

**EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF  
STONE QUARRYING: Implications for mitigation.**

A Case of Nakyerongosa parish, Kakiri Sub County, Wakiso district.

**BY**

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my young sister Miriam Julie Kirabo.

God bless you as you pursue all your reveries.

## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this dissertation is my own original work arrived at through literature review and field work under the guidance of my supervisor and the help of the informants. To the best of my knowledge, it has never been submitted for any academic award in any other university or higher institute of learning.

In all cases where other people's ideas were used, they have been duly acknowledged by complete references.

Signature.....

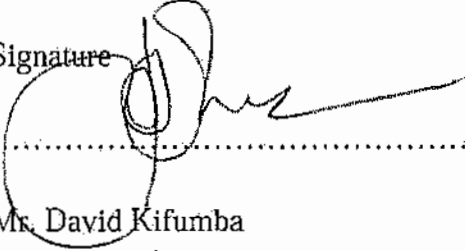
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## APPROVAL

This work has been thoroughly supervised and approved to have fulfilled the requirement leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Economics of Busitema University. Therefore, this dissertation has been submitted for examination with my approval as the supervisor.

Signature



.....

Mr. David Kifumba

Date.....

1/7/2013.....

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide gas
DEC	District Environmental Committee
DFID	Department for International Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GoU	Government of Uganda
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LC1	Local Council one
MMED	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental organization
PECs	Parish Environmental Committees
SECs	Sub County Environmental Committees
SOER	State of Environment Report
VECs	Village Environmental Committees
1 USD	= 2,575 Ug. Shillings

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

**CSR** is a process in which corporations take responsibility for the social, ecological and economic consequences of their actions – throughout their product and service delivery chains – making themselves accountable, and engaging in a dialogue with all those involved' (CSR Frame of reference, Dutch CSR Platform, July 2003.).

**Environment** is the totality of man and his associated surroundings including the biotic (living world), abiotic/physical environment and the socio-economic/cultural aspects.

In this study, environment is viewed as an integration of the ecological resources, natural resources, environmental resources and the prevalent socio-economic and cultural activities that are impacted by projects and also which do impact on the entire environment.

**Implication** this is interchangeably used with the term effect. In this study implication is used to mean the consequences of the impacts of stone quarrying activities in the study area.

**Livelihood** dictionary form, this is defined as means of support. However livelihood in the context of the study is used to mean the general living of the people in the study area.

**Quarrying site** in the study, it is the actual area where the blasting and crushing takes place.

**Quarrying zone** this is used to mean the area around the quarrying site. In this case the quarrying zone is a radius of 300 meters around the site.

People in this area are the only ones legible to compensation in case of any damage.

**Representative committees** selected group of community members to monitor and check the damages incurred every after a blasting. This committee is responsible for writing a report that is also supposed to be copied to the town council about how the blasting was.

## ABSTRACT

Quarrying, the open or surface excavation of rock from its natural state to be used for various purposes is among the primary causes and sources of environmental degradation. This is mainly due to the unregulated operations of the commercial activities by few unscrupulous entities at the cost of our precious and irreversible ecosystems and natural resources in the absence of proper monitoring and implementation of relevant laws by the concerned regulatory agencies.

Stone quarrying is a huge supporter of local economic development as using the extracted material enhances trade and development. However quarrying a short-term activity with long term effects comes along with the promises of wealth and jobs but it brings high environmental costs.

The general objective of the study was to generate information on current socio - economic impacts of activities associated with stone quarrying on the livelihoods and health of the communities in Wakiso District.

The study unearthed the implications of the impacts that stone quarrying has on social, economic, physical & political spheres of environment.in Kakiri, Wakiso District.

The study relied on information collected qualitatively through individual and group interviews coupled with personal observations in addition to documented data from published and unpublished articles.

Findings reveal that the activity in the area has led to a small scale ecological debt as the extraction of the stone resource is destroying peoples' ability to survive and the trade of this resource is also ecologically unbalanced; as these natural goods are exploited and traded without taking responsibility for the social, cultural and environmental damage to the community from which the resource is exploited.

Therefore, adoption of three-circle approach; Technology-Economics-Environment should be emphasized for sustainable stone quarrying. Here the developers should improve on the level of technology used in blasting so as to increase on the economic gains as well as conserving the environment.

**Keywords:** *Stone quarrying, Environment, implications.*

# CHAPTER ONE

## 1.0. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

#### 1.1.1. Introduction

The increased levels of urbanization in developing countries have triggered a lot of construction ranging from construction of roads to develop the transport sector to setting up of industries to support the manufacturing and processing sector. Kondolf (1994), notes that mining of natural aggregates, including both sand and gravel and crushed rock, represents the main source of construction aggregates used throughout the world.

However, operations of mining, whether small- or large- scale, are inherently disruptive to the environment (Makweba & Ndonde, 1996). Mining of aggregate frequently generates land use conflicts in populated areas due to its negative externalities including noise, dust, truck traffic, pollution and visually unpleasant landscapes (Willis & Garrod, 1999). Competing land uses including farming, in areas where highly productive farmland is scarce and where post-mining restoration may not be feasible increases probability of conflict occurrence. Ross (2001) observes that the consequences of this, is underdevelopment.

In Uganda, commercial gravel extraction to supply aggregate to the construction industry has been on the increase in recent years. Although there is some informal stone quarrying practices, the majority of such activities are carried out on large scale by well-established developers. Products are increasingly demanded for industrial, domestic, agricultural and other purposes so as to satisfy the needs of the rapidly growing population.

Quarrying operations generally involve removal of over burden, drilling, blasting and crushing of rock materials which potentially has adverse impacts on the natural environment, society and cultural heritage, the health and safety of mine workers, and communities based in close proximity to operations (Moody & Panos, 1997) and dislocation (Akabzaa, 2000).

However, although people in general are familiar with the need and importance of stone quarrying for construction material, the awareness of the negative impact this has on vegetation, biodiversity and food security may not be as commonly known. Despite these impacts stone

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