THE EFFECTS OF LAND CONFLICTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN UGANDA; THE CASE STUDY OF ADWARI SUB COUNTY, OTUKE DISTRICT

BY

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DECLARATION

I Christine Elong Masambu, Reg No. RS13M13/191, hereby declare that the work presented here is original to the best of my knowledge and has never been presented to any higher institution of learning for any academic award. It is a result of my independent research effort and investigation and where it is indebted to the work of others, the acknowledgement has been made.

I also certify that this dissertation was prepared by me specifically for the partial fulfilment for the degree of Master of Development Studies at Uganda Christian University.

Signed: .....

Date: 11th-01-2018

APPROVAL

I declare that this Dissertation was developed under my close supervision and has been forwarded for review by the award of a Master Degree of Development Studies at Uganda Christian University-Mukono

Signature.....

Mr. LIINO BUKENYA

Date.....30/01/2015

DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this research to the Almighty God for the favour He showed me before all the respondents I consulted. Further, this research is humbly dedicated to my Mother without whom I would not have come this far in life, thank you for all the wonderful support always. Furthermore, I will like to dedicate this work to my Partner for his tireless contribution and endless encouragement towards my education.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FAO:	Food Agricultural Organisation
IDPs:	Internally Displaced Persons
IM:	International Monetary Fund
LDF:	Local Development Framework
LRA:	Lord's Resistance Army
MoLG:	Ministry of Local Government
MoLHUD:	Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development
NDP:	National Development Plan
ODLG:	Otuke District Local Government
RDCF:	Resident District Commissioner
UK:	United Kingdom
US:	United States
USAID:	United States Agency for International Development
UWA:	Uganda Wild Life Authority
WB:	World Bank

ABSTRACT

In Northern Uganda, land disputes are the most significant form of conflict, with many escalating into violence. The level of risk and uncertainty created by land conflict in the region is unacceptable, and its potential consequences on livelihoods are irreversible. The burden of the risk is forever shouldered by the poorest and most vulnerable in rural areas. This compelled the researcher to conduct a study on the effects of land conflicts on Agricultural production with a case of Adwari Sub County in Otuke district. The purpose of this study therefore was to examine the effect of land conflicts on Households' Agricultural Production in Otuke District. In specific terms, the study aimed at creating a broad understanding on the triggers of land conflicts, its effects on Households' agricultural production and the cope up mechanisms. A cross-sectional survey design was utilized, using a mixed methods approach together. Interviews were preferred and these were used together with Focused Group Discussions in addressing study questions. The study revealed that land is a major source of livelihood in Adwari Sub County. The study also revealed a state of latent land conflict in the area with frequent manifestations of overt land conflicts. The study confirmed that land conflict was impacting in terms of low and poor production of both livestock and crops and therefore community members were relying on restocking and external support as the attendant measures to the effects of land conflicts experienced by community members of Adwari. However, bearing in mind the research topic, a more detailed action research on land conflict and Agriculture sector performance needs to be undertaken. Also government needs to; check the creation of more administrative units, diversify her economic activities to increase economic opportunities, design specific development programmes to counter the gaps of low and reduced production in both livestock and crop production and come up with more livelihood programmes to boost households' source of livelihoods.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

Land is the object of competition in a number of potentially overlapping ways: as an economic asset, as a connection with identity and social legitimacy and as political territory. Therefore, competition over land and its resources is at the centre of the nexus between land and conflict. Competition can occur between any number and type of identity groups, whether based on ethnicity, religion, class, gender, or generation. When that competition involves groups of people, rather than individuals, the risk of larger-scale violence increases. Importantly to note is that land and resource-based conflicts are leading conflict drivers in Northern Uganda after the 21 years of LRA armed conflict and its effect has always triggered debate among many scholars and development practitioners. Thus, the thrust of this research which analysed the effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production in Uganda with a case of Adwari Sub County in Hoima district.

1.1 Background to the study

It is about a decade ago, since stories of communities being driven from their land, often at the barrel of a gun, leaving destitute and unable to feed their families. Northern Uganda was on the scene of wars and insecurity for 21 years as a result of armed rebellions, particularly by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in Acholi land, Lango and Teso and by armed Karamajong cattle rustling leading to massive displacement into either camps or in locations generally at 3 to 10 Kilometres (KM) away from the original homes within the same district (Northern Uganda Land Study,2008).

As the scale and pace of large-scale land acquisitions increases globally, evidence is mounting that the land rush is out of control and that the price being paid by effected communities is unacceptably high. According to Oxfam, a huge amount of land has been sold off or leased out globally in the past decade: an area eight times the size of the UK. In poor countries, foreign investors bought up an area of land the size of London every six days between 2000 and 2010. Commercial interest in land could accelerate once again as recent food price spikes motivate rich countries to secure their own food supplies and make land a more secure and attractive option for investors and speculators. The 2008 boom in food prices is widely recognised as having triggered a surge in investor interest in land: from mid-2008–2009 reported agricultural land deals by foreign investors in developing countries rocketed by around 200 per cent, Oxfam (2011).

Responsible investment and support is vital and poor countries desperately need it. Indeed, Oxfam's calculations suggest that, globally, the land acquired between 2000 and 2010 has the potential to feed a billion people, equivalent to the number of people who go to bed hungry each night. But the sad fact is that very few if any of these land investments benefit local people or help to fight hunger. Two-thirds of agricultural land deals by foreign investors are in countries with a serious hunger problem. Yet perversely, precious little of this land is being used to feed people in those countries, or going into local markets where it is desperately needed. Instead, the land is either being left idle, as speculators wait for its value to increase and then sell it at a profit, or it is predominantly used to grow crops for export, often for use as bio-fuels. About two-thirds of foreign land investors in developing countries intend to export everything they produce on the land. Africa has borne the brunt of this, with an area the size of Kenya acquired for agriculture by foreign investors in just ten years, but the experience on other continents is similar. World Bank and International Monetary Fund research has shown that most of the land being sold off is in the poorest countries with the weakest protection of people's land rights.

More than 30 per cent of the land in Liberia handed out in large-scale concessions in about five years, often with disastrous results for local people. In Cambodia, NGOs estimate that an area equivalent to between 56 and 63 per cent of all arable land in the country has been handed out to private companies. In Honduras, the toll of people killed in a land conflict in the Bajo Aguán

region has risen to over 60, and shows no sign of stopping, APRODEV 2011, Brownell 2012 & ADHOC 2012.

According to Ward, it is anticipated that the global economy will triple by 2050, demanding ever more from scarce natural and agricultural resources. To take the example of just one commodity, the area used for oil palm cultivation increased nearly eightfold in 20 years now to an estimated 7.8 million hectares in 2010 and is expected to double again by 2020. Land resources, already under pressure from climate change, water depletion and the need for conservation, will be increasingly in demand for a range of economic uses: carbon sequestration, production of bio-fuels, timber and other non-food crops, and speculative investment. These uses will come into direct conflict with the need for more land to feed a growing global population. Additionally, the volatility of food prices has led richer countries that are dependent on food imports – such as the Gulf States – to acquire large amounts of land in developing countries in order to ensure a secure supply of food for their domestic needs. As food prices increase as a result of these multiple pressures, land is becoming a more lucrative asset for powerful interests and investors, K. Ward, 2011.

Most scholars have argued that, in the face of this unprecedented worldwide rush for land, it is crucial that influential global actors take steps to ensure that poor people are not losing out. The World Bank, as the largest development organization in the world with a multi-billion-dollar portfolio and as a major influence on both governments and the private sector, must act now to put its own house in order and set an example to ensure that investments benefit the poor – an example that must then be followed by investors and governments globally.

Northern Uganda for over two decades underwent a rough patch of insecurity and instability that saw a lot of development that should have come to a standstill during this time. This instability was brought about by the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) under the leadership of Joseph Kony. The LRA began as an evolution of 'the Holy Spirit Movement' - a rebellion against President Yoweri's oppression of the north of Uganda, led by Alice Lakwena. When Alice Lakwena was exiled, Joseph Kony took over, changing the name of the group to the Lord's Resistance Army, or LRA. As the group lost regional support, he quickly started a trend of self-preservation that

would come to characterise the rebel group, stealing supplies and abducting children to fill his ranks, Safer World Uganda, 2013.

Starting in 11006, the Ugandan government, unable to stop the LRA, required the people of northern Uganda to leave their villages and enter government-run camps for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). These camps were supposedly created for the safety of the people, but the camps were rife with disease and violence. At the height of the conflict, 1.7 million people lived in these camps across the region. The conditions were squalid and there was no way to make a living. Thus, a generation of Acholi people were born and raised in criminal conditions. The war affected the Acholi, Lango and Teso sub regions for long with many abductions, killings and destruction of property. This situation forced the majority of the population in these areas into Displaced Peoples Camps (IDPs) in which the army was offering some kind of protection to them. This situation meant that people left their normal way of living for an artificial setting for the sake of preservation of life and whatever little was left of their property. Homes and land was abandoned for IDP camps for as long as 10 years plus, this led to the current situation of land conflicts.

The Mercycorps' Conflict and Market Assessment report , (2011) on Uganda Land disputes indicate a widespread of conflict in Uganda, affecting 33% to 50% of landholders. In Bunyoro and Acholil and, land disputes are the most significant form of conflict, with many escalating into violence. Land disputes crop up throughout Lango and Acholil and, with the greatest number of disputes arising in Amuru District, where oil has recently been discovered and where the government has given away large tracts of land. Most land disputes in Acholi and Lango are related to tenure security, boundary markers, land security and fall into fall into two broad categories: disputes between individuals and families and disputes related to private sector investment, Mercycorps 2011, Northern Uganda Land Analysis Report, 2008.

In the aftermath of Internally Displaced Peoples' (IDP) return, customary tenure has transformed in terms of institutions and practices. Contrary to earlier practices, household heads are now "owners" not "trustees" of rights in land, therefore the power base of this tenure has shifted from the clans to the household heads. When a situation is out of control, it is time to call a halt.

Conclusively, the global land rush shows no sign of abating. Indeed, it is predicted that commercial pressures on land will continue to mount as competition over resources intensifies. The way in which land acquisitions may exacerbate food insecurity and poverty is not yet fully understood. The level of risk this uncertainty entails is unacceptable, and the potential consequences for people's livelihoods irreversible. At the moment, the burden of that risk is being shouldered by the poorest and most vulnerable, P. Smith et al. (2010), FAO (2009). This has had an untold experience, and severe effects on survival (livelihoods) or production relations on land as a production factor, absolute to meeting either family expectations or household needs for food security.

1.2 Problem Statement

Whereas the 20 year war in northern Uganda (Gayiiya, 2008) could have ended and the people who were formerly living in internally displaced people's camps (IDPs) embarked on rebuilding their lives, there remains a ticking time bomb hinged on land conflict. The return of peace and stability in Northern Uganda has meant an increase in the number of returnees to their ancestral lands that they had previously abandoned due to the insurgency but those that came back earlier and those that returned later are most of the time engaged in land conflicts, and in issues of boundaries and ownership. This has led to an "extension" of conflict amongst them and as a result physical violence, murders and quarrels which take much of the time and other resources have been unavoidable.

Worse of it all is that, the severe effects of land conflicts on Agricultural production as well as the cope up mechanisms to the effects are not well known and documented. It's against this background the researcher was prompted to conduct this study on the effects caused by land conflict especially on the Agricultural production of the people of Otuke district in particular and Uganda as a whole.

1.3. Objectives of the Research

Having defined the research problem in the previous section (1.2), this section sets out the aims and objectives, which were formulated for this research. To Creswell (2003), objectives and research questions are very important and can be signposts for the investigator in pursuing a research activity. In light of this, the broad objective of this study is: "to examine the effects of

land conflicts on Households' Agricultural production in Otuke District". Within the remit of the broad objective of this study, the research was undertaken to achieve the following specific objectives of the study;

1. To examine the factors which trigger land conflicts in Adwari sub county, Otuke District
2. To examine the effects of land conflicts on Households' agricultural production in Adwari sub county, Otuke district
3. To find out how people are coping with the effects of the land conflicts in Adwari sub county, Otuke District.

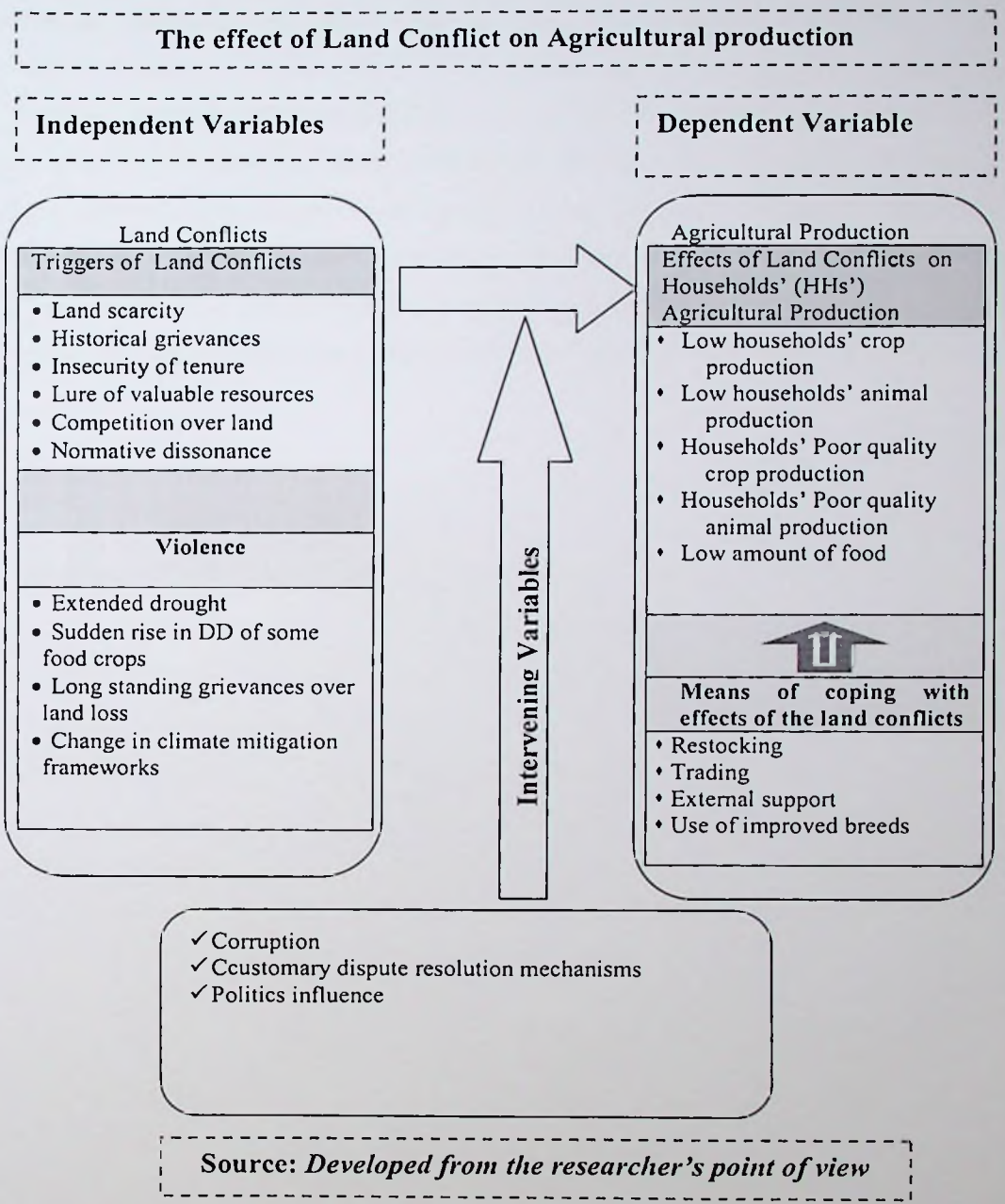
1.4. Significance of the Study

This study was considered significant as it aimed at providing the most current information necessary for stakeholders to appreciate that land vulnerability is key in land conflict and violence in Uganda. The researcher believes that, study findings in this research will be important in providing information to different stakeholders involved in the matters of land and conflict. Equally, the findings will provide information to opinion leaders and policy makers in matters pertaining livelihoods and conflict management.

In the same vein, the information generated in this research will provide room for further research to guide policy making and advocacy for meaningful life or living. This information further creates a meaningful knowledge base in generating information necessary for improving the understanding of the effects of land conflict on household livelihood. Lastly, as far as the general public is concerned, the research brings awareness to the public and, propels more researchers in the same area of research on various government programs.

1.5 Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.0: The conceptual framework



From the diagrammatic illustration of the conceptual framework, the study expresses the relationship between the independent, the dependent and intervening variables. The independent variables considered Triggers of Land Conflicts which include; Land scarcity, Historical grievances, Insecurity of tenure, Lure of valuable resources, Competition over land and normative dissonance among others. On the other side is the dependent variable "Agricultural Production " which was measured basing on the sub themes of ; low households' crop production, low households' animal production, low amount of food, Households' Poor quality crop production, Households' Poor quality animal production, Hunger, Decreased economic wellbeing and Loss of HH economic assets on land. The researcher presumably predicted that both the independent and dependent variables were moderated by intervening variable with sub themes of; corruption, customary dispute resolution mechanism and politics influence.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

Land and resource-based conflicts are leading conflict drivers in Uganda. The 21 year of LRA armed conflict made it worse in northern Uganda. As a result of this war, life changed in the region in many ways and this made an assessment and documentation of its effects on rural livelihoods very much needed. This chapter therefore attempts to unearth theories and literature relevant to justifying land conflict and its Effects on Households' agricultural production.

2.1 The factors which trigger land conflicts

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) argues that to address land-related conflict, it is essential to correctly identify the roles played by land in the conflict. That clearly define what factors create vulnerability to land conflict, heighten unproductive competition, and exacerbate tension, (USAID 2012). Also, ascertain whether these factors are the primary cause of conflict, or are there other contributing factors. It therefore becomes helpful in this context to distinguish between land situations that create vulnerabilities to conflict and "land trigger events." USAID, a United States (US) International Development Agency has advanced some important factors that create vulnerability to land conflict:

2.1.1 Land scarcity

According to Eric F. Lambin, Land changes are cumulatively a major driver of global environmental change, with the most important form of land conversion in an expansion of crop and pastoral land in natural ecosystems, Eric F. Lambin, 2011. Due to legal constraints on access, skewed distribution among users, or an absolute shortage of land in relation to demand, scarcity can leave many with little or no land and create intense competition for land. This scarcity can result from generally very high person/land ratios but can also be distributional, where one group has appropriated most land, leaving land a scarce good for most others. It can be influenced by demographic shifts and factors such as climate change and can be either national or local. Resentment and economic hardship related to land scarcity in Rwanda for instance are often cited as contributing factors to the 11004 genocide.

In northern Uganda, Land is the object of competition in a number of potentially overlapping ways; as an economic asset, as a connection with identity and social legitimacy, and as political territory. Competition over land and its resources is at the center of the nexus between land and conflict. Competition can occur between any number and type of identity groups, whether based on ethnicity, religion, class, gender, or generation. Globally, according to Baranyi and Weitzner, when that competition involves groups of people, rather than individuals, the risk of larger-scale violence increases. Some conflicts grow directly out of competition for land, but land is often not the sole cause of conflict; other factors, such as ethnic or religious tensions or political marginalization contribute to conflict (Baranyi and Weitzner, 2001). Among other factors, the study revealed that the rash for land by investors has created scarcity of land which results into land conflict. The study was further informed that Limited economic opportunity in the district with about 62.6% contribute accelerates land conflict.

2.2 Insecurity of tenure

Today, when land users fear that they may be forced off their land, insecurity of tenure can create a response that, in combination with the threat of eviction, can generate conflict. Fear of loss of land and livelihoods is a potentially powerful political mobilizing factor, as when tenant evictions in south-central Ethiopia sparked the 1974 revolution that overthrew the monarchy, (2012 URI & ARLPI Land Publication).

Different authors notes that, before colonialism, no single land tenure system existed throughout Uganda as land was governed by customary laws which differed among the diverse ethnic groups that resided within the region. Despite the diversity, individual ownership of the land did not exist, (URI & ARLPI Land Publication, 2012). However, at times the community agreed together to allow some individuals to occupy and use the land. But following the LRA war, many people were displaced and many others forced into camps. This brought confusion and total anarchy in land use and management as it became impossible tell boundaries. Today, the Republic of Uganda recognizes the four major land tenure systems as provided for under article 237 (3) of the 11005 Ugandan Constitution as well as section 3 of the 11008 Land Act as amended but what is applied in northern is customary land tenure system.

According to Sections 1(l) and 3(1) of the 11008 Land Act as amended land tenure system is land which is owned by a particular group of people (family, clan, tribe, community), that is used and managed under regulations agreed upon by the group. The use of the land is usually overseen by elders, clan heads or other assigned committees to ensure the rights of the entire group are being honored. Therefore, land conflicts emanate from the change of this status quo. Boundaries which used to be determined by specific landmarks such as trees, rivers and hills now are replaced by land titles which has worsened the situation, (Must Guide for Stake Holder Mediation, Sensitization and Reconciliation Processes, 2012). What is so pronounced today as a cause of land conflict is change in boundaries which has sometimes translated into violence.

2.2.1 The lure of valuable resources

When valuable resources like in some parts of northern and western Uganda are discovered or when the demand for existing resources rises, people are motivated to exert control over, and benefit from the sale of, these assets. In Bunyoro region for instance, there is rash for land because of speculations which has abnormally raised the price of land. According to Global rights Alert, all areas which have resources like minerals attract investment which automatically raises population, Global Rights Alert 2016. When land and resource rights are clear and enforceable, this motivation leads to exploration, use, and sale through ordinary market processes, USAID 2010. However, when resources are located in areas with conflicting tenure regimes or when local people have insecure tenure over valuable assets, predatory actors (public and private sector) often struggle for control of these assets. This is the case in the East Kivu region of the Democratic Republic of Congo where conflicts over land and minerals are widespread.

Consequently, the magnitude of land conflicts are varied as are the root causes affecting entire communities with disputes existing at the individual, family, and clan level, while other conflicts have taken on an ethnic dimension. There are a number of Land being earmarked by the government for acquisition such as land in Amuru, Agago, and Nwoya with Madhivani, the district land boards versus the community at Lakang, Uganda Wild Life Authority (UWA) versus the people among others are experiencing lots of problem due to the process of acquisition by the government which has caused misunderstanding amongst the land stakeholders, politicians and other actors, (a Must Guide for Stake Holder Mediation, Sensitization and Reconciliation

Processes, Volume IV, 2012). This continues in all mineral reach areas across the country. In northern Uganda, and Otuke district in particular, this is exacerbated by purported investors

2.2.2 Historical grievance

Most often rooted in earlier displacements and land takings, historical grievance can generate a demand for redress that can fuel conflict. For instance, after 2000, in Zimbabwe, earlier colonial land takings and the resentment these engendered sparked widespread land occupations. Post-conflict situations are often rife with grievances based on displacements of some communities during the conflict.

For over 2 decades, the people of northern Uganda endured horrific violence as a result of the war between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) which was characterized by killings, abductions, and the displacement of up to 2 million people. After experiencing relative peace resulting from the 2006 Juba Peace Talks, Acholi land embarked on the process of return, resettlement, and rebuilding. However, the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from IDP Camps to their original homes was wracked with challenges including land conflicts threatening to destabilize the new found calm, (Volume four of URI & ARLPI Land Publication, 2012).

According to Mercy corps, Land disputes are widespread in Uganda, affecting 33%2 to 50%3 of landholders. In Acholiland, land disputes are the most significant Nform of conflict, with many escalating into violence. Land disputes crop up throughout Acholiland, with the greatest number of disputes arising in Amuru District, where oil has recently been discovered and where the government has given away large tracts of land, (Mercy corps, 2011).

In some land conflict hotspots in Northern Uganda today, the mere mention of the phrase 'land' is almost always followed by a question: who is grabbing our land? According to Uganda Land Alliance, Northern Uganda is endowed with enormous human, agricultural, and natural resource potential, which remains largely untapped. With the right combination of recovery interventions, the region's potential can be unlocked to become the food basket of both the region and the country. In addition, the area's great tourism potential and discovery of oil add to the need for sustained investments which could rehabilitate the region and ensure it catches up with other

parts of Uganda. However, rampant conflicts over land could stop the economic benefit of Northern Uganda being fully realized, (Uganda Land Alliance, 2015).

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) argues that to address land-related conflict, it is essential to correctly identify the roles played by land in the conflict. That clearly define what factors create vulnerability to land conflict, heighten unproductive competition, and exacerbate tension. Also, ascertain whether these factors are the primary cause of conflict, or are there other contributing factors. It therefore becomes helpful in this context to distinguish between land situations that create vulnerabilities to conflict and "land trigger events." There are a number of important factors that create vulnerability to land conflict; land scarcity, politics, limited access to land, limited economic access and corruption.

2.3. The effects of land conflicts on households' agricultural production

According to Mercy corps, Land pervasively underpins human activity that it usually plays some role during war and civil violence. Land-related issues figure into many violent disputes around the world, (Uganda Conflict and Market Assessment Report 2011). Ongoing communal violence in Nigeria and Sudan is tied to competition over scarce fertile land and poor resource governance. Disputes over access to land and valuable mineral resources drove wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone, and the nearly 25-year war in Sri Lanka was fought over geographic claims to an ethnic homeland for the country's minority population. Therefore, understanding the role land plays in the conflicts of so many nations can help policymakers develop strategies to ease tensions among groups, limit conflict, and potentially avoid violence and the poverty trap that comes from cyclical violence (Collier et al., 2003). Failure to address these bedrock issues may increase the likelihood of conflict and perpetuate poverty.

In Uganda, Land disputes are widespread, affecting 33% to 50% of landholders, Rugadya 2009. In northern Uganda, over 90% of land is owned under customary tenure. While a very small portion of land falls under the freehold and leasehold tenure system and such cases are primarily within town centers.

In northern Uganda, traditionally, the Acholi people are agro-pastoralists who largely depend on the land for grazing of animals and subsistence farming. However, the protracted war between

the Lords Resistance Army (LRA) and the Government of Uganda (GoU) robbed the Acholi people of their livestock and denied over 90% of the people access to their ancestral land. It is therefore no surprise that as the people of northern Uganda returned to their original homesteads, land conflict become a serious issue, threatening the relative peace currently being experienced in the region, (a Must Guide for Stake Holder Mediation, Sensitization and Reconciliation Processes, Volume IV, 2012)

For over 2 decades, the people of northern Uganda endured horrific violence as a result of the war between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) which was characterized by killings, abductions, and the displacement of up to 2 million people. After experiencing relative peace resulting from the 2006 Juba Peace Talks, Acholi land is embarked on the process of return, resettlement, and rebuilding. However, the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from IDP Camps to their original homes was wracked with challenges including land conflicts threatening to destabilize the new found calm, (Volume four of URI & ARLPI Land Publication, 2012).

In primarily agricultural Acholi land, limited economic activity and prohibited access are the major flashpoints for conflict. Limited economic opportunity and the need to survive drive many land disputes, while others are driven by politics and corruption. These disputes arise in an environment where mechanisms for delineating boundaries, determining tenure, resolving disputes, and negotiating access are hindered by weaknesses in customary and formal law and by misunderstanding between stakeholders.

In addition, Gender relations in relation to property rights have also become more complicated by land conflicts. In a customary tenure, women have enjoyed rights to access and use, but not control and ownership. Men are already being blamed for selling off family land and not sharing the proceeds with their wives. In some cases, the men have disappeared after selling land, only returning after they have spent the money. Women are often left with the burden of supporting the family, (SaferWorld, 2016) and Land conflicts have escalated gender-based conflicts with women and children being more vulnerable.

Consequently, ongoing land disputes in turn have inhibited the productivity of small-scale farms due to reduced cultivation, decreased investment, and loss of economic assets. Moreover, while many Acholis have welcomed private investment, the engagement of private sector actors in the region has been compromised by limited transparency in the negotiation of land use, mistrust of outsiders among Acholis, and fear of instability and limited awareness of investment opportunities on the part of private sector actors, (MercyCorps 2011). The economic consequences of land conflict has limited growth and constrained economic opportunity, perpetuating the conditions that drive many of these disputes,

The magnitude and effects of land conflicts are varied as are the root causes affecting entire communities with disputes existing at the individual, family, and clan level, while other conflicts have taken on an ethnic dimension. In Otuke district, land is said to have incapacitated agriculture and yet it is a core economic activity, characterized by low and poor production. This has affected many household livelihoods especially in Adwari sub county.

As already highlighted above, conflicts over boundaries further hamper development programmes and this was sited almost in every focused group discussions conducted. Previously, different administrative units have been upgraded thereby altering boundaries. As a result of this, many are failing to tell who belongs where and for that reason conflict has not been avoided.
Further, the increasing pressure to use customary land for different transactions by individuals, a lack of knowledge about land legislation and the difficulty in obtaining property deeds have left many people in Northern Uganda vulnerable to their property rights being abused. If left unaddressed, the land disputes could cause a return to violent conflict. Already in several locations, there has been an increase in violence. For example, in the border districts of Moyo and Lamwo there have been instances of destruction and stealing of property, and other people's crops being used for grazing, as well as harassment of local communities. In some areas people have armed themselves with weapons, such as machetes and spears, to protect their land. In Lamogi sub-county, in one of the focus group discussion facilitated by Saferworld, nine out of ten participants admitted to possessing a bow and arrow to protect their land from threats, (SaferWorld, 2016.

According to Safe world, land conflicts can be persistent, and this suggests caution in talking about conflict "resolution." Particular disputes over specific lands, which may be expressions of a larger conflict, can be resolved, and this can ease tensions. While local and traditional institutions like village councils, religious and traditional leaders, and other local bodies can often resolve local land conflicts, at a certain stage the state must intervene. When land disputes escalate to the level of governments, often they will only be able to "manage" the conflict, responding in constructive ways that keep the conflict from slipping over the boundary into violence. Assisting governments in identifying and implementing strategies to better manage conflict is, therefore, a vital task. Violence radically effects government's capacity to deal effectively with land conflict; it negatively affects the abilities of international organizations and donors who support efforts to limit land-related conflict, (SaferWorld, 2016.

Above all, in Otuke, the land conflict which has sometimes resulted into violence continues to create the level of risk whose uncertainty has become unacceptable, with its potential consequences on people's livelihoods being irreversible and long lasting. Additionally, the burden of that risk is being shouldered by the poorest and most vulnerable in rural areas who are the majority women and children. This has had untold experience, and severe effects on their survival (livelihoods) or production relations on land as a production factor, absolute to meeting either family expectations or household needs. It is that compelled the researcher to conduct a study on the Effects caused by land conflict especially on the rural livelihoods with special interest on households' Agricultural production in Otuke district, with a case of Adwari Sub County.

2.4. How people are coping with the effects of the land conflicts

Despite the increasing incidence of land-conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa and their deleterious effects on agricultural performance, empirical studies on their determinants and consequences are scant. This has equally affected a number of initiatives aiming at copying with effects. In a bid to create a meaningful life in northern Uganda, the government of Uganda and her partners embarked on a number of initiatives including restocking, facilitating trade and allowing external support in form of donations among others.

2.4.1 Restocking

According to Patrick O, the northern Uganda restocking project focuses on four regions devastated by either the Karimojong cattle rustlers or affected by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) conflict, Patrick Okino 2013. According to Rebecca Amuge Otengo sh20b has been earmarked by the government to implement the programme, Rebecca Amuge Otengo 2013. The project covers regions of Teso, Lango, Acholi and West Nile. The priority, during the implementation of this project is restocking with cattle lost during turbulent times. According to Amuge, by the end of the 2014/2015 financial year "Alebtong alone received about 500 cattle, (The New vision 24th December 2013).

While this initiative presents high hopes, some stakeholders have fear that the project may not realize the set targets. In the first place, Mapenduzi argues that the criteria used by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to allocate Shs 50bn meant for restocking cattle herds in northern Uganda does not make meaning. According to Mapenduzi the selection of recipients was unfair because OPM based allocations on the number of parishes in a district, Gulu district has parishes which are bigger than districts like Oyam, yet Oyam has more parishes than Gulu, The Observer, 18 March 2014.

2.4.2Trading

The concept of trade has evolved, the original form of trade, saw the direct exchange of goods and services for other goods and services. However, according to Gaurav Akrain, trade is buying and selling of goods and services for money or money's worth. It involves transfer or exchange of goods and services for money or money's worth. The manufacturers or producer produces the goods, then moves on to the wholesaler, then to retailer and finally to the ultimate consumer, Gaurav Akrani, 2011.

Many believe that through trade goods and services move from one point, region or area to another. In the same way, some people in northern Uganda, after the war tried a number of alternatives including trading to enhance their livelihoods. Majorly, cereals dominate the market as a major cash and food crop in the area. In Otuke district, the research indicates Limited economic opportunity as one of the key challenges, Carol Jamieson 2016).

Trade is essential for satisfaction of human wants, Trade is conducted not only for the sake of earning profit; it also provides service to the consumers. Trade is an important social activity because the society needs uninterrupted supply of goods forever increasing and ever changing but never ending human wants. Trade has taken birth with the beginning of human life and shall continue as long as human life exists on the earth. It enhances the standard of living of consumers. Trading, in northern Uganda therefore is a very important social activity whose contribution can not to be underrated. The research reveals that people are still very poor in the area, (Abdallah Jumane, Gloria Wapalila & Alexander Songorwa, 2012)

2.4.3 External support

Coping mechanisms can also be described as 'survival skills'. They are strategies that people use in order to deal with stresses, pain, and natural changes that we experience in life. Coping mechanisms are learned behavioural patterns used to cope. We learn from others ways to manage our stresses. There are negative coping mechanisms and positive coping mechanisms. Many people use their coping mechanisms to benefit them in a positive way. However, we are not always able to cope with the difficulties that we face, (Alexander S, 2012).

People experience a range of emotions throughout our lives, some good, some not so good. Our behaviours are usually a result of how we handle our emotions, which sometimes calls for external support including donations. If we are able to handle our emotions positively, our behaviour will likely be positive. If we do not handle our emotions in a positive way, our behaviour will likely be negative.

English dictionary defines donation as an act or instance of presenting something as a gift, grant, or contribution. It is a gift given by physical or legal persons, typically for charitable purposes and/or to benefit a cause. A donation may take various forms, including cash offering, services, new or used goods including clothing, toys, food, and vehicles. To some other scholars, it is a transfer of property (as a sale) that does not have a sufficient reciprocal consideration (as a proportional price) so that it is considered a gratuitous donation and must meet the statutory requirements for a donation (as a notarial act) to be valid. This support has been seen come from various organisations, institutions and agencies including governments were extending support in form of donations to the affected communities. The study equally confirmed that many

household livelihoods had been saved from perishing by such organisations or government agencies.

In life, therefore, it is important to be able to recognize our emotions before we can manage them. We can learn to become aware of our emotions, acknowledge what is happening within ourselves, and to learn to think and plan before we act. There are a variety of coping mechanisms that we may use day to day. If we become aware of the negative coping mechanisms that we use (ways that do more harm than good), we can begin to learn and explore more positive ways to manage our lives (ways that benefit our lives).

Available reports indicate that the people of Northern Uganda are so eager to put the past behind and lunge forward toward a prosperous and healed country with education, liberty and dignity. Northern Uganda rightfully wants and deserves to preserve her rich culture, land, and treasured heritage, fully intact and thriving.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This Chapter presents procedures which were used in research, such as data analysis and processing. The section provides a full description of the methodology that was used when carrying out research. It consist the presentation of research methodology that were adopted in carrying out the research. The chapter presents the research design, area of study, procedure of data collection, study population, determination and selection of the sample size, data sources, data collection instruments, data collection methods, interpretation, sampling techniques and procedures, data collection and data analysis, validity and reliability of instruments.

3.1 Research Design

The researcher adopted a cross-sectional survey as a design, as an aid to help understand, explore and investigate; the research problem, the factors which makes land Vulnerable to Conflict, the effects of land conflicts and violence on Households' livelihood, and identify how people are coping with the effects of the land conflicts and violence. Like Burns says, this research design was viewed as being very crucial in a research process as it amounts to a plan or strategy that solicits answers to research questions (Burns, 2000). Thus, the study involved the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data on key individuals, households and communities in the study area in the study area and was implemented in four stages.

3.2 Study Area

The study was carried out in Adwari Sub County in Otuke district. Adwari is Located 90 Km from Lira Town, close to the Karamojong border. It has 167.8 km^2 covering 6 parishes of okere, okee, omido, alango, ageng and olarokwon with 96 local council ones (LC 1s) or villages, (Adwari sub county Development Plan, 2015/2016-2019/2020).

The available data on Adwari sub county indicate that, following the return of IDP from their camps and successful defeat of cattle rustlers, there was rush for land and yet many of them could not recognize their boundaries. This was followed by an influx of investors which has made land conflict and sometimes violence inevitable in the area. A lot is being said about the numerous land conflicts in the area but there is less or no evidence documented. This therefore

makes the researcher to believe that while there may be relative peace, a lot of economic activities on land are being disrupted and this has had effects on livelihood of many rural households something which needed to be assessed and documented.

3.3 Study Population

The target population was the households in Otuke district, Adwari Sub County. The household heads or representatives that had been affected by the land conflicts within Adwari Sub-county of Otuke District ware carefully selected for the research study. It is estimated that Otuke district has a total population of 105,617 with 22,273 households and Adwari Sub County has a total of 10,246 in the ration of 5,249 females to 4,997 males, females with 2,192 households, (Otuke District Development Plan **2015/16-2019/20**). The study population was picked from household heads or representatives who are affected by the conflict within Adwari Sub-county of Otuke District. Both male and female respondents were given equal importance in the study. A total of 100 households' representatives were sampled using convenient sampling.

3.4. Sample Size

A sample size is the portion of observations selected from a large population under study.

The sample of the study was determined using Taro Yamane's formula of 1970 (1970:886-87)

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where, **N** is total population or population size, **"n"** is the desired sample size and **"e"** is 'error' or confidence level.

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

$$\frac{22273}{(1+22273)(0.1)^2}$$

$$\frac{22273}{22274\times 0.01}$$

$$\frac{22273}{222.74}$$

The sample size was therefore 100 respondents from 100 Households.

3.5.Sampling Techniques and Procedures, Sources of Data

3.5.1 Sampling Techniques and Procedures

The study employed probability techniques to obtain the samples for the study. Probability sampling was carried out from all the affected households in each of the parishes. This method was appropriate because it enabled each affected household to have a chance of being selected in the various parishes in the study area. The key informants were chosen purposively basing on their expertise and experience they have on the topic of this study. The households formed a basis of the sample and the findings were related to the effect of land conflict in Uganda.

3.5.2 Sources of Data

During this research, the primary and the secondary sources were used. The data was obtained from the identified respondents; NGOs, district and sub county reports/minutes and internet. Other publications in the University library with related information were used to enrich the findings. But data for this study was largely obtained from primary sources through field work carried out in the selected villages and parishes of Adwari Sub County. Therefore, a household questionnaire and detailed interview schedules/guides was designed and used to capture important information from respondents.

3.6. Data Collection Methods and Tools

3.6.1 Focus Group Discussion

According to ROCARE one of the research organisations, a focus group discussion is an organised discussion structured in a flexible way of between 6 and 12 participants. A focus group discussion usually lasts one or two hours and provides the opportunity for all the respondents to participate and to give their opinions. In light of this, the researcher used Focus group discussion to collect data from the selected groups. This is because the groups had information that was important in addressing effects of the land conflict. Focus group discussions were found helpful in assessing needs, developing plans, testing new ideas or improving existing programs, Krueger, (1988); Babbie, (11002). Focus group discussion guide was developed and used in the focus group discussions. At least six focus group discussions in the six sites or parishes were held involving both male and female of household heads or their representatives.

In light of the above, the researcher used focus group discussion interview guide or schedule. As earlier noted, an interview is an oral administration of a questionnaire or an interview schedule (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). Interviews with focus group discussion were preferred as they allow the researcher to obtain in-depth data that might not be possible with questionnaires. Interviews are more flexible than questionnaires and allow clarity from both the researcher and respondent. More so they yield higher response rate than questionnaires and can be used to probe for more information than would be given in self administered questionnaires (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999). The interviews gave the researcher an opportunity to interact with a group of respondents directly and they engage in form of conversation with attached objectives. During interviews, the researcher physically had contact with selected group respondents including the selected affected persons or their representatives. This included open group discussion. A set of questions were asked and this gave the researcher first hand information and saved his time. The results were recorded by writing them down.

3.6.2 Key informant interviews

Scholars like Mugenda, looks at an interview as an oral administration of a questionnaire or an interview schedule (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). Key informant interviews are face to face encounters with identified knowledgeable respondents on the subject matter being investigated to obtain accurate information that requires the researcher to obtain maximum cooperation from the respondents. They allow the researcher to obtain in-depth data that might not be possible with questionnaires. They are more flexible than questionnaires and allow clarity from both the researcher and respondent. More so they yield higher response rate than questionnaires and can be used to probe for more information than would be given in self administered questionnaires (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1990). The researcher therefore personally collected data from the 13 selected individuals who had a wide knowledge on the subject being investigated. This approach required the careful identification of formal top leaders in the study areas who are well knowledgeable of effects of land conflicts on Agricultural production in Adwari sub county Otuke district.

The researcher therefore used the key informant interview schedule or guide to collect data from key informants. The key informants are people who are expected to have expertise and much aware of the variables within this research study. This tool was used to gather data from 13 key

3.7. Procedure of data collection, Validity and Reliability of Instruments

3.7.1Validity

This indicates the extent to which an instrument measures what it is supposed to measure. The researcher ensured timely consultations and check-up by the supervisor in terms of consistence, relevance, and clarity. In order to ascertain the extent of the research instruments; the researcher conducted a pre-test of instruments with at least 10 respondents from the neighbouring sub county of Alango to test the instruments. Pre-test of the questionnaire was carried out to ensure that the content in the questionnaire remains unbiased. This informed the researcher about the existing errors which he edited. It also aided planning in terms of helping the researcher appreciate the field data collection challenges as a basis of both data collection and generating necessary data on the subject. At every stage of the study, efforts to document was made by the researcher and findings reported in a thesis.

3.7.2 Reliability

According to Joppe, (2000), reliability refers to the extent to which results are consistent over time and an accurate representation of the total population under the study. Consequently, Kirk and Miller, (1986) came up with three types of reliability which relate to quantitative research as: (1) the degree to which a measurement, given repeatedly, remains the same, (2) the stability of a measurement over time; and (3) the similarity of measurement within a given period of time. Worthen et al (11003) defines reliability as a measure of how stable, dependable, trustworthy, and consistent a test is in measuring the same thing each time. Before the data collection, researcher conducted a pre-test among 10 households in Alango Sub County to determine the effectiveness of the research instrument.

3.7.3 Procedure for Data Collection

The researcher obtained an introductory letter from Uganda Christian University. This enabled local government officials and respondents understand and support the purpose of the research. Also, before commencement of data collection, the researcher introduced himself to the district and sub county authorities to orient them with the research objectives to avoid unnecessary inconveniences. Key offices the researcher went to included: the office of the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) as the chairperson of the district security committee, the Chief

informants covered in this research study. According to Donna Doll (n.d), Gathering together key informants or experts to provide input for a situation analysis is one method for identifying issues. This approach required the careful identification of formal top leaders in the study areas who are well knowledgeable of effects of land conflicts on Agricultural production in Adwari sub county Otuke district.

3.6.3 Documentation Analysis

This consisted of a large body of data collected from various researchers which were done earlier. Data was also gathered from various sources such as issued guidelines, manuals, text books, journals, & magazines of other scholars/authors from the websites, office of community development and the library to provide an analytical framework about land conflict in northern Uganda. A critical analysis on this literature was done relative to the objectives of the study and comparatively on the basis of the study findings. The researcher analyzed these documents and identified the missing gaps in their study that this study addressed. This data served as basis for the analyses and discussions that is presented in Chapter Four and where possible quotations and citations have been taken.

3.6.4 Interviewer- administered questionnaire

The researcher adopted the Interviewer- administered questionnaire which was used among households. This method was used due the fact that the researcher was doubtful of misinterpretation of the questions in case the questionnaire is used at household level. This involved face to face conversation with respondents to obtain accurate information that the researcher required. Interviews guide was preferred as it allows the researcher to obtain in-depth data that might not be possible with questionnaires. Mugenda noted that interviews are more flexible than questionnaires and allows clarity from both the researcher and respondent (Mugenda, 1990). Additionally, the tool yielded higher response rate due to open chance to probe than in a self-administered questionnaire. A total of 100 household's representatives were interviewed.

Administrative Officer as a head of civil servants, the District Agricultural Officer as a sector head. Confidentiality of data collected from respondents was highly maintained.

3.8. Measurement of Variables and Data Analysis Techniques

During the process of analyzing data, the researcher organized, sorted, interpreted and handled data collected from the field. The data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics such as percentages, mean scores, mode, and standard deviation. Both qualitative and quantitative data was analyzed and interpreted using descriptive statistics in order to address the research objectives. This was done using Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) to allow both analysis and interpretation.

3.8.1 Qualitative Data Analysis

Under this method, words to make narrative statements on how categories or themes of data are related from key informants were used. The information gathered is in a form of text and materials that describe events and occurrences. Data collection and analysis in qualitative research went hand in hand and was done simultaneously. In this study, content analysis for the qualitative information from key informants were done manually and focused on pertinent themes.

3.8.2 Quantitative data analysis

Quantitative data was coded, edited and entered into the SPSS data editor. It was then analyzed using SPSS version 16, descriptive statistics like measures of central tendency were used to describe and summarize the data. These included the mean, mode and median. Other data was presented using graph, histograms and pie charts. Relational statistics like cross tabulations and correlation was also used to establish the relationship between variables whiles regression and analysis was established on how one variable affects the other. Regression analysis also measured using graphs and was used to establish causes and effects.

3.9. Ethical Considerations, Constraints, and Strategies to minimize them

3.9.1 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations guided every stage of the research process such as explicit explanation to respondents the purpose of the research, assuring them of confidentiality of their identity and keeping information they will provide confidential and among other important ethical guidelines. The researcher ensured that, the respondents were informed about the value of the study. This enabled the respondents appreciate their role in facilitating the achievement of the study objectives and their contribution as participants towards the purpose of the study.

The Researcher observed the research norms and above all exercised transparency, honesty and employ objectivity in the application of the data collection methods to arrive at the desired results. The Researcher did not give money in order to solicit for information or data. This was done in the interest of the respondents themselves to provide testimonies related to triggers and effect of land conflicts in the area.

3.9.2 Constraints experienced and strategies to minimize them

A number of challenges and problems were experienced. The major one was the community anticipation of the researcher being able to solve their problems and the demand for the outcomes of the study to be shared with them. This worsened the challenge of high costs of the study given the distant parishes or study sites and the need to contact all the targeted. The researcher did not therefore promise to disseminate the findings to the communities. Also, a message of hope for delivery of the study findings and report to the duty holders such as Otuke District Local Government was made to the communities during the study.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF STUDY FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings of the study. It is a synopsis of the field realities especially as regards the theme of the study, "the effect of land conflicts on Agricultural production in Adwari sub county, Otuke District". The chapter also tries to diagnose the factors which triggers land conflicts. It also presents the effects of land conflicts on Households' agricultural production and how people are coping with the effects of these land conflicts.

4.1. The Socio-economic Status (characteristics) of Households

This section presents study findings on socio-demographic characteristics with a focus on study area, sex, age, education level, mother tongue, marital status, principal occupation and relevance of Agriculture.

4.1.1 Study Area

The study considered all the six parishes of Adwari Sub County in Otuke district. Adwari is one of the sub counties which are said to have experienced land conflicts for a long time. During interview meetings with key informants, except those who were not sure, majority agreed that land conflict is a serious problem in the district. Therefore, during the study, all households' respondents were identified in these parishes.

Table 4.0: Showing the Respondents' Parishes

Parish (s)	Frequency	Percent
Okere	16	16.2%
Okee	17	17.2%
Omido	17	17.2%
Alango	16	16.2%
Ageng	16	16.2%
Olarokwon	17	17.2%
Total	**99**	**100**

Equal number of respondents was identified averagely from each of the parishes. 16.2% of the respondents were identified from Okere, Alango and Ageng while 17.2% of the respondents were identified in the three parishes of Okee, Omido and Olarokwon. Of these, 15.2% were female while 84.8% were male.

4.1.2 Age

The study was informed by a range of age category, with majority being old people. Of these, 40% were aged between 35 and 44 years.

Table 4.1: showing the Respondents' Age Groups

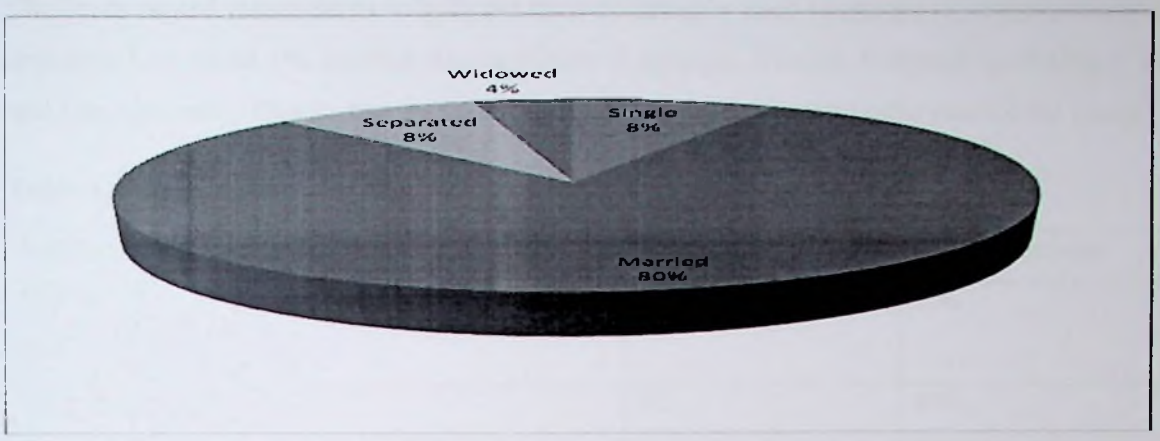
Age Category	Frequency	Percent
15-24 years	02	2.1
25-34 years	09	9.2
35-44 years	40	40.4
45-54 years	27	27.2
55 and above	21	21.1
Total	**99**	**100.0**

Majority of the respondents were aged between 35 and 44 years. This represented 40.4%. Other respondents were 27.2% of the adults, 21% were 55 years and above, and adults below 24 years 2.1% and those aged between 25 and 34 were only 9.2%. This trend was largely shaped by the researcher's desire to interview heads of households and who were adults.

4.1.3 Marital Status

The study shows that majority of the respondents were Married. This represented over 79.8% of the respondents. 4 % were the widowed while the single and separated/divorced took 8.1%.

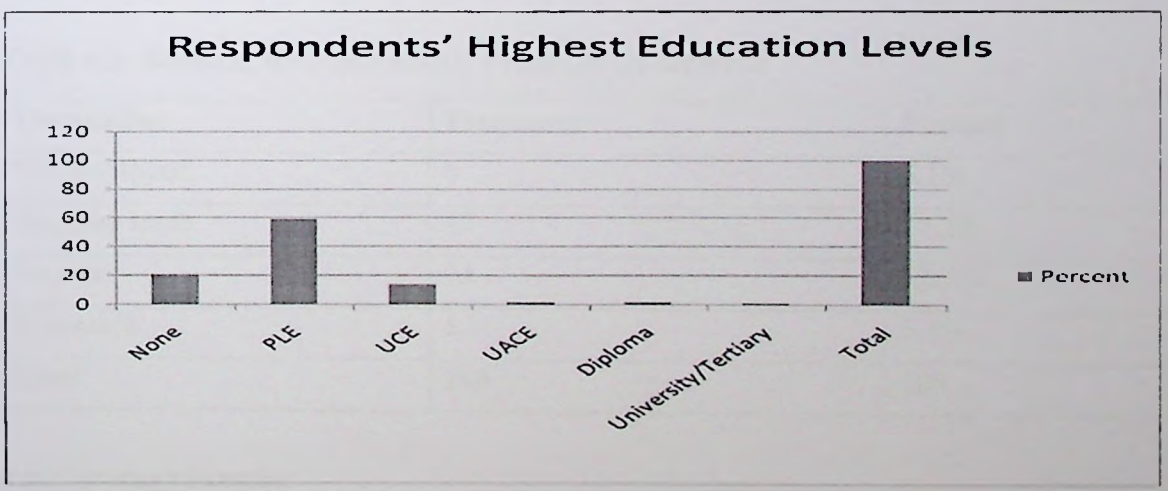
Figure 4.0: Showing Respondents' Marital Status



4.1.4 Level of Education

The study showed that more than half of the respondents had completed at least Primary Leaving Education. This represented 59.6% of the respondents. However, over 20% had never attended formal education, 2% had acquired at least the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education while 14.1% had acquired at least the Uganda Certificate of Education and about 3% were either of a Diploma or tertiary levels.

Figure 4.1: Showing the Respondents' Highest Education Levels



4.1.5 Mother Tongue/Language Spoken

The study tasked respondents to indicate their commonly used language of communication. 97% indicated Luo while 1% showed Runya-Kitara (Lugungu, Rutoro, Runyankole-Rukiga), English and Luganda each. This further implied that Luo was predominant in the area of the study.

Table 4.2 Showing Respondents' Mother Tongue/Language Spoken

Language Efficacy	Frequency	Valid Percent
Runya-Kitara (Lugungu, Rutoro, Runyankole-Rukiga)	1	1%
Luo	96	97%
English	1	1%
Luganda	1	1%
Total	**100**	**100**

4.1.6 Respondents Principal Occupation

The study revealed that most responds were farmers. In the household survey, 72.7% indicated to have been engaged in farming, 16.2% engaged in business trade while 5.1% were unemployed. The study was also informed that another 5.1% of the respondents were riding motorcycles for livelihood (boda boda)

Table 4.3: Showing the respondents Principal Occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percent
Not employed	5	5.1%
Business trade	17	17.2%
Farmer	72	72.7%
Bodaboda	5	5.1%
Total	**100**	**100**

4.1.7 Average Income

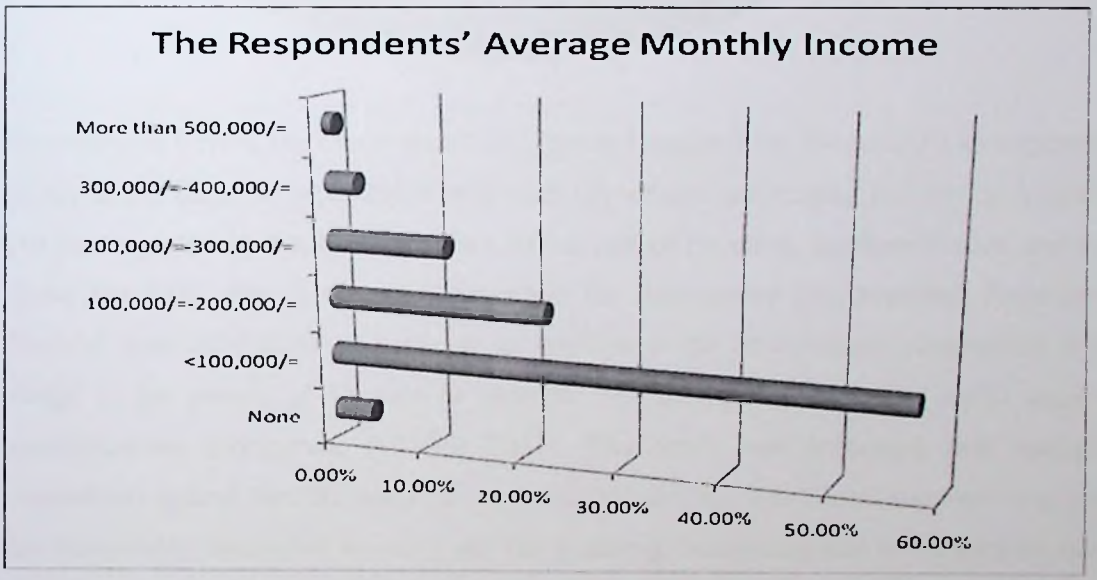
The study tasked stakeholders to show their average monthly incomes. 57.6% of the respondents indicated to be earning less than 100,000/=, 22.2% indicated to be earning between 100,000/= and 200,000/= shillings, 12.1% revealed to be earning between 200,000/= and 300,000/= while 3.0% agreed to be earning between 300,000/= and 400,000/=. Only 1% indicated to be earning

500,000/= and above. Only 4% showed to be earning no income at all. Findings from the key informant interviews informed the study that majority of the people in the district depend on Agriculture. During an interview with the sub county Chief of Okere Sub county argued;

"jo wa tye atoo kede chan pyen pol gi kwoo kede pur ento aman pur pe tye awot aber pi lara me lobo" *and this literally means that, "our people are dying of poverty because many of them depend on Agriculture, which is almost a failed sector because of the land conflict".*

This confirmed the findings from the household survey, which informed the study that majority of the respondents (57.6%) indicated to be earning less than 100,000/= which many saw as a threat to livelihoods.

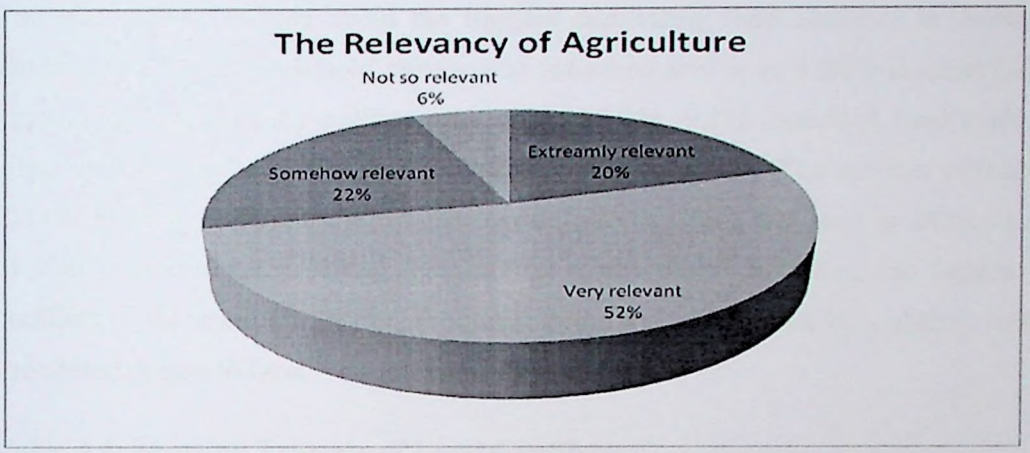
Figure 4.2 Shows Respondents' Average Monthly Income



4.1.8 Relevance of Agriculture

The study assessed the relevance of Agriculture to Household Members. Findings revealed that 52% found Agriculture very relevant, 22% very relevant while 22% saw it somehow relevant and only 6% found Agriculture not so relevant.

Figure 4.3: Showing the Relevance of Agriculture



According to UBOs, the Government of Uganda launched the Economic Development Strategy (EDS) in the financial year 2005/2006 with the aim of eradicating poverty at household level. The strategy started at sub-county level as the unit of planning, implementation and monitoring. Under the EDS, the Government launched the Sub-county Development Programme in the financial year 2006/2007 as a means to implement the Government programme which is the pledge to the people of Uganda to promote "Prosperity for All", and build socio-economic transformation and peace, (UBOS, 2011). The study was informed that majority of the respondents agreed that the sector is very relevant and this was found supportive in empowering the Sub-county structures to carry out the planning, budgeting and development roles. In this study therefore the value attached to the sector is critical in assessing its effect or relevance to the beneficiaries.

4.2. The factors triggering land conflicts

As regards factors triggering land conflicts, a research study was conducted basically to examine the factors triggering land conflicts in Adwari Sub County, Otuke District. According to USAID, trigger events exposes and intensifies a vulnerability to land conflict and in the presence of such vulnerabilities, violence is bound to occur, (USAID 2011). In order to confirm this, the

researcher conducted a research investigation on the above subject matter with the subthemes of; Land Acquisition, Land Use, Common Land Conflicts, Triggers facilitating Land Conflicts and Time Taken Experiencing Land Conflicts. The study therefore revealed a number of findings in form of views of the affected or respondents as indicated below.

4.2.1 Factors which triggers Land Conflicts

The study was informed about the triggers facilitating land conflicts in Adwari Sub County, Otuke district. The household survey was informed that over 62% indicated Limited economic opportunity followed by politics with about 26.3%. 9.1% indicated land grabbing and others which included prohibited access to land accounted only 2%. The number of respondents which did not believe that limited economic opportunity, politics and land grabbing were key triggers of land conflicts was minimal. According to the study therefore, the factors triggering land conflicts in the area are limited economic opportunity followed by politics, land grabbing and Prohibited access to land.

Table 4.4: Showing Triggers of Land Conflicts

Triggers of Conflicts	Frequency	Valid Percent
Limited economic opportunity	62	62.6%
Politics	26	26.3%
land grabbing	9	9.1%
Others	2	2.0%
Total	**99**	**100.0**

Economic opportunities to find them like better employment, to own land, and to trade and build businesses basically depends on quests for economic betterment as a driving force. The 62.6% shown by the respondents clearly indicate how limited economic opportunity in the area remains a threat to household livelihoods. The involvement of government officials and their agents tainted the primary role of the government in livelihood enhancement as it makes it turn an enemy to her own people.

The study reveals that many communities in area appear to be in a state of latent conflict, with increasingly frequent manifestations of overt conflict including clashes between communities

and government agents. According to Safeworld Uganda, the inadequately addressed legacies of the war with the Lord's Resistance Army is said to be fuelled by new and long-standing grievances, are keeping communities in a state of unease where trigger events leads to a rapid escalation of violence, (Safeworld, 2012). Therefore, conflict drivers identified during the study (such as Limited economic opportunity, land grabbing, politics, and Prohibited access to land) are creating a context that many respondents believe will lead to a return to overt conflict, whether in the form of increasing social unrest or more organised violence. Through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), the study revealed that land is the major source of livelihood and therefore limited economic opportunity, those with less or no land to engage in acts as triggers of most land conflicts.

4.2.2 Land Use

The study assessed the different land uses. The study therefore revealed that over 47% are engaged in livestock farming while about 39 in growing crops. About 10% were renting out their land. A total of 3% were not utilizing their land. None of the respondents expressed other land uses.

Table 4.5: Showing Key Land Uses

Land use	Frequency	Percent
Live stock	47	47.5%
Growing crops	39	39.4%
Renting out	10	10.1%
Nothing	3	3.0%
Others	00	00%
Total	**99**	**100%**

According to the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MoLHUD), land in Uganda is a critical factor of production and an essential pillar of human existence and national development. Land is the most basic resource in terms of the space it provides, the environmental resources it contains and supports, and the capital it represents and generates, MoLHUD 2013.

It is a commercial asset that can be used and traded. It is a critical factor of production and an essential part of the national patrimony. It is a key factor in shaping individual and collective identity through its history, the cultural expressions and idioms with which it is associated. It also influences spirituality and aesthetic values of all human societies. Land is perhaps, the most essential pillar of human existence and national development and is usually a political issue with potential to be volatile. In this regard, its control, management and use, continues to be a critical factor in Uganda, (MoLHUD 2013).

In the southern half of the Uganda, rich soil and rainfall permit extensive agriculture, and in the drier and less fertile northern areas, pastoral economies are common. Approximately 21 percent of the land is cultivated and 45 percent is woodland and grassland, some of which has been cleared for roads, settlements, and farmland in the south. Approximately 13 percent of the land is set aside as national parks, forests, and game reserves. Swampland surrounding lakes in the southern and central regions supports abundant papyrus growth. The central region's woodlands and savanna give way to acacia and cactus growth in the north. Valuable seams of copper, cobalt, and other minerals have been revealed along geological fault lines in the southeast and southwest. Volcanic foothills in the east contain phosphates and limestone, Rita M. Byrnes 1990.

In respect to this, the study revealed that majority of the people is engaged in live stock farming. This is about 47%. Additionally, about 39% is engaged in growing crops. These activities were found dominating and major source of livelihoods in the study area.

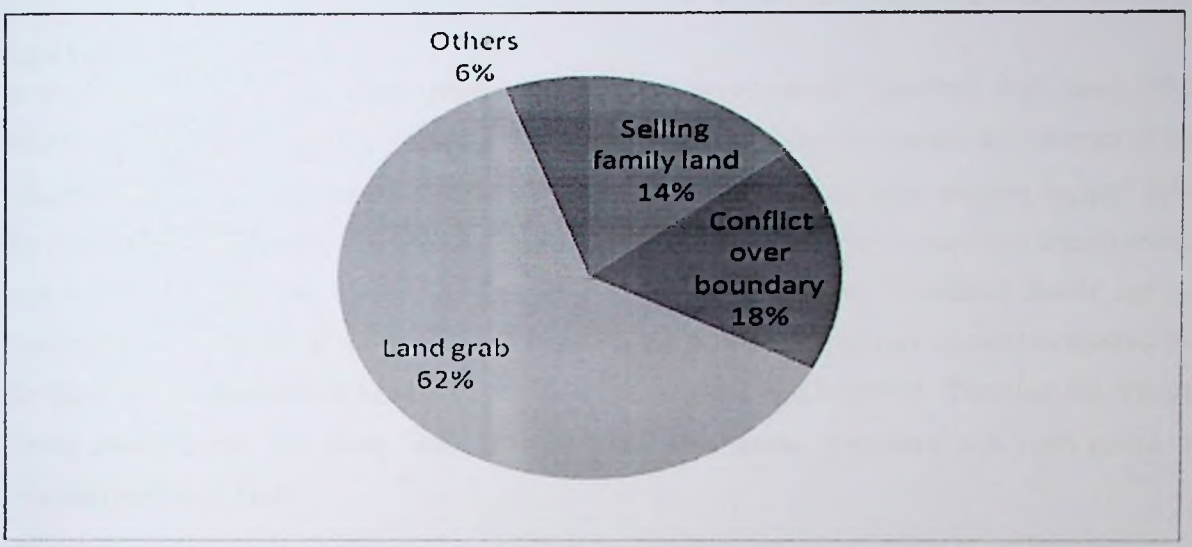
4.2.3 Common Land Conflicts

The study tasked stakeholders to show the common land conflicts affecting them. During a household survey, land grabbing was top most with 62% while 18% indicated conflict over boundary. A total of 14% indicated conflict over selling family land. Only 6% indicated others which included conflict over land ownership. Through key informant interviews, the study revealed that land grab was common in areas with public land like Alango parish in Adwari Sub County. During an interview with, Akol Jesca in Alango Sub County she lamented:

"Wan ogeo ni man pe lobo waa, otye otic kede pi kare ni keken, wan otye wot okocho ento gamenti tye atero wa arach tutwal, po otye winyo kob wa akwako pur kan" meaning that

"we know this land is not ours, we are only waiting for this season to end and we go away but government does not want to listen and is using too much force in chasing us away from this land"

Figure 4.4 Showing the Common Land Conflicts



Most studies agree that since land is a critical element in peace building and economic reconstruction in post- conflict situations; relevant issues must be understood and given appropriate priority for stabilization. Like in Uganda, protection of land rights and re establishment of production relations on land to bridge the poverty gap, which has been widening since 1997, between war-affected areas (northern Uganda) and the rest of the country need urgent attention, Margaret A. Rugadya 2008.

Globally, the role of land and natural resources in conflict for instance, is attracting increased international attention due to the changing nature of armed conflict and as a result of a variety of longer-term, global trends. Land and natural resource issues are almost never the sole cause of conflict. Land conflicts commonly become violent when linked to wider processes of political exclusion, social discrimination, economic marginalization, and a perception that peaceful action is no longer a viable strategy for change, Safeworld 2016.

Land issues readily lend themselves to conflict. Land is an important economic asset and source of livelihoods; it is also closely linked to community identity, history and culture. Communities, therefore, can readily mobilise around land issues, making land a central object of conflict.

Addressing land grievances and conflicts is fundamental to creating sustainable peace. International assistance should prioritise the early and sustained engagement in land issues as part of a broader conflict prevention strategy. Such early attention can reduce the human, economic, social, environmental costs of conflict, Safeworld 2016.

4.2.4 Land Acquisition

In the household survey, study revealed that most respondents inherited their land. 79.8% indicated to have inherited their land, 16.2% were given and only 4% bought their pieces of land. Whereas customary land tenure system still dominates in the area, other studies suggest that in the aftermath of Internally Displaced People (IDP) return, customary tenure has transformed in terms of institutions and practices. Contrary to earlier practices, household heads are now "owners" not "trustees" of rights in land, therefore the power base of this tenure has shifted from the clans to the household heads, P. Smith et al. (2010), FAO (2009). Through the Focused Group Discussions, the study was also informed that some members had both given and inherited pieces of land.

Table 4.6: Shows Mode of land Acquisition

Mode of land Acquisition	Frequency	Percent
Bought	4	4.0%
Given	16	16.2%
Inherited	74	74.8%
Others	05	5.0%
Total	**100**	**100%**

4.2.5 Time Taken Experiencing Land Conflicts

The study assessed the time taken experiencing land conflicts. The study revealed that 46.4% of the respondents had experienced conflict for at least 10 years and below. 37.4% had experienced land conflict between 10-20 years while 16.2% above 20 years. None of the respondents indicated others. Through document analysis and key informant interviews, the study revealed that land conflicts became eminent after the return of peace and stability in Northern Uganda because this meant an increase in the number of returnees to their ancestral lands that they had previously abandoned due to the insurgency.

Table 4.7 Showing the Time Taken Experiencing Land Conflicts

Time	Frequency	Valid Percent
10 years and below	46	46.4%
Between 10-20 years	37	37.4%
Above 20 years	16	16.2%
Others	00	00%
Total	**100**	**100.0**

In abide to answer research question one, it is worth noting that no single factor can be held responsible for the eminent land conflicts in Otuke district as the study reveals a number of factors responsible for triggering land conflicts as shown above which have sometimes resulted into violence.

4.3. The effect of land conflicts on Agricultural Production

The effect of land conflicts on Agricultural Production was another theme used in the research investigation in relation to the study topic. The reason for using this theme was to discover the effect of land conflicts on Households' Agricultural Production. Mercy Corps argues that land conflict or dispute in turn inhibit the productivity of small-scale farms due to reduced cultivation, decreased investment, and loss of economic assets, (Mercy Corps 2011) and in Uganda, Land conflicts are widespread, affecting 33% to 50% of landholders, (Rugadya 2009). To find out this, the researcher curried out an investigation on effect of land conflicts on Households' Agricultural Production in Adwari sub county, Otuke district. The research laid mach emphasis on the effect of Land conflicts on crop and Livestock Production as shown below;

4.3.1 Effect of Land Conflicts on Crop Production

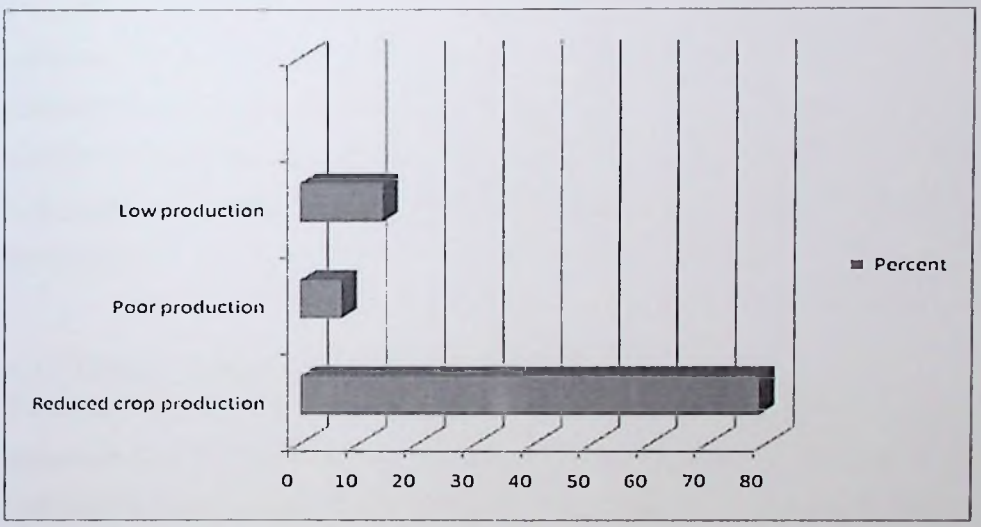
The study assessed the effect of land conflicts on crop production. Findings from the household survey informed the study that 78.8% of the total respondents indicated reduced crop production, 14.1% indicated low production while 14.1% indicated poor production. Faustin Okecho from Atubo family in alango village, Omido Sub County was quoted saying;

"ikare ni, cem pe tye acyec adwong, ame tye a akelo ayela I pito itino na. otino na aman pe tye a kwan pyen cente me pur pe tye adonyo aromo culu kwan gi."

Which literally means that; "Our harvests have gone down and our families are suffering. Many of our children have dropped out of school because we can no longer support them in school because of reduced crop production in this area".

World over, Land is the object of competition in a number of potentially overlapping ways; as an economic asset, as a connection with identity and social legitimacy, and as political territory. Therefore, competition over land and its resources is at the centre of the nexus between land and conflict. Three key factors that is low, poor and reduced crop production were considered in assessing the effect of land conflict on Agricultural production.

Figure 4.5: Showing the effect of Land conflicts on crop production



4.3.2 Opinion on the effects of land conflict on crop production

The study showed that 72.7% of the respondents were employed in farming. This showed a significant utilization rate for land. When asked whether land conflict had an effect on crop production, 41.4% agreed, 8% neither agreed nor disagreed and over 50% strongly agreed. In light of this, when asked how they were affected 78.8% indicated reduced crop production, 14.1% indicated low production while 14.1% indicated poor production

Table 4.8: Showing the Opinion on the Effect of Land Conflict on Crop Production

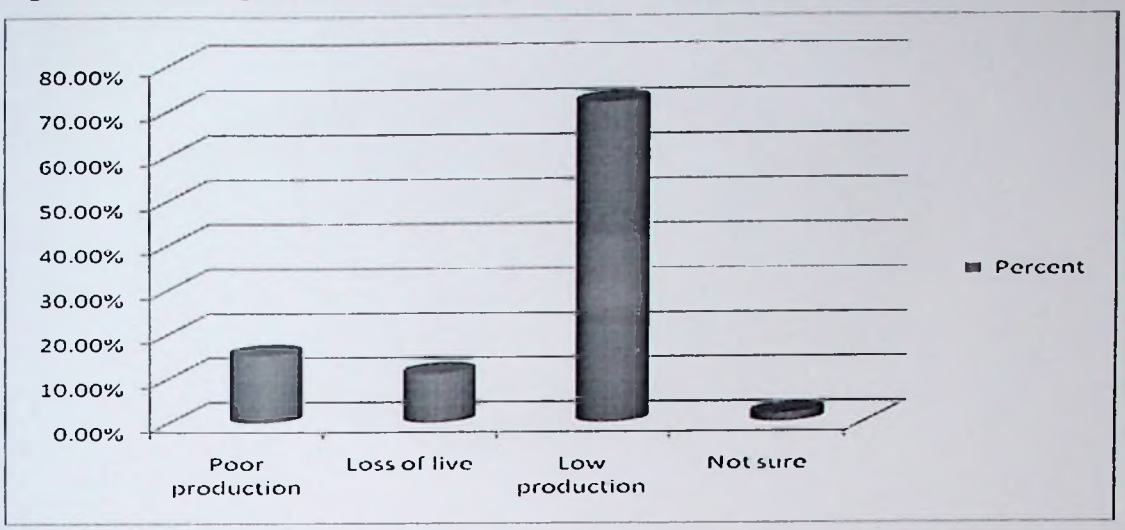
Opinion	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Agree	50	50.5%
Agree	41	41.4%
Neither agree nor disagree	8	8.1%
Total	**99**	**100.0**

Agriculture or farming is generally said to be the cultivation and breeding of animals, plants and fungi for food, fibre, bio-fuel, medicinal plants and other products used to sustain and enhance human life. Initially, Agriculture was the key development in the rise of sedentary human civilization, whereby farming of domesticated species created food surpluses that nurtured the development of civilization. In the same way, it is important to note that sustaining and enhancing economical crop production can be attained by developing and transferring sound, research-derived, knowledge to agricultural producers that result in food and fibre crops that are safe for consumption. During the study, majority respondents argued that land conflicts continue to hamper crop production in Adwari sub county, Otuke district and yet it is the main source of livelihood.

4.3.4 Effects of Land Conflicts on Livestock Production

The study further assessed the effect of land conflicts on live stock production. The study was informed that 71.7% indicated low production, 15.2% indicated poor production while 11.1% indicated loss of lives. A total of 2% of the respondents was not sure. Further, when asked whether they agree that land conflicts have affected live stock production, over 52% agreed. 45.5% strongly agreed and only 2% of the respondents neither agreed nor disagreed.

Figure 4.6 Showing the Effect of Land Conflicts on Livestock Production



In an attempt to resepond to research question two, the findings reveals that the land conflict was found impacting in terms of low and poor production of both livestock and crops.

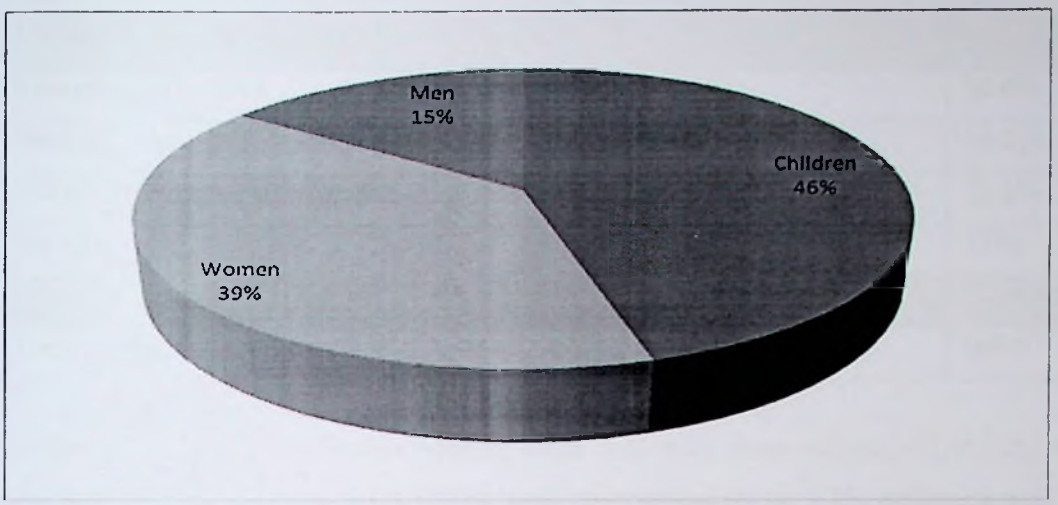
4.4. Cope up mechanisms with the effects of land conflicts

The study also set out to find out how people were coping with the effects of the land conflicts. This was informed by objective three which looked at ways of people employed in coping with the effects of the land conflicts in Adwari sub county, Otuke District. According to USAID, conflicts over land develop prior to war, continue through war, and often re-emerge to threaten peace building in the post-conflict period (USAID 2011), because land as a resource is so pervasive, underpinning human activity that usually plays some role during war and civil violence (Collier et al., 2003). The findings therefore reveal a number of cope up mechanisms in terms of managing the effects of land conflict.

4.4.1 Category of People Affected by Land Conflicts

The study revealed that the land conflicts affected all people one way or another, whether children, men or women. The study revealed that children were the most affected with 45.5%. 39.4% indicated women while 15.2% indicated men as the least affected. In light of this, when asked how they were affected, over 70% revealed that they were experiencing famine, 17.2% low incomes and 12.1% domestic violence. Further, when asked whether generally land conflicts have failed Agriculture, no one disagreed. Over 58% agreed. 40.4% strongly agreed. Only 1% neither agreed nor disagreed.

Figure 4.7: Showing those Affected by Land Conflicts



4.4.2 Managing the Effects of Land Conflicts

The study found out that there are different ways of dealing with the effects of land conflicts. 56.6% indicated restocking, over 10% indicated trading while 22.2% use of offers or external support. A total of 4% did not indicate any way of dealing with effects land conflicts. Only 7.1% indicated others which included fundraising. This was a clear signal that after a protracted land conflict, a number of measures had been put in place to ensure a decent living of the people. However, in a low tone, Apili Margret a house hold head/widow in okello amone village expressed the effect of the conflict as appalling.

*She therefore noted that, **"a cyalo toto kede daku too, I yele me gwoko tura kede wil kede cato cem me poto" .....**" and this when translated it means, "as a mother and household head I have managed by buying and selling food stuffs that have made me and my family survive".*

Table 4.9: Showing Ways of Managing effects of land conflicts

Ways of managing effects	Frequency	Valid Percent
Restocking livestock	56	56.6%
Trading	10	10.1%
Use of offers/external support	22	22.2%
No way	4	4.0%
Others	7	7.1%
Total	**99**	**100.0**

However, when asked who was helping them deal with these effects, 67.7% indicated central government, 20.2% NGOs, 6.1% Otuke local government while 5.1% indicated well wishers. 1% indicated church or mosque. Through focus group discussions the study was informed that majority forms of dealing with the effects of land conflicts ranged from offering aid and grants, community mobilization as well as community organizing.

In relation to research question three, the study confirmed a number of ways of dealing with the effects of land conflicts in Adwari Sub County Otuke district. Restocking was found being most used with the government as a key player. This set out a clear signal that after a protracted land conflict, a number of measures had been put in place to ensure a decent living of the people.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS, RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

Chapter five presents the discussion and analysis of the study findings. The researcher vehemently laid stress on the field realities in comparison to land conflict and Agricultural production in the sampled sub county. Equal numbers of respondents were identified averagely from each of the parishes. This gave equal importance all respondents and the affected individuals.

5.1. Discussions/interpretation of results

5.1.1 The Socio-economic Status of Households

This section presents a discussion of the study findings on socio-demographic characteristics with a focus on study area, sex, age, education level, mother tongue, marital status, principal occupation and relevance of Agriculture as a core economic activity.

The study being informed by adult young people was largely shaped by the population strata of the district and the country at large, (District Development Plan 2015/2016 – 2019/2020). The study did not specify which age category to target. The household survey findings however reveal that a significant number of young people had been affected by the land conflicts. This literally implies that the land conflicts had a far reaching effect on both land investment and production. Also, the 40% who were aged between 35-44 years were part of the population that is energetic and most reliable labour force. This further implied that the effect of land conflicts spread equally to both the young and older persons.

From the household survey, majority of the respondents were aged between 35 and 44 years. This represented 40%. This age category is deemed strong and productive. The land conflicts therefore affected a more productive base of Otuke district. In any production chain products, goods or services are sharply determined by the total investment. This implied further that the

land conflict heavily affected land production. It is therefore against this back ground that the researcher was able to find out that land in the area had been incapacitated.

The study reveals that there is a positive relationship between education levels and confidence to participate in development initiatives among communities. The Otuke District development plan 2015/16-2019/20 highlights how the availability of appropriate and adequate human capital facilities increases in production, productivity and technological growth thus making it one of the key endogenous drivers of economic growth. This is in line with the Uganda Vision 2040 which identifies human capital development as one of the key fundamentals that need to be strengthened to accelerate the country's transformation and harnessing of the demographic dividends. The study revealed that majority had attended basi formal education.

In light of this, the study showed that only 21% of the respondents had attended no formal education. 59.6% of the respondents had completed Primary Living Education while 14% Uganda Certificate of Education, 2% Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education, 2 diploma and only 1% had attended the tertiary levels. This implied further that Agriculture was appealing more to the less educated than the educated ones. According to UBOs, 98% of the population of Otuke are rural-based and this is where subsistence agriculture is practiced which precisely defines low income levels and hence poverty, (UBOs 2014). Therefore, this partly explains why about 72.7% of the study beneficiaries were rural peasant farmers.

Whereas Rugadya sees a widespread of conflict in Uganda affecting about 33% to 50% of landholders, (Rugadya 2009); the case of land conflict in northern Uganda is unique. It was precisely as a result of wars and insecurity by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and armed Karamajong cattle rustling leading to massive displacement, (SaferWorld Uganda, 2013), which no other part of the country has witnessed.

The consequences of this conflict limited growth and constrained economic opportunity thereby perpetuating the conditions that drive many land disputes in the area. This equally affected their sources of income and livelihood. It is envisaged that as a result of this that is why in the household survey over 57.6% of the respondents indicated to be earning less than 100,000

shillings which was a lower income. 22.2% indicated to be earning between 100,000/= and 200,000/= shillings, 12.1% revealed to be earning between 200,000/= and 300,000/= while 3.0% agreed to be earning between 300,000/= and 400,000/= and 1% of the respondents indicated to be earning 500,000/= and above. A total of 4% showed to be earning no income at all. The study however did not recognize robust income changes associated to the effect of land conflict at Households' agricultural production level.

5.1.2 Examining Factors Triggering Land Conflicts

According to USAID, trigger events exposes and intensifies a vulnerability to land conflict and in the presence of such vulnerabilities, violence is bound to occur, (USAID 2011). In abide to confirm this, the research was conducted in response to research question one which required a response on the factors facilitating land conflicts affecting Agricultural Production. In answering this, the researcher engaged in a discussion and interpretation of data covering modes of Land Acquisition, Land Uses, Common Land Conflicts, Triggers facilitating these conflicts and Time Taken Experiencing it.

According to the United Religious Initiative (URI), and The Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative (ARLPI), most of the land, with over 90% is under customary land tenure, (URI & ARLPI Land Publication, Volume IV of 2012). In respect to this, findings revealed that majority of household members acquired their land through inheritance. During a focus group discussion at Alango, participants vehemently argued that majority community members acquire their pieces of land through inheritance. This was confirmed by responses from the key informants indicating that land in Adwari Sub County is basically communal land.

This precisely means that, land in Otuke district is owned by a particular group of people (family, clan, tribe, and community), where it is used and managed under regulations agreed upon by the group. Given that 79.8% of the household members inherited their land, it implies that the use of the land is usually overseen by elders, clan heads or other assigned committees to ensure the rights of the entire group are being honoured. This also implies that land in the area is communal land, making it difficult to be bought or sold without the approval of the particular group of people. The study therefore confirmed that land in the area is under Customary Tenure System.

According to Otuke district local government, Agriculture is a core economic activity employing over 80% of the district population, (Otike district development plan 2015/2016 – 2019/2020) and majorly, that is why majority are engaged in Livestock and crop farming. The study revealed that 47% were engaged in live stock farming and over 39% in growing crops.

The key informant interviews revealed that Agriculture was the major source of livelihood in Otuke district, noting that is the primary sector in the district. This was in agreement with the findings from the household survey or study that revealed that over 72% of the respondents indicated that Agriculture was a relevant economic activity, employing about 80% of the population. This implied that Agriculture was a base of most households and was therefore a key determinant of their livelihood. 22% showed Agriculture somehow relevant while 6% of the respondents found it not so relevant which was a minimal number. The focus group discussion at Olarokwon generally revealed that most community members suffer from the looming poverty because of land conflicts which created uncertainty and confusion in Agricultural production. The study therefore reaffirmed the stand of the district on Agriculture that it was a core economic activity and a determinant of majority peoples' livelihood.

Land in Uganda is a critical factor of production and an essential pillar of human existence and national development, (Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, 2013). Key informant interviews revealed that a lot of efforts are being put in to boost Agricultural production, for instance the resident district commissioner noted that government embarked on the operation wealth creation to enhance household incomes and livelihoods. Partly, majority of the respondents were inclined to reveal that Agriculture is the source of 'life' in the area.

The study revealed a range of land conflicts in the area. However, mach as the united regious initiative (URI) presents access rights as a major flashpoint for conflict in the area (URI 2012) the study was informed that land grab was top most with 82% which is more detrimental in terms of agriculture production and therefore this had a direct relation with land production. In the focus group discussion at Omido, it was noted that investors, government officials and their agents were at the centre and that this is why land conflict was still continuing because of the government getting involved.

Consequently, the study revealed that over 78% of the respondents experienced reduced crop production while 71.7% experienced low livestock production. This further implied that land conflict was laying a lot of stress on livelihood and welfare of the community members. Most key informant interviews blamed the reduction on the land conflicts involving land grabbing. The key informants from the office of community development noted many cases registered at police are related to land grab, and are ignited by either by investors, government officials or their agents.

Mach as USAID looks at some trigger events like extended drought, sudden rise in demand for some crops and climate change mitigation frameworks at the international level leading to major shifts in land use (USAID 2011), the study presents a different story. The study did not show any of these, rather a new list of factors emerged. Over 62% indicated Limited economic opportunity followed by politics with about 26.3%. 9.1% indicated corruption and only 2% expressed prohibited access to land. This had a direct relation with land production in the area. Basically, this implied that majority got employed in Agriculture because of no or limited other economic activities.

Economic opportunities to find them like better employment, to own land, and to trade and build businesses basically depends on quests for economic betterment as a driving force. Key informant interviews reveal that mach as drought may be a key factor facilitating land conflicts; politics, corruption and Limited economic opportunity remained core. Members in a focus group discussion at Agweng revealed that many community members lack economic activities to get engaged in and as result, Agriculture was found to be the core economic activity which almost everyone got engaged in. Through group focused discussions, the study revealed that land is the major source of livelihood and therefore limited economic opportunity, less or no land to enable one engage in A agriculture stood out as triggers of most land conflicts.

Consequently, mach as the land conflict took many Ugandans by surprise; scholars like Winter have argued that the problems in the northern Uganda conflict have their roots in the colonial legacy, (Winter 2007). In respect to this, the study was also informed that land conflict was not a new phenomenon in the area. Through the household

survey the study revealed that over 46.4% of the respondents had experienced conflict for at least 10 years and below. 37.4% had experienced land conflict between 10-20 years while 16.2% above 20 years. None of the respondents indicated others.

Like USAID argued that land is a limited and multipurpose resource, (USAID 2012), this means that conflict over land will always be there. Some of these conflicts sometimes translate into aggression which leads to harm and sometimes loss of lives. In the same way, revelations of key informants at Omido agreed with household survey which revealed that 11.1% of the total respondents indicated loss of lives of livestock, which partly explains the 71.7% of low production and 15.2% of poor livestock production. It further implied that land conflict had a direct relation with crop production. The key informant interviews further revealed that in most cases low and poor crop production does not only affect household livelihood but also live stock. About 78.8% experienced reduced crop production, 12.1% had a low yield while 7.1% experienced a poor yield. Generally, this meant that land conflict incapacitated land as a core production factor.

5.1.3 Effect of land conflict on Agricultural Production

The discussion of results under here was guided by study objective two, which set out to examine the effect of land conflicts on Households' agricultural production. Some scholars have argued that modest level of conflict can be constructive but the findings refute the idea. Besides, it's difficult to tell how a conflict will end and its end results.

Consequently, study findings show that low and poor production of both livestock and crop production has been eminent in Otuke. Land conflict or disputes inhibit farm productivity because of reduced cultivation, decreased investment, and loss of economic assets, (Mercy Corps 2011). In this regard, the household survey revealed that crop production is the most affected, and in this regard members of a focus group discussion at Omido expressed fear on the effects of this because it directly affects their livelihood.

Generally, as a result of the land conflicts, findings revealed a reduction in crop production and a low production in livestock. This was attested by the focus group discussion at Okee which revealed that members experienced serious food insecurity as a result of reduced crop yield in

the previous seasons. This was attributed to a number of land conflicts which created confusion in land use and production.

According to Oxfam, as the scale and pace of large-scale land acquisitions increases globally, evidence is mounting that the land rush is out of control and that the price being paid by affected communities is unacceptably high. This was confirmed by the key informant interviews which revealed that majority community members in Alango parish were undergoing an untold suffering from food insecurity because of how land conflict had affected crop production in the area. During a household survey, 78.8% of the respondents indicated reduced crop production and of those who were assessed on livestock production a total of 71.7% indicated low livestock production. This was attributed to a number of developments which were emerging following the end of popular LRA war thereby causing uncertainties and instabilities. The key informant interviews revealed that because of many developments being initiated in the area many community members will be displaced and forced to relocate.

Therefore, mach as the district treats agriculture as a core economic activity land conflict has remained a stumbling block. According to ODLG, majority households of about 88% depend on subsistence farming for a livelihood against 68% national average, implying that there is little or no surplus for domestic income, (Otuke DDP, 2015/2016 – 2019/2020). The household survey revealed that mach as there are other economic activities like trade in the area, Agriculture was the core.

The LRA war which lasted for more than two decades was so devastating, led to major shifts in land use which involved displacements that later turned out a major trigger of land conflict, (USAID 2011). However, mach as the study, through key informant interviews, revealed that land conflicts affected majority people almost in the same way, Safer World Uganda hold a different view. According to SaferWorld Uganda land conflicts escalates gender-based conflicts, and women and children become more vulnerable, (SaferWorld, 2016). The study, through a household survey revealed that children were the most affected with 45.5%. 39.4% indicated women while 15.2% indicated men. The household survey revealed that majority community members, which translated into 70%, were affected by famine, 17.2% low incomes and 12.1% domestic violence. The findings were therefore in agreement with the general view that globally,

children and women are more vulnerable and they suffer most in areas experiencing conflicts as a result of insecurity and insurgencies.

5.1.4 Coping with the effects of land conflicts on Agricultural production

The study also set out to find out how people were coping with the effects of the land conflicts on Agricultural production. The researcher was guided by study objective three, which looked at ways of people employed in coping with the effects of the land conflicts in Adwari sub county, Otuke District. The discussion here therefore stresses ways and means which were employed to manage the effects of land conflicts on agricultural production as shown in section 5.1.3 above.

Most scholars say that Majority people have not yet appreciated the importance of preventing conflicts from happening and yet it is always difficult to tell how a conflict will end and its end results. Mach as USAID believes there are specific resolution and management measures for effects of land conflict that can be applied or under taken, (USAID 2011), this has been greeted with a lot of criticisms.

The study was informed about the different ways of dealing with the effects of land conflicts. During a household survey, 64.6% of the respondents indicated restocking livestock. Key informant interviews revealed that most community members lost their livestock and yet was one of the key sources of livelihood in the area. One of the interventions needed to enhance household livelihood, they argued that restocking was the only support to the affected households.

In the various focus group discussions conducted in the six parishes, members noted that trade was also a key economic activity supporting livelihood as they address the effects of land conflicts. Further, the household survey informed the research that over 10% indicated trading. Trade is essential for satisfaction of human wants, Trade is conducted not only for the sake of earning profit; it also provides service to the consumers, (Abdallah Jumane, GloriaWapalila & Alexander Songorwa, 2012). Therefore, like many believe, through trade goods and services move from one point, region or area to another. In the same way, some people in northern Uganda, after the war tried a number of alternatives economic activities including trade to enhance their livelihoods. Majorly, cereals dominate the market as a major cash and food crop in

the market. In Otuke district, the research indicates Limited economic opportunity as one of the key challenges, Carol Jamieson 2016).

English dictionary defines donation as an act or instance of presenting something as a gift, grant, or contribution. It is a gift given by physical or legal persons, typically for charitable purposes and/or to benefit a cause. A donation may take various forms, including cash offering, services, new or used goods including clothing, toys, food, and vehicles. To some other scholars, it is a transfer of property (as a sale) that does not have a sufficient reciprocal consideration (as a proportional price) so that it is considered a gratuitous donation and must meet the statutory requirements for a donation (as a notarial act) to be valid. Consequently, in the key informant interviews, the researcher was able to establish that various organizations, institutions and agencies including government were extending support in form of donations to the affected communities. This was confirmed by the focus group discussions which revealed that many household livelihoods had been saved from perishing by such organizations.

Therefore, the study was informed that after a protracted land conflict, a number of measures were thought of to ensure a decent living of the people. As a result therefore it is true that there were many interventions but most of them were found targeting to manage the effects instead of symptoms.

5.2. Conclusions

The study was also significant as it reveals a number of factors responsible for triggering land conflicts in Adwari Sub County, Otuke district. It is therefore worth noting that no single factor can be held responsible for the eminent land conflicts in Adwari Sub County, Otuke district.

In addition, the study presents land as a major source of livelihood in Adwari Sub County, Otuke district and therefore limited economic opportunity coupled with less or no land to engage in basically triggers most of land conflicts in the area.

From the study findings, it is revealed that there is a state of latent land conflict in the area. There are frequent manifestations of overt land conflicts including clashes between communities and government agents which continue to negatively affect agricultural production.

The study confirmed low live stock production and reduced crop production in Adwari Sub County, Otuke district. This is as a result of limited economic opportunities in the area and less or no land to engage in Agriculture.

From the study therefore, land conflict was impacting in terms of low and poor production of both livestock and crops. To this end, the study indicate that land conflict has incapacitated land as a core production factor failing Agriculture a core economic activity of Adwari sub county, Otuke district.

The study confirmed a number of ways of dealing with the effects of land conflicts in Adwari Sub County Otuke district with Restocking being the most used. This set out a clear signal that after a protracted land conflict, a number of measures had been put in place to ensure a decent living of the people

5.3. Recommendation(s)

The study, bearing in mind the numerous effects of land conflicts on the Agricultural production and the entire community of Otuke district, recommend the following;

Government needs to take centre stage in addressing these conflicts by first of all checking the creation of more administrative units like districts, sub counties or divisions. The creation of new administrative units among others have come with a number of challenges over determining who belongs where and therefore conflicts over boundaries have been eminent. Besides, some administrative boundaries have been moved and their status upgraded, thereby discouraging economic activity, causing speculation which leads to land grab and conflict over new boundaries among others.

Land being a major source of livelihood in Adwari Sub County, the Otuke district local government need to diversify her economic activities to increase economic opportunities. This

will reduce dependence on land and enable community members avoid making it a sole source of livelihood.

Also, since Agriculture has been imcapacitated, there is need for the central government to design specific development programmes to counter the gaps of low and reduced production in both livestock and crop production. This will aid creation of more economic opportunities in the area and lessen stress on Agriculture and therefore avoid making it a major source of livelihood.

Generally, since Agriculture in Okuke district is almost in a failed state, the government should come up with more livelihood programmes to boost households' source of livelihoods in Otuke district.

Above all, to be able to appropriately deal with the effect of land conflicts in Otuke district, the Otuke district local government should conduct a more detailed research to appreciate the effect of land conflicts on Agricultural production and even compare the effect of land conflict not Agriculture sector alone but even other sectors and how it affects their performance in service delivery.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1: Household Interview Schedule

INTERVIEWER- ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE/
HOUSEHOLD INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Introduction

My name is Christine Elong Masambu, a student of Uganda Christian University pursuing Masters Degree in Development Studies. I am here to conduct a study titled **"The Effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production in Uganda: A Case study of Adwari Sub County in Otuke District"**. The study is covering the parishes of Okere, Okee, Omido, Alango, Ageng and Olarokwon respectively.

You have been identified as a potential respondent to this study. The information you give will be treated with utmost confidentiality it deserves and shall not write down your names but rather we shall use a code number. We would like you to share your views and opinions regarding the effects of land conflicts in your area particularly on agricultural production in this sub county.

We kindly request you to take part in this study. However, your participation is voluntary. This means there are no monetary incentives but rather your views will be joined with those of others in generating this study. If you feel that the study has harmed you in any way, you have a right to decline to participate but remember your views are crucial. I would like to know if you are going to participate in this study.

Do you agree to take part in this study?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If no, thank the participant and end the interview

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR HOUSE HOLD HEADS/REPRESENTATIVES

Questionnaire Identification Number ☐☐☐☐

(To be completed by the interviewer)

Date of interview ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

d d /m m/y y y y

Interviewer Code ☐☐☐

District Name **Otuke**

Sub County 1 = Adwari

Parish/Wards 1= Okere

2= Okee

3 = Omido

4= Alango

5=Ageng

6=Olarokwon

Village/LC1 ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Language interview conducted in:

Runyakitara/Runyoro – Rutoro	01	**Code** ☐☐
Luo (Alur, Acholi & Langi)	02	
	02	
English	03	
Luganda	04	
Kiswahili	05	
Others----------	77	

Section A:

Socio-economic status of household; The socio-economic characteristics of household respondent

No.	Question	Response	Code	Tick
1	What is the gender of the respondent? (**do not ask, just observe the sex of respondent**)	Female	1	
		Male	2	

2	What is your position in the household?	Father	1	
		Mother	2	
		Child	3	
		Grand Mother	4	
		Grand Father	5	
		Others specify.....	77	
3	How old are you (consider age bracket)	15 - 24 years	1	
		25 - 34 years	2	
		35 - 44 years	3	
		45 – 54 years	4	
		55 and above	5	
4	What is your marital status (only one response is applicable)	Single	00	
		Married	1	
		Widowed	2	
		Divorced/separated	3	
5	What is the highest level of education you have completed	None	0	
		PLE	1	
		UCE	2	
		UACE	3	
		Diploma	4	
		University/Tertiary	5	
6	What is your mother tongue/language you speak?	Runya-Kitara (Lugungu, Rutoro, Runyankole-rukiga	1	
		Luo (Alur, Acholi, Langi)	2	
		Luganda	3	
		Congolese	4	
		Rwandese	5	
		Others specify.....	77	
7	What is your main principle occupation? **(If you tick "0", skip to question 09)**	Not employed	0	
		Business trader	1	

		Farmer	2	
		Boda Boda	3	
		Others specify.....	77	
		No response	100	
8	What is your average monthly income? **(Interviewer allow the respondent to check with other members if necessary)**	None	1	
		<100,000/=	2	
		100,000/= - 200,000/=	3	
		200,000/= -300,000/=	4	
		3,00,000/= - 400,000/=	5	
		More than 500,000/=	6	
9	What is your main source of income?	Trade	1	
		Agriculture	2	
		Employed	3	
		Gambling	4	
		Not sure	100	
		Others specify.....	77	
10	How relevant is Agriculture to you	Extremely relevant	1	
		Very relevant	2	
		Somehow relevant	3	
		Not so relevant	4	
		Not at all relevant	5	
		Do not know	100	

SECTION B:

Examining the factors triggering land conflicts

No.	Question	Response Category	Code	Tick
11	How did you acquire this piece of land	Bought	1	
		Given	2	
		Inherited	3	
		Others specify.....	77	
		Do not remember	100	
12	How have you been using this	Live stock	1	

	land?	Growing crops	2	
		Renting out	3	
		Nothing	4	
		Others specify……	77	
13	What have been the common land conflicts affecting you in the area?	Land grab	1	
		Conflict over boundary	2	
		Conflict over ownership	3	
		Conflict over ownership	4	
		Others specify……	77	
14	What has been triggering these conflicts?	Limited economic opportunity	1	
		Politics	2	
		Corruption	3	
		Prohibited access to land	4	
		Others specify……	77	
15	For how long have you been experiencing these conflicts?	10 Years and below	1	
		20 years	3	
		30 years	4	
		Don't remember	100	
		Others specify……..	77	

SECTION C:

The Effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production

No	Question	Response Category	Code	Tick
16	What are the common land conflicts in the area?	Land grab	1	
		Conflict over boundary	2	
		Conflict over ownership	3	
		Selling family land	4	
		Others specify……	77	
17	What are the common areas affected by these land conflicts, **(tick all that apply)**	okere and okee	1	
		Omido	2	
		Olarokwon	3	
		Alango	4	

		ageng	5	
18	In these areas, how have land conflicts affected crop production **(tick all that apply)**	Reduced production	1	
		Poor production	2	
		Low production	3	
		Do not know	100	
		Others specify.....	77	
19	To what extent do you agree that land conflicts have affected crop production in the area?	Strongly agree	1	
		Agree	2	
		Neither agree nor disagree	3	
		Disagree	4	
		Strongly disagree	5	
20	What is the effect of these conflicts on livestock production in the area **(tick all that apply)**	Poor production	1	
		Loss of life	2	
		Low production	3	
		Not sure	4	
		Others specify.....	77	
21	To what extent do you agree that land conflicts have affected livestock production in the area?	Strongly agree	1	
		Agree	2	
		Neither agree nor disagree	3	
		Disagree	4	
		Strongly disagree	5	
22	Generally, do agree you with the statement that "land conflicts have failed agricultural production" in the area?	Strongly agree	1	
		Agree	2	
		Neither agree nor disagree	3	
		Disagree	4	
		Strongly disagree	5	
		Others specify.....	77	
SECTION C: **Coping with the Effects of Land Conflicts**				
No	**Question**	**Response Category**	**Code**	**Tick**
23	Who is most affected by these	Children	1	

	effects of land conflicts on agricultural production?	Women	2	
		Men	3	
		Not sure	100	
		Others specify.....	77	
24	How are they affected? **(tick all that apply)**	Experiencing famine	1	
		Low incomes	2	
		Domestic violence	3	
		Low crop yields	4	
		Others specify.....	77	
25	For how long have you been experiencing the effects of these conflicts	10 Years and below	1	
		20 years	3	
		30 years	4	
		Don't remember	100	
		Others specify.....	77	
26	In which way are you dealing or managing these effects?	Restocking livestock	1	
		Trading	2	
		Use of offers/external support	3	
		No way	100	
		Others specify.....	77	
27	Is there any one, group, organization or institution helping you deal with these effects, **(whether the response is yes or no, continue with the following number)**	Yes	Yes	
		No	No	
28	Who is helping you deal with these effects	NGOs	1	
		Otuke Local Government	2	
		Central government	3	
		Well wishers	4	
		Church/mosque	5	
		Others specify.....	77	

29	How are they helping you deal with these effects?	Offering aid	1	
		Mobilizing	2	
		Organizing	3	
		Offering grants	4	
		Others specify.....	77	
30	Generally, how else can you be helped or supported to deal with these effects?			

THE END, THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND COOPERATION

Appendix 2: Key Informant Interview Schedule

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

Good morning/Good afternoon,

I am Christine Elong Masambu, a student of Master of Development Studies of Uganda Christian University. I am here conducting an academic research on the topic **"The Effect of Land Conflicts on Rural Agricultural Production in Uganda** and specifically Adwari Sub County in Otuke district was selected as a case study. I kindly ask you to provide more information as much as you can (there is no right or wrong answer) but if you feel you don't have an answer for any question feel to express it. The information you provide will be treated with utmost confidentiality it deserves and it will not be linked to your name in any way without your consent.

Examining the factors triggering land conflicts

- What are the common methods of acquiring pieces of land in this area?
- How do people use their pieces of land in this area?
- What are the common land conflicts in the area?
- What has been triggering these conflicts?
- For how long have you been experiencing conflicts?

The Effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production

- What are the common land conflicts in the area?
- What are the common areas affected by land conflicts highlighted above?
- In these areas, how have land conflicts affected agricultural (crop, livestock) production

Coping with the Effects of Land Conflicts

- Who is the most affected by these effects of land conflicts on agricultural production?
- How are they affected?
- For how long have you been experiencing or witnessing these effects?
- In which way are these effects being managed or dealt?
- Is there any one, group, organization or institution helping in dealing with these effects
- How are they helping deal with these effects?
- Generally, how else can the affected be helped or supported in dealing with these effects?

Thank you for Your Time and Cooperation

Appendix 3: Focused Group Discussion Interview Schedule

FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

I am Christine Elong Masambu, a student of Master of Development Studies of Uganda Christian University. I am here conducting an academic research on the topic **"The Impact of Land Conflicts on Rural Agricultural Production in Uganda** and specifically Adwari Sub County in Otuke district was selected as a case study. I kindly ask you to provide more information as much as you can (there is no right or wrong answer). The information you provide will be treated with utmost confidentiality it deserves and it will not be linked to any one of you without your consent, our discussion will take roughly 20 minutes.

Examining the factors triggering land conflicts

- What do you know about land conflicts in this area?
- For how long have you been experiencing these conflicts?
- What are the common land conflicts in the area?
- What has been triggering these conflicts?

The Effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production

- What are the common areas affected by land conflicts highlighted above?
- In these areas, how have land conflicts affected agricultural (crop, livestock) production

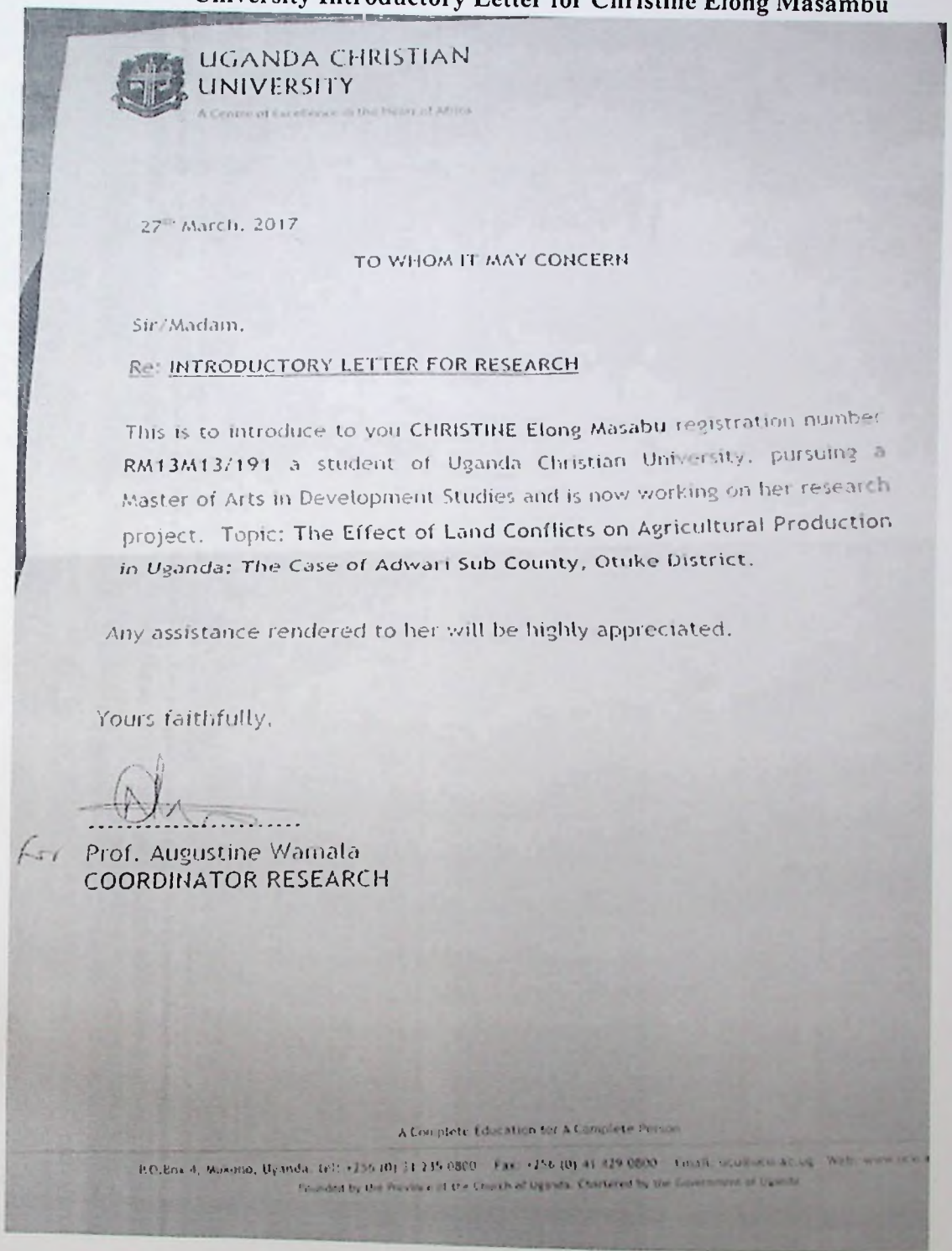
Coping with the Effects of Land Conflicts

- Who are the most affected by the effects of land conflicts on agricultural production?
- How are they affected, and for how long have they been experiencing these effects?
- In which way are these effects being managed or dealt?
- Generally, how else can the affected be helped or supported in dealing with these effects?

Thank You for Your Time and Cooperation

Appendix 3:

University Introductory Letter for Christine Elong Masambu



UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa

27th March, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Sir/Madam,

Re: INTRODUCTORY LETTER FOR RESEARCH

This is to introduce to you CHRISTINE Elong Masabu registration number RM13M13/191 a student of Uganda Christian University, pursuing a Master of Arts in Development Studies and is now working on her research project. Topic: The Effect of Land Conflicts on Agricultural Production in Uganda: The Case of Adwari Sub County, Otuke District.

Any assistance rendered to her will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

.....

For Prof. Augustine Wamala
COORDINATOR RESEARCH

A Complete Education for A Complete Person

P.O.Box 4, Mukono, Uganda. Tel: +256 (0) 41 285 0800 Fax: +256 (0) 41 429 0800 Email: ucu@ucu.ac.ug Web: www.ucu.ac.ug

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