

**THE PERCEPTION OF SOCIO ECONOMIC VALUE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES,  
LIVELIHOOD AND DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL  
PARK by COMMUNITY LIVING NEARBY IN THE VICINITY IN THREE SUB  
COUNTIES OF RUBIRIZI DISTRICT, WESTERN UGANDA:**

**BY**

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## DECLARATION

I declare that the work and data I have got is out of my own knowledge and research due to the acknowledgement which was accordingly done in form of citations, quotations and references to other people's ideas, and it has never been submitted to any University or any office for an award.


**I ANNAH TWINOBUSINGYE** also hereby declares that this research report is out of my own efforts and has never been submitted in any other institution for a ward of academic qualification.

Signature.......... Date.....30/06/2015.....

# APPROVAL

This serves to certify that TWINO BUSINGYE ANNAH  
did research that I had the pleasure to supervise. I confirm that this report is a true  
representation of the findings in it.

I am therefore recommending that the report be submitted to the Faculty of Natural  
Resources and Environmental Sciences of Busitema University.

  
.....

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my **beloved family** endeavor to always work hard.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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## **ACRONYMS**

IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature.
QENP	Queen Elizabeth National park
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority.
NAPE	National Association of Professional Environmentalists.
QEPACCP project	Queen Elizabeth Protected Area Community Conservation
Ft	Feet
M	meters.
E.A	East Africa
NRO	Natural Resource Officer
NAPE	National Association of Professional Environments.
CIS	Community Information System
MTWA	Ministry of Tourism Wild life and Antiquities
MEMD	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
PA	Protected Area
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
MEA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

**ABSTRACT:**

The study aimed at identifying the socio economic, value of ecosystem services, livelihood and development impacts of Queen Elizabeth National Park to the surrounding community of Kichwamba, Magambo and Ryeru sub counties of Rubirizi District. The overall objective was to contribute to the knowledge of the economic importance of the park in Rubirizi district and Uganda at large. The study was cross sectional and used both qualitative and quantitative approaches to collect data, analyze and present it. The methods of data collection used were interviews, questionnaires and field observations. The data was collected from a sample of 75 (seventy five) respondents. These were from Kichwamba, Magambo and Ryeru sub counties. Data was collected by means of a questionnaire and by field observations. The study used a combination of market price and the Contingent Valuation Method of valuation to estimate the total economic value of national park in Uganda and from the findings, it was established that National Parks are of a significant economic importance. Basing on the findings, it is recommended that more resource should be invested protected areas conservation and management so as to maintain good services provided by such areas. More so, further research should be done to enhance the findings of this study.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **1.0 Introduction**

#### **1.1. General introduction:**

In 1969 the IUCN declared a national park to be one or several ecosystems not materially altered by human exploitation and occupation, where plants and animal species geomorphological sites and habitats are of special scientific, educational interest or which contain a natural landscape of great beauty;

As the World Resources Institute stresses the degree of dependence on natural resources, the World Watch Institute (2007) emphasizes a rapid loss of forest covered areas around the world and the related threats to biodiversity. Biodiversity plays a significant role concerning the sustainable relation between the human being and nature, and the global focus on these issues is growing. Biodiversity is of significant importance for the whole environment: people, wildlife and for the ecosystem.

Changes and loss in biodiversity affect the diversity at local as well as global level. The dependence is often diversified in relation to the situation of the resource users. This can vary from small scale farmers, who need resources such as fodder and firewood for the day to day survival, to companies who collect large quantities and are often supported by governments as they contribute to the national economy.

The focus on environmental issues has global trends, often initiated by the western world. Up to the mid 1980's, the management of natural resources had a "Fortress Conservation Approach" (Vedeld, 2002). This approach had a strict "fence and fine" policy. Meaning that decisions were made top-down according to preservation and conservation of the nature and there was a minimum consideration of the impact on forest dwellers.

Experience from these strict exclusion and preservationist policies enlightened the need of a change regarding management of natural resources (Scott, 1994). The conservation and control approach created challenges to a sustainable livelihood of people living in rural areas while at the same time being able to conserve the natural resources. This form of management was not as sufficient as expected. A new discussion was brought up in the

## APPENDICES

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