THE PERFORMANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL ACTION PLAN AT KABALE AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: A CASE OF BESERUKA SUB COUNTY COMMUNITY

SIMON KATUGUME

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DECLARATION

I, Simon Katugume, hereby declare that this dissertation is my work and it has not been submitted before to any other institution of higher learning for fulfillment of any academic award.

Signed ……

Date …….

APPROVAL

This is to certify that, this proposal entitled "THE PERFORMANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL ACTION PLAN AT KABALE AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: A CASE OF BESERUKA SUB COUNTY COMMUNITY" has been done under my supervision and now it is ready for submission.

Signature ……

Prof. Joseph Ntayi

Date ……

DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my family for their enormous patience towards my whole academic life and success.

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The production of this work has been a result of many hands. In particular, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Joseph Ntayi, for the guidance, constructive comments, kind support and tolerance to all inconveniences during the writing of this dissertation. He read and reviewed my work and ably directed me with love and encouragement. I am indeed grateful to him.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	: African Development Bank
AGRA	: Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
AIDS	: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CAA	: Civil Aviation Authority
CITES	: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
COVID	: Corona Virus Disease
ESAP	: Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures
ESAP	: Environmental Social Action Plan
ESCP	: Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
ESF	: Environmental and Social Framework
ESS	: Environmental and Social Safeguards
ESSR	: Environmental Social Self-Monitoring Reports
GoU	: Government of Uganda
H&S	: Health and Safety
HIV	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HPI	: Health Promotions International
HSE	: Health and Safety Executive
IFC	: International Financial Corporation
IUCN	: International Union for Conservation of Nature
KCCA	: Kampala Capital City Authority
LNG	: Liquefied Natural Gas
LTD	: Limited

MEMD	: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
NEMA	: National Environment Management Authority
NGOs	: Non-Governmental Organizations
PMI	: Project Management Institute
PSF	: Private Sector Foundation
SDGs	: Sustainable Development Goals
SEP	: Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SMEs	: Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
SOPs	: Standard Operating Procedures
UN	: United Nations
UNDP	: United Nations Development Programme
UPDF	: Uganda People's Defence Force
US	: United States

ABSTRACT

The general objective of this study was to assess the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan (ESAP) being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community. The specific objectives were to assess the Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project, assess the biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources by SBC Uganda LTD and assess the cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement by SBC Uganda LTD. This study adopted the Systematic literature review research methodology aiming at producing scientific evidence and get facts in a much more transparent and reproducible manner. The researcher employed a qualitative approach using strictly desk review data collection method. Qualitative data was analyzed systematically and thematically based on objective by objective of the study. The study found out that the Community Health and Security is recognized by the SBC Uganda Limited at Kabaale Airport. The study found out the Kabaale Airport construction project team biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources was done by SBC. Lastly, findings revealed that initiatives were put revealed that initiatives were put in place to first map and register all archaeological sites and other important cultural sites. The general conclusion is that the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan (ESAP) being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community was good. It is however recommended to all stakeholders in Uganda especially in areas where huge construction projects are to be undertaken, have all the citizens sensitized on their health, safety and security. In addition, the stakeholders, especially at the local government level lay down structures, should guide construction works in ensuring that biodiversity conservation becomes part and partial of the entire projects' life cycle. Lastly, SBC Team establishes a post-construction heritage cultural information system that can sustain the heritage information upon the completion of the construction project at Kabaale Airport.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Uganda discovered an economic oil deposit in the western Albertine Graben that is estimated to be approximately two billion barrels (Sensitivity Atlas for the Albertine Graben, 2010). After the establishment of the existing oil deposits, a need for an oil refinery was also discovered which needs support infrastructures among which an airport stands in order to exploit the oil resource. Through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), the Government of Uganda (GoU) started the construction of the airport in Hoima District to facilitate the construction of the oil refinery installation. The airport is located in Kabaale Parish, Buseruka sub-county, Hoima District. In a bid to establish the airport, the GoU contracted Newplan Ltd to carry out and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment prior the establishment of the proposed Kabaale International Airport (Kintu, Mugano & Lubwaama, 2016). It is against this backdrop that this study was undertaken to assess the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan (ESAP) being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project using a case of Beseruka Sub County Community.

1.1.1 Background to the study

The African Development Bank (ADB) reviewed and upgraded its environmental and social procedures with an aim of promoting and mainstreaming the climate change considerations. This was done in order to safeguard the environmental compliance that was initiated in 2009 and adopted in 2013. This was considered as a ten year integral strategy in the decade of 2013-2022 and ADB expressed commitment to protect the most vulnerable people in Africa

through providing opportunities to them in order to benefit from ADB operations. Key concepts in the strategy was to ensure social and environmental sustainability through the reduction of risks that emanate from non-ADB policies' compliance, conducting best environmental and social assessment practices in the ADB financed operations and providing information to borrowers regarding ESAP in the entire processes of the Bank's project cycle. These ESAPs aimed at protection of the environment and considering climate change and social protection (African Development Bank, 2015).

According to International Financial Corporation (IFC, 2012), the Environmental and Social Management System is a continuous process that was initiated that engages both the clients and the community members that are directly affected by the funded projects. This entails mitigating the risks that would realise a sustainable and social protection in order to improve environmental protection. In ensuring social and environmental protection, an assessment of environmental associated risks is done by the responsible government and other associated third parties that may not have a direct influence in the project. The government's role mainly includes decision on the project design and resettling the affected people and forging ways to manage the loss of the biodiversity. In most cases, clients on their own cannot ensure social and environmental protection without the control of the government and the third parties. The entire process is obliged to observe human rights and each performance standards is expected to have a human rights' protection consideration (International Financial Corporation, 2012). The government undertakes risk assessment and monitors projects through its legal structures. The monitoring process registers the associated and expected risks and conducts the updates periodically in order to ensure environmental and social protection compliance. In the risk mitigation processes, the government engages with

external partners and trains the grantees and other partners in management of social and environmental risks (Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), 2018).

1.1.2 Contextual Background

The Kabaale Airport project area is a biodiversity covered area comprising of black organic soil, medium dense clayey gravel and orange clay particles and surrounded by numerous rivers, streams and wetlands. The proposed airport, once completed has the potential to have its drainage go into the existing valley systems (National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), 2010). To ensure environmental protection, SBC Uganda Limited put in place measures to control noise on a monthly basis through construction of access roads that do not pass anywhere near the community locality. The quarry was allocated in a place whose buffer zone is free from homesteads which controls vibrations and effects of blasts and ensuring air quality. On waste management, SBC ensure sorting of the waste that includes separating decomposing and recyclable waste materials. For recyclable materials like the water bottles, they are sent back to the bottling companies while the decomposing materials are disposed at the Hoima Municipal Council disposal area for further management. In management of both the decomposing and recyclable waste materials, the waste is wrapped in disposable bags to control it from entering the drainage channels (SBC, 2020). The construction of the open drain system that is ongoing along the margins of the construction zone and box culvert construction was considered and the drainage was designed with catch pits and pours water in the plant areas. The drainage system management has ensured top soil storage areas that are well re-vegetated with natural plant species with no signs of erosion observed. Earthwork operations are limited to day time to allow for a natural

environment during night hours. Routine servicing of equipment and vehicles involved in these operations to minimise on emissions (SBC, 2020).

1.2 Statement of the problem

The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) acquired 29.57 km² of land near the oil fields of the Albertine Graben Region with an aim of developing a petro-based industrial park and an International Airport in Kabaale Parish, Buseruka Sub-County, Hoima District (MEMD, 2019). To achieve this objective, the Government of Uganda made a Master Plan and entered into a joint venture with an international consultant - SBC Uganda Ltd and approved by Uganda's National Physical Planning Board (Bridger, 2019). However, the Kabaale Airport project area is a biodiversity area and once completed there is potential to have its drainage going into the existing valley systems (NEMA, 2010; Ministry of Works & Transport, 2022). In such mass construction projects, the ESAP provisions are followed to ensure environmental and social mitigation and monitoring measures for a successful implementation and organisational measures to be implemented during the pre-construction, construction and operation of the Project. In addition, the ESAP provides for actions to be undertaken during the current pre-construction phase that permit the process and inform the environmental and social mitigation plans and to achieve compliance with legal performance requirements (MacDonald, 2017). The project has already presented environmental challenges that include noise pollution, the water sources are exposed to faecal matter and the existing ecosystem is exposed to open pollution which has resulted death of animal and bird species, contaminated water sources to the community and polluted air (NEMA, 2022). The quarry sites have threatened the bird and plant species that are now extinct in the area (Kintu et al, 2016). With such that present

negative impact on the environment, the airport and petroleum construction projects in Buseruka Sub County could affect the environment. This study was therefore undertaken to assess the performance of the ESAP with an aim of suggesting best approaches of ensuring sustainable environment at Kabaale International Airport.

1.3 Objective of the Study

1.3.1 General Objective

The general objective of this study was to assess the performance of ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

I. Assess the community health and security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

II. Assess the biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

III. Assess the cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

1.3.3 Research Questions

I. How are the community health and security under the SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport?

II. What is the management of the biodiversity conservation and sustainability of living natural resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport?

III. How are the cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport?

1.4 Conceptual Framework

The following conceptual framework shows the relationship between the independent variable, intermediate variable and the dependent variable.

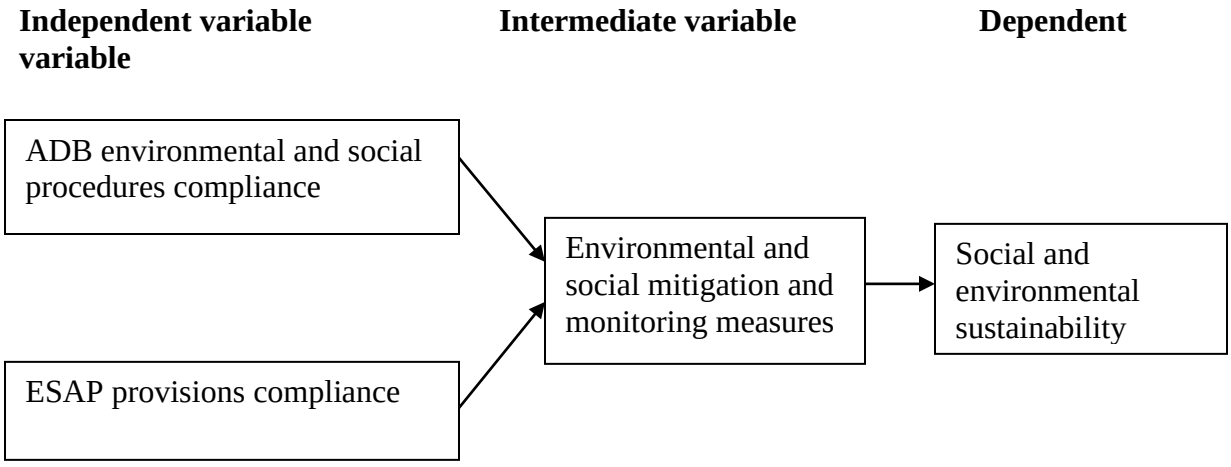

Figure 1.1: Conceptual framework showing the process of ensuring social and environmental sustainability

The conceptual framework shows the independent variable as the ADB environmental and social procedures compliance and ESAP provisions compliance. The intermediate is the environmental and social mitigation and monitoring measures. The dependent variable is the social and environmental sustainability. The following was the assumption in the conceptual framework. More environmental and social procedures compliance and ESAP provisions compliance would contribute to better environmental and social mitigation and monitoring measures that would contribute to better social and environmental sustainability in terms of

better community health and security, better biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources and better cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement. Less environmental and social procedures compliance and ESAP provisions compliance would contribute to poor environmental and social mitigation and monitoring measures that would contribute to poor social and environmental sustainability in terms of poor community health and security, poor biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources and poor cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement.

1.5 Significant of the Study

The study of the performance of ESAP was an important study. This is because most of the large scale projects in Africa, especially the Sub-Saharan Africa, have not been observing the social and environmental protection and sustainability. After realisation of this gap, the ADB initiated the ESAP with an aim of protecting the most vulnerable African populations (ADB, 2015). The establishment of the Kabaale Airport in Hoima district has a diverse effect on the ecosystem and the communities around the project area are prone to having their environmental rights abused by the project. The study therefore is being undertaken to find out how the community's rights are protected by SBC Uganda LTD and make further recommendations to ensure that the stakeholders in the project continue to observe human rights and meet the set standards of the ADB that the GoU is a partner to.

1.6 Scope of the Study

This study's scope was divided in the scopes of content, geographical and time scopes.

1.6.1 Content Scope

The study was limited to the concepts of Environmental Social Action Plan. These concepts were manifested through community health and safety, environmental protection and corporate social responsibility. These concepts were explored by the study as standards expected to be met by SBC Uganda in the construction of Kabaale Airport.

1.6.2 Geographical Scope

The study was carried out in the community surrounding the airport project area which is situated in Buseruka Parish, Buseruka Sub-County in Hoima District- Mid Western Uganda.

1.6.3 Time Scope

The study considered the time period of 2015-2021. It is during this time period that the construction of Kabaale International Airport was started and was still on-going. The study established how the initial stages and the progress of the airport construction project considered health and safety, environmental and corporate responsibility among the affected communities.

1.7 Operational Definitions

Design: A proposed outlook and shape of an infrastructure that is set to be established

Environment: Man and his surroundings in terms of plants, animals and water bodies that support human life and well-being

Environmental and Social Action Plan: An undertaking to ensure that an establishment within a given community does not harm the people near the establishment

Environmental Protection: An initiative to preserve the environment

Infrastructure Projects: Physical construction undertakings that have stipulated time period

Master Plan: A key strategy of having something being put in place

Social Assessment Procedures: A well laid down process of studying community needs in relation to a construction project's effects on the same community members

Social Impact: An effect that may be caused by a construction project on community members' well-being

Social Sustainability: A process of having a community's well-being without an interruption from construction projects in their area.

1.8 Environmental Social Action Plan

This study aimed at assessing the performance of ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport was considered describing the environmental & social mitigation and monitoring measures, the criteria for their successful implementation and organisational measures to be implemented during the pre-construction, construction and operation of the Project. At the pre-construction phase, the study considered what ESAP comprised of in terms of actions that were needed to be undertaken in order to further inform environmental and social mitigation plans. Under the Construction Phase, the study focused on the ESAP requirements that are the responsibility of the construction contractor to implement in relation to the consequences of the social impacts from the influx of the potential workforce. The requirements for environmental protection and social management that were assessed under ESAP involved stakeholder engagement plan and relevant project documentation and approvals that the contractor was obliged to adopt and follow good environmental and social management practices during construction and minimise potential impacts on water

resources, soil, flora and fauna, air, noise, landscape, cultural heritage resources, communities and population health.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

In carrying out this study, the researcher reviewed a wide range literature that other researchers and authors had written about corporate governance as handled by different bodies. The researcher cites books, scholarly articles and other online publications. The attempt to do literature review by the researcher indicates an acknowledgement of other researchers' work while conceiving this work (Machi & McEvoy, 2019)**.**This chapter is arranged in literature reviewed according to theoretical review and conceptual review done objective by objective.

2.2 Theoretical Review

In carrying out of a study, a theory was used by the researcher to get an insight or better understanding of certain circumstances and happenings in society. It was viewed as a partnership between approving thought that are developed over a certain time period (Mngadi, 2018). Environmental Social Action Plan as a wide discipline requires a wide range of related theories to be reviewed in order to get a wider explanation of enforcement, corporation and third parties. The study critically reviewed the Theory of Community Based Health and Safety Programs accordingly as follows:

2.2.1 History of the Theory of Community Based Health and Safety Programs

The Theory of Community Based Health and Safety Programs has become an important in its application to health and safety since the 1970s to reduce high community program negative consequences rates (Nilsen, 2006). This Theory of Community Based Health and Safety

Programs was developed due to the realization that humans live in, are shaped by, and in turn shape the environment in which they live (McGee, 1998). Therefore, it was considered that individuals cannot be considered separately from their environment (Goodman *et al*., 1996). People's health and safety related knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and skills were considered during this period to reflect their life experiences and these experiences were determined by broader institutional structures, cultural forces, and social relations within the community (McGee, 1998).

This meant that explanatory theories cantered on intrapersonal determinants were of limited value for the understanding of individuals' health and safety; such an understanding could be achieved only if the context in which people live is taken into account (Israel, B. A. & Schulz, 1998). Since the 1970s, the belief that the community based approach is beneficial appears to have become a deeply held conviction in public health. As noted by Cheadle *et al*. (1997, 240), “It is almost an article of faith that locating programs in the community and involving community members in planning, implementation and evaluation can be an effective strategy for improving population health”.

2.2.2 Application of the Theory of Community Based Health and Safety Programs

According to Nilsen (2014), community based health and safety is based on principles that community health programs do not have pre-determined criteria that they comfort to. The first assumption is a focus on the community whereby each community is considered as a unique unit with its own identity. This therefore makes health programs vary from one community to another. The way a given community lives is shaped by the environment they live in. This is an implication that people have to be associated with the environment of their

operations. In addition, people's attitudes, knowledge, skills and behaviours plus social norms and beliefs are highly linked to their health and safety. This therefore implies that values of health and safety are more interpersonal rather than being community based. For one to understand health and safety, one needs to understand the context in which people live. The theory further assumes that members in a community have a strong sense of attachment and this enables them share aspirations among themselves. This again tells the variations that exist among people basing on their geographical locations.

The theory further assumes that participation of community members has a role in defining health challenges that they are experiencing. Community participation is voluntarily in nature and this accounts for individual members' participation in community programs that aim at delivering messages on their health and safety. Resource requirements in a community are vital in the understanding of community health and safety programs. The theory assumes that resource development in a community is highly recognized. However much communities' own available resources are necessary for program success, outside resources are also a requirement coupled with skills.

Time duration of the program is also critical in community health and safety program. The theory assumes that a successful community health program requires years in order to establish the environmental concepts regarding the understanding of the local health and safety programs. The theory may have identified loopholes where health and safety programs fail because of the insufficient application of the health program not necessarily what happens within or outside the community members.

2.2 Conceptual Review

2.2.1 Community Health and Security

Usually, community health and safety is achieved through legislation. Some countries provide health and safety Acts that set out the rights and obligations of the state and its people plus other stakeholders in ensuring health and safety. The health and safety Acts identify concepts within the health and safety programs that require regulation at both the national and international levels (Craxton, 2014). The Acts also ensure commitments to the programs, define scopes of management, prepare the list of associated risks in health affecting projects, provide for project commitments, programs, operational procedures and guidance that respond to and mitigate the identified risks (Craxton, 2014).

In regard to the environment, the Acts provide for the protection of the environment for the present and future generations and protection of human health, conservation of biological diversity in conformity with the natural bio-geographic characteristics of the state and are also supposed to provide for the conservation and use of environmental media (Craxton, 2014).

According to IFC (2006), there are numerous internationally recognised standards and guidelines applied to community health and safety. These are set in order to determine and avoid hostile impacts on the health and safety of the affected communities throughout the Project in its entire project life cycle. The set health and safety project standards also adopt a hierarchy to mitigate, minimise, and compensate for the risks and impacts to workers, affected community members and the environment itself (Cowi Mozambique/SHAPE Consulting Ltd, 2018).

Other requirements of health and safety programs include ensuring commitment to conduct operations during project implementation programs in a manner that is harmonious to the environmental and economic needs of community members in a same project area. In the project area, community member's health and safety activities' observation is one of the yardsticks that are used to measure a project's excellence in performance (Papua New Guinea Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project, 2013).

The main reason of having in place the health and safety plan in place is to ensure the existence of the set of control measures created to mitigate and avoid adverse effects of project activities on the health of community members (Rovuma LNG Project, 2019). The plan is supported by management programs, organization structures and monitoring and evaluation processes required to achieve the desired outcomes of the control measures that may among others; identify and evaluate health risks, appropriate protective measures and communicating in a reasonable manner to potentially affected individuals about the knowledge associated with health risks gained from its health programs (International Finance Corporation, 2012).

Social factors are rarely discussed in a community health and safety program under project management. However, it should be noted that community health should be focuses especially where a concept of migrant workers comes in and this is associated with the transmission and spread of sexually transmitted infections. This should be considered besides other health issues regarding gas controls that lead to health impacts when left uncontrolled (Graetz, 2013).

Literature shows that the health and safety (H&S) record of the construction industry in general is reported as poor in various studies (Health and Safety Executive (HSE), 2016). In countries with adequate statistics, for example Great Britain, the H&S record of the construction industry is among the highest when compared to other industries (HSE 2016).

Efforts towards improving H&S can come in many ways, for example, H&S regulation and compliance and prevention of hazards through design (Umeokafor, 2017). While this is not an exhaustive list, it shows the various parties that can be involved in H&S improvement. Idoro (2018) emphasises the imperativeness of creating awareness and a good understanding among stakeholders in the construction industry on the contributions of contractors in H&S improvement. The same argument can be replicated in terms of other stakeholders. Authors argue that in ensuring the success of projects, the different interests and expectations of stakeholders in construction should be met (Umeokafor, 2018). With this, stakeholders in the industry will have a good understanding of what parties contribute to improving H&S, the parties and the implications of the contribution or activities. There will also be a good understanding of the interests and expectations of stakeholders (Famuyiwa, Otegbulu, Obi & Okedele, 2017; Idoro, 2018).

However, there is evidence that community-based approaches or intervention in H&S have failed in some countries such as New Zeeland (Coggan *et al*. 2020) but has recorded success in countries such as the US and Scandinavia (Forst *et al*. 2018). Among the reasons for this failure is the heterogeneous nature of geographic communities, which results in various interests, as Nilsen (2016) demonstrated.

However, there are counter arguments. First, although the community-based approach has failed in some heterogonous communities, this does not mean that it will be ineffective in other communities (Umeokafor, 2018). Second, communities may be heterogeneous but share values and closer connection (Umeokafor, 2018). Third, above all, there are arguments elsewhere on the lack of understanding of the roles of some stakeholders in H&S including communities. Fourth, authors such as Kheni, Dainty and Gibb (2010) argue that the lack of understanding of the social, political, institutional and cultural environments of developing countries remains a barrier to improving H&S. Deplorably, the foregoing area remains under examined in terms of H&S (Kheni *et al*. 2010).

In improving H&S through a community-based approach, H&S regulators or the state design grassroots-based H&S improvement programmes (Umeokafor, 2018). This involves the communities in the development and/or implementation of H&S programmes (Coggan *et al*. 2020; Nilsen 2016) and/or educating them on improving H&S (Forst *et al*. 2018). The rationale is that consulting communities in the development and/or implementation of H&S programmes highly increases the efficacy because the communities suggest workable approaches and take ownership of the programmes.

Studies report community-based approach or interventions in H&S. In the US, Forst *et al*. (2018) observe the improvement in H&S knowledge, hazard identification and sustainable H&S activities through the training of low wage and lowly literate Hispanic construction workers using a community-based research approach. In systematically reviewing 32 subject-related articles, Klassen, MacKay, Moher, Walker and Jones (2020) found indications that

community-based approaches to injury prevention are effective in safety practices. According to Klassen *et al*. (2020), the successful safety programmes are tailored towards unique community characteristics such as socio-economic status or ethnicity and behaviour theories-underpinned multiple strategies.

There are, however, cases where community-based H&S programmes have failed but with explanations. For example, Coggan *et al*. (2020) and Nilsen (2016) report the failed H&S programmes in heterogeneous communities such as in New Zealand. In examining the theoretical underpinnings of the community-based approach to understand its under-performance in H&S programmes, Nilsen (2016) found that the classification or categorisation of community remains one of the explanations for the failed community-based H&S programmes. When the communities are very large and heterogeneous in terms of ethnicity, religion, income etc., research shows negative implications for engagement and participation in programmes (Nilsen, 2016). The ability of such a large community to have a community sense is lower. The success of H&S programmes in homogeneous communities in Scandinavian communities where social/cultural homogeneity was crucial (Nilsen, 2014) supports this.

2.2.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources takes place through phases of assessment in the project implementation process. The contractors under the pre-construction phase make necessary actions aimed at informing and refining environmental and social mitigation plans. Under the construction phase, the contractor

implements the biodiversity conservation plans. This is done through having a written down precautionary measures that work to conserve the biodiversity and ensure the sustainable use of the living natural resource regarding the set standards. The Contractor is expected to follow good environmental and social management undertakings in the construction which will minimise probable impacts on the environment especially the environmental components that include water bodies, soil, fauna and flora, cultural heritage sites, terrain, air, noise and the communities' health. In addition, the operational phase continues with the sustainability of the environmental and social protection measures. Policies are put in place with supporting documents that ensure good environmental practices (MacDonald, 2017).

Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources involve having the guidelines that enable parties to control pollution that would affect community health. Key of the guidelines should bear a monitoring and supervision sections that ultimately capture biodiversity sustainability concerns in relation to performance standards. In this process, the project implementers are expected to make an assessment of the associated risks and how this may affect the surrounding communities. The guidelines should adequately project a duly conducted diligence of the proposed investment activity, be in position to assist the client in developing measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and where residual impacts remain, compensate and categorize the project to specify requirements to disclose project- specific information to the public (IFC, 2016).

This Environmental and Social Action Plan requires compliance with environmental protection that is achieved through reduction and avoiding of the most significant impacts. This requires the contractors to have a direct oversight and supervision of the implementation

of the designed project and open ways of ensuring that the project environmental protection plans are adhered to through audits (Johansen, 2019). It is necessary to have an environmental and social protection report submitted to key stakeholders at all levels of project implementation. This is necessary so that environmental information is kept updated and revised so that existing environmental and health and safety information informs the project on its construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning (Energean, 2019).

In every activity humans undertake, waste is generated always regardless of the activity. Rapid urbanization and development have increased on the waste in terms of volume and complexity. This has greatly affected the developing countries especially in waste management. Waste management therefore requires intense knowledge regarding its collection and disposal and management of run-off so that water bodies and other environmental components do not get affected (Malik, Rahman, Ansari, Masood & Grohmann, 2014).

The relationship between sustainability and the conservation of biodiversity has been slowly evolving and until recently has not been well established, particularly from a research perspective (Niesenbaum, 2019). In some cases, sustainability objectives have been viewed as incompatible with the priority of conserving of biodiversity. However, there is now a growing body of evidence that the diversity of life is critical for ecosystem function and services on which humans depend, and is directly linked to the economic, social, and environmental spheres of sustainability (Energean, 2019). However, this diversity is increasingly threatened by human activities such as urbanization, global deforestation,

agricultural expansion, and climate change such that it is estimated that we are currently losing species at up to 1000 times the background rate of extinction (De Vos, Joppa, Gittleman, Stephens & Pimm, 2015). This is further viewed as a crisis because of the recognition that biodiversity loss and associated reduced capacity in the provision of ecosystem services directly impact the human condition. As such, the UN has come to prioritize the conservation of biodiversity in the United Nations (UN) Rio + 20 outcome document, "The Future We Want", and in its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (United Nations, 2015). Since then more concrete efforts to link biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability have been made, and research on integrating them has been accelerating.

Early preservationist and conservation movements pre-date the emergence of the notion of sustainability. Both movements valued biodiversity, but for different reasons (Sarkar, 2019). Central to the preservationist movement which originated in the late 19th century from transcendentalism, a religious and philosophical movement was the spiritual connection with nature as a path to self-knowledge (Niesenbaum, 2019). Members of this movement saw opportunities for self-awareness, reflection, and liberation by connecting to their environment. Some viewed nature as a teacher while others understood the spiritual connection to nature as a direct link to God. Still others viewed nature as an awe-inspiring force that should be incorporated into a way of life in which one can express their individuality and self-reliance (Sarkar, 2019). These preservationists made strong spiritual and ethical arguments that nature was to be protected, not to meet our pragmatic need for resources but, rather, for its fundamental intrinsic value. Nature and all its diversity were viewed as sacred and humans as intruders. This led to a dominant approach to conservation

that established protected areas from which people were excluded or displaced (Hutton, Adams & Murombedzi, 2015).

As early as the 1600s, a more pragmatic approach to conservation was beginning to develop (Niesenbaum, 2019). First in Europe, then later in the US, the initial goal of conservation was to develop and promote forest timber management. Although inspired by the transcendentalists who exalted the inherent value of nature, the conservationists moved beyond the spiritual connection to the natural world and preservationist objectives to recognize other ways in which humans depend on their environment (Johansen, 2019). This led to the development of national forests, parks, and monuments with the goal of not just protecting these areas; but to conserve resources through planned use and renewal. Thus, with the conservationist movement, a new land ethic was developed that valued nature, but not as something sacred that should be set apart from humans (Energean, 2019). Instead, nature was viewed as something that should be valued for the variety of ways that it could meet the needs of humans and should be managed accordingly. This later evolved into the multiple use approach to conservation that encouraged environmental management to maximize potential for outdoor recreation including hunting and fishing; watershed protection; and the production of timber. However, the immediate needs of local communities in or near conservation areas were still often neglected (Johansen, 2019).

This primarily Eurocentric or northern concept of conservation has been problematic for a number of reasons (Johansen, 2019). First, it neglects the value and extraordinary knowledge of biodiversity by global indigenous societies that embraced these ideas long before their modern conceptions. Second, these principles were ignored as the goals of northern

colonialism and imperialism were the exploitation of resources from less developed countries with minimal regard for resource management or human rights (Johansen, 2019). It neglected the fundamental interdependency between the environment and the human condition, and opportunities for equitable development as resources were extracted and people were exploited for economic gain. With the realization of the vast indigenous knowledge about land management, agriculture, and the many uses of biodiversity came further exploitation as that knowledge was extracted without any recognition or compensation from the people that held it (Johansen, 2019).

Given the scientific documentation of accelerating rates of extinction particularly due to increasing habitat loss, the conservation of biodiversity emerged as a global priority initially with the establishment the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 1948 (Energean, 2019). During the first decade of its existence, IUCN's main focus was to examine the impact of human activities on natural habitats. It recognized the damaging effects of pesticides and other chemicals on biodiversity and promoted the use of environmental impact assessments for various activities. Much of IUCN's subsequent work in the 1960s and 1970s was devoted to the protection of species and the habitats necessary for their survival. In 1964, IUCN established their "Red List of Threatened Species" (IUCN, 2018), which has since evolved into the world's most comprehensive data source on the global extinction risk of species and the most comprehensive information source on the global conservation status of animal, fungi, and plant species.

The IUCN Red List reports measures of the pressures acting on species, which guides and informs conservation actions to help prevent extinctions, and for this reason it is often

referred to as the “Barometer of Life”. The Red List shows us where and what actions need to be taken to prevent extinction. It provides a straightforward way to factor biodiversity needs into decision-making processes by providing a wealth of useful information on species. The IUCN also drafted a multilateral treaty known as The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES, 2019) to prevent species from becoming endangered or extinct because of international trade. Entered into force in 1975, this treaty requires that countries work together to regulate the international trade of animal and plant species and ensure that this trade is not detrimental to the survival of wild populations. The goal of protecting endangered species was emerging with national policy as well. To carry out the provisions of CITES legislation to protect biodiversity policy began to be adopted at the national level including the United States (US) Endangered Species Act in 1973 and similar laws in most countries throughout the world all (Johansen, 2019).

As efforts to study and protect biodiversity were being made, the world also began to focus on the connection between the preservation and conservation principles, and the global enhancement of the human environment and quality of life (Johansen, 2019). At the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden there was for the first time a real emphasis on the environment as it relates to the human condition, and the integration of environmental protection, equitable development and social well-being. The Stockholm conference declaration recognized the difference between renewable and non-renewable resources and also the need to manage them (Johansen, 2019). It encouraged policy that reduced pollution and promoted environmental research, education, and planning to reconcile the conflict between the need for development and the resultant decline of environmental

quality. The declaration also recognized that many environmental issues are global in nature and can only be addressed through multilateral cooperation among nations (Johansen, 2019).

The further integration of development with environmental management led to the origin of our contemporary concept of sustainability linking environmental, social, and economic spheres in 1983 when the UN formed the World Commission on Environment and Development (Johansen, 2019). Gro Harlem Brundtland, then Prime Minister of Norway, was appointed to chair the commission, which became widely referred to as the Brundtland Commission. The publication that was generated by the Commission, "Our Common Future" or "The Brundtland Report", as it is commonly known, addressed the conflict between the promotion of globalized economic growth and the accelerating ecological degradation that was occurring on a global scale. It made the case for a more sustainable development, which it defined as "the kind of development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (The World Commission on Human and Environment Development, 2017). "The Brundtland Report" prioritized meeting the basic and essential needs of the world's poorest people, such as access to clean air and water, nutritious food, education, and recognizing that those needs are best met through economic growth that offers opportunity for all people. It also conveyed an understanding of the limits on the environment's ability to meet both present and future needs, and it recommended that if development is to be sustainable, these limitations must be addressed in order to preserve intergenerational equity (Johansen, 2019).

Twenty years after the first global environment conference held in Stockholm, the UN sought to help governments rethink economic development and find ways to halt the depletion and

destruction of natural resources and pollution of the planet (Johansen, 2019). This occurred at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), or Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. It brought together leaders from 172 countries, 2400 representatives from international NGOs, and more than 17,000 broader participants. The summit agreements included: “Agenda 21” a comprehensive program for global action in all areas of sustainable development; and “The Statement of Forest Principles” a set of standards to guide the sustainable management of forests worldwide. It was also the first convention to specifically address global climate change and the protection of biological diversity through legal conventions (Johansen, 2019).

Until Rio, much of the environmental component of sustainability was focused on renewable resource management and did not specifically recognize biodiversity as a fundamental resource as biodiversity issues were being considered separately by IUCN (Johansen, 2019). After the Earth Summit in Rio, much of the focus by the UN on sustainable development was within the context of the Millennium Development Project, which got its start at the 2000 Millennium Summit. The declaration produced at this summit stated that every effort must be made to counter the irreparable damage caused by human activities that threaten our planet and our people. The basis of this effort to this was drawn from The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (Johansen, 2019). The MDGs did not specifically address the need to conserve biodiversity, but more generally emphasized sustainable management of the natural resource base and ecosystems. However, as the international community started to embrace the idea of sustainability, the conservation of biodiversity was beginning to be included as a priority. Even before the MDGs in 1992, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was signed by 157 countries. The CBD represented a historic commitment to conserve biological

diversity, its sustainable use, and equitable sharing of benefits arising from that use (Johansen, 2019). It also recognized that biodiversity is at the heart of sustainable agricultural systems and plays a major role in the provision of ecosystem services, and the insurance of life itself (Energean, 2019). The further integration of biodiversity and sustainability is reflected in the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) where the protection and value of biodiversity are specifically addressed in two of the SDGs: Goal 14-Life below Water, and Goal 15-Life on Land (Energean, 2019).

2.2.3 Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement

In the preparation stage of a project, the project implementer identifies with different stakeholders, both project-affected parties and other interested parties. In the identification with the interested parties/stakeholders, the project implementer begins with the environmental and social assessment for the project. The affected persons/groups by the project are listed along the other interested parties, paying special attention to identifying disadvantaged or vulnerable groups (World Bank, 2018).

Additionally, other interested parties are identified by listing relevant interest groups, and considering historical issues, social relations, relationships between local communities and the project implementer, and any other relevant factors related to the sector and location that help anticipate local and external responses to the project. After the listing and establishing the affected persons/parties a discussion is set to be conducted with representatives of the stakeholders of the identified, with their knowledgeable about the local, national, and sector settings (David & Agarwal, 2011).

In some circumstances, media and social media searches may help to verify the list and identify any other project-affected or interested parties and to contact them. In doing this, vulnerability of persons needs to be taken into consideration depending on the demographic specifications of being; women, children, youth, and the elderly or other groups may need to be considered as stakeholder groups of their own, and separate consultation formats may be needed to capture suggestions and concerns. The project implementers should identify those project-affected parties basing on given circumstances that may make a certain group be disadvantaged or more vulnerable. It is out of this analysis that the project implementer will be in control of each individual group's concerns and priorities about project impacts, mitigation mechanisms, and benefits, and who may require different, or separate, forms of engagement. An adequate level of detail should be embedded in the stakeholder identification and analysis so as to determine the level of communication that is appropriate for the project (World Bank, 2014).

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is part of the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) of an investment. The project implementers are expected to be responsible for ensuring compliance with Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) guidelines. This is done through ensuring that the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) is developed and implemented projects become environmentally and socially sustainable by assessing and managing the full range of environmental and social risks and impacts of the project. The SEPs are designed with an aim of avoiding, minimizing, reducing and mitigating the adverse environmental and social risks and impacts of projects. Therefore, this SEP is developed in line with requirement relating onto Environmental and Social Impact Assessments and Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary

Resettlement and Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure which guides on stakeholder engagement planning and implementation process by all the entities (Private Sector Foundation (PSF) Uganda, 2020).

Carrying out a social and environmental assessment is most effective when done during project preparation in order to allow for the timely identification of potential risks and impacts and incorporation of impact avoidance and mitigation measures into the project design process–that is, at a time when they can be more easily accommodated and budgeted. Early assessment further enables the project implementers to ensure that the project is designed in compliance with applicable social and environmental policies, laws, regulations, standards, and other stakeholders' requirements (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2020).

Where project components and locations are not yet fully defined, a framework approach would need to be utilized that includes preliminary social and environmental analysis and establishes procedures for undertaking assessments and developing appropriate management measures/plans during project implementation. In an assessment, risks are considered and assessed along their impacts during the screening process. Moderate Risk projects consist of activities with potential limited adverse social and environmental risks. The types of targeted assessment may vary depending on the nature of the potential social and environmental risks and impacts and how readily the scale and boundaries of the potential adverse impacts can be specified and avoided, mitigated, and managed per the mitigation hierarchy. Types of targeted assessments may among others involve; air quality impact studies, environmental

and social audit, hazards assessment, health impact assessments, labour audits, noise and vibrations, pollution, traffic study and water quality (UNDP, 2020).

Most heritage sites are impacted by and impact their concerned stakeholders especially the local community, regional government, and NGOs (Khan, 2020). Every project has stakeholders who can influence or be influenced by the project positively or negatively (Project Management Institute (PMI), 2017). Positive stakeholders would usually benefit from the project outcome, while negative stakeholders view negative upshots from the attainment of the project (Hajialikhani, 2018). The fundamental phase in collaboration for heritage protection and management is identifying and legitimizing the stakeholders (Aas, Ladkin & Fletcher, 2015) that are related to the program development procedure (Bott, Grabowski, & Wearing, 2020). Several stakeholders may have potential impact or responsibility, and some may have confined capability on the expected outcomes or work of project or program (PMI, 2017) which may alter during the operation of the program or project (Hajialikhani, 2018). The PMI (2017) has developed a systematic procedure for project and program management and managing its stakeholders which can be accepted for cultural heritage site management.

Community participation is an essential issue within heritage management and effective community participation is a process that is vital to enhance long-term sustainable heritage management (Landorf, 2019). Furthermore, with the approval of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, community participation is recognised as a fundamental tool in heritage management practices (Taylor, 2016). This recommendation seeks to involve public participation, in order to, among other aims, mediate conflicts

between stakeholders, including residents, visitors, developers, experts and governments (Srijuntrapun, Fisher, & Rennie, 2017; Verdini, Frassoldati, & Nolf, 2017). Moreover, the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention have emphasised the importance of the participation of a variety of stakeholders in heritage identification, protection and preservation as a worldwide strategic policy (Bruku, 2015). These guidelines attempt to ensure that local communities' needs are included and not solely the interests of experts or governments (Schmidt, 2014).

In 2003, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) initiated the Living Heritage Site Programme in the Southeast Asia region, including projects in Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka (Court & Gamini, 2015). Based on this programme, ICCROM published a guidance document discussing the concept of living heritage and people-centred approaches to cultural heritage management in 2015 (Wijesuriya, Thompson, & Court, 2017). People-centred approaches develop a community-based process to inclusively manage heritage properties connected to religious affiliations, traditions, social networks and daily lives of local communities (Khalaf, 2016; Wijesuriya et al., 2017). These approaches are positioned within the mainstream framework of urban planning policies and practices, highlighting the roles and human factors of local communities (Sully & Cardoso, 2016). In this setting, cultural heritage is managed as a dynamic resource contributing to societies and communities in the present as well as to future generations (Dormaels, 2016; Khalaf, 2016).

Despite common international principles, differences between European and Asian heritage management approaches have been noted and recognised, caused by different local

developmental conditions and socio-political regimes (Verdini et al., 2017). Winter (cited in Krishnamurthy, Roders & Van Wesemael, 2020) reported that Asian countries place more emphasis on managing daily lives of residents as associated with local cultural heritage and improving overall living spaces. In line with this, cultural heritage management projects in China are undertaken by local governments as profit-driven processes are used as a catalyst for the promotion of socio-economic urban growth (Fan, 2014; Verdini, 2015). Some European scholars classify Chinese approaches as unorthodox, because they rely on top-down management processes and emphasise urban growth over the conservation of built heritage (Verdini, 2015; Verdini *et al*., 2017). Even so, as Verdini *et al*. (2017) pointed out, Chinese cultural heritage management has its own contextual identity whilst still adhering to international frameworks and practices. In addition, Verdini *et al*. (2017) suggested that sufficient and effective community participation for cultural heritage management has to be facilitated as a long-term strategic goal in order to address the European criticism.

2.4 Gap in Literature

The literature review emphasized best practices in community health and security, biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources and cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement. Examples of these were cited in various part of the world indicating how successful the implementation of projects was. In addition, the literature also highlighted examples of failure to adhere to the best practices in community health and security, biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources and cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement contributed to project unsuccessful. However, this literature was not in the context of the ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport

construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community. Therefore, what happened to the implementation of the projects in other countries could not be generalized to ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community. This resulted into a knowledge gap that this study addressed.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the methods and the techniques and methods which this study employed to assess the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan in Hoima District. The methodology presents among others, the research design, study population, area of study, sample size determination and sampling techniques, data collection methods and instruments, data collection procedures, data analysis and measurement of variables.

3.2 Research Design

This study adopted the systematic literature review research methodology since it was aiming at producing scientific evidence to answer the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan in Hoima District. The systematic literature review methodology also enabled the researcher get facts in a much more transparent and reproducible manner since all the published evidence on the construction of Kabaale Airport were gathered- both in reports and the researcher's observation. This enriched the study with quality evidence (Lame, 2019).

The researcher employed a qualitative approach to assess the performance of Environmental Social Action Plan. According to Denscombe (1998) documentary review assisted to provide rich data and helped explore, dig deep and understand complex issues. Documentation review further assisted to obtain rich data. The researcher was able to access secondary information and obtained data by studying corporate documents like plans, reports and journals.

3.3 Systematic Literature Review Methodology

The systematic literature review methodology followed four stages. The first stage involved document identification, the second stage was document screening, the third stage was document eligibility assessment and the fourth stage was document inclusion decision. These four stages are explained in detail in the following subsections 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3 and 3.3.4.

3.3.1 Document Identification

It advised that before actual document review takes place, the researcher must go through a detailed planning process in order to ensure reliable results (Bowen, 2009). O'Leary (2014) emphasized the researcher to first create a list of texts to explore. Therefore, such a list of texts was created for the documentary review process in this study. The list of texts for the document identification (referred as criteria for full text-screening) was informed by this study topic "*Assessment of the Performance of Environmental Social Action Plan (ESAP) Being Implemented by SBC Uganda Ltd at Kabaale Airport Construction Project: A Case of Beseruka Sub County Community*" and more specifically the specific objectives of this study which were:

I. Assess the Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.
II. Assess the Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.
III. Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

The list of criteria for the required documents was presented to the librarians at SBC ESAP Department, NEMA, Bunyoro Kingdom and Hoima District Environmental Office. Overall, 40 documents that spanned the period from 2019 to 2021 were identified and screened for relevance in relation to the topic and specific objectives of the study. The documents identified and screened included 24 SBC's Monthly Environmental Social Self-Monitoring Reports (ESSR) accessed at SBC ESAP Department, 6 National Environmental Management Review Reports accessed at NEMA library, 4 Bunyoro Kitara Cultural Review Reports accessed at Bunyoro Kingdom Library and 6 Hoima District Environmental review reports provided by the Hoima District Environmental Officer. A flow diagram (Figure 3.1) documents the selection process of documents included in the documentary review to screen for the relevant documents, which is explained after Figure 3.1.

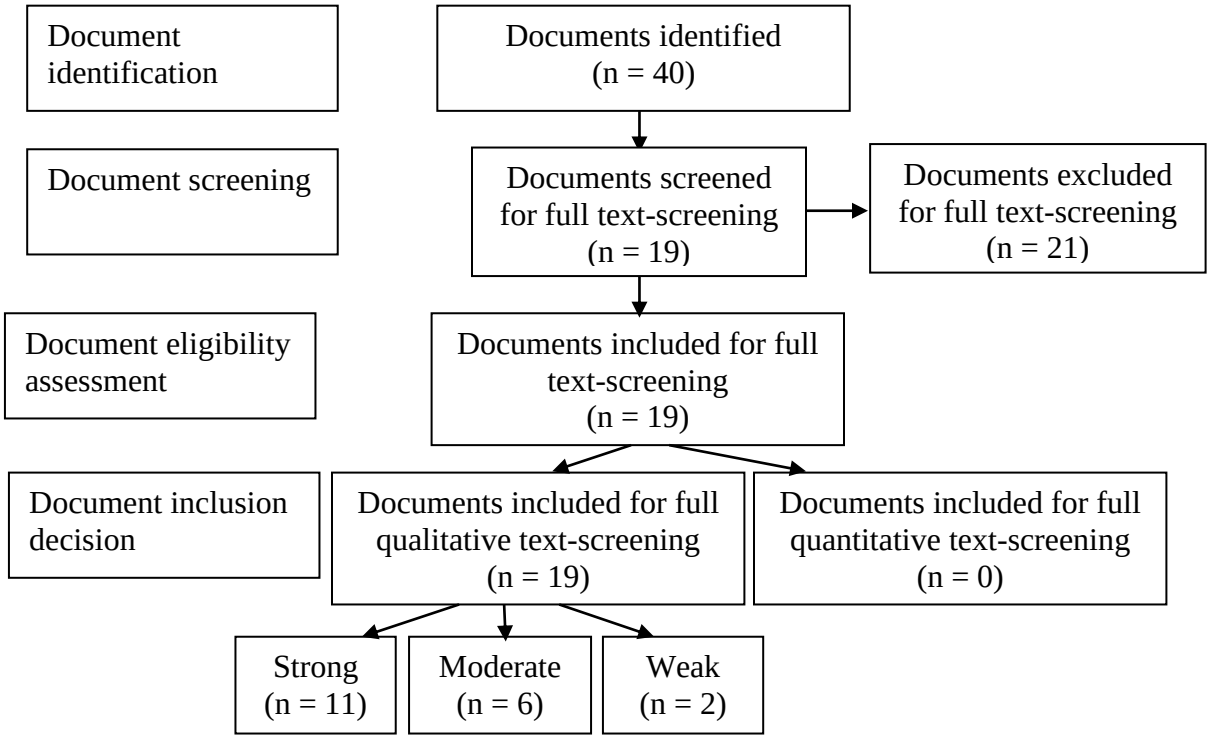

Figure 3.1: Flow diagram for document inclusion for documentary review

As the researcher for this study, I independently screened all of 40 documents for inclusion. The documents were included for full text-screening if they met the following criteria:

- Community health and security indicators such as accidents, sensitization, warning and cautions, health promotion programs, pandemics, noise limitations, vibration mitigation measures, quarry blasting apprehensions, warning signs and measure, air quality maintenance and response to grievances. Thus, 11 criteria were used to identify documents having information on community health and security.
- Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources indicators such as early site clearance, green belts, vegetation cutting, dust emission, drainage, working hours, machinery maintenance, vibrations, hazardous material, septic tanks and top soil management. Thus, 11 criteria were used to identify documents having information on biodiversity conservation and sustainable management.
- Cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement indicators such as archaeological sites, cultural sites management, sites mapping, workers' sensitization, and interactions with the community. Thus, 5 criteria were used to identify documents having information on biodiversity conservation and sustainable management.

Document identification involved coding the content in documents according to the previously mentioned indicators (Bowen, 2009). Thereafter, screening was conducted on the 40 documents.

3.3.2 Document screening

The second stage was screen 40 documents if they met the quality of information that was required to address topic and objectives of this study as suggested by O'Leary (2014). Therefore, the subjectivity of the authors' of 40 documents was taken into consideration and

the original purpose of the document was evaluated (Bowen, 2009). Furthermore, the information in the 40 documents was assessed whether it was firsthand witness or used second-hand sources (O'Leary, 2014). The 40 documents that identified were also assessed for their completeness; in other words, how selective or comprehensive their information was according to criteria adopted for this study (Bowen, 2009).

Out the overall 40 documents that were screened, only 19 of these were assessed to be of potentially relevant to the topic and objectives of this study. These 19 relevant and quality documents were included in the final analysis and these included 12 SBC's Monthly ESSR, 3 National Environmental Management Review Reports, 1 Bunyoro Kitara Cultural Review Report and 3 Hoima District Environmental review reports. The documents were considered eligible for full text-screening.

3.3.3 Document eligibility assessment

The 19 that passed full text-screening were assessed for methodological quality as suggested by O'Leary (2014). This involved exploring the "witting" evidence, or the actual content of the documents. Each of the 19 documents was rated on the 27 criteria explained earlier on as "strong," "moderate" or "weak," depending on information reported in the document. Each document was given an overall assessment of strong, moderate or weak quality based on the total of each criterion rating. The document that was rated strong had information that explained fairly well at least 14 criteria selected for document selection, the document rated moderate had information that explained fairly well at least 9 to 13 criteria selected for document selection and the document rated weak had information that explained fairly well less than 9 criteria selected for document selection.

3.3.4 Document inclusion decision

The overall total scores explained in the previous section document eligibility assessment were used determine the document inclusion quality decision. Eleven (11) documents were found to have a strong quality on the information that explained fairly well at least 14 criteria selected for document selection. Six (6) documents were found to have a moderate quality on information that explained fairly well at least 9 to 13 criteria selected for document selection. Two (2) documents were found to have a weak quality on information that explained fairly well less than 9 criteria selected for document selection.

3.4 Study Area

This study was carried out in the airport project area which is situated in Buseruka Parish, Buseruka Sub-County in Hoima District- Mid Western Uganda.

3.5 Sample Selection

The study strictly used the desk review data collection method. The study therefore identified Buseruka Sub-County as a key geographical area where the necessary sources of information were expected in order to facilitate data collection (Juneja, 2022). The documents were reviewed and these documents were SBC periodic reports about the Kabaale Airport project, Buseruka Sub-County environmental reports and Hoima district environmental reports. Additionally, it is in the same area- Buseruka Sub-county in the project area where observation was done by the researcher with aim of assessing the performance of the environmental protection implementation plan. The sampled sources of data appear in the documentary checklist- Appendix 1.

3.6 Data Collection Methods

The researcher used one key data collection method of documentary review that provided secondary data. This method involved the researcher look at written sources of data such as books, reports, plans, journals and other official company records like statistics (Denscombe, 2000). The researcher reviewed documents and extracted data to supplement questions and interviews hence enriching the findings. As other academicians have found out, the advantage with documentary review is that data can be verified by other scholars; saves time and costs of acquiring information and is flexible since data can be accessed at any suitable times (Oso & Onen, 2009).

3.7 Data Quality

To ensure data quality, the researcher ensured validity of the data used for the study. This was done through seeking data from reliable sources with credible information that was worthy used in academics.

3.8 Procedure of Data Collection

After the approval of the proposal by the University Research Council, the researcher obtained a letter of introduction. This was used to get permission to carry out research among the community members in Buseruka Sub-county.

3.9 Data Analysis

Qualitative data was analysed systematically and thematically based on objective by objective of the study. The researcher categorised and summarised all the data collected for

ease of analysis. During and after, the researcher recorded observations, made general summaries, coded the data where applicable and summarised data. Analysis involved identifying patterns, inconsistencies and relationships and reasons for their occurrences with an aim of explaining how Environmental and Social Impact Assessment was affecting the community surrounding the airport project area which is situated in Buseruka Parish, Buseruka Sub-County in Hoima District- Mid Western Uganda. Using content analysis, data was critically studied, analysed and interpreted to generate meaning and conclusions made thereafter in line with the objectives of the study.

3.10 Ethical Considerations

Research ethics are established rules and guidelines that define the conduct that researchers use in the process of carrying out research activities. Research ethics are established and followed with an aim of protecting the dignity of the work that research produces and the information that is used in the entire research process (Akaranga & Makau, 2016). The study therefore considered the following and respected them as components of ethics to undertake this study:

3.10.1 Informed Consent

Before any person was approached to provide documents thought to provide data, they were informed of the on-going study, its aim and this was geared towards an individual's knowledge, to participate on a voluntarily and to clearly manifest a way to participate or be part of the study (Fouka & Mantzorou, 2011).

3.10.2 Anonymity and Confidentiality

The study will ensure confidentiality and anonymity of the individuals that provided materials necessary for this study. This was done through the study not revealing the identity of the participants in the study and sharing of the information that was being given out (Fouka & Mantzorou, 2011).

3.10.3 Privacy

The study ensured that in the process of gathering data, the persons involved would participate in the study were given a chance to have and enjoy their right to privacy while providing information. Respondents had freedom as individuals to determine the time and circumstances under which to give information (Fouka & Mantzorou, 2011).

3.11 Implications and Contribution to Knowledge

This report provides information that is helpful to companies in the Hoima District. The community members are availed with information that enables them to improve on good governance hence environmental sustainability.

To the policy makers in Uganda at large, information was generated that guides them on how to make Environmental and Social Impact Assessment policies on an informed point of view. The information that was generated was based on facts hence the policy guidelines that will be generated will be relevant to the policy makers.

Finally to the academicians and other researchers, the study added on the already existing body of knowledge on Environmental and Social Impact Assessment. In addition, the study

generated new areas that can be referred for further studies that other interested researcher may venture in.

3.12 Limitation of Desk Review Research Design

Relying on the data collected through desk research is a little risky (Bassort, 2022). The data that the researcher bases his/her research on can be outdated as government organizations do not update their data regularly. Another disadvantage of desk research is that the researcher may not find accurate data for his/her research topic (Bassort, 2022). Secondary research is useful to establish an understanding of the research topic, but reaching conclusions only based on the desk research outcome is not advisable (Bassort, 2022). In secondary research, the data collected or analyzed is based on the research conducted by others (Bassort, 2022). Therefore, the researcher may not have control the research participants and the methods used by them.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents analyses and interprets the study findings arising from the field information collected from documents that were reviewed by the researcher in line with the performance of ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community. The objectives of this study were to; Assess the Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community, assess the Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community, and Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

4.2 Data Source

The study adopted the documentary review data collection method and the study data analysis is purely document analysis; which is a form of qualitative research. The researcher interpreted the data that was extracted from a wide range of documents related to the performance of ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project (Bowen, 2009). In this study, the researcher considered three basic types of data sources of; public records that state the progress of SBC Uganda LTD construction projects at Kabaale Airport, individual documents of individual stakeholders in the Kabaale Airport construction project and researcher's observation (O'Leary, 2014). The rationale of

this approach is that the multi-approach of data collection enabled the researcher to triangulate and generate more substantial information that would improve on the credibility of the study findings (Bowen, 2009). The following are the descriptive results of the documentary review.

Table 4.1: Descriptive results of the documents identified and screened for full text-screening and excluded for full text-screening

Documents identified	Frequencies	Percentage
Documents screened for full text-screening	19	47.5
Documents excluded for full text-screening	21	52.5
Total	40	100

Source: Secondary data

Table 4.1 shows 40 documents were identified. Most of the documents (52.5%) were excluded for full text-screening and the remaining percentage (47.5%) was screened for full text-screening. The 47.5% documents that were screened for full text-screening were rated if they met the criteria have the required information to determine that they were potentially relevant to the topic and objectives of this study. Findings are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Descriptive results of ratings of the documents against the criteria for having the required information

Ratings of the documents	Frequencies	Percentage
Strong	11	57.9
Moderate	6	31.6
Weak	2	10.5
Total	19	100

Source: Secondary data

Table 4.2 shows that from the 19 documents that were screened for full text screening, most (57.9%) were rated as strong indicating that they had more quality on the information for them to potentially relevant to the topic and objectives of this study. Nearly a third of the

documents (31.6%) were rated moderate indicating that they had fairly quality on the information for them to potentially relevant to the topic and objectives of this study. Approximately a tenth of the documents (10.1%) were rated weak indicating that they had less quality on the information for them to potentially relevant to the topic and objectives of this study.

4.3 Empirical Findings

To achieve the general objective of this study of; "to assess the performance of ESAP being implemented by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community," the study used a document review data collection approach. The researcher sought data from different documents and observations and the findings are presented below objective by objectives as follows:

4.3.1 Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community

To assess Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community, the researcher reviewed a wide range of documents, and the findings are presented below as cited from Mugume (2020):

Accidents

The study found out that accidents are part of the hazards that pause danger to both human and property in a construction project. It is appreciated under the SBC in their safety measures that accidents are expected and are prone to happen in the project life cycle. It was established that the accidents that are pointed at are both on-site construction related

accidents and process related accidents especially traffic. It was however noted that the health and safety precautions are largely considering the local population that is closer to the project area. This population is prone to being affected by the road accidents/traffic. In order to mitigate traffic related accidents, SBC has done the following to ensure public safety.

Sensitization

Sensitization cuts across all the community members as per their settings in the community. It was found out that SBC clusters the community and avails information according to their safety needs in regard to traffic and safety information. The study found out that community outreach programs are done to reach out to the local population, people in the transport sector/business especially bodaboda riders plus school going children/pupils and students. This kind of sensitization is done in community dialogues, schools and places where target population operates from. The sensitization component that SBC incorporates involve use of the roads, speed at which road users especially drivers and riders are expected to use in certain road points plus social conduct like alcoholism and their dangers that are associated with road usage. The people are further reminded that the construction project is characterised by use of heavy engineering plants and vehicles that use the same transport infrastructure that the locals use. These heavy machines may not be as flexible in using the roads like other vehicles and are constant on the road and therefore may cause harm to the people.

Figure 4.1: Traffic safety being sensitized among Buseruka community members
Source: SBC Traffic Report (2020)

Figure 4.2: Traffic Safety among the Nyamasoga Primary School children and SBC security plus guards.
Source: SBC Traffic Report (2020)

Warning and cautions

Signage is being put in place to ensure that the population and other road users get to be informed of any danger that may occur as a result of movement of any engineering plant. Additionally, where the project construction team meets a possible dangerous point on the road, signage is erected along the roads, not only to benefit the project construction workforce but also the surrounding population. This is an implication that the project considers physical safety of both the local population and project implementation staff. This kind of safety measure aims at preventing dangers before they occur.

Health Promotion Programs

Health promotion programs were established to be among the initiatives to ensure health and safety of the people within the catchment area of the project. Under the Health Promotions International (HPI), the SBC project ensures community health outreach programs. In these health outreach programs, the targeted beneficiaries are people that are directly affected by the project. Sensitization seminars and workshops are organized and free services like malaria screening, hepatitis B virus screening, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) testing are done. Notably, the collaboration between the construction project team and staff of Kabaale Health Centre III, locals from the villages of Nyamasoga, Kabaale, Kigaaga, Nyakasinini, Katooke and Buserukawere reached out. This outreach program also targeted the members of the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) based in Kyapaloni barracks. This is an indication that the health and safety of the community members is part of the project's arrangement whereby the factors that may not be directly associated with the project outcomes like diseases are tackled. Diseases like malaria and Hepatitis may not be as a result of the hazards that may be associated with the

construction project, but HIV/AIDS may be associated whereby the movement as massive workforce recruited in the project may have a direct contact with the locals hence transmission of the diseases through sexual relations. These health outreach programs therefore were included to ensure that the locals within the project catchment area may stay health hence benefitting directly.

Figure 4.3: Health program sensitization around Kabaale Airport Community
Source: SBC Health Report (2020)

The Global Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic became a turning point of many organizations and individuals to show a public health concern. In the same way, the SBC-Kabaale Airport construction project participated in ensuring that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) as provided by the Government of the Republic of Uganda be followed. This was followed by the project management team in participating in the prevention of the spread of the

pandemic in the project area and surrounding places. Within the project construction area, measures like washing of hands, use of facemasks, sanitizing and social distancing were highly adhered to. The project workers that were forced to go out of the project area were encouraged to undergo self-quarantine to ensure the stop of the spread of the virus. Additionally, the project workers were highly discouraged from mixing with the members of the public in the project area. With these measures in place, it was an implication that the project took into consideration the health of both the project workers and the locals not to be affected by the global pandemic.

Noise Limitations

Noise that emanates from the construction project can rather be a hazard to human health. This noise usually comes from the engineering plants as they are running plus the methods of work like blasting of stones in quarries. The noise that comes as a result of this has both the direct and indirect impact on humans.

The physical noise from blasts comes with too much force that during the blasts, people with hypertension may have severe heart complications and even death. As machines in the construction area are being utilized, the motorised machines may produce a lot noise from their engines, or even the physical contact of the machines and the building materials also produce a lot of noise. This noise, when exposed to people may not only bring about discomfort but also continued exposure has a long-term effect on one’s hearing hence hearing impairments.

In order to avoid the hazards associated with noise, the project management team ensured the purchase of high-class machinery that is capable of reducing noise. These machines include new career trucks that produce less noise, and improved stone blasting technologies. To further reduce noise in areas where people live, access roads that are distant from residences were made and completed to ensure that heavy career truck do not make noise for the locals. In ensuring these, it indicates that the project catered for the safety of the people living in the project catchment area through mitigating noise pollution.

Figure 4.4: Noise Monitoring at the Kabaale Airport Construction area
Source: SBC Environmental Report (2020)

Vibration Mitigation Measures

Like in noise making machines and processes, vibrations also occur as a result of using heavy machines. However, as a result of having the noise mitigated, the vibrations were also tackled hence the project not releasing this dance to the people.

Quarry Blasting Apprehensions

The study further established that the project management team continued to sensitize the masses near the project areas about quarry activities and blasting of rocks. This enabled the project help the locals relocate from the areas that were prone to hazards of blasts hence public health and safety.

Use of Warning Signs and Measure

The construction works in the project area involves a lot of movements of heavy machines that may directly be involved in construction of transporting materials. In case such machines are being moved or any other activity like blasting going to take place, people are warned before such takes places. One of the key warning methods to alert the people is use of sirens and road signage to ensure community safety.

Figure 4.5: Traffic Signages around Kabaale Airport Community
Source: SBC Traffic Report (2020)

Air Quality Maintenance

Construction of physical infrastructure especially roads involves physical contact of the earth surface and constant movement of heavy machinery. In such scenario, air pollution takes place especially through raising dust into the atmosphere hence affecting the air quality. In order to maintain air quality, the study established that access roads that lead where majority of the local population stays are avoided by the project traffic. Some of the key roads that are avoided by the SBC vehicles include Nyamasoga route and Kabaale-Kiziranfumbi Road. This is done to ensure that the local communities continue to enjoy quality air that is not contaminated by fumes and dust. It was however noted that it is hard to fully avoid local

communities while transporting construction materials to the construction site. For this effect therefore, the roads that are being utilised by the project vehicles are constantly watered in order to mitigate the raising dust.

Additionally, blasting of the rocks in the stone quarries to extract construction stones also generates a lot of dust in the air. The study found out that the use of wet crushing and an installed plumbing system is continuously utilised which checks on the dust that would be pushed into the atmosphere.

The spraying of the water in the access roads that are being utilised by the project vehicles and use of wet crushing systems is an implication of maintaining public safety and health measures. This checks the contamination of the air which would have a negative health impact on the population.

Figure 4.6: Wet crushing at Quarry near the Kabaale Airport
Source: SBC Environmental Report (2020)

Response to Grievances

It was discovered that the project management team has been recording traffic related grievances. These grievances have always been put to SBC's attention mainly by the traffic officers and in response, SBC goes back to the communities, schools and Bodaboda riders on a monthly basis. This kind of dialogue enables the project and the community to reach an understanding on how all the parties- the project team and the local community, can maintain safety while utilising the roads. This is an implication that SBC takes into consideration the safety of both the local community and its staff through responding to the grievances that are put to its attention.

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Figure 4.7: Grievance Community Meeting near the Kabaale Airport
Source: SBC Environmental Report (2020)

4.3.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community

To assess Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community, the researcher employed a qualitative data collection method that involved reports and personal observations as presented as follows:

Early Site Clearance

Before the actual construction works begin on any project, site clearance takes place first. The study established that the stage of site clearance took place much earlier than the actual construct commenced. This was deliberated done to enable the project managers identify certain tree and plant species that are significant to the environment. This enabled the project to conserve these trees.

Additionally, the early site clearance enabled the project to acquire construction materials in a selective manner. In the identification of the construction materials, undertakings like exploitation of rocks, trees and water resources was key and had to be done. This process required careful attention so that certain sites, trees and water sources that have cultural heritage attachments are not exploited by the project. Such natural resources further act at habitats for certain animal species whose conservation is crucial.

Figure 4.8: Conserved Natural Habitats for Tortoises at Kabaale Airport
Source: SBC Environmental Report (2020)

Green Belts

The study established that the construction project observed and maintained the green belts that were discovered in the project area. These conserved green belts have remained intact and have maintained the top soil and no traces of soil erosion are observed. These green belts further act as conservation areas for both animal and plant species there. The maintained top soils in these green belts were established to be a source of soil to be used to restore some other ecosystems that were affected by the project. The maintenance of these green belts therefore acts as an assurance that the natural regeneration of the vegetation will take place since the soils and plant species were conserved which are responsible for the regeneration of the vegetation.

Figure 4.9: Conserved Green Belt at Kabaale Airport
Source: Primary Data- Observation

The illustration in Fig. 4.2 above indicates that the construction project of Kabaale Airport maintained the green belts in the area. These green belts have acted as conservation places for tree, animal and bird species.

Controlled Tree Cutting

The study established that unnecessarily tree cutting was highly avoided by the project. Trees contribute significantly in the conservation of the environment especially through acting as wind breakers, formation of rainfall and habitats for animal and bird species. The restricted tree cutting acts by the project implies biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of the living natural resources at Kabaale Airport.

Figure 4.10: Controlled Vegetation Cutting
Source: Primary Data

The project area continues to present existence of both plant and bird species that have remained in the area as a result of regulated vegetation cutting. In Fig. 4.3, a grey heron was spotted moving freely in the conserved area around the Airport.

Dust Emission Minimization

The study discovered that dust emission minimization was not only meant for maintaining air quality but also ecosystem conservation. While transportation is done, spraying of water in the roads is done to check on dust emissions in the atmosphere. Additionally, stone blasting is done under wetting systems to ensure that dust does not get into the atmosphere. In doing so, the controlled dust has minimal harm to the biodiversity.

Drainage

The observation indicated that attention was paid to its construction which turned out to be environmentally friendly. This is because the drainage does not contribute to soil erosion hence maintaining top soil which does not only maintain the fertility of the soils but also the plant species in the construction area.

Working Hours

The hours of work were yet another issue that was found out by the study to be crucial in the conservation of the ecosystem. The study discovered that the construction work is limited only to the day hours. This allows the night hours to maintain the calmness that allows especially the animal species to migrate, hunt and mate. This therefore enables the animals continue existing amid the construction of Kabaale Airport.

Figure 4.11: Regulated Working Hours and Biodiversity
Source: Primary Data

The illustration in Fig. 4.11 indicates that the evening and night hours that are not utilized by the construction works allow the birds make some movements. These movements enable these birds hunt for food and make their lifestyle migrations.

Machinery Maintenance

The machines, both the vehicles and engineering plants used in the construction work that use diesel for fuel are constantly maintained and rehabilitated. This is done with an aim of ensuring that their conditions remain good which would minimise greenhouse gas emissions that is dangerous to the environment. The constant machinery maintenance further enables the machines maintain minimal noise that they produce while being used/running. A combination of noise and smoke/emissions that come from the machines have a great impact on the animal and bird species whereby the dual physically scare them instantly leaving their original habitants. The emissions further affect the air quality which also creates discomfort to the animals and birds instantly sending them away. The constant maintenance of the machinery implies that the project is mindful of biodiversity conservation and sustains management of living biodiversity in the project area through ensuring both air and noise pollution that would affect both animal and plant species.

Planned Vibrations Schedules

Vibrations are part of the construction project and in such a big project, such are generally unavoidable. Massive and constant vibrations have an impact on both animal and bird species whereby experienced vibrations scare them away. Vibrations for this matter that have a physical impact on the bird and animal species come from blasting of heavy rocks in order to extract construction materials like stones and gravel. It should however be noted that the case

of Kabaale Airport construction, such vibrations could not be avoided hence an impact on the animal and bird species. To mitigate the impact of the vibrations that are caused by blasting, blasting is scheduled by the project hence avoiding timings that would be harmful to the living biodiversity species. In consultation with the experts, the project established the times of the day when animals and birds are active and that was the best time for blasts to be done. The times when the birds and animals are feeding or resting, the activity is avoided so that their peace is not interrupted which is crucial for their stay and multiplication.

Hazardous Material Checklist

Construction continues to use resources that are harmful to the environment. However, these harmful resources, if put to a better use, their negative effect can be checked. To this effect, the construction management team continues to use monthly hazardous materials checklist to establish the possible damages that may occur and mitigate them before they take course. Some of the key measures in place are use of the checklist to establish any of the liquid materials like oil and their possible spillages, disposal of polythene materials and safe custody of gas cylinders. It is out of these hazardous material checklists that the living biodiversity within Kabaale are conserved.

Septic Tanks' Monitoring

The waste that is generated by human activity and stay cannot be left unattended to. For this reason, the waste disposal mechanism was considered in the project aiming at constructing Kabaale Airport. Unmonitored waste disposal can have a negative impact on the environment whereby uncontrolled disposal may find itself in the open hence affecting the living

biodiversity in the area. In the monitoring of waste disposal, the condition of the septic tanks is monitored; their emptying and sludge removal is carefully done.

Figure 4.12: Septic Monitoring at Kabaale Airport
Source: Primary Data

Top Soil Reinstatement

At the commencement of the physical construction project, top soil removal was done. However, as the project progressed, the top soil that was removed in earlier stages was reinstated. The reinstatement of top soil in places where it was removed but never accommodated any physical infrastructure enabled the restoration of the original plant species in the area. The reinstatement of top soil therefore implies that the project aimed at sustainable management of living biodiversity in the area. The recovered plant species further facilitated the drainage systems whereby water runoff does not impact the neighbouring swamps hence conserving both the animal and plant species in swampy areas.

Figure 4.13: Topsoil reinstatement at Kabaale Airport
Source: Primary Data

4.3.3 Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community

Identification of the Archaeological Sites

The project area is situated in Bunyoro Kingdom which is highly associated with culture and heritage. The heritage of Bunyoro has its rich history and a lot of ancient activities were taking place across the region. In order to maintain the cultural heritage sites within the construction and project area, the SBC project first established the existing possible areas that

are believed to be archaeological sites. One of the key sites is the underground iron smelting tunnel in Bukona A. Other areas include important grave yards that needed to be conserved. In identification of such areas, the implication is that the construction of Kabaale Airport by SBC recognized cultural heritage information and ensured conservation of such cultural important sites.

Figure 4.14: Cultural Sites preserved near Kabaale Airport
Source: Primary Data

Shifting of Registered Graves

Upon the identification of important graves in the project area, in consultation of the environmental officers, the earthwork team was notified on the registered graves. These graves were mapped but after establishing that they were in the project area, they had to be shifted in order to pave way for the construction of the airport. The shifting of the registered graves indicated the recognition and consideration of the cultural heritage information rather

than destroying them. This was done in collaboration of the chief site engineer, the environmental management officer and the Bunyoro Cultural Team.

Figure 4.15: Relocation of Graves at Kabaale Airport Construction area
Source: SBC Environment report SBC (2021)

Mapping of the Sites

Buseruka Sub County happens to be harbouring the project area. The sub county officials, the project team and the central government officials from Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development shared the information concerning the graves in the mapping of these sites. This led to consultative meetings between the SBC team and the affected families to enable proper mapping of these sites which resulted in arranged relocation that neither affected the construction of the airport nor the affected families.

Marking of Potential Archaeological Sites

The previously reported chance finding of a potential iron smelting site is the only existing feature of cultural significance. The site was marked with a warning tape for ease of identification. Fate of new chance findings, if any to be devised as guided by Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and department of Museums and Monuments. Based on the previous two chance finds, SBC recognised the risk of further more unidentified and unclaimed graves in the location.

Sensitization of Workers

During project activities, it was inevitable that construction activities have an impact on the existing cultural heritage resources within the project area. However, disruption of such resources and materials has been avoided to the greatest possible way through sensitisation of workers, mapping and labelling of burial sites. No impact has been noted since the project commenced. However, SBC has closely worked with both the Bunyoro Cultural Institution

and Ministry of Works and Transport regarding the letter seeking guidance on the previously reported chance findings to expedite the exhuming process.

Community Dialogues

The SBC construction team at Kabaale Airport continued to interact with the communities, cultural authorities and existing museums together with the archaeology department of Atacama consulting limited. This was done to ensure that Environmental and Social Impact Assessment was done and avoid any possible destruction of the cultural sites. These dialogues further aimed at incorporating the reported chance finds in the final report and that will inform the next course of action.

Figure 4.16: Stakeholder Engagement Meeting around Kabaale Airport Community
Source: SBC Community Report (2021)

Collaboration with Kingdom Cultural Team

The SBC team initiated a collaboration to include the cultural team of the kingdom and a sensitization program was conducted for SBC expatriates by the Bunyoro Kingdom Tourism & Cultural ministry. The aim was ensuring that the relevant authorities are informed and seek guidance regarding the existing cultural sites in the area. The collaboration is expected to

continue and be passed over at the hand over so that the new project owners may consider the conservation program as it was first undertaken during the construction project era.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION OF FINDINGS

5.1 Introduction

The presentation of the summary of findings, discussion of findings, conclusions and recommendations is done in this chapter. This chapter further presents the areas of further studies.

5.1.1 Community Health and Security by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

The study found out that the Community Health and Security is recognized by the SBC Uganda Limited at Kabaale Airport. This is as a result of the project's inclusion of health and safety precautions that targets the local population with an aim of mitigating occurrences of accidents. This is coupled with sensitization of the masses on possible dangers associated with the construction and how they could be avoided. It was again discovered that community outreach programs were being undertaken with an aim of fighting diseases among the population near the project area. The project further undertakes pollution control measures of air, water and noise pollution with an aim of maintaining air quality fit for human safety. The study finally established that there is an existing channel that aimed at responding to grievances that are associated with public health and safety.

5.1.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community

The second objective of this study was to assess the biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources by SBC at Kabaale Airport. To this effect, the study found out the Kabaale Airport construction project team biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources was done by SBC. The key finding indicated that the early clearing of the project site of the airport enabled the project identify critical items that needed attention to be conserved. Key of the items that were identified in this early stage of the project was certain tree species, birds and animals and identification of cultural heritage sites. In addition, it was found out that green belts within and nearer the project area were conserved which added on the biodiversity conservation. These green belts preserved certain plant species and maintained habitats for both animal and bird species. The study further established that control of air, water and noise/vibration pollution was yet another measure in place to conserve the biodiversity. This sustained the management of living natural resources through maintenance of the habitats for both animal and bird species that could be scared away by the noise and air pollution plus plants where the maintained air quality sustains them in the project place. The project further indicated restoration of the top soil that was first cleared to pave way for the physical construction work. The restoration of the top soils enabled conservation of the plants whereby the plants found it easy to be restored as a result of favourable soils that originally supported them.

5.1.3 Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement by SBC Uganda LTD at Kabaale Airport construction project in Beseruka Sub County Community.

On whether the cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement was done by SBC at Kabaale Airport, findings revealed that initiatives were put revealed that initiatives were put in place to first map and register all archaeological sites and other important cultural sites. The study revealed that the cultural sites especially the graves that had a cultural attachment but located within the proposed project area, were reallocated. The SBC team further went ahead and entered into a dialogue with the lower local government officials, Bunyoro Kingdom Cultural officials and Central Government officials with the aim of mapping the cultural and heritage sites. This was to ensure that the construction project co-exists with the cultural sites in the area, during and after the construction of Kabaale Airport. Finally, the study discovered that the SBC project team members went on and carried out sensitization programs and dialogues with the community members. This aimed at sharing information between the different stakeholders to ensure that the cultural heritage information is shared among all the stakeholders.

5.2 Discussion

5.2.1 Community Health and Security

The study found out that the SBC Uganda Limited at Kabaale Airport recognized Community Health and Security. This is manifested through the mitigation of occurrences of accidents. This concurs with the provisions of community health and safety as presented by Craxton (2014) where he argued that this could be achieved through legislation. He however stated that health and safety Acts identify within the health and safety programs at both the

national and international levels and commitments to the programs. This was discovered by the researcher where the SBC Kabaale Airport project team is committed to ensuring public safety and health. Craxton further suggested that the conservation of biological diversity that should be in conformity with the natural bio-geographic characteristics of the state are also supposed to provide for the conservation and use of environmental media. The use of the media according to Craxton (2014) implies dissemination of information. This is in tandem with the findings of this study whereby the researcher established that sensitization of the masses is being done by the project managers in regard to the dangers that may affect the health of the public that are related with the project is done. The sensitization is aiming at mitigating the dangerous effects associated with the project.

The study also established existing channels that are utilised to respond to grievances that come from the project implementation that are associated with public health and safety. This is in agreement with Cowi (2018) that provided for set health and safety project standards to adopt a hierarchy of mitigating, minimising and compensating the workers and/or community members for the risks and impacts that result from the project implementation. The compensation also includes the environmental related damages.

5.2.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The study found out the that biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources was done through the early clearing of the project site. This enabled the identification of critical biodiversity and ecosystem items that needed attention to be conserved. This finding is in agreement with MacDonald (2017) that had asserted that

biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources takes place through phases of assessment in the project implementation process. Similarly, the earlier stages of site clearance enabled creation of the processes to assess what needed to be conserved and how to approach it at Kabaale Airport by SBC Limited. The study also discovered the maintenance of green belts within and nearer the project area were conserved that served as areas of biodiversity conservation. According to Johansen (2019), the Environmental and Social Action Plan requires project implementation to avoid extreme significant impacts on the environment which the project successfully accomplished. Pollution of air, water and noise pollution was discovered to be under check by the project as one way of ensuring biodiversity conservation. This finding concurs with IFC (2016) that provided for biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources involving the guidelines that enable the control of pollution for both the ecosystem and community health.

5.2.3 Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement

The findings of the study indicate that SBC Limited at Kabaale Air Port recognises cultural heritage information disclosure and stakeholder engagement. This was exhibited through mapping and registration of all existing archaeological and other important cultural sites. According to David and Agarwal (2011), project implementers are expected to project affected historical issues, social relations expected relationships between local communities and the project implementer. This is to enable the project to start without affecting of causing a significant impact that may be a discomfort to what the project found as listed. This is fully reflected in what the study findings indicated in regard to the recognition and mapping of all cultural sites that would be affected by the project. At a stakeholder level, an analysis is

expected to be made determine the level of communication that is appropriate for the project according to World Bank (2014). This was fully established by the study whereby SBC team was found to have gone ahead and entered into a dialogue with the lower local government officials, Bunyoro Kingdom Cultural officials and Central Government officials in the mapping of the cultural and heritage sites.

5.4 Conclusions

From the findings that the study came across, the conclusions can be made objective by objectives as follows:

5.4.1 Community Health and Security

The SBC Uganda Limited at Kabaale Airport recognises Community Health and Security. This is due to the following findings. Health and safety precautions were included in the project implementation that targets the local population to mitigate accidents. SBC Uganda Limited conducted sensitization of the masses on possible dangers associated with the construction and how they could be avoided. SBC Uganda Limited carried out community outreach programs that were undertaken to fighting diseases among the population near the project area. The project undertook pollution control measures of air, water and noise pollution to maintain air quality fit for human safety. There is response to grievances that are associated with public health and safety.

5.4.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The study found out that biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources is done by SBC at Kabaale Airport. The study concluded that early clearing of the project site was done that enabled identification of biodiversity that needed to be conserved. There was preservation of green belts which conserved certain plant species and maintained habitats for both animal and bird species. SBC Uganda Limited checked on pollution that enabled control of air, water and noise/vibration pollution which contributes to biodiversity conservation. SBC Uganda Limited restored of the top soil that has enabled conservation of the plants through restoration.

5.4.3 Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement

The study concludes that SBC Limited disclosed cultural heritage information and stakeholder engagement at Kabaale Airport. This due to initiatives that SBC Uganda Limited put in place to first map and register all archaeological sites and other important cultural sites. The cultural sites that had a cultural attachment within the project area were reallocated. The SBC team entered into a dialogue with the lower local government officials, Bunyoro Kingdom Cultural officials and Central Government officials to map the cultural and heritage sites. SBC Uganda Limited conducted sensitization programs and dialogues with the community members to share information on cultural heritage.

5.6 Recommendations

5.6.1 Recommendations on Community Health and Security

The findings on Community Health and Security indicate that SBC Limited either provides all avenues of ensuring health and safety or responds to the need once complaints arise. It is therefore recommended to all stakeholders in Uganda especially in areas where huge construction projects are to be undertaken, have all the citizens sensitized on their health, safety and security. This is to enable quick implementation of construction projects since the masses will have guidelines in place without necessarily counting on contractors whose minds are already programmed for the projects ahead. This implies that people's health, safety and security comes in a second choice hence a likelihood of being compromised.

5.6.2 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The findings on biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources also indicate much of the work and implementation being largely done by SBC. The main stakeholders like local leadership, Bunyoro Kingdom and the Central government leaders' role in the conservation of the biodiversity at Kabaale Airport is not indicated. The study therefore recommends that the stakeholders, especially at the local government level lay down structures, should guide construction works in ensuring that biodiversity conservation becomes part and partial of the entire projects' life cycle.

5.6.3 Recommendations on Cultural Heritage Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement

Under the cultural heritage information disclosure, the study established that SBC Limited was working closely with the stakeholders in mapping, conserving and relocating important cultural sites. The study however did not indicate the post-project management of the cultural heritage information that SBC will leave behind after the construction project. The study therefore recommends that SBC Team establishes a post-construction heritage cultural information system that can sustain the heritage information upon the completion of the construction project at Kabaale Airport.

5.7 Areas for Further Research

As the researcher worked to achieve the main objective of this study, more areas of concern especially those that were identified and recommended by the study double as new areas of research. The study therefore identifies the following as new areas of further research:

- Citizen sensitization on Community Health and Security in huge project implementation areas
- An assessment into stakeholders' involvement in biodiversity conservation in huge project implementation areas.
- Factors that affect post-project implementation and management of the cultural heritage information in construction project areas.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Documentary Review Checklist

1. Bunyoro- Kitara Cultural Review Reports (4)
2. Buseruka Sub-County Environmental Reports (4)
3. Hoima District Environmental Review Reports (4)
4. National Environmental Management Authority Reports (1)
5. SBC Environmental Reports (12)