BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Natural Resource and Environmental Science

LIVELIHOOD ASSESSMENT AND ITS IMPLICATION ON THE STATE OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: A CASE OF NAMASAGALI SUB COUNTY,

KAMULI DISTRICT



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A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIROMENTAL SCIENCE IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

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DECLARATION

I AWORI MARY IMMACULATE hereby declare that this research is my own original work and that it has never been submitted to this faculty for the award of any degree

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Date			20	th I June	2013	
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APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research was under my supervision and that it's now ready for the evaluation for the award of Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Economics Degree of Busitema University

Signature

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Research supervisor

DEDICATION

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I dedicate this report to God almighty for his infinite goodness and mercy, my affairs have been indeed his concern, all my family members and sibling, my husband Ndimugulumiza Samuel and lovely daughter Ndimugulumiza Precious Ruth.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- UBOS Uganda Bureau of statistics
- NEMA -- National Environment Management Authority

FAO - Food Agricultural Organization

CBO - Community Based Organization

NGO-Non Governmental Organization

FEWS NET-Famine Early Warning System Net work

ODI-Overseas Development Institute

MWE-Ministry of Water and Environment

ICT-Information and Communication Technology

GDP-Gross Domestic Product

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UNEPA-United Nation Environmental Protection Agency

DFID-Department for international department

PEAP-Poverty Eradication Auction Plan

PMA-Plan for Modernization Agriculture

LARMI- Livelihood and Natural Resource Management Institute

ABSTRACT

This study was carried out on livelihood assessment and its implication on the natural environment using the case study of Namasagali Sub County, Kamuli district on selected households in the parishes. The problem to be studied indicates that at the present situation, the livelihoods of the people largely depend on the natural environment which has led to its state to decline.

In general, the objectives of the study were to establish the living condition of the people of Namasagali sub county in terms of the basic service, to find out the most popular way in which the people of Namasagali earn their living, to find out the relationship between livelihood and the state of the natural environment and to identify strategies that can be used to improve the livelihood of the people of Namasagali sub county. A cross sectional survey was carried out which involved use of questionnaires covering 50 respondents. Data collected was analyzed using SPSS which facilitated the formation of frequency tables, graphs, pie charts and cross tabulations.

The research findings with respect to the above objectives indicated that living condition of the people in relation to the basic service was relatively low this is because 64% of the respondent live far away from financial services at about 20km, 68% of the schools are of poor quality basing on the performance, 62% of the respondent perceive the quality of the health services to be of poor quality, 52% of the respondent to consider the quality of the water to be poor. 76% of the respondents earn their living through farming, 8% through fishing, 10% business, 2% chacoal burning and 4% employment. 48% of the respondents believe that the quality of the natural resources are reducing because of factors such as Deforestation, poverty among people, increased population and farming. 50% of the respondent gave strategies such as serious monitoring, supply of enough drugs and classicist material, recruiting qualified teachers and nurses, and finally extending financial service nearer to the people.

The study concludes that the basic services are poor, the most popular way of earning a living is farming, livelihood depend on the natural environment and leads to the state of the natural environment to decline. Thus the researcher recommends community should be sensitized on sustainable use of the natural environment and government should work had to improve people's livelihood.

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CHAPTER ONE:

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

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Globally hundreds of millions people rely on the natural resources for their livelihood; an estimated 250 million people in developing countries directly depend on small scale fisheries for food and income(Sally *et al.*, 2010). In India alone, some 50 million people are directly depending on forest for their subsistence (<u>www.wwf.org.uk/../livelihoods-and-natural-resources</u>). Poor countries depend on natural resources much more than richer countries; a quarter of the total wealth of low-income countries comes from natural capital compared to 2% of in wealthier nations (World Bank, 2008). The majority of the world's poorest people live in marginalized rural areas and largely dependent on natural resources and the environment for their livelihoods, as a result of their dependency on the natural resource several impacts have been detected such as soil erosion and declining soil fertility, deforestation, pollution of the air, land and water resource(Thomas *et al.*, 2005)

Livelihoods in Uganda differ from region to region as seen from the report provided by FEWS NET Uganda 2009 on the livelihood zoning project which found out that the livelihood of the people is centered majorly on agricultural and in rural areas of Uganda, livelihoods are based overwhelmingly on the primary production of food such as maize, potatoes, rice, millet, sorghum, beans and soya beans, cash crops such as cotton, tobacco, and coffee which is mainly for commercial purpose, and livestock usually play an important role even outside pastoral and agro-pastoral areas whereas in urban areas peoples livelihood is majorly in employment in government sector, private sector, and non-Governmental organization; some earn their living by operating on small scale businesses such shops, salons, hotels, bars (NEMA, 2010). Agriculture dominates in both regions (MCcracken *et al.*, 2005) this is because it affects both regions directly or indirectly, for example in urban areas though people seem not to participate in agriculture directly, they still buy food which is the product of agriculture (FAO, 2006). Other activities that contributes to the livelihood of the people of Uganda include fishing, animal rearing, bricklaying, charcoal burning to mention but a few (UBOS, 2006). All the above ways leads to the decline on the state of the natural environment (Henderson, 2000). On the other hand, means of earning a

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