design.....	15
Figure 4.3: Sensor node schematic diagram	16
Figure 4.4: Sink node schematic diagram.....	16
Figure 5.1: Dashboard	19

ABSTRACT

One of the National Development Priorities is to protect and enhance forest biological diversity to provide a range of environmental, social, and economic benefits for present and future generations. Various initiatives and systems like NFA plantation development, Geographic Information System is being employed. Nonetheless, forests are being lost to widespread illegal logging, unsustainable charcoal burning and this is attributed to inefficient systems for monitoring forests.

This research has focused on developing a forest monitoring system to address the existing gaps. This system monitors the forest background noise, smoke, and carbon dioxide respectively and comprises multiple sensor nodes to form a wireless sensor network that covers the forest with a server to store the recordings and a web-based application to provide a user interface.

This system uses low-power sensors, a web application that makes it easy to monitor in real-time the forest conditions without any physical effort.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	i
APPROVAL	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	v
ABSTRACT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Problem Statement.....	2
1.3 Objectives.....	2
1.3.1 General Objective.....	2
1.3.2 Specific Objectives.....	2
1.4 Justification.....	2
1.5 Scope.....	3
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW.....	4
2.1 Introduction.....	4
2.2 Main Concepts and Technologies of the Project	4
2.2.1 Microcontroller Technology.....	4
2.2.2 Arduino Technology.....	4
2.2.3 Forest Monitoring.....	4
2.2.4 Logging and Charcoal burning.....	5
2.2.5 Digital Signal processing.....	5
2.2.6 Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) Technology	5
2.3 Existing Forest Monitoring Systems.....	6
2.4 Existing Forest Monitoring Systems Comparison Table.....	7
2.5 System Description.....	8
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY.....	9
3.1 Introduction.....	9
3.2 System Study.....	9
3.2.1 Requirements Elicitation	9

3.2.2 Data Collection Methods.....	9
3.3 System Requirements Analysis.....	9
3.4 System Design.....	10
3.4.1 Data Acquisition Layer	10
3.4.2 Data Transmission Layer.....	11
3.4.3 Application Layer.....	11
3.4.4 Architectural Design.....	11
3.5 System Testing.....	12
3.5.1 Unit testing	12
3.5.2 Integration testing.....	12
3.5.3 System testing.....	12
3.6 System Validation.....	12
CHAPTER 4: SYSTEM ANALYSIS AND DESIGN	13
4.1 Introduction.....	13
4.2 Functional Analysis.....	13
4.3 Requirements Analysis	13
4.3.1 Functional Requirements.....	13
4.3.2 Non-Functional Requirements	13
4.3.3 Hardware Requirements	14
4.3.4 Software Requirements	14
4.4 System Design.....	14
4.4.1 Logical Design	14
4.4.2 Physical Design.....	15
4.4.3 Schematic Diagram	16
CHAPTER 5: IMPLEMENTATION AND TESTING	17
5.1 Introduction.....	17
5.2 Development Platforms.....	17
5.3 Code Design.....	17
5.3.1 Sensor Node	17
5.3.2 Sink Node.....	17
5.3.3 Web Application.....	17
5.4 System Deployment.....	18

5.5 Testing.....	18
5.6 Verification and Validation.....	18
5.7 System Evaluation.....	19
CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	20
6.1 Introduction.....	20
6.2 Summary of the work done.....	20
6.3 Appraisal of the Project.....	20
6.4 Recommendations for future work.....	20
6.5 Conclusion.....	20
REFERENCES.....	21
APPENDICES.....	23
Appendix 1: Sensor node code.....	23
Appendix 2: Sink node code for transmitting.....	24
Appendix 3: Notification page PHP code.....	25
Appendix 4: Sensor node in the forest.....	27

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background, problem statement, general objective, specific objectives, justification, and project scope.

1.1 Background

A forest refers to a type of vegetation dominated by trees whose maturity is more than 5 meters tall and establishes a minimum tree canopy cover of 30%. It includes all alpine, tropical high and medium altitude forests, woodlands, wetland, and riparian forests, plantations, and trees [1].

Generations depend on forests for survival, from the air we breathe to the fuel we use. Besides providing habitats for animals and livelihoods for humans, forests also offer watershed protection, prevent soil erosion, and mitigate climate change. Uganda's forests are an important and treasured asset contributing 8.7% to the economy [2]. They provide a range of wood and non-wood products which include; charcoal, fuelwood, timber, poles, and other derivatives. These products are important in supplying the energy needs, domestic comfort, health, security, and development to people. Forests have great potential to deliver on climate mitigation goals while providing benefits to soils, air, water, biodiversity, and development [3].

In 1990, Uganda's forest cover was 4.9 million hectares (31.7% of the total land) this has reduced to 1.8 million hectares (15.2% of the total land) in 2015 translating into a loss of 3.1 million hectares (16.5% of the forest cover) in 25 years or an average annual forest loss of about 122,000 hectares. The biggest average annual forest loss was about 256,000 hectares between 2005 and 2010 during which 1,286,753 hectares were lost in just 5 years. From 2010 to 2015, a total of about 463,000 hectares were lost. This translates into an average annual loss of about 92,600 hectares per year. On the other hand, on average, only about 7,000 hectares of planted forests are established yearly in the last 15 years [2].

One of the National Development Priorities per Sustainable forest management is to protect and enhance forest biological diversity to continue providing a range of environmental, social, and economic benefits for all generations. With the Ministry of Water and Environment and the National Forestry Authority taking the lead, strides have been made in various initiatives and systems like NFA plantations development, Geographic Information Systems [4].

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