

**BUSITEMA**



**UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**ASSESSING THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUGARCANE GROWING ON FOOD  
SECURITY IN KAMULI DISTRICT  
A CASE STUDY OF NAMASAGALI SUB COUNTY**

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BU/UG/2017/39




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

**DECEMBER, 2020**

## DECLARATION

I **Magoba Tracy Deborah**, declare that this research report submitted to the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences is my original work and to the best of my knowledge, it has not been submitted to any institution for any academic qualification.

SIGNATURE..........

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## APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research report titled "*Assessing the implications of sugarcane growing on food security in Kamuli district-A case study of Namasagali Sub County*" is the original work for Magoba Tracy Deborah. It has been done under my supervision.

SIGNATURE.....

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**MR. KAKUNGULU MOSES**

## **DEDICATION**

This work goes out to everyone who supported me in their own special way especially my family members; Mr. Kisule William, Mrs. Kisule Proscovia Ajemo and my siblings, friends and colleagues who have supported me throughout this academic journey.

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## **LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

FAO	-	Food and Agricultural Organisation
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product GDP
SDGs	-	Sustainable Development Goals
UBoS	-	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UN	-	United Nations
UNDP	-	Uganda National Development Plan
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children's Fund
USCTA	-	Uganda Sugarcane Technologists Association
USDA	-	United States Department of Agriculture
WDR	-	World Development Report

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## ABSTRACT

The major purpose of this study was to assess the implications of sugarcane growing on household food security in Namasagali Sub-county, Kamuli District. The study was guided by three objectives namely: to assess the level of food availability among sugarcane growing households in Namasagali sub-county, to assess the perception of sugarcane growing on food security for households in Namasagali sub-county, to find out the food security coping mechanisms used by sugarcane growing households in Namasagali sub-county. This study adopted a descriptive study design, which was cross sectional in nature. 25 respondents were interviewed from each of the 4 parishes and only two villages were selected from the respective parishes where either 13 or 12 respondents were interviewed from the respective villages. The study relied mostly on primary data that was collected using questionnaires. Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics. Data from questionnaires was entered into statistical package for the social scientists (SPSS) version 20 for analysis.

The findings show that there has been re-allocation of land previously meant for food crops to sugarcane growing, and that cash income from sugarcane farming is not sufficient to meet household's food needs especially those owning land less than ten acres. Findings also show that households in the study area were able to cope up with food insecurity by adopting various coping mechanisms like gathering of wild food, eating stored food, eating less preferred, cheaper, or unhealthy food, reducing the portion size at meal times, reducing number of meals per day etc. Policies should be set up regarding sugarcane growing whereby every household head with less than five acres of land should be reserved for mixed farming, farmers should be sensitized to carry out crop diversification and they should be encouraged to carry out scientific methods of farming so as to increase on soil fertility and food sustainability.

# CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

## 1.0 Introduction

This chapter covers the background of the study, problem statement, the general objective, specific objectives, research questions, scope of the study and the conceptual framework.

## 1.1 Background

Globally about 880 million poor people in developing countries live on less than US \$ 1 per day and depend on agriculture for their livelihoods (World Development Report, 2008). Understanding the impact of commercial agriculture in the face of increasing human population and climate change in a rural landscape is critical for biodiversity sustainability and meeting the needs of households whose livelihoods (i.e. food, medicine, and income) are mainly dependent on natural resources (Mwavu *et al.*, 2018). In many sub-Saharan African countries, subsistence agriculture is not only a vital source of food but also the prevalent way of life. However in these countries with mainly agrarian economies, subsistence agriculture is increasingly being replaced by commercial agriculture such as commercial sugarcane production as national governments push to increase the contribution of the agriculture sector to national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). By 2016, the contribution of the agricultural sector ranged between 3% (for Botswana and South Africa) and more than 50% (for Chad). For Uganda, the contribution of the sugarcane production to GDP was about 25% in 2016 according to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS, 2016). With increasing interest in agriculture as an income earner, households in tropical Africa and Asia countries have adopted commercial agriculture leading to expansive lands on monocultures (including sugarcane, tobacco, and sunflower etc.) in historically forested and subsistence-oriented agriculture production systems. For sub-Saharan Africa, the total value of agricultural output has grown markedly over the past decade; however, it remains the most food insecure region in the

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