

BUSITEMA  UNIVERSITY

**FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
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**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS
FINAL YEAR PROJECT PROPOSAL**

**ASSESSING THE TREE COVER CONDITIONS IN
KARAMOJA SUB REGION, NAPAK DISTRICT, NGOLERIET
SUBCOUNTY, AND NARENGEMORU PARISH.**

By

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DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCES IN NATURAL RESOURCE
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DECLARATION

I Moru Jonathan, hereby declare that unless otherwise references quoted, the work

Embodied in this research dissertation is entirely a result of my effort and has never been submitted to any other institution of higher learning for the award of a Bachelor's degree

SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....

APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research has been submitted with my approval as supervisor.

Signature.....

Date.....

PROF. ISABIRYE MOSES (SUPERVISOR)

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to God Almighty for His unlimited grace, consistent love, immeasurable faithfulness, and sparing my life throughout my research. In addition, I dedicate this work to my parents Mr. Lokee Paul and Mrs. Lokol Teresa, my brother Lowal John Vianney, Ms. Lucy Naumo, Alice Sagal, and my beloved friends Abino Deogracious, and Sentongo Oscar, Nambuusi Kevin Theresa, and Nalwoga Hajjarah.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

MWN Ministry Of Water and Environment

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Scientists

PAs Protected Areas

FAO Food and Agricultural Organization

THF Tropical High Forests

DEO District Forest Officer

PFE Permanent Forest Estate

CFRs Central Forest Reserves

UN United Nations

NDLG Napak District Local Government

ABSTRACT

This research project was conducted in Ajok moliteny village, Narengemoru parish, Ngoleriet Sub County, Napak district. The data was collected during the month of July 2024. The main objective of the study was to assess the tree cover conditions in Ngoleriet Sub County. The study used a descriptive research design with both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Primary data was collected using structured questionnaires, and personal observation, and secondary data by review of existing literature from journals, District reports and books. Purposive sampling was done to select five key informants and simple random sampling the 50 households located in Ngoleriet Sub County, Narengemoru parish, Ajok moliteny village interviewed in the study. The primary data was coded, cleaned and entered in Microsoft excel and the exported to Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) for descriptive statistical analysis. Findings showed that the major drivers of tree cover loss in Ngoleriet Sub County were: Poverty and lack of alternative livelihood options, population growth and increased demand for resources, lack of awareness about the importance of trees and weak enforcement of tree cutting regulations.

However due to tree cover loss, there has been an impact on both the environment and the livelihoods of people. It was also found that the local communities around Ngoleriet Sub County are not aware of laws and policies regarding environmental conservation and management. This is due to low levels of education attained as well as low sensitization levels. It is concluded from the study that the major reasons why people cut trees include need for firewood, construction materials, income generation and lack of awareness about the negative impacts.

The recommendations from the study include: Strengthening laws and regulation governing natural resource utilization especially the plant resources, sensitize people on proper use and management of plant resources , the dangers associated with excessive tree cutting; Implement laws and policies regarding environmental conservation and management through increased monitoring and supervision of environmental activities in Ngoleriet sub county by the relevant stakeholders both at the sub county, district and national leve

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the background of the study, the problem statement, general and specific objectives, the conceptual framework, and the significance of the study.

1.2 Background of the study

Tree cover plays a critical role in sustaining the health and well-being of ecosystems worldwide. From regulating climate patterns to supporting biodiversity and providing livelihoods for communities, trees are vital components of our natural environment. The expansion of agriculture in Brazil causes the loss of vast swaths of tree cover and woody savannas in the tropics and sub-tropics (Strassburg et al 2017, McNichol et al 2018, and Certis et al 2018). Consequently, the loss of natural ecosystems in the tropics results in land surface that tends to warm faster and disperse heat less effectively than a comparable area of intact woody savanna (Feddema et al 2005, Ban-Weiss et al 2011) However, many regions across the globe, including Africa, have experienced significant tree cover loss due to various drivers such as population growth, agricultural expansion, and unsustainable land-use practices. According to the International Monetary Fund, the East African country has lost over a million hectares of tree cover, nearly a third of the country's total. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, the rate of tree cover loss in Uganda was 51.1kha per year "between" 2015-2020, Somalia 76.8kha, Cameroon 58.0kha. Tree cover loss in Uganda is mainly attributed to rapid population growth and need for more land for settlement and agriculture, Urbanization, Industrialization and increased demand for solid biomass for fuel. According to the Uganda National Household Survey 2019/2020 shows that 73% and 21% of the households in Uganda use firewood and charcoal for cooking respectively. Tree cover loss has exposed Uganda to a number of hazards which have had significant impacts on the economy according to the World Bank Statistics on climate change. In 2021, Uganda lost 49,000 hectares of tree cover, equivalent to 23.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emission. According to Global Forest Watch, Uganda lost over 23% of its tree cover between 2000 and 2020. Uganda lost 64.3kha of humid, making up 7.9% of its total tree cover loss. This research focuses on assessing the tree cover conditions in Ngoleriet sub-

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