

EFFECTS OF WETLAND USE ON COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS IN UGANDA
CASE STUDY LIMOTO WETLAND



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MUNUNA JAMES



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MAY, 2013

DECLARATION

I, Mununa James declare that this research paper is my original work. It has never been submitted to any university or higher institution of learning for a degree award or any academic award.

The authors whose works I have consulted have been clearly acknowledged.

Signature,


.....

Mununa James

Date. 17/06/2013.....

APPROVAL

This is to acknowledge that the work entitled Effects of wetland use on community livelihoods has been under my supervision and is now ready for submission to the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental sciences.

Signature


.....

Mr. Kakungulu Moses

Supervisor

Date: 17/06/2013
.....

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to the family members; Mukwana Isaac, Mudaki Stephen and Fuuna Allan, Musanya Recheal, Katono Annet, Kwiri Allozio for sacrificing everything for my education. Thank you for giving me such a strong academic and moral foundation on which I have managed to come this far. May the good Lord reward and bless you.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRYONMS

- DEP: Department of Environment Protection
- EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment
- FAO: Food Agricultural Organization
- FNRE: Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental sciences
- MFPED: Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
- UBOS: Uganda Bureau of Standard
- UNDF: United Nations Development Funds
- UPE: Universal Primary Education
- USE: Universal Secondary Education
- UTE: Universal Tertiary Education
- NEAP: National Environment Action Plan
- NEMA: National Environment Management Authority
- NFA: National Forest Authority
- NWSC: National Water and Sewerage Corporation
- NPWM: National Policy on Wetlands Management
- NRs: Natural Resources
- NR&WM: Natural Resource and Wetland Management
- NWCMP: National Wetland Conservation and Management Programme
- WHO: World Health Organization
- WRP: Wetland Recovery Project

ABSTRACT

The study examined effects of wetland use on the community livelihoods using Limoto wetland in Buseta Sub County as a case study.

The study used a cross sectional survey design, employing both quantitative and qualitative approaches of data collection and analysis. The methods of data collection used were interview guide and questionnaires. The data was collected from a sample of 50 respondents and analyzed using Excel and SPSS (version 20) which facilitated the formation of frequency tables.

The research findings indicate that majority of the respondents agreed that Limoto wetland provides food in form of rice and yams to the community. The research findings indicate that the majority of the respondents agreed that the wetland is a source of food in form of rice and yams to the community as 80% of them agreed. Most of the respondents agreed that wetland farming contributes to the economic diversification. 73% of the respondents agreed that Limoto wetland has helped people who do not have land to get where they can carry out some farming in order to improve on their livelihood.

The research findings indicate that most of the respondents agreed that Wetland is a source of fishing activities as 78% of them agreed. Majority of the respondents agreed that fishing activities is a source of income as seen by 90% of the respondents.

The research findings indicate that 84 percent of the respondents agreed that the wetland provides the pasture and water for animals during dry seasons as supported by majority of the respondents. This has led to increased productivity in the animals thus increase on the level of income earning and therefore, improving on the people's livelihood.

From the research, I recommend that wetland farming should be carried out sustainably in order to avoid wetland degradation. Fishing activities should be carried out by using recommended equipments like sizeable nets.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The research assessed the Effects of wetland use on community livelihood in Uganda using Limoto wetland in Buseta Sub County as a case study. This chapter covers the background of the study, statement of the problem, study objectives, research questions, scope of the study, justification of the study, conceptual framework, operational definitions of key terms used and organization of the research.

1.2 Back ground of the study

Wetlands inhabit a transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and are influenced to varying degrees by both. They differ widely in character due to regional and local differences in climate, soils, hydrology, water chemistry, vegetation, and other factors. Depth and duration of inundation, a key defining force, can differ greatly between types of wetlands and also can vary from year to year within a single wetland type. As per the definition adopted at Ramsar Convention (Iran in 1971), "Wetlands are areas of marsh, fen, peat land or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing; fresh, brackish, or salty, including areas of marine water, the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters."

The world's wetlands are under threat from agricultural, residential, and industrial development, and from pollution. Wetlands comprise areas of marsh, fens, mangroves, and other wet areas usually, but not always at the interface between aquatic and terrestrial environments. They account for 6 percent of the global land area. They are especially fragile ecosystems because they are open and fed by river systems which are themselves subject to pollution and man-made changes in flow. Because their economic functions have been so poorly understood, they also tend to be regarded as being relatively unimportant. But there is now a wider appreciation that wetlands are multifunctional and that many of the unpriced functions are economically important

The National wetland conservation and management programme (NWCMP) defines a wetland as

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