



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



National Information Technology Authority of Uganda (NITA-U)

Regional Communication Infrastructure Program (RCIP)



FPIC with The Tepeth Community in Tapac



FPIC with the Batwa Community in Bundibugyo

## VULNERABLE AND MARGINALISED GROUPS FRAMEWORK (VMGF)

APRIL 2015

Prepared by: Elizabeth Aisu  
P.O Box 20177 Kampala,  
Telephone: 256-772-616-489  
E-mail: [elizabeth.aisu@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.aisu@gmail.com)

## Contents

1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
1.1. Background .....	4
1.2. Project Description.....	4
1.3. Project Location .....	5
2. Definition of Vulnerable and Marginalized People.....	6
2.1. Vulnerable Groups .....	6
2.2. Marginalized Groups.....	6
2.2.1. The Batwa Community.....	6
2.2.2. The Tepeth Community .....	7
3. POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF RCIP ON VMGs .....	8
3.1. Potential Positive Impacts.....	9
3.2. Some of the Negative/Barriers of RCIP interventions may include.....	10
3.3. Proposed Mitigation Measures.....	10
4. Guidelines on preparation of The Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Framework .....	12
4.1. Plan for Social Assessment.....	12
4.2. Institutional and Implementation Arrangements.....	13
4.3. Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan .....	13
4.4. Framework for free, prior, and informed consent .....	14
4.5. Grievance Mechanism.....	15
4.6. Monitoring and Evaluation .....	15
4.7. Disclosure arrangements for VMGPs to be prepared under the VMGF .....	17
4.8. Budget .....	17
References .....	18
ANNEXES .....	19
Annex 1- Social Assessment Report.....	19
Annex 2- Social Screening Form.....	19
ANNEX 3: SAMPLE GRIEVANCE AND RESOLUTION FORM .....	79
ANNEX 4: GRIEVANCE CLOSE OUT FORM .....	80
Annex 5: Annotated outline for preparation of a VMG Plan .....	80

**ACRONYMS**

AICM	African International Christian Ministries
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GoU	Government of Uganda
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDA	International development Association
IDF	Independent Development Fund
IWGIA	International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MICT	Ministry of Information and Communications Technology
MRGI	Minority Rights Group International
NBI	National Backbone Infrastructure
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NITA-U	National Information Technology Authority - Uganda
PAD	Project Appraisal Document
PAP	Project affected Person
RCIP – U	Regional Communication Infrastructure Programme - Uganda
UOBDU	United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda),
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Act Authority
VG	Vulnerable Groups
VMG	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups
VMGF	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups framework
VMGP	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

In Uganda the use of ICT services has dramatically increased in Uganda overtime with the number of mobile phone subscribers growing from just 780,000 in 2003 to approximately 21.6 million in 2014, representing 58% of the population. The cost of both international and domestic calls has fallen sharply. About 14 million Ugandans used mobile money platforms in 2013, with transaction value rising 40% from 2012 to UGX 18,600 billion, and the number of mobile money users now stands at more than double the number of traditional bank account holders. Despite all that; access to broadband still remains low with poor quality and high prices making the service providers transfer this high costs to the last consumers.

In response to the increasing demand and as its mandate to provide all the citizens ICT services, GoU has made significant investments in telecommunication infrastructure through the completion of the implementation of Phases I and II of the National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) funded by a bilateral credit from China including over 1,500 km of fiber optic. The private sector is leveraging investments in the NBI to rollout complimentary infrastructure and services in areas where there is strong demand and commercial viability.

### 1.2. Project Description

#### **Regional Communication Infrastructure Program (RCIP)**

Government of Uganda through the RCIP intends to obtain funding from IDA to finance the completion of the missing NBI links in the Northern and South-Western regions and to provide new links to neighboring countries. The additional links will improve the reliability of NBI by creating self-healing loops, extend access to currently underserved areas, and provide connection to existing and future regional backbone infrastructure and submarine cables. Roll-out will benefit users in Uganda as well as neighboring countries which rely on the Ugandan network for transit. NITA-U, the executing agency, is finalizing the list of links to be financed under RCIP.

The proposed Regional Communications Infrastructure Program for Uganda (RCIP UG) will be implemented within the context of NITA-U. The RCIP UG will complement existing country ICT and e-government Infrastructure initiatives and help fill the financing and technical gaps. RCIP UG will in particular support the GoU to (i) improve communications and IT infrastructure in the country; (ii) promote the use and application of this infrastructure for e-government and other services; (iii) build capacity in management of IT programs, tools and projects; and (iv) improve policy and regulatory environment for ICT.

This project therefore aims at:

- a) Contributing to low cost and improved regional connectivity through connecting the Eastern and Southern African countries to global broadband optic infrastructure;
- b) Supporting the creation of a coordinated regional and national transmission network which would ensure that all countries in Eastern and Southern African are able to connect effectively within and between national borders; and
- c) Supporting management and capacity building in form of finance, business and technical as well as raising awareness and training.

## The project comprises of 4 components

**Component 1: Enabling Environment:** This component aims to support the capacity of the Ministry of ICT, implementing agency and other key stakeholders to develop and review the relevant national policies, strategies, laws and technical regulatory frameworks in order to support e-government services and connectivity agenda for the ICT sector.

**Component 2: Connectivity:** This component has the following subcomponents: (i) pre-purchase of international bandwidth for Government and priority targeted user groups; (ii) implementation of missing links to improve regional connectivity and the reach, availability and resiliency of National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) and (iii) Government network providing broadband connectivity to MDAs, schools, hospitals, Universities and Research Institutions, and NGOs.

**Component 3: E-Government Applications:** The objective of e-Government component under RCIP Project is to support the Government of Uganda in leveraging advances in ICT with the aim of establishing the enabling e-Government foundations that would simplify the implementation of sector specific electronic services, in order to significantly reduce the cost and time taken to deliver visible benefits for its citizens.

**Component 4: Project Management:** This component will finance project management related costs including project coordination, procurement, financial management, monitoring & evaluation, project communication, and environmental and social safeguards.

### 1.3. Project Location

The RCIP project that is nationwide will also be implemented in the Districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto that are inhabited by groups of people identified as traditional hunter/gatherer *Batwa* communities, also known as *Twa*, in South Western Uganda and the Karamojong communities (*Tepeth*) known to be marginalized. These people have historically suffered, and continue to suffer, disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds. Their livelihood is threatened mainly by the dwindling access they have to land and natural resources on which they depend either as pastoralists or as hunt-gatherers. Project implementation in these areas triggers The World Bank's OP.4.10 policy for the identification of indigenous peoples.

In as much as the Bank policy OP 4.10 identifies these groups as indigenous, the Uganda Constitution refers to them as vulnerable and marginalized therefore this report will adopt to use the term “*Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups*” in place of “*Indigenous Peoples*.”

**World Bank's OP. 4.10** recognizes that “the distinct identities and cultures of VMGs remained inextricably linked to the lands they inhabited and the natural resources they depended upon to survive”. The policy requires that: (i) screening, (ii) social assessment, consultations with communities involved, (iii) preparation of or Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VMGF) and, (iv) disclosure be carried out before the project is implemented. It also requires the borrower to seek broad community support of VMGs through a process of free, prior and informed consent before deciding to develop any project that targets or affects VMGs.

**This framework has been prepared including Karamoja Region as the description of area of implementation included Karamoja at the lunch of all the safeguard instruments preparations but was revised later to initially exclude it in the project operations. However, the information on the**

**Karamoja region is still relevant for future implementation/extension to this region and the recommendations will apply to any future considerations for this region.**

To ascertain the existence of VMGs in the project areas, NITA-U has undertaken a separate **Social Assessment** in the districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto and the findings and recommendations are herein attached in the Social Assessment Report. (Annex 1).

## **2. Definition of Vulnerable and Marginalized People**

### **2.1. Vulnerable Groups**

**Vulnerability** refers to the conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility of a community to the impact of hazards. A vulnerable group is therefore a population that has some specific characteristics that make it at higher risk of falling into poverty than others living in areas targeted by a project. Vulnerable groups include the elderly, the mentally and physically disabled, at-risk children and youth, ex-combatants, internally displaced people and returning refugees, HIV/AIDS- affected individuals and households, religious and ethnic minorities and, in some communities or societies, women.

Vulnerable people or groups in this study are those who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage, or social status may be more adversely affected by the project than others and may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of resettlement assistance and related development benefits.

### **2.2. Marginalized Groups**

The term “Marginalization” generally describes the overt actions or tendencies of human societies whereby those perceived as being without desirability or function are removed or excluded (i.e., are "marginalized"...) from the prevalent systems of protection and integration, so limiting their opportunities and means for survival. This applies to the Tepeth and Batwa who were evicted from their original habitats in Moroto and The Rwenzori National Forest Reserves respectively.

It is noted that, although the Ugandan Constitution does not expressly recognize indigenous peoples it makes provision for addressing some of the negative effects arising from ethnic imbalances. The Constitution, in the section on National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at the same time recognizing the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of co-operation, understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other’s customs, traditions and beliefs.

#### **2.2.1. The Batwa Community**

The Batwa are a minority group of people found in the South Western districts of Kabale, Kisoro, Kasese and Bundibugyo. The Batwa lived near Echuya Forest and Mgahinga and Bwindi Conservation Area as their ancestral homes. Following the 1990 Ugandan Government Policy of Bio-diversity Conservation, the Batwa were evicted from these forests. These areas were gazzated as protected areas by the Act of Parliament (Uganda Wildlife Act Cap. 200) under Uganda Wildlife Authority; the Batwa lost their

original home land (forests). They were neither resettled nor compensated by government rendering them completely homeless. The Batwa ended up living as squatters on other people's land to whom they provided manual labour in exchange for food or little pay which could not even sustain a family for a meal.

As squatters, the Batwa could only be allowed to construct a hut in which they lived as they guarded crops for the landlords. The huts were too small, poorly mudded and sometimes made of grass which acted as both the walls and roofs. These kinds of shelter made the Batwa vulnerable and subjected them to all forms of social discrimination and marginalization by the non-Batwa in their respective communities. In cases where they failed to abide by the land lords' requirements, the Batwa family was chased away. Due to these poor living conditions, the Batwa were perceived as backward and people of low caliber. The non Batwa sometimes were not willing to associate with them or even share a meal. The Batwa were regarded as lazy people with limited skills and knowledge to participate in any development project.

The Batwa had no concept of land ownership because they never stayed in one place for a long time. They were mobile people who were not guided by strict regulations but used to freely move from place to place hunting small game using arrows or nets and gathering plants and fruit in the rain forest.

In the late 1990s several development partners such as CARE International, ADRA, worked in collaboration with national NGOs like BMCT, UOBDU, AICM, BUCCODI, and some Government agencies like UWA came together to rescue the Batwa communities by buying land and resettling them. In order to improve the general living conditions of the Batwa, AICM in partnership with CARE International purchased 52 acres of land that was divided amongst Batwa households in the sub-counties thus: 13 acres for Muko, 10 acres for Batanda and 29 acres for Bufundi in Kabale District. Among the land beneficiaries are 83 couples and many other Batwa in different settlement centres. The Batwa now have embraced agriculture and have grown crops as well as rearing animals.

Currently the Batwa are struggling to access education, health care, employment, land for food production and settlement from time of their eviction till now they were never been compensated. However, some development actors have tried to address the issue of land by procuring pieces of land to some Batwa households but the majority is still landless.

### 2.2.2. The Tepeth Community

The Tepeth are a group of people that are also referred to as the *Soo*. They live in Mount Moroto and neighbor the Turkana and the Pokot of Kenya. The Tepeth are also said to have been the original people of Moroto but due to ethnic wars with the Karimojong they were driven up the top of mount Moroto.

Tapac people are called the Tepeth. In their informal administrative structures, they have the Council of Elders at the helm. This body is constituted by the men and the women and the youth too are represented. They largely depend on livestock keeping for a livelihood and hardly practice agriculture. Previously, they settled at the hill tops due the insecurity that was prevailing in the area. Of recent they have been encouraged to come down from the hill tops to settle down. The Tepeth community at the border have limited communication network with the district because of barrier created by the mountain. Transfer of information to the target population in this community is very slow due to lack of faster means of communicating.

*“A message that is meant to reach the population today ends up reaching the target population a month after. Even if you went and interviewed people about an on-going intervention, they may tell you that they do not know. They will say this, not because they are not interested, but sometimes it is because they do not have any information about that intervention.” (District Official)*

Areas behind the mountain in the Sub counties of Rupa and Tapac that border Kenya hardly receive any network coverage from the Ugandan side. For this reason, the district sometimes uses the Kenyan radios from Kitale when they have information to pass to the community. These areas are characterized with a poor road network that has been made worse by heavy trucks ferrying marble for cement factories. This coupled with lack of electricity has limited the use of ICT in the area as people have to travel about 47 KMs to charge phones and also to receive mobile money. There are very low levels of literacy in these communities due to low value that is attached to education, and for this reason, their ability to operate gadgets like phones is also very low.

The main distinguishing aspect in their culture is that they carry out FGM. They also have their tradition religion that is kept a secret amongst the ethnic group. They have their shrines at the top of one of the mountains that they visit. The FGM practice is also common among other communities that live along the border line. Some partners like UNFPA, UNICEF and the Government of Uganda have embarked on deliberate programs to end this practice. Committees have been formed and are working to address this practice and some of the mutilators have been arrested and taken to courts of law. The RCIP project once implemented will enhance the fight against this practice by fostering information dissemination.

Below are some of the major challenges and concerns faced by the Vulnerable/marginalized groups:

Uganda's constitution has no express protection for Indigenous/Vulnerable/Marginalized Peoples, though it does provide for affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups.

The Land Act of 1998 and the National Environment Statute of 1995 protect customary interests in land and traditional uses of forests. However these laws also authorize the government to exclude human activities in any forest area by declaring it a protected forest, thus nullifying the customary land rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, the new Land Policy 2013 seeks to address the issue of dispossession of indigenous people of their ancestral land.

Frequent attacks from hostile ethnic groups especially the Tepeth in Moroto are attacked by the Pokot and Turkana from the Kenya.

Eviction from homelands (Natural Forests) has limited the vulnerable/marginalized Peoples' access to food, medicine, and shelter. As a result, some of them are plagued by starvation, sickness and exposure. For instance the Batwa in Bundibugyo District are numbering less than 200 are on the verge of total extinction due the HIV/AIDS which they have acquired due to the integration with other communities who believe that one can get cured of the infection after sleeping with a Mutwa woman.

### **3. POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF RCIP ON VMGs**

It is anticipated that in the process of implementing the proposed RCIP project in the 4 districts, activities of these component will trigger social effects and safeguard concerns whose impacts may range from small scale and site specific to larger infrastructure investment activities. Below is a summary of social impacts expected to be caused during the implementation of the project beyond land take.



### 3.1. Potential Positive Impacts

**Activities in Component 1, Sub-component 1.1: Developing an Enabling Environment, including Policy, Legal and Technical Frameworks and Programs.** Will involve financing: (i) Consultancies to support review of existing policies and developing of missing policies and (ii) Consultancies to develop legal, regulatory frameworks and technical standards including development of various standards for infrastructure, legislation and regulation to enable use of electronic services, applications and security requirements in order to enable integration and rationalization of all government IT systems. This process should ensure that vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project area are involved in the prior, free and informed consent consultations and their views and contributions be considered during the review and development of policies, legal and regulatory frameworks.

**Component 2 (Connectivity)** of the RCIP intends, as a priority, to connect major regions of the country to the national backbone and thereby ensure geographical equity in respect to connectivity, diversity of options for access to submarine cables, boosting the use of ICTs in the rural areas and lower the cost of international bandwidth by pre-purchasing bandwidth for Government Ministries, departments, agencies and priority targeted user groups. The implementation of the missing links will inevitably reach the border areas/districts of Bundibugyo, and Kabale among others in which the Batwa live, Kasese where the Bakingwe, Bahooli, Basongola and Banyabingi live as well as in Moroto where Karimojong, specifically the Tepeth, identified as vulnerable/marginalized persons in the country inhabit.

Activities of excavation works for broad bandwidth may generate volumes of cut to spoil materials which will need to dispose from the site. In addition, these activities will be implemented on people's land and in some case may lead to cutting of trees and crops along the line.

#### **Component 3: e-Government Applications**

**Sub-component 3.1.2: Shared Public Service Delivery Platform.** This shared public service delivery platform will save MDAs valuable resources because individual MDAs will not need to set up multiple data centers. In addition, the proposed government cloud based infrastructure will provide data back-up for many of the existing ministries that have data centers. The Platform will incorporate a mobile enabled delivery system, to enable people who do not have access to the Internet to get services through mobile phones. The shared public service delivery platform will have several advantages over the traditional systems—it will save financial and human resources and enable faster implementation of various sectoral e-government services. The e-governance component will enhance management and preparedness for natural disasters and will go a long way in providing early warning information for timely action in conflict-prone areas such as the ethnic and cross border conflicts sometimes experienced in the cross border districts like Bundibugyo, Kasese and Moroto.

#### **Component 4: Project Management**

VMGs will benefit from the services of the procurement of an environment and social safeguard specialist at NITA-U who will ensure that issues of the VMGs are taken care of. Monitoring and documentation of impacts on inclusion and vulnerability of VMGs will uphold the principle of inclusion of marginalized groups as enshrined in the constitution of Uganda.

### 3.2. Some of the Negative/Barriers of RCIP interventions may include

Lack of community ownership for infrastructure project can result in facilities going unused or being abandoned. Expensive infrastructure investments completed without local community input face a risk of poor use and maintenance. Previous efforts to upgrade infrastructure especially in Karamoja region in the form of roads, water supplies, health facilities and schools have faced challenges to sustainability since projects were implemented in a top-down manner.

Given the literacy and poverty levels of the VMGs, and the fact that ICTs are dependent on the skills and capacity to use, manage and maintain, there is a risk of ineffective utilization because they cannot afford the cost of internet access and computers.

The languages of both the Batwa and the Tepeth are already at the risk of extinction coupled with the levels of education their literature was not development and documented they would not find much information that is relevant to their lives. ICT components like the Internet will not be much beneficial.

New information and community technologies may be used to enhance cultural self-expression or stifle it through what has been variously labeled as cultural imperialism, invasion.

Marginal communities in the rural areas contain a wealth of indigenous knowledge and traditional cultural resources, a rich but fragile heritage which risks being lost with the advent of modern technology

Infrastructure projects within and shared by different ethnic groups has the ability to achieve peace building goals of increasing interaction and fostering cooperation. However, there is a risk that new infrastructure improvements undertaken by the RCIP project could increase conflict and instability especially in Karamoja sub region.

Considering that VMGs reside in remote and hard to reach areas, ICT projects run a risk lack of sustainability arising from poor infrastructure (roads) and lack of electricity on which ICT promotion is heavily dependent.

### 3.3. Proposed Mitigation Measures

A summary of the potential adverse impacts of the RCIP on any potential VMGs and possible mitigation actions are highlighted below. These could be considered as a guideline in the development of the investment specific to VMGP in terms of mitigation measures and other considerations.

NITA-U to consider development of communication centers that will promote information access and narrow the exclusion gap by creating synergies through partnering with the Rural Communication Development Fund which has already spearheaded access to ICT in the rural and hard to reach areas. The RCDF is already operational in the RCIP districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto.

Review of policy and regulatory frameworks with VMGs consideration will increase inclusion opportunities.

In case of land acquisition requirements, a resettlement policy framework has been developed alongside the VMGF to help guide in the processes to be taken to ensure that there adequate and fair compensation of all project affected persons including the VMGs.

Need to block/ put some limitations in content of the technology designed so that immoral or unethical materials do not come into the public domain.

During the review and update of policy and regulatory frameworks considerations should be given to address procedures governing use and operation of ICT.

ICT and communication efforts must take cultural values of marginal groups as an avenue of their participation, rather than borrowing community strategies from outside that promote change without due consideration for culture. Preserving cultural diversity, local languages and traditional systems of communication in the face of global challenges is one way of the ICT promotion

## 4. Guidelines on preparation of The Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Framework

**OP 4.10** requires that a process of free, prior, and informed consultation, with the affected vulnerable and marginalized communities, of the potential adverse and positive effects of the Project be designed and used in consultation. It is likely that some of the proposed investments will result in significant adverse impacts for vulnerable and marginalized communities and as such the VMGs should be informed and consulted prior to Project implementation. The Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VMGF) sets out:

The potential positive and adverse effects of RCIP subprojects on VMGs

A plan for carrying out the social assessment for RCIP subprojects

A framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consent with the affected VMGs' communities at each stage of project preparation and implementation

Institutional arrangements including capacity building where necessary for screening project-supported activities, evaluating their effects on vulnerable and marginalized groups, preparing VMGF, and addressing any grievances

Monitoring and reporting arrangements, including mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the project

Disclosure arrangements to the VMGs to be prepared under the VMGF

### 4.1. Plan for Social Assessment

The social assessment is a variant of what is generally known as a Social Impact assessment (SIA) and will be done during the VMG subproject preparation. It will gather relevant information on demographic data: social, cultural and economic situation; and impacts. This information will be gathered through separate group meetings within the vulnerable and marginalized communities, including leaders, NGOs, CBOs, and affected persons. Discussions will focus on potential positive and negative impacts of the subprojects; measures to enhancing positive impacts and strategies/options to minimize and/or mitigate negative impacts.

The social assessment includes the following elements, as needed:

- a) A review, on a scale appropriate to the project, and institutional framework applicable to vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- b) Gathering of baseline information on the demographics, social, cultural and political characteristics of the affected vulnerable and marginalized groups' communities, the land and territories that they have traditionally owned or customarily used or occupied, and the natural resources on which they depend.
- c) Taking the review and baseline information into account, the identification of key subproject stakeholders and the elaboration of a culturally appropriate process for consulting with VMGs at each stage of subproject preparation and implementation.
- d) An assessment, based on free, prior, and informed consent, with the affected VMGs communities, of the potential adverse and positive effects of the relative vulnerability of, risks to land and natural resources as well as their lack of access to opportunities relative to their social groups in the communities, regions, or national societies in which they live.
- e) The identification and evaluation, based on free, prior, and informed consent with the VMGs communities, of measures necessary to avoid adverse effects, or if such measures are not feasible,

the identification of measures to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects, and to ensure that VNGs receive culturally appropriate benefits under the subproject.

#### 4.2. Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

The project financial and other resources will be managed through the existing financial management arrangements in NITA – U as established under the Directorate of Finance and Administration. During project execution the NITA – U shall coordinate project implementation and manage: (a) project monitoring, reporting and evaluation; (b) contractual relationships with IDA and other co-financiers; (c) procurement and (d) financial management and record keeping, accounts and disbursements.

The Executive Director NITA - U will be the “Accounting Officer” for the project, assuming the overall responsibility for accounting for the project funds.

A designated Project Manager will be procured who will be responsible for the day to day co-ordination of project activities in close collaboration with the relevant NITA-U Technical Departments. NITA-U should also procure a Social Development Specialist to be responsible for implementation and monitoring of Safeguard Issues and ensure that the voices of vulnerable and marginalized groups are listened to.

As part of the project preparation, the capacity for NITA-U to implement, monitor and report on social issues including safeguards was assessed to establish the capacity of NITA-U to implement Social safeguards. It was established that NITA-U did not have capacity to prepare, implement and monitor social issues including safeguards. NITA-U does not have a unit or a designated staff responsible for implementation of social issues including safeguards (Involuntary Resettlement and Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups), triggered as a result of the project.

To strengthen the implementation of the organization and project in particular, NITA-U will recruit a Social Scientist to be responsible for mainstreaming social issues in the project, within six months of the project effectiveness. The Social Scientist will be responsible for the implementation of all social issues including Social Safeguards (Involuntary Resettlement and Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups). The Social Scientist will be charged with preparations and implementation of the RAPs, VMGPs and working closely with the staff responsible for environmental issues to develop social action plan resulting from the ESMF and ESIA.

#### 4.3. Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan

Based on the social assessment, the subproject will develop appropriate mitigation measures and livelihood enhancement activities for vulnerable and marginalized groups. A VMGP addresses the (i) aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the effected VMGs, (ii) local social organization, cultural believe, ancestral territory, and resource use patterns among the affected VMGs; (iii) potential positive and negative impacts on VMGs; (iv) measures to avoid, mitigate, or compensate for adverse project effects; (v) measures to ensure project benefits will accrue to VMGs; (vi) measures to strengthen the capacity of local authority and relevant government departments to address VMGs issues; (vii) the possibility of involving local organizations and non-governmental organizations with expertise in VMGs issues; (viii) budget allocations; and (ix) monitoring. NITA-U the implementing agency will submit the VMGP to the Bank for review and approval prior to commencement of project works.

The Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan is prepared in a flexible and pragmatic manner, ant its level of detail varies depending on specific project and nature of effects to be addressed. The VMGP includes the following elements, as needed:

- a) A summary of the social assessment

- b) A summary of results of the free, prior, and informed consent with the affected VMGs communities that was carried out during subprojects project preparation and that led to broad community support for the subprojects.
- c) A framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consent with affected VMGs communities during project implementation.
- d) An action plan of measures to ensure that VMGs receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate, including, if necessary to enhance the capacity of the subproject implementing agency.
- e) When potential adverse effects on VMGs are identified, an appropriate action plan which includes measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for these adverse effects.
- f) The cost estimates and financing plan for VMGP.
- g) Accessible procedures appropriate to the subprojects to address grievances by the affected VMGs' communities arising from subproject implementation. When designing the grievance procedures, the borrower (GoU) through NITA-U will take into account the availability of judicial recourse and customary dispute settlement mechanisms among the VMGs
- h) Mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the subproject for monitoring and evaluating, and reporting on the implementation of the VMGs. The monitoring and evaluating mechanisms should include arrangements for the free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected VMGs.

#### 4.4. Framework for free, prior, and informed consent

Free, prior and informed consultation (FPIC), in relation to activities taking place on VMGs lands, refers to a process whereby affected vulnerable and marginalized communities, freely have the choice, based on sufficient information concerning the benefits and disadvantages of the Project, of whether and how these activities occur, according to their systems of customary decision making. A free, prior and informed consent means:

**Table 1: Free, Prior and Informed Consent**

Free	Prior	Informed	Consent
No manipulation.	None of the following should be undertaken before consent has been obtained: authorization or commencement of activities land acquisition Finalization of development plans. Specific time requirements of the consultation/consensus process.	Information to be provided should: be accurate be in an appropriate language include information, when available, on social, economic, environmental and cultural impacts and reasons for proposed activities, duration, affected locality, proposed benefits sharing and legal arrangements and people likely to be involved be in a form that is understandable and that takes into account traditions of the community	Form may vary for different communities: so may be oral or written but will always involve consultation and participation.
No coercion.			The process should be participatory.
No incentives.			Decision-making should not exclude or marginalize individuals due to gender, ethnicity or other factors.
No intimidation.			

The consultations and participation of VMGs will be ensured in the formulation of the VMGP/subproject to ensure that it adequately deals with needs, priorities, and preferences. VMGs will be provided with relevant project information in languages and manner suitable to them. Separate focus group discussions will be carried out to assess the subproject impacts and benefits to these groups. Accordingly, the VMGP/subproject will be in consultation with the beneficiaries. The outcome of social assessment and VMGP will be presented in community workshops/meetings.

The lead Agency NITA-U will make available the following documents to the project affected VMGs and disclose to the public:

- (i) A draft Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan before project appraisal;
- (ii) A final Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan after completion of such VMGP and
- (iii) The revised Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Plan, following the detailed design or change in scope in the subproject.

#### 4.5. Grievance Mechanism

Vulnerable Marginalized Groups may encounter a grievance or a complaint against the project, its staff or contractors during project implementation. To address or resolve the grievance, a mechanism describing procedures, roles and responsibilities in grievance management process is given below. To be effective, the mechanism shall utilize existing local administrative and community structures. All grievances concerning non-fulfillment of contracts, levels of compensation, exclusion from subproject benefits, or seizure of assets without compensation shall be addressed to the Local council 1 Chairperson.

NITA's Social Scientist shall work with community leaders in the project area to set up an LC1 Grievance Committee to be the first point grievances are addressed. All attempts shall be made to settle grievances amicably before resort to courts of law.

Entities seeking redress and wishing to record grievances will do so by notifying their Local Leader (LC 1 Chairperson) who will chair a Local Grievance Committee at LC 1 level set up with guidance of NITA's Social Scientist. The Local Leader will inform and consult with the District Administration to determine validity of claims. If valid, the Local Leader will convene a meeting of the LC1 Grievance Committee to resolve the grievance and notify the complainant of the outcome. If the complainant's claim is rejected, the matter shall be brought before the District government authority for settlement.

Any objections or grievances related to exclusion/marginalization shall be made in writing, in the language that the VMGs understands and are familiar with, to the Local Leader. Copies of the complaint shall be sent to NITA-U, within 20 days after the public notice. Channeling complaints through the Local Council Grievance Committee is aimed at addressing the problem of distance and cost the VMGs may have to face.

The Local Leaders (trained by NITA's Social Scientist) shall maintain records of grievances and complaints, including minutes of discussions, recommendations and resolutions made. The procedure for handling grievances should be as follows:

- a) The affected person should file his/her grievance in writing, to the Local Leader. The grievance note should be signed and dated by the aggrieved person. Where the affected person is unable to write, s/he should obtain assistance to write the note and emboss the letter with his/her thumbprint.

A sample grievance form is provided in Annex 8.

- b) The Local Leader should respond within 14 days during which any meetings and discussions to be held with the aggrieved person should be conducted. If the grievance relates to valuation of assets, a valuer may need to revalue the assets. In this case, the aggrieved person must be notified by the Local Leader that his/her complaint is being considered.
- c) If the aggrieved person does not receive a response or is not satisfied with the outcome within the agreed time (s)he can lodge his grievance to the Local Administration (District).
- d) The Local Administration will then attempt to resolve the problem (through dialogue and negotiation) within 14 days of the complaint being lodged. If no agreement is reached at this stage, then the

complaint is taken to NITA’s Grievance Committee comprising the following entities:

- i) A Grievance Officer (NITA Staff)
- ii) A Local Council 1(LC1) Chairperson
- iii) District Representative (e.g. CDO or Member of District Land Board)
- iv) A community representative in project area (e.g. religious leader)

Note that persons in ii)-iv) will be location specific. If the complainant is still dissatisfied with the handling of his complaint, then he/she can take up the complaint through the court system.

A flow process of grievance mechanism is illustrated in figure below.

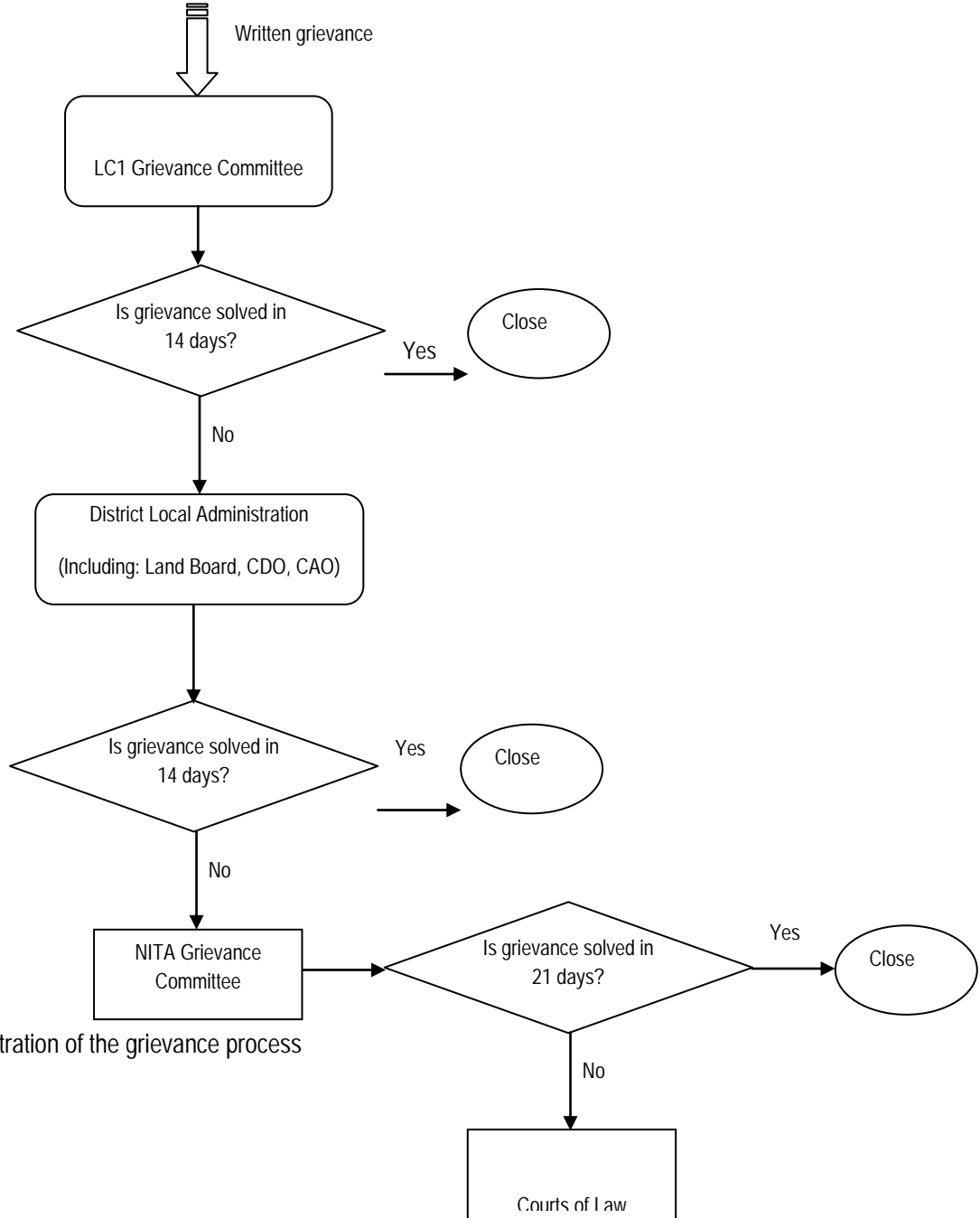


Figure1: Illustration of the grievance process



#### 4.6. Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementing Agency NITA-U will establish a quarterly monitoring system to monitor the implementation of the VMGP(s) against a set of monitoring indicators determined during VMGP preparation. A survey of existing socio-economic status and cultural practices of the vulnerable and marginalized groups, which will be carried out during the subproject feasibility study/design, will be the basis for establishing the baseline data to monitor the project impacts on the VMGs, NITA-U will prepare quarterly monitoring reports, post them on the website, and submit to the Bank for review.

To effectively monitor project impacts on the vulnerable, the socio-economic baseline established for the project will include data on representative vulnerable households. The socioeconomic baseline indicators will be used for measuring the outcomes and impacts on vulnerable communities. Monitoring indicators will include gender and vulnerability specific indicators, and monitoring reports will present data disaggregated by gender and vulnerability. Indicators that can be monitored for this purpose can include, how many vulnerable people participated actively in project activities, benefited from target assistance to enhance livelihoods, documentation of their opinions on project impacts and if any of their specific concerns were addressed during implementation.

The monitoring and evaluation mechanisms adopted for the project will ensure that in addition to process and outcome indicators appropriate impact indicators are defined related to specifically to impacts on vulnerable groups and their livelihoods. It is recommended that an impact evaluation be undertaken about 6 months before project completion to assess the changes in the overall living standards compared to the former living status of living for these groups.

#### 4.7. Disclosure arrangements for VMGPs to be prepared under the VMGF

The final draft of this VMGF will be submitted by the NITA-U to the World Bank for review and clearance. Once cleared, it will be disclosed in-country, in the appropriate form, manner and official language (English) in the daily newspapers. Later on, the information from the documents specified above (particularly the VMGP/subprojects) will be made available to affected persons summarized in form of brochure or leaflets translated in the appropriate language. After submitting the VMGPs to the Bank for review and clearance, NITA-U shall post the above documents on its website and on the **Bank's Infoshop**. During implementation, NITA-U will prepare social monitoring reports including safeguard issues, make them available to affected VMGs, post them on its website, and submit to the Bank for review.

#### 4.8. Budget

The cost for implementation of the individual VMGs will be incorporated in the project cost and the administrative costs for survey, social assessment, and preparation of VMGs will be financed under Project. Additional costs to specifically cater for VMGs include; hire of a social scientist or VMGs Consultant to screen VMGs and prepare the VMGF, implementation of FPIC including mobilization, translation of reports, and special focus meetings and capacity building for project staff dealing with social issues including staff at district level. Estimated budget is \$160,000.

**table 1: Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework Implementation Budget**

Component	Estimated Cost (\$)
Hire of a Social Development/VMG Consultant to screen VMGs and prepare the VMGF	60,000
Implementation of FPIC including mobilization,	40,000

translation of reports, and special focus meetings	
Recruitment and salary of in-house Social Development Specialist/ Safeguards Officer as part of NPCU at NITA-U. (Annual salary of \$10,000)	50,000
Monitoring of project impact on VMGs including facilitation (Motor cycles, fuel, bicycles)	20,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>160,000</b>

## References

Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development: 2013 Budget Monitoring Report Third Quarter Financial Year [www.finance.go.ug](http://www.finance.go.ug)

Domelen Julie Van 2007: *Reaching the Poor and Vulnerable: Targeting Strategies for Social Funds and other Community-Driven Programs*. SP Discussion Paper NO. 0711 May 2007. <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOCIALPROTECTION/Resources/SP-Discussion-papers/Social-Funds-DP/0711.pdf>

Ayoo Sandra, Robert Opio, and Oliver T. Kakisa 2013: *Karamoja Situational Analysis*. CARE International in Uganda. <http://www.careevaluations.org/Evaluations/Karamoja%20Situational%20Analysis%20-%20Final%20Report%2029.01.2013.pdf>

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) 2009: *Concluding Observations of the African Commission on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Periodic Report of the Republic Of Uganda*. Accessed at: [http://www.achpr.org/files/sessions/45th/conc-obs/uganda:-3rd-periodic-report,-2006-2008/achpr45\\_conc\\_staterep3\\_uganda\\_2009\\_eng.pdf](http://www.achpr.org/files/sessions/45th/conc-obs/uganda:-3rd-periodic-report,-2006-2008/achpr45_conc_staterep3_uganda_2009_eng.pdf)

African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights. Accessed at: <http://www.humanrights.se/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/African-Charter-on-Human-and-Peoples-Rights.pdf>

*Cultural survival 2010*: Quarterly magazine, <http://www.culturalsurvival.org>

Luzinda Henry, 2008: *Mobile Boundary and Mobile People: Involuntary Resettlement of the Benet People In Mt. Elgon National Park, Uganda* [http://www.umb.no/statisk/noragric/publications/master/2008\\_henry\\_luzinda.pdf](http://www.umb.no/statisk/noragric/publications/master/2008_henry_luzinda.pdf)

International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) 2011: *Update 2011 – Uganda*. Accessed at: <http://www.iwgia.org/regions/africa/uganda/901-update-2011-uganda>

Okwaare S. and Hargreaves S. 2009: *The Benet Community of Uganda*. [http://www.actionaid.org/sites/files/actionaid/mountains\\_of\\_trouble.pdf](http://www.actionaid.org/sites/files/actionaid/mountains_of_trouble.pdf)

*The Horn of Africa and East Africa: Uganda. Forest Peoples Programme/ IWGIA/ The Indigenous World, n.d. Web. 1 Dec. 2009.*



V

WhiteFalcon

## Table of Contents

<a href="#">Executive summary</a> .....	iii
<a href="#">INTRODUCTION</a> .....	iii
<a href="#">Project Description</a> .....	iii
<a href="#">Project Components</a> .....	iii
<a href="#">Objectives of the Social Assessment</a> .....	iv
<a href="#">1. INTRODUCTION</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.1. Background</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.2. Project Description</a> .....	1
<a href="#">1.3. Project Components</a> .....	4
<a href="#">1.4. Rationale of the Social Assessment</a> .....	9
<a href="#">1.5. Objectives of the Social Assessment</a> .....	9
<a href="#">1.6. Scope of the Social Assessment</a> .....	10
<a href="#">1.7. Project Location</a> .....	10
<a href="#">1.8. Methodology</a> .....	10
<a href="#">2. LEGAL, POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK</a> .....	13
<a href="#">2.1. The Legal Framework</a> .....	13
<a href="#">2.1.1. Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995)</a> .....	13
<a href="#">2.1.2. The Equal Opportunities Commission Act: (2007)</a> .....	14
<a href="#">2.1.3. The National Information Technology Authority Uganda Act: (2009)</a> .....	14
<a href="#">2.1.4. The Uganda Wild Life Act (1990)</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.1.5. The Local Government Act (1997)</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.1. Policy Framework</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.1.1. National Land Policy (2013)</a> .....	16
<a href="#">2.1.2. National Policy for Older Persons (2009)</a> .....	17
<a href="#">2.1.3. The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management (2010)</a> .....	17
<a href="#">2.2. Institutional Frameworks</a> .....	17
<a href="#">2.2.1. Ministry of Information and Communications Technology</a> .....	17
<a href="#">2.2.2. Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development</a> .....	18
<a href="#">2.2.3. The Uganda Human Rights Commission</a> .....	18

2.2.4.	<a href="#">The Equal Opportunities Commission</a> .....	18
2.2.5.	<a href="#">Ministry in Charge of Karamoja Affairs</a> .....	18
2.2.6.	<a href="#">International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)</a> .....	19
2.2.7.	<a href="#">Minority Rights Group International</a> .....	19
2.3.	<a href="#">Key Supportive Strategies</a> .....	19
2.3.1.	<a href="#">The Social Development Sector Strategic Investment Plan (SDIP 2) 2011/12 – 2015/16</a> ..	19
2.3.2.	<a href="#">National Development Plan (NDP 2010-2014):</a> .....	19
2.3.3.	<a href="#">Uganda Strategic Investment Framework for sustainable Land Management 2010-2020</a>	20
2.3.4.	<a href="#">National Peace, Reconstruction and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda</a> .....	20
2.3.5.	<a href="#">Karamoja Integrated Development Programme (KIDP) (2011-2015)</a> .....	20
2.5.	<a href="#">The World Bank Operational Policies</a> .....	20
2.5.1.	<a href="#">O.P 4.10 Indigenous Peoples</a> .....	20
2.5.2.	<a href="#">O.P. 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement</a> .....	20
3.	<a href="#">POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF RCIP ON VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS</a> .....	21
3.1.	<a href="#">Potential Beneficial Impacts</a> .....	22
3.1.1.	<a href="#">Component 1: Enabling Environment</a> .....	22
3.1.2.	<a href="#">Component 2: Connectivity</a> .....	24
3.1.3.	<a href="#">Component 3: E-Government Applications</a> .....	25
3.1.4.	<a href="#">Component 4: Project Management</a> .....	26
3.2.	<a href="#">Potential Negative Impacts</a> .....	26
3.3.	<a href="#">Proposed Mitigation Measures</a> .....	27
3.4.	<a href="#">Analysis of RCIP Intervention Risks</a> .....	27
4.	<a href="#">SOCIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED MARGINALIZED GROUPS IN THE PROJECT AREA</a> .....	29
4.1.	<a href="#">Definition of Indigenous/Vulnerable and Marginalized People</a> .....	30
4.1.1.	<a href="#">Vulnerable Groups</a> .....	30
4.1.2.	<a href="#">Marginalized Groups</a> .....	30
4.1.2.1.	<a href="#">The Batwa Community:</a> .....	30
4.1.2.2.	<a href="#">The Tepeth Community</a> .....	31
4.2.	<a href="#">Overview of Project Area Districts</a> .....	32
4.2.1.	<a href="#">Kabale District</a> .....	32

4.2.2.	<a href="#">Kasese District</a> .....	37
4.2.3.	<a href="#">Bundibugyo District</a> .....	39
4.2.4.	<a href="#">Moroto District</a> .....	40
5.	<a href="#">STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION FOR ENSURING FREE, PRIOR, AND INFORMED CONSENT</a> .....	47
7.1.	<a href="#">Objectives</a> .....	47
7.2.	<a href="#">Consultations with Local Government Authorities</a> .....	47
7.3.	<a href="#">Consultation with the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups:</a> .....	48
7.4.	<a href="#">Consultations with other stakeholders supporting VMGs in the districts</a> .....	48
8.	<a href="#">INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PROJECT AREAS</a> ....	50
8.1.	<a href="#">Overview of ICT Infrastructure in Uganda</a> .....	50
8.2.	<a href="#">Policy and Regulatory Environment for ICT in Uganda</a> .....	50
8.3.	<a href="#">Rural Communications Development Fund</a> .....	51
9.	<a href="#">CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</a> .....	52
9.1.	<a href="#">Conclusion</a> .....	52
9.2.	<a href="#">Recommendations</a> .....	52
9.3.	<a href="#">Strategy for Participation</a> .....	54
9.4.	<a href="#">Consultation during Implementation</a> .....	55
9.5.	<a href="#">Consultations in Context of SA/VMGP Disclosure</a> .....	55
	<a href="#">References</a> .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
	<a href="#">Annexes</a> .....	56
Annex 1:	<a href="#">Pertinent Issues Raised during FPIC</a> .....	56
Annex 2:	<a href="#">Guide for Key Informants District Officials</a> .....	64
Annex 3:	<a href="#">Community Consultation Guide</a> .....	65
Annex 4:	<a href="#">Lists of Attendances</a> .....	67



**ACRONYMS**

AICM	African International Christian Ministries
BA	Business Analytics
EOC	Equal Opportunities Commission
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoU	Government of Uganda
GRC	Grievance Redress Committee
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IaaS	Infrastructure as a Service
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDA	International development Association
IDF	Independent Development Fund
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management Information System
IWGIA	International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs
KIDP	Karamoja Integrated Development Programme
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MICT	Ministry of Information and Communications Technology
MRGI	Minority Rights Group International
MTN	Mobile Telecommunications Network
NAYODE	National Youth Organization of Development
NBI	National Backbone Infrastructure
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Government Organization



NITA-U	National Information Technology Authority - Uganda
OP	Operational Procedure
PaaS	Platform as a Service
PAD	Project Appraisal Document
PAP	Project affected Person
PDO	Project Development Objective
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRDP	National Peace, Reconstruction and Development Plan
PRDP	National Peace, Reconstruction and Development Plan
PWDs	People with Disabilities
RCIP – U	Regional Communication Infrastructure Programme - Uganda
SaaS	Software as a Service
SAGE	Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment
SDIP	Social Development Sector Strategic Investment Plan
ToR	Terms of Reference
UGX	Uganda Shilling(s)
UOBDU	United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda),
UTL	Uganda Telecommunications limited
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Act Authority
VG	Vulnerable Group
VMG	Vulnerable and Marginalized Group
VMGF	Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Framework
VMGP	Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Plan

## Executive summary

### INTRODUCTION

In Uganda the use of ICT services has dramatically increased in Uganda overtime with the number of mobile phone subscribers growing from just 780,000 in 2003 to approximately 21.6 million in 2014, representing 58% of the population. The cost of both international and domestic calls has fallen sharply. About 14 million Ugandans used mobile money platforms in 2013, with transaction value rising 40% from 2012 to UGX 18,600 billion, and the number of mobile money users now stands at more than double the number of traditional bank account holders. Despite all that; access to broadband still remains low with poor quality and high prices making the service providers transfer this high costs to the last consumers.

In response to the increasing demand and as its mandate to provide all the citizens ICT services, GoU has made significant investments in telecommunication infrastructure through the completion of the implementation of Phases I and II of the National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) funded by a bilateral credit from China including over 1,500 km of fiber optic. The private sector is leveraging investments in the NBI to rollout complimentary infrastructure and services in areas where there is strong demand and commercial viability.

### Project Description

#### Regional Communication Infrastructure Program (RCIP)

Government of Uganda through the RCIP intends to obtain funding from IDA to finance the completion of the missing NBI links in the Northern and South-Western regions and to provide new links to neighboring countries. To achieve this,

National Information and Technology Authority Uganda NITA-U requires an in-depth assessment on the likely social dynamics due to the planned project activities to be implemented in different communities in the 4 project districts of Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo and Moroto. The process of implementing the proposed RCIP project in the 4 districts, activities of these components may trigger social effects and safeguard concerns whose impacts may range from small scale and site specific to medium size infrastructure investment activities. The proposed RCIP-U project would consist of the following four components:

### Project Components

#### Component 1: Enabling Environment

To support the capacity of the Ministry of ICT, implementing agency and other key stakeholders to develop and review the relevant national policies, strategies, laws and technical regulatory frameworks.

### **Component 2: Connectivity**

This component would support implementation of ICT infrastructure in Uganda through: (i) pre-purchase of international bandwidth for Government and priority targeted user groups; (ii) implementation of missing links to improve regional connectivity and the reach, availability and resiliency of National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) and (iii) Government network providing broadband connectivity to MDAs, schools, hospitals, Universities and Research Institutions, and NGOs.

### **Component 3: E-Government Applications**

To support the Government of Uganda in leveraging advances in ICT with the aim of establishing the enabling e-Government foundations that would simplify the implementation of sector specific electronic services, in order to significantly reduce the cost and time taken to deliver visible benefits for its citizens.

### **Component 4: Project Management**

This component will finance project management related costs including project coordination, procurement, financial management, monitoring & evaluation, project communication, and environmental and social safeguards. This component will also support the development and implementation of communication strategy, awareness and partnership building as well as Technical Assistance (TA) providing support for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

### **Objectives of the Social Assessment**

The Social Assessment (SA) was initiated to determine the relevance of the Uganda RCIP project approaches in relation to how they could affect the VMGs directly. The SA is expected to ensure that:

- i) During the development and review the relevant national policies, strategies, laws and technical regulatory frameworks in order to support e-government services and connectivity agenda for the ICT sector the VMGs are not left out;
- ii) Institutional strengthening and development through training of Government ICT staff takes care of those Local Government inhabited by the VMGs; and
- iii) During project implementation, deliberate efforts should be made to ensure full participation of the VMGs through a free, prior and informed consent, on activities of the project components.

The **overall objective** was to undertake a social screening of the presence of IPs and VMG and prepare a social assessment for the RCIP intended to contribute to better and efficient connectivity for Uganda's population.

### **Scope of the Social Assessment**

The Social Assessment involved primary data collection and additional background information obtained from records in Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kabale, and Moroto Districts where the Batwa, Karimojong (Tepeth) and other marginalized groups are located. Consultations were also done with the Ministries of ICT, Education and Health in Kampala. Specific social assessment activities undertaken and data sources used for the social assessment are outlined including the locations of the data sources.

## Screening of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups in Uganda

There is no official definition of indigenous peoples, and neither are there criteria in place for their identification in Uganda. The term ‘indigenous’ is used to describe the different ethnic groups that historically have resided within Uganda’s borders, an understanding that differs markedly from the manner in which the term is used by The World Bank’s OP 4.10. In Uganda, the constitution recognizes all the 65 ethnic groups as the indigenous peoples of Uganda. However, there are a number of groups that have been identified as satisfying the World Bank’s policy for identification of indigenous peoples and include the traditional hunters/gatherers Batwa, Benet, Tepeth and Ik communities. These people have historically suffered, and continue to suffer disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds.

It is noted that, although the Ugandan Constitution does not expressly recognize indigenous peoples it makes provision for addressing some of the negative effects arising from ethnic imbalances. The Constitution, in the section on National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at the same time recognizing the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of co-operation, understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other’s customs, traditions and beliefs.

In as much as the Bank policy OP 4.10 identifies these groups as indigenous, the Uganda Constitution refers to them as vulnerable and marginalized therefore this report will adopt to use the term “Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups” in place of “Indigenous Peoples.”

## Legal, Policy and Institutional Framework

**Constitution of Uganda** - The Constitution offers no express protection for indigenous peoples but Article 32 places a mandatory duty on *the state to take affirmative action in favour of groups who have been historically disadvantaged and discriminated against. The Constitution also mandates Parliament to enact appropriate laws, including laws for the establishment of an Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC),* for the purpose of giving full effect to Article 32.

**Other Laws** referred to include: The Equal Opportunities Commission Act (2007), The National Information Technology Authority Uganda Act (2009), The Local Government Act (1997) The Land Act (1998) and the UWA Act. The national policies reviewed include: The National Land Policy (2013), The National Policy for Older Persons (2009), The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management (2010).

## Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups in Project Area

Communities in the project area that qualify as Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups as per the characteristics detailed in the World Bank Policy on Indigenous Peoples are: The Batwa in the Districts of

Kabale, Bundibugyo and Kasese in South Western Ugandan and the Tepeth in Moroto District. Below are some of the major challenges and concerns faced by the Vulnerable/marginalized groups:

Uganda's constitution has no express protection for Indigenous/Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, though it does provide for affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups.

The Land Act (1998) and the National Environment Statute (1995) protect customary interests in land and traditional uses of forests. However, these laws also authorize the government to exclude human activities in any forest area by declaring it a protected forest, thus nullifying the customary land rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, the new Land Policy (2013) seeks to address the issue of dispossession of indigenous people of their ancestral land as explained in the next chapter.

Frequent attacks from hostile ethnic groups especially the Tepeth in Moroto are attacked by the Pokot and Turkana from the Kenya.

Eviction from homelands (Natural Forests) has limited the vulnerable and marginalized Groups' access to food, medicine, and shelter. As a result, some of them are plagued by starvation, sickness and exposure.

Although the Constitution provides for an affirmative action, many of the VMGs are usually left out in development, contributing to their further marginalization.

### **Potential Project Benefits**

Private enterprises, where productivity will be boosted through improved connectivity and telecommunication users through better ICT access including areas inhabited by VMGs

Boosting of the use of ICTs in the rural areas and lowering the cost of international bandwidth by pre-purchasing bandwidth for Government Ministries, departments, agencies and priority targeted user groups will benefit VMGs in the hard-to-reach areas such as Tapac in Moroto District

Boarder districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese, and Moroto will benefit from improved connectivity to undersea cables and border points that have alternative routes that have been redundant thereby boosting business in these areas.

ICT also provides employment to the local community in the district. Providers of this services will directly or indirectly create employment opportunities for the population including VMGs

In the health sector, ICT could play an important role by unleashing new possibilities and innovation through the integration of data across disparate databases to better manage patients' care, facilitate communication among healthcare providers and even to empower Ugandans to manage their own health through health related mobile applications. For example, patients in Tapac HC III will benefit from faster and quality services.

In the education sector, ICT could foster an engaging learning experience to meet the diverse needs of students in Uganda, through the innovative use of mobile devices and through creating an enriching student-centric environment in the schools. This can be applied in schools being attended by the Batwa and Tepeth children.

Enable NITA-U rollout of e-Government services that are dependent on the accessibility to high speed internet service to the rural schools and hospitals; including those in the hard-to-reach areas where the Tepeth and Batwa live.

VMGs will benefit from the boost in ICT connectivity in the country, improve service delivery to citizens, increase the range and quality of information from and to the citizens, and increase the government's ability to ensure transparency through mainstreaming e-government services.

Build safer communities. Using analytics to forecast and report on when and where crimes are likely to occur, law enforcement resources can be deployed to expected hot spots. VMGs living in trans-border regions are usually prone to attacks by the neighbours across will benefit from these services.

The e-governance component 3 of the RCIP project will enhance management and preparedness for natural disasters and will go a long way in providing early warning information for timely action in conflict-prone areas such as the ethnic and cross border conflicts sometimes experienced in the cross border districts like Bundibugyo, Kasese and Moroto.

It will also be used for climate change information, disaster and crime management since these are areas that are prone to disasters like floods, landslides, cattle diseases and drought.

### **Potential Negative Interactions**

The RCIP project activities that involve the laying of broadband cables to border towns may lead to some land take. This may even be worse with the vulnerable and marginalized groups in the area who are usually ignored.

A situation may arise where there will be an infringement on people's cultures. This may lead to erosion of culture through transmission of pornographic materials. Through the use of the internet, wrong elements in society may find an avenue to promote immoral and illegal acts.

Access and free use of the internet has the negative effect that it may indirectly encourage use of the internet to promote infidelity which may cause family breakdown.

Much as ICT has the potential to build safer communities, it conversely aids in building networks of criminals who use it to commit heinous crimes of depriving innocent and unsuspecting community members

### **Project Concerns**

Lack of community ownership for infrastructure project can result in facilities going unused or being abandoned. Expensive infrastructure investments completed without local community input face a risk of poor use and maintenance. Previous efforts to upgrade infrastructure especially in Karamoja region in the form of roads, water supplies, health facilities and schools have faced challenges to sustainability since projects were implemented in a top-down manner. Best practices emphasize that projects should be based on community-identified priorities.

However, there is a risk that new infrastructure improvements undertaken by the RCIP project could increase conflict and instability especially in Karamoja sub region.

Infrastructure projects within and shared by different ethnic groups have the ability to achieve peace building goals of increasing interaction and fostering cooperation.

**Free, Prior and Informed Consent was conducted with the following stakeholders:**

***Consultations with Local Government Authorities***

Initial Consultation with District leaders with the objective of informing them about the Project and get their opinions and broad support for the same. Even though FPIC entails free and voluntary consultation without any external manipulation, interference or coercion, in observing protocol, the consultants obtained authorizations from the District and lower Local Governments of the Project areas to engage with the Batwa in the South Western districts of Kabale, Kasese and Bundibugyo and the Tepeth in Moroto District and obtain their consent, views on the existence of VMGs in their areas, support and participation in defining the impacts of the Project and the most adequate mitigation measures to apply.

***Consultation with the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups:***

Consultations were held with the Batwa and Tepeth community members in the affected Project areas with the facilitation and participation of the institutions supporting the Batwa communities and Tepeth Elders. The consultations were held in different sites through open community or public meetings and prior to these meetings, all the Batwa and Tepeth community members were informed in advance of the objective of the meetings, the venue/location, time and stakeholders who would be present.

***Consultations with other stakeholders supporting VMGs in the districts***

Several consultations, meetings and deliberations were held with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) that represent and assist the vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project districts. on many aspects of issues affecting them, including culture and tradition;

For the case of the Batwa in particular African International Christian Ministry (AICM), United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU), Functional Adult Literacy, Independent Development Fund (IDF), Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT and National Youth for Development (NAYODE) were useful stakeholders in matters related to the Batwa communities in the three districts of Kabale, Kasese and Bundibugyo. As for the Tepeth in Moroto district, the SAGE programme, The Catholic Church, CARITAS, IRC, DDG, World Hunger, Save the Children, FAWE, The World Food Program:, Red Cross, C&D and The Police.

***Pertinent Issues Raised during FPIC is appended in Annex 1. of the social assessment report***

**Recommendations**

To avoid or minimize adverse impacts and, at the same time, ensure enhancement of benefits and full participation of the vulnerable and marginalized groups, the PCU at NITA-U should apply the following:

During policy and regulatory framework reviews, NITA-U should consider inclusion and participation of the vulnerable and marginalized groups in respect of their knowledge, values and culture which risk being lost in the advent of modern technology.

Ensure that Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups communities in general and their organizations are not excluded by any means in activity selection, design and implementation processes.

NITA-U should consider that VGMs benefit equitability from even distribution of these facilities in the project areas to ensure that the VMGs get equal share of new facilities in their ancestral lands. A coordinated attempt to take into consideration the equitable distribution of services among neighboring tribes will also further reduce the likelihood of conflicts erupting as a result of newly formed disparities in economic assets and opportunities especially in Moroto District. Thus, NITA-U has to be mindful of the potential for harm that could be caused by gaps in service provision.

NITA-U should carry out specific assessments of the impact of proposed projects on the economic and social development of vulnerable and marginalized groups as an integral part of the project cycle, through a transparent process with the free and informed participation of the affected communities. NITA-U has to consider that the RCIP interventions do not unnecessarily and unintentionally exacerbate factors outside the scope of planned impacts.

Together with Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, NITA-U and local Governments involved should carefully screen the activities of all subprojects for a preliminary understanding of the nature and magnitude of potential impacts, and explore alternatives to avoid or minimize and mitigate any adverse impacts.

Where alternatives are infeasible and adverse impacts on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups are unavoidable, the NITA-U, together with Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups and others knowledgeable of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups' culture and concerns should immediately make an assessment of the key impact issues and define possible mitigation measures.

NITA-U should undertake the necessary tasks in order to adopt appropriate mitigation measures. The most important in this respect is intensive consultation with the tribal communities, community elders/leaders, and formal and informal tribal organizations, civil society organizations like NGOs who are interested in and have knowledge of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups' issues.





## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

In Uganda the use of ICT services has dramatically increased overtime with the number of mobile phone subscribers growing from just 780,000 in 2003 to approximately 21.6 million in 2014, representing 58% of the population.<sup>1</sup> The cost of both international and domestic calls has fallen sharply. About 14 million Ugandans used mobile money platforms in 2013, with transaction value rising 40% from 2012 to UGX 18,600 billion, and the number of mobile money users now stands at more than double the number of traditional bank account holders.<sup>2</sup> Despite all that; access to broadband still remains low with poor quality and high prices making the service providers transfer this high costs to the last consumers.

In response to the increasing demand and as its mandate to provide all the citizens ICT services, GoU has made significant investments in telecommunication infrastructure through the completion of the implementation of Phases I and II of the National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) funded by a bilateral credit from China including over 1,500 km of fiber optic. The private sector is leveraging investments in the NBI to rollout complimentary infrastructure and services in areas where there is strong demand and commercial viability.

However, further investments and incentives are needed to ensure affordable, high quality access to all areas of the country and to benefit neighboring countries. Private sector investments, such as those in Kampala are not forthcoming in secondary cities and rural areas where risks are higher and profit margins lower. Likewise, even in denser, urban areas, providers are likely to target wealthier customers, at the expense of those at lower income declines. Direct government investments and PPP arrangements are needed to accelerate roll out of infrastructure and services for all citizens to provide linkages to neighboring countries.

### 1.2. Project Description

#### **Regional Communication Infrastructure Program (RCIP)**

Government of Uganda through the RCIP intends to obtain funding from IDA to finance the completion of the missing NBI links in the Northern and South-Western regions and to provide new links to neighboring countries. The additional links will improve the reliability of NBI by creating self-healing loops, extend access to currently underserved areas, and provide connection to existing and future regional backbone infrastructure and submarine cables. Roll-out will benefit users in Uganda as well as neighboring countries which rely on the Ugandan network for transit.

---

<sup>1</sup> Telegeography

<sup>2</sup> Telegeography

**Figure 1: Uganda's National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI)**

**Source:** National Planning Authority of Uganda,

**Legend:** Phase I (yellow) Phase II (blue) Phase III (green)

(<http://npa.ug/national-data-transmission-backbone-infrastructure-and-e-government-infrastructure-project/>)

The proposed Regional Communications Infrastructure Program for Uganda (RCIP UG) will be implemented within the context of NITA-U. The RCIP UG will complement existing country ICT and e-government Infrastructure initiatives and help fill the financing and technical gaps. RCIP UG will in particular support the GoU to: (i) improve communications and IT infrastructure in the country; (ii) promote the use and application of this infrastructure for e-government and other services; (iii) build capacity in management of IT programs, tools and projects; and (iv) improve policy and regulatory environment for ICT.

This project therefore aims at:

- d) Contributing to low cost and improved regional connectivity through connecting the Eastern and Southern African countries to global broadband optic infrastructure;
- e) Supporting the creation of a coordinated national and regional transmission network which would ensure that all countries in Eastern and Southern African are able to connect effectively within and between national borders; and
- f) Supporting management and capacity building in form of finance, business and technical as well as raising awareness and training.

The Government of Uganda recognizes the importance of ICT for National development and transformation into an electronic economy and has put emphasis on transforming the delivery of Government services through the use of Information Technology. RCIP project aims to promote the use of technology as an enabler in achieving development goals as outlined in the government vision 2040. There is huge opportunity in the country today provided by the growing information age society and the demand for electronic services delivery that creates the need for government to improve its IT infrastructure, service delivery processes and capacity building in government using ICT as enabler.

RCIP will support the Government of Uganda in improving: (i) coverage for IT infrastructure in the country; (ii) the delivery of public services by improving efficiency through government cloud infrastructure (iii) building capacity in management of IT programs and projects; (iv) improve policy and regulatory environment for ICT in country.

The development objectives of the proposed RCIP Uganda Programme are to: (i) **lower prices** for international capacity and **extend the geographic reach** of broadband networks (the connectivity development objective); and (ii) **improve the Government's efficiency and transparency** in delivery of services to its citizens through e-Government applications (the transparency development objective).

**World Bank's OP. 4.10** recognizes that "the distinct identities and cultures of VMGs remained inextricably linked to the lands they inhabited and the natural resources they depended upon to survive". The policy thus established processing requirements for VMGs that include: (i) screening, (ii) social assessment, in consultations with communities involved, (iii) preparation of or Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VMGF) and, (iv) disclosure. It also requires the borrower to seek broad community support of VMGs through a process of free, prior and informed consultation before deciding to develop any project that targets or affects VMGs.

National Information and Technology Authority Uganda NITA-U requires an in-depth assessment on the likely social dynamics due to the planned project activities to be implemented in different communities in the 4 project districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto. It is anticipated that in the process of implementing the proposed RCIP project in the 4 districts, activities of these component will trigger social effects and safeguard concerns whose impacts may range from small scale and site specific to medium size infrastructure investment activities. Through RCIP, transformation of public service and governance is expected by using modern ICT platforms and enhancing connectivity. The impact will be realized through creating an environment for citizens and private sector to interact with government through use of ICT technologies for efficiency, providing the legal and regulatory framework and

changing the mind set of public servants and citizens through awareness activities and capacity building in government. The proposed RCIP-U project would consist of the following four components:

### 1.3. Project Components

#### Component 1: Enabling Environment

This component aims to support the capacity of the Ministry of ICT, the implementing agency and other key stakeholders to develop and review the relevant national policies, strategies, laws and technical regulatory frameworks in order to support e-government services and connectivity agenda for the ICT sector. This will translate into increased investment in the sector leading to job and efficient government service delivery, improved productivity in all sectors, entrepreneurship and good governance. This entails among others, policy development and review, development of appropriate strategies and regulations, capacity building, sector reforms, so as to maximize benefits from access and usage of ICTs.

This component will specifically support the following sub-components:

##### **Sub-component 1.1: Developing an Enabling Environment, including Policy, Legal and Technical Frameworks and Programs.**

It will finance: (i) Consultancies to support review of existing policies and developing of missing policies and (ii) Consultancies to develop legal, regulatory frameworks and technical standards including development of various standards for infrastructure, legislation and regulation to enable use of electronic services, applications and security requirements in order to enable integration and rationalization of all government IT systems.

**Sub-component 1.2: Institutional Strengthening and Development.** This sub-component will support activities for transformation and change management program to bring about mind set changes for government officers to support and provide e-government services effectively. This will include:

- An assessment of ICT staffing and training requirements to develop a comprehensive change management program
- **Training for leaders** – this will target Cabinet Ministers, State Ministers, Executive Directors of agencies, department heads and other key staff at various MDAs (Ministries, Departments and Agencies) and Local governments. This will include seminars and study visits to countries that are leaders in leveraging ICT for development.
- **Training of government officers** – this will target civil servants in MDAs and Local Governments in charge of delivering e-services to citizens. The focus will be on change management to motivate and engage each one of the individuals and obtain their buy-in to leverage technology for improved services delivery.
- **Training of the IT Technical staff** – this will finance training for the existing IT specialists and IT developers working for various government agencies with the focus on embracing new technologies and processes introduced through this project .

#### Component 2: Connectivity

This component would support implementation of ICT infrastructure in Uganda through the following subcomponents: (i) pre-purchase of international bandwidth for Government and priority targeted user groups; (ii) implementation of missing links to improve regional connectivity and the reach, availability and resiliency of National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) and (iii) Government network providing broadband connectivity to MDAs, schools, hospitals, Universities and Research Institutions, and NGOs. This component would also finance technical assistance related to the implementation of these sub-components, including looking into possible PPP options, and implementation of recommendations stemming from the relevant feasibility and safeguard studies.

### **Component 3: E-Government Applications**

The objective of e-Government component under RCIP Project is to support the Government of Uganda in leveraging advances in ICT with the aim of establishing the enabling e-Government foundations that would simplify the implementation of sector specific electronic services, in order to significantly reduce the cost and time taken to deliver visible benefits for its citizens.

#### **Sub-Component 3.1: Enabling Foundations for e-Government.**

**Sub-component 3.1.1: ICT Standards & Frameworks.** ICT Standards and frameworks play an important and integral role in implementation of public services. The legal conditions are needed to safeguard the Government and its citizens during e-Government transactions. The interoperability framework ensures the delivery of public services using e-Government in a seamless and efficient manner across multiple MDAs and their IT systems. This sub-component will provide technical assistance (TA) in e-Government related areas such as:

- (i) Development of missing ICT Policy/regulation/e-Legislation;
- (ii) Policies, guidelines and procedures that will be needed to be put in place in order to operationalize National Information Security Framework; and
- (iii) Development of the Enterprise Architecture, the Interoperability framework, standards and application/technology roadmap.

**Sub-component 3.1.2: Shared Public Service Delivery Platform.** The primary focus of this component is to establish a “Build Once, Reuse Always” shared public service delivery platform (Government Cloud) in order to enable MDAs to deliver e-government services to citizens in a fast and cost efficient manner. The shared public service delivery platform will be eventually shared by all MDAs. Under RCIP, 5-6 services will be implemented on this platform.

This shared public service delivery platform will save MDAs valuable resources because individual MDAs will not need to set up multiple data centers. In addition, the proposed government cloud based infrastructure will provide data back-up for many of the existing ministries that have data centers. The Platform will incorporate a mobile enabled delivery system, to enable people who do not have access to the Internet to get services through mobile phones. The shared public service delivery platform will have several advantages over the traditional systems—it will save financial and human resources and enable faster implementation of various sectoral e-government services. The Government will establish a shared public service delivery platform that will offer the following shared services:

**Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS):** Within IaaS, all hardware (servers, storages and backup systems) resources and monitoring platforms are deployed under the virtualization environment. As such, it results in the sharing of infrastructure resources across MDAs. MDAs will have access

to their operating system; storage, deployed applications, and possibly limited control of select networking components (e.g., host firewalls), while the infrastructure operator e.g. NITA - U is able to manage overall infrastructure to ensure the proper running of day-to-day operations.

**Platform as a Service (PaaS):** PaaS as an e-Service Delivery Platform aims to establish a whole-of-government ICT Application infrastructure to complement the Government Data Center's hosting services, will enable MDAs to develop and deploy their electronic services and mobile applications in cost-effective and rapid manner. The e-Service Delivery Platform provides common enablers needed by most electronic services. The possible common enablers could include citizen authentication, electronic ID integration, content management, mobile delivery platform, electronic payment services, channel management, data services, notification services etc.

**Security-as-a-Service (Secure-as-a-Service):** Implementation of Information Security to support public service delivery plays a key role in creating a secure and trusted environment as it enhances the resilience of the e-Government services against online threats. This helps to boost the trust and confidence of Ugandans towards using online public services.

**Securing National Data Center:** To realize the full benefits of data center and cloud innovation, it is essential to be able to deploy sector services rapidly and securely. Security must be automated, highly adaptive, and instantly responsive. Security mechanisms to be considered includes Security Incident & Event Management solution, Distributed Denial of Service shelter, Traffic encryption solution, Transport Management Gateway and Intrusion Prevention System needs to be implemented to safeguard the National Data Center.

**Establishing Common Security Enablers for Public Service Delivery:** To facilitate ease of implementing secured electronic services, there is a need to establish a set of common security enablers. These common security enablers should adopt industry standards, government-grade encryption technologies, including advanced algorithms such as DES, MD5, and RSA. Other key information security elements include the need for online Security Awareness and Training to attain citizen's trust and confidence in using online services and the remediation of infrastructure and applications in accordance to the National Information Security Framework.

**Software as a Service (SaaS):** The SaaS running in the data center includes Government intranet, document management, contact center or help desk services, and Unified messaging and communications system (inclusive of email, voice and other modes of communications). MDA shared service adoption strategy shall be developed prior to the launch of the shared public service delivery platform to ensure optimized usage of the platform.

**Sub-component 3.1.3: Whole-of-Government Data Integration and Sharing Program.** The intended objectives of embarking on a whole-of-government data sharing program is to delight citizens through seamless and convenient e-Services, empower MDA officers to leverage on the wealth of public sector data, deliver innovative public e-Services through data integration and achieve impactful policies through insights derived from data analysis.

This subcomponent will support Government of Uganda to establish a whole-of-Government Data Management Program to bring about a more effective usage of public sector data. Under the Government Data Management Program, the identified champion organization would consider:

Data Governance Structure comprising of a high level steering committee with support of a data management working group to guide and advise on data management issues and facilitate greater data sharing;

The data management policies covering data governance, architecture, projection, sharing, storage and disposal of electronic records;

Establishing of common data standards to facilitate data exchanges and provide interoperability;

Operational and funding mechanisms to support the drive for whole-of-government data management initiatives led by appointed agencies; and

A data management system to serve as first point of data discovery within the public sector.

Business Analytics (BA) and Dashboard Reporting. BA comprises of the applications, tools and best practices that enable analysis of data to improve and optimize decisions and performance. MDAs can integrate data from transactional, operational and financial databases and generate the following outcomes:

- Better collaboration through a holistic view of all public sector activities, programmes and budgets.
- Reduce risks by mitigating uncertainty in data and information.
- Improve operational efficiency by aligning ICT systems with MDA's strategic goals and desired outcomes.
- Ensure transparency by opening up information to stakeholders.

Key areas of opportunities by implementing Whole-of-Government Data Integration and Sharing Program include: Improve citizen and business services; Manage resources effectively; and Build safer communities using analytics to forecast and report on when and where crimes are likely to occur, law enforcement resources can be deployed to expected hot spots.

This component will finance hardware, software and associated consulting services required for implementation of the Whole-of-Government Data Integration and Sharing Program which will enable the exchange of data and will facilitate the deployment of e-government services.

**Sub-component 3.1.4: e-Government Capacity Building.** The main objective of this subcomponent is to carry out the changes in processes needed to transform the way Government delivers its services to citizens and businesses. As officers in MDAs are in charge of these processes, a series of visioning and capacity building programs are recommended to drive mind-set changes in the ministries involved in delivering the services electronically. Training may be recorded as an online training for the future use. The activities are identified to form the basis for e-Government capacity building are:

e-Government Capacity Building for Government Leaders;

e-Government Capacity Building for Public Officers;

e-Government Capacity Building for IT Officers; and

Public Awareness through an outreach campaign to create awareness on the national portals and online services.

### **Sub-component 3.2: e-Services**



ICT plays a strategic role to facilitate the transformation of sectors to enhance Uganda's economic competitiveness and the citizen's well-being. By establishing the Shared Public Service Delivery Platform and Whole-of-Government Data Integration and Sharing Programs, all sectors in Uganda are well positioned to benefit from the economies of scale and accelerate their pace of public service delivery. For example, in the health sector, ICT could play an important role by unleashing new possibilities and innovation through the integration of data across disparate databases to better manage patients' care, facilitate communication among healthcare providers and even to empower Ugandans to manage their own health through health related mobile applications. In the education sector, ICT could foster an engaging learning experience to meet the diverse needs of students in Uganda, through the innovative use of mobile devices and through creating an enriching student-centric environment in the schools.

**Sub-component 3.2.1: e-Service Applications, 2-4 strategic services.** Under this sub-component, 2-4 strategic services will be identified from priority sectors to leverage the Shared Public Service Delivery Platform and Whole-of-Government Data Integration and Sharing Programs to accelerate the sector specific service implementations.

The selection of the priority sectors is based on (1) percentage contribution to GDP; (2) impact to improve citizens' lives; and (3) sector readiness to embrace ICT, i.e., sector has existing ICT systems in place and has implementation capacity. The selection of the 2-4 services would be based on scope and cost consideration.

**Sub-component 3.2.2: "Quick Wins" program.** A Sector "Quick Wins" program shall be established to support innovative pilots. This innovative pilots approach enables MDAs to try out new ideas, develop small scale pilots, and obtain user feedback before committing to large scale implementations. The program shall consist of short term demonstrative projects with visible impacts on Ugandans' lives. This may require setting up of the management structure such as Government Innovations Center of excellence.

Sector "Quick Wins" program aims to achieve the following objectives: 1) Demonstrate cost-effectiveness and value of using ICT in public service delivery, 2) Develop trust and confidence amongst the citizens on e-Government services, and 3) Allow risk-taking within the Government whereby public service officials take calculated risk to implement new and innovative services on the shared ICT platform. "Quick Wins" may also be developed by leveraging the existing innovation ecosystem, using co-creation and design thinking approaches to make sure that e-service is user-centric solutions.

The development of the national e-Procurement system and further roll-out of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel System (IPPS) developed under the Public Service Reform Program might be added to the project during pre-appraisal which may require increase of the overall cost.

#### **Component 4: Project Management**

This component will finance project management related costs including project coordination, procurement, financial management, monitoring & evaluation, project communication, and environmental and social safeguards. This will include funding a consultancy supporting the successful implementation of the project including logistics, consumables, etc., as well as office equipment, incremental operating costs and audits. This component will also support the development and implementation of

communication strategy, awareness and partnership building as well as Technical Assistance (TA) providing support for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

#### 1.4. Rationale of the Social Assessment

**Component 2 (Connectivity)** of the RCIP intends as a priority to connect to major regions of the country to the national backbone and thereby ensure geographical equity in respect to connectivity, diversity of options for access to submarine cables, boosting the use of ICTs in the rural areas and lower the cost of international bandwidth by pre-purchasing bandwidth for Government Ministries, departments, agencies and priority targeted user groups. The implementation of the missing links will inevitably reach the border areas/districts of Bundibugyo, and Kabale among others in which the Batwa, Kasese where the Bakingwe, Bahooli, Basongola and Banyabingi live as well as in Moroto where Karimojong specifically the Tepeth identified as vulnerable/marginalized persons in the country inhabit.

The World Bank Policy on IPs Operational Directive (OD) 4.10: Indigenous Peoples, underscores the need for borrowers and Bank Staff to identify IPs, Vulnerable and marginalized groups, consult with them, ensure that they participate in and benefit from Bank funded operations in a culturally appropriate way and that adverse impacts on them should be avoided where possible, or where not feasible, they should be minimized or mitigated. In view of this, the Government of Uganda is undertaking a social assessment and subsequently, as appropriate, will develop a vulnerable and marginalized Groups framework.

#### 1.5. Objectives of the Social Assessment

The **overall objective** was to undertake a social screening of the presence of IPs and VMG and prepare a social assessment for the RCIP intended to contribute to better and efficient connectivity for Uganda's population

The Social Assessment (SA) was initiated to determine the relevance of the Uganda RCIP project approaches in relation to how they could affect the VMGs directly. The SA is expected to ensure that:

- i) During the development and review the relevant national policies, strategies, laws and technical regulatory frameworks in order to support e-government services and connectivity agenda for the ICT sector the VMGs are not left out;
- ii) Institutional strengthening and development through training of Government ICT staff takes cares of those Local Government inhabited by the VMGs; and
- iii) During project implementation, deliberate efforts should be made to ensure full participation of the VMGs through a free, prior and informed consent, on all activities of the project components.

##### *Specifically the objectives are to:*

Assess the social-economic characteristics of local communities, including screening and determining the existence of marginalized groups in Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto districts;

Identifying project stakeholders and establishment of an appropriate strategy for their participation in the project design, implementation, monitoring and feedback.

Ensuring that project objectives and incentives for change are acceptable to the intended beneficiaries and that gender, ethnicity, and other social differences are taken into account;

Assessing and establishing the risks of excluding the groups, what the identified group(s) could be excluded from and why the groups could be excluded in respect to the proposed project. Assessing potential social impact and where adverse impacts are identified, to determine how they can be avoided, minimized or substantially mitigated;

Assess capacity development needs to enable participation, resolve conflict, permit delivery of project services and carry out mitigation measures in easy approaches that are socially sound; and

In clear terms define ways in which the identified groups will participate in consultative process in the proposed projects. Identify opportunities to involve the Batwa and Karimojong from the assessed areas.

## 1.6. Scope of the Social Assessment

The Social Assessment involved primary data collection and additional background information obtained from records in Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kabale, and Moroto Districts where the Batwa, Tepeth and other marginalized groups are located. More information was also got from the Ministries of ICT, Education and Health in Kampala. Specific social assessment activities undertaken and data sources used for the social assessment are outlined including the locations of the data sources.

## 1.7. Project Location

The project location is national wide involving all districts of Uganda, Government Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs), District headquarters and Targeted User Groups (hospitals, Schools, Universities and research Institutes) as well as private businesses. Among the 112 districts of Uganda there are districts that are inhabited by groups of people that have been identified as satisfying the World Bank's policy for the identification of indigenous peoples and they include the traditional hunter/gatherer **Batwa** communities, also known as **Twa**, in South Western Uganda and the **Tepeth** communities, also known as the **Soo** in the Karamoja Region. These people have historically suffered, and continue to suffer, disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds. Their livelihood is threatened mainly by the dwindling access they have to land and natural resources on which they depend either as pastoralists or as hunt-gatherers.

## 1.8. Methodology

### Kick-off Meetings

Before embarking on the actual assessment, preliminary meetings were held with project officials from National Information & Technology Authority Uganda (NITA-U) Project preparation team members to reach a consensus and common understanding on design of the assessment; agree on tools of analysis; and deadlines for different outputs. Due to the definite timelines for the project appraisal by the World Bank it was agreed that the consultant employs a faster method of data collection such as qualitative methods of data collection as opposed the quantitative methods for the comprehensive social assessment. However, it was a requirement that the consultant performs a proper stakeholder analysis and provides evidence that

stakeholder consultations were done in all the four districts and also ensure that the VMGs communities are consulted.

### **Document Review**

A host of documents were reviewed and these included project Document, The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, The National Information Technology Authority Act 2009, The Land Act 1998, The Local Government Act, 1997 and other legal and policy instruments relating to the project. District Development Plans for the 4 districts, National Development Plan (NDP 2010-2014), National Peace, Reconstruction and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda, Karamoja Integrated Development Programme (KIDP) (2011-2015). Other documents included; PAD RCIP Uganda P\_130871 Draft January 2015, RCIP detailed Project Descriptions and other Social Assessment reports developed in the country. This information formed the basis of literature review and secondary data analysis.

### **Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)**

Interviews with key stakeholders of the RCIP project were conducted to obtain in-depth qualitative data with regard to the SA for the Uganda RCIP project. KIs interviewed were from the District Headquarters of Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo in western Uganda and Moroto District Local Government; these included the RDCs, CAOs, CDOs and relevant officers of other development partners in the districts. Discussions were held Uganda Wildlife Authority Ntandi Park at Semiliki, NGOs such as NAYODE, AICM and the Parish Priest of Tapac Catholic Church Fr. Kamuntu Ronald and the Technical Officer for the SAGE program in Moroto District.

### **Community Consultations:**

Community consultations were held with community members of the border areas/districts of Bundibugyo, and Kabale among others in which the Batwa inhabit, Kasese where the Bakingwe, Bahooli, Basongola and Banyabingi live as well as in Moroto where Karimojong, specifically the Tepeth, identified as vulnerable/marginalized persons in the country inhabit. Specifically community meetings were held with the Batwa in Bundimasoli village Ntandi Sub-county in Bundibugyo District, Rwamahano village in Muko Sub-county, Kinyamishange village in Bufumbi Sub-county, Murambo village in Butanda Sub-county in Kabale district. A community meeting was also held at Akariwon Village in Tapac Sub-sub-county Moroto District. A lengthy discussion was held with the National Youth organization for Development (NAYODE), an NGO working with the vulnerable and marginalized groups in Kasese District such as; Bakingwe, Bahooli, Basongola and Banyabingi living at the Lake shores of Lake George.

### **Observations**

Ad hoc and unstructured observations were made throughout the data collection exercise during the visits to the Batwa and Tepeth communities. Observations of resettlement facilities were made to provide first-hand information which prompted probing for additional information. Photographs of households, general environment and meetings were also taken during the observations. A picture gallery will be attached to the final report, if necessary.



## Data Analysis and Report Writing

Qualitative data was analyzed using a thematic approach where themes were developed along the study objectives of the social impact assessment in project districts for coding primary data. Relevant verbatim recordings that were obtained during the study were used in the report writing to give anecdotal evidences. The process was done manually in relation to the major areas of the social assessment from which recommendations were made.

**Table 2: Itinerary for Consultative Meeting and Data Collection**

Stake holder	Venue	Date of meeting
<b>Kampala Based Stakeholders</b>		
National Information Technology Authority	Ministry headquarters	May 2014 to May 28, 2015
The World Bank	The World Bank Meeting Room	30 <sup>th</sup> /10/ 2015
<b>Local Government District Officials</b>		
Bundibugyo Local Government	District headquarters	23 <sup>rd</sup> /01/2015
Uganda Wildlife Authority	Ntanda Semiliki Forest Reserve	23 <sup>rd</sup> /01/2015
Batwa community	Ntanda Sub-county – Bundimasoli Village	24 <sup>th</sup> /01/2015
Kabale District	District headquarters	16 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
NGO	African International Christian Ministries (AICM)	17 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Batwa Community	Muko Sub-county –Rwamahano Village	17 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Batwa Community	Bufumbi Sub-county – Kinyamishange Village	18 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Batwa Community	Butanda Sub-county – Murambo Village	19 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Kasese District	District headquarters	20 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Non-Government Organization	National Youth Organization of Development NAYODE	20 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Moroto district	District headquarters	17 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
SAGE	District Office	17 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Tepeth Community	Tapac Sub-county – Awarokin Village	18 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015
Religious Organization	Tapac Catholic Parish Headquarters	18 <sup>th</sup> /02/2015



<p><b>Consultations with the Tepeth Elders – Tapac S/c</b></p>	<p><b>Consultations with the Tepeth VMGs –Tapac S/c</b></p>
	
<p><b>The Batwa King Mr.Nzito gave consent for consultations with the Batwa Community</b></p>	<p><b>Group Photo after FPIC with the Batwa Community at Bundibusoli settlement in Bundibugyo Distirct</b></p>

## 2. LEGAL, POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### 2.1. The Legal Framework

#### 2.1.1. Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995)

Under its National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, the Constitution of the republic of Uganda provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at the same time recognize the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of cooperation,

understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other's customs, traditions and beliefs. The Constitution, however, offers no express protection for indigenous peoples but Article 32 places a mandatory duty on the state to take affirmative action in favour of groups who have been historically disadvantaged and discriminated against. An equally important relevant constitutional provision with respect to the situation of the historically marginalized indigenous communities is contained in Article 32. This article enjoins the state "to take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for purposes of redressing imbalances that exist against them." In this regard the Constitution mandates Parliament to enact appropriate laws, including laws for the establishment of an Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), for the purpose of giving full effect to Article 32(1).

*Thus, while the promulgation of the 1995 Constitution was a positive step in the recognition of the rights of indigenous people in Uganda, the provisions fall short of international standards in regard with recognition of Indigenous People.*

### **2.1.2. The Equal Opportunities Commission Act: (2007)**

The Act makes provision in relation to the Equal Opportunities Commission pursuant to articles 32 (3) and 32 (4) and other relevant provisions of the Constitution; to provide for the composition and functions of the Commission; to give effect to the State's constitutional mandate to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground of sex, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability, and take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them; and to provide for other related matters. Regulation 14 2(a) states on the functions of the commission being to investigate or inquire into, on its own initiative or on a complaint made by any person or group of persons, any act, circumstance, conduct, omission, programme, activity or practice which seems to amount to or constitute discrimination, marginalization or to otherwise undermine equal opportunities.

### **2.1.3. The National Information Technology Authority Uganda Act: (2009)**

The Act provides for the establishment of the NITA-U and its objectives, function, composition, management and financial related matters. The authority shall be a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and shall be capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name and, subject with this act, may borrow money, to acquire and dispose of property and do or suffer any other thing a body corporate may lawfully do or suffer.

Objectives of the authority are:

- a) To provide high quality information tech services to government
- b) To promote standardization in the planning, acquisition, implementation, delivery, support and maintenance of Information Technology equipment, to ensure uniformity in quality, adequacy and reliability of Information Technology in Uganda
- c) To provide guidance and other assistance as may be required to other users and providers of information technology

- d) To promote cooperation, coordination and rationalization among users and providers of information technology at national and local level so as to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure optimal utilization of scarce resources
- e) To promote and be the focal point of cooperation for information technology users and providers at regional and international levels, and
- f) **To promote access to and utilization of information technology by the special interest groups**

*Objective (f) of the NITA-U Act mandates the authority to include the vulnerable and marginalized groups of Uganda herein referred to as special interest groups during the implementation of the RCIP project. It also serves as prerequisite to article 32 of the constitution of Uganda.*

Functions of the (NITA) Authority are:

- (a) To promote first level technical support and advice for critical government information technology systems including managing the utilization of the resources and infrastructure for centralized data centre facilities for large systems through the provision of specialized technical skills
- (b) To identify and advise Government on all matters of information technology development, utilization, usability, accessibility and deployment including networking systems, development of information technology security, training and support
- (c) To coordinate, supervise and monitor the utilization of information technology in the public and private sector
- (d) To regulate and enforce standards for information technology hardware and software equipment procurement in all government ministries, department, agencies and parastatals
- (e) To create and manage the national databank, its inputs and outputs
- (f) To set, monitor and regulate standards for information technology planning, acquisition, implementation, delivery support, organization, sustenance, disposal, security and contingency planning
- (g) To regulate the electronic signature infrastructure and other related matters as used in electronic transactions in Uganda
- (h) To promote and provide technical guidance for the establishment of e-government, e-commerce and other e-transactions in government
- (i) In liaison with other relevant institutions to regulate the information technology profession in Uganda in order to ensure its effective utilization, promotion and development
- (j) To act as an authentication centre for information technology training in Uganda in conjunction with the ministry responsible for education
- (k) To provide advice on information technology project management services to government
- (l) To provide for information management service through acting as a record management facility and an information depository
- (m) To provide guidance on the establishment of an infrastructure for information sharing by government and related stakeholders
- (n) To provide guidance in information technology audit service to government
- (o) To undertake and commission research as may be necessary to promote the objects of the Authority



- (p) To arbitrate disputes arising between suppliers of information technology solutions and consumers
- (q) To protect and promote the interests of consumers or users of information technology services or solutions

#### 2.1.4. The Uganda Wild Life Act (1990)

According to the UWA, ‘National Parks are areas of National importance for nature and landscape conservation and natural heritage preservation. They should be ecologically-viable units’. UWA details the permitted activities in the National Parks to include viewing and scientific research and the prohibited activities to include hunting wildlife and the disturbance of vegetation; harvesting/removal of approved resources may be authorized in designated areas.

#### 2.1.5. The Local Government Act (1997)

The Local Government Act, 1997 provides for the local governments as the institutions responsible for the protection of the environment at the district and lower levels. This therefore, implies that local governments shall be consulted on projects to be located within their areas of jurisdiction and on matters that affect their environment. During this study, the neighboring local communities/Villages and other stakeholders surrounding the project area districts including relevant district technical staff were consulted.

### 2.1. Policy Framework

#### 2.1.1. National Land Policy (2013)

The goal of the policy is: *“to ensure efficient, equitable and sustainable utilization and management of Uganda’s land and land-based resources for poverty reduction, wealth creation and overall socio-economic development”*. **The Rights for Minorities:** As regards land rights of ethnic minorities (term implicitly refers to VMGs and other vulnerable groups), the Policy provides that:

- a) Government shall, in its use and management of natural resources, recognize and protect the right to ancestral lands of ethnic minority groups; and
- b) Government shall pay prompt, adequate and fair compensation to ethnic minority groups that are displaced from their ancestral land by government action.

With reference to the land rights of pastoral communities, the Policy states that ***“Land rights of pastoral communities will be guaranteed and protected by the State.”*** To protect the land rights of pastoralists, government will take measures to:

- Ensure that pastoral lands are held, owned and controlled by designated pastoral communities as common property under customary tenure;
- Develop particular projects for adaptation and reclamation of pastoral lands for sustainable productivity and improved livelihood of communities;
- Protect pastoral lands from indiscriminate appropriation by individuals or corporate institutions under the guise of investment;

Promote the establishment of Communal Land Associations and use of communal land management schemes among pastoral communities;

Establish efficient mechanisms for the speedy resolution of conflict over pastoral resources, and between pastoral communities and sedentary communities

*Therefore, the land policy recognizes the rights of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups to their ancestral lands and should effectively address the challenges that have been faced by the VMGs in Uganda.*

### 2.1.2. National Policy for Older Persons (2009)

This policy is clearly set within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and other laws that promote the rights of older persons among other vulnerable groups. It provides a framework for enhancing the recognition of the roles, contributions and potentials of older persons in the development process among others. The policy targets older persons aged 60 years and above with special emphasis on the vulnerable. Section 3.4 states that, “*All stakeholders will ensure that issues of older women and men are included in planning and implementation of programmes.*”

### 2.1.3. The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management (2010)

The policy provides a framework that details mechanisms and structures for the effective and practical management of disasters.

The policy covers the broad subjects of vulnerability assessment, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, which constitute “comprehensive disaster management”. It networks all the lead sectors, local governments, international development and humanitarian partners, the private sector and the NGOs under the principle of a multi-disciplinary and multi-skilled consultative approach. It also presents an institutional framework under which the partners coordinate their operations. It further recognizes the need to place emphasis on the vulnerable groups in drought-prone areas. The e-governance component 3 of the RCIP project will enhance management and preparedness for natural disasters and will go a long way in providing early warning information for timely action in conflict-prone areas such as the ethnic and cross border conflicts sometimes experienced in the cross border districts like Bundibugyo, Kasese and Moroto.

## 2.2. Institutional Frameworks

### 2.2.1. Ministry of Information and Communications Technology

The project design of the RCIP Uganda reflects the intent, interest, and priorities of the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology, the implementation agency (the National IT Development Agency) and other beneficiaries and stakeholders, which ensures ownership of the project. The project is directly in line with the vision of the Government which sees ICT as an enabler for key sectors of economy and priority area as mentioned both by the President and Minister of Finance on different occasions.

**Strong partnerships and clearly delineated roles are needed between the government and private sector.** The role of the government is not necessarily to fund and build new infrastructure, but rather (i)

to establish a competitive and well regulated environment where operators can operate and provide services under acceptable conditions; and (ii) to provide the right incentives for infrastructure and services to reach areas unattractive for the private sector on a purely commercial basis.

### 2.2.2. Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

The Ministry's mandate is to empower communities to harness their potential through cultural growth, skills development and labour productivity for sustainable and gender responsive development. The vision of the Ministry is *"a better standard of living, equity and social cohesion, especially for poor and vulnerable groups in Uganda."* The mission of the ministry is *"promotion of gender equality, labour administration, social protection and transformation of communities."*

### 2.2.3. The Uganda Human Rights Commission

The UHRC is Uganda's national human rights institution created by the Constitution, with mandate, amongst others, *"to investigate violations of human rights and to monitor government compliance with its human rights obligations detailed in the Constitution."* This is in addition to making recommendations to Parliament on measures to promote human rights. The Commission has since its establishment played a very important role in highlighting human rights violations in the country and making recommendations for rectification. The Commission has on several occasions investigated and published its findings with regard to the human rights problems of marginalized groups and made recommendations on how these could be rectified. A good example is the intervention during the Karimojong disarmament exercise in 2005.

### 2.2.4. The Equal Opportunities Commission

The mandate of the Commission is *"to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground of sex, age, race, color, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability, and take affirmative action in favor of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them, and to provide for other related matters."* ***The EOC also has powers to hear and determine complaints by any person against any action, practice, usage, plan, policy programme, tradition, culture or custom which amounts to discrimination, marginalization or undermines equal opportunity.***

### 2.2.5. Ministry in Charge of Karamoja Affairs

The Ministry in Charge of Karamoja Affairs under OPM was an initiative started in order to focus on and address the unique problems and development challenges of Karamoja and its peoples. In May 2011, the President elevated the ministry in charge of Karamoja Affairs to a full ministry complete with a State Minister for Karamoja Affairs. Although it is still too soon to review the relevance and efficiency of this ministry, its elevation can be interpreted as the government's attempt to scale-up interventions to address water scarcity, food insecurity, insecurity and poverty in Karamoja region. This will be realized through establishment of the common security enabler for public service delivery.

### 2.2.6. International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)

IWGIA is an international human rights organization staffed by specialists and advisers on indigenous affairs. IWGIA supports indigenous peoples' struggle for human rights, self-determination, right to territory, control of land and resources, cultural integrity, and the right to development. The aim was to establish a network of concerned researchers and human right activists to document the situation of indigenous peoples and advocate for an improvement of their rights. IWGIA works at local, regional and international levels to further the understanding and knowledge of, and the involvement in, the cause of indigenous peoples. IWGIA publishes a wide range of books, reports, handbooks, and audio-visual material about indigenous peoples' rights and the human right situation of indigenous peoples around the world.

### 2.2.7. Minority Rights Group International

Minority Rights Group International (MRG) is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) working to secure the rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples worldwide, and to promote cooperation and understanding between communities. Their activities are focused on international advocacy, training, publishing and outreach. It is guided by the needs expressed by our worldwide partner network of organizations, which represent minority and indigenous peoples.

## 2.3. Key Supportive Strategies

### 2.3.1. The Social Development Sector Strategic Investment Plan (SDIP 2) 2011/12 – 2015/16

The Social Development Sector fosters the rights of the vulnerable population, addresses gender inequalities, labour and employment as well as community mobilization and empowerment. The plan recognizes that addressing the rights and needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged populations such as People with Disabilities (PWDs), older persons, youth, orphans and other vulnerable children and the chronically poor underpins the core concerns of national development. The mission of the SDS is “*promotion of gender equality, social protection and transformation of communities,*” while the vision is “*a better standard of living, equity and social cohesion.*” The Sector Strategic Objectives include (i) to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable, marginalized and excluded groups; and (ii) to address gender inequality in the development process. Expected Outcomes of the plan include: (i) gender equality enhanced: and (ii) vulnerable persons protected from deprivation and livelihood risks among others

### 2.3.2. National Development Plan (NDP 2010-2014):

This is Uganda’s overarching five-year strategic framework for economic development. It recognizes that: (a) agriculture employs most of Uganda’s rural population and is where most livelihoods are vested, making it an important target for addressing poverty, food security and income generation, especially of the poor and of women; and (b) agriculture is also the basis of growth, and thus a stimulant for other sectors i.e., industry and services as well as an important contributor to Uganda’s exports.

### **2.3.3. Uganda Strategic Investment Framework for sustainable Land Management 2010-2020**

This offers programmatic approaches to address land degradation and promote sustainable land management and is aligned to CAADP pillar 1. The framework focuses on areas of the cattle corridor among others where land is degraded due to overgrazing, climatic effects and high population density.

### **2.3.4. National Peace, Reconstruction and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda**

The overall goal is to consolidate peace and security and lay foundation for recovery and development through, among others, rebuilding and empowering communities, revitalization of the local economy, and peace building and reconciliation. It addresses livelihood options for war affected communities in Northern Uganda and communities affected by conflicts resulting from shared resources in Karamoja.

### **2.3.5. Karamoja Integrated Development Programme (KIDP) (2011-2015)**

This is a medium- term development framework specifically tailored to address the unique context and development challenges in the Karamoja region and is part of the broader National Development Plan and the Peace, Recovery and Development Programme (PRDP). KIDP harmonizes the various development interventions by Government, bi-lateral and multi-lateral development partners, international and national NGOs and CBOs.

## **2.5. The World Bank Operational Policies**

### **2.5.1. O.P 4.10 Indigenous Peoples**

This Policy contributes to the Bank's mission of poverty reduction and sustainable development by ensuring that the development process fully respects the dignity, human rights, economies, and cultures of Indigenous Peoples. For all projects that are proposed for Bank financing and affect Indigenous Peoples, the Bank requires the borrower to engage in a process of free, prior, and informed consultation. The Bank provides project financing only where free, prior, and informed consultation results in broad community support to the project by the affected Indigenous Peoples. The policy establishes processing requirements: screening, social assessment, consultation with communities involved, preparation of plan or framework, and disclosure. It also requires the borrower to seek broad community support of Indigenous Peoples through a process of free, prior and informed consultation before deciding to develop any project that targets or affects indigenous communities.

### **2.5.2. O.P. 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement**

Bank experience indicates that involuntary resettlement under development projects, if unmitigated, often gives rise to severe economic, social, and environmental risks: production systems are dismantled; people face impoverishment when their productive assets or income sources are lost; people are relocated to environments where their productive skills may be less applicable and the competition for resources greater; community institutions and social networks are weakened; kin groups are dispersed; and cultural identity, traditional authority, and the potential for mutual help are diminished or lost. For these reasons, the overall objectives of the Bank's policy on involuntary resettlement are the following:

- (i) Involuntary resettlement should be avoided where feasible, or minimized, exploring all viable alternative project designs;
- (ii) Where it is not feasible to avoid resettlement, resettlement activities should be conceived and executed as sustainable development programs, providing sufficient investment resources to enable the persons displaced by the project to share in project benefits. Displaced persons<sup>3</sup> should be meaningfully consulted and should have opportunities to participate in planning and implementing resettlement programs; and
- (iii) Displaced persons should be assisted in their efforts to improve their livelihoods and standards of living or at least to restore them, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher

### **3. POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF RCIP ON VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS**

It is anticipated that in the process of implementing the proposed RCIP project in the 4 districts, activities of these component will trigger social effects and safeguard concerns whose impacts may range from small scale and site specific to larger infrastructure investment activities. Below is a summary of social impacts expected to be caused during the implementation of the project beyond land take:

### 3.1. Potential Beneficial Impacts

#### 3.1.1. Component 1: Enabling Environment

Table 3: Potential Beneficial Impacts

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
<p><b>Sub-component 1.1: Developing an Enabling Environment, including Policy, Legal and Technical Frameworks and Programs</b></p> <p>Review and assess existing policy and regulatory frameworks and develop new policies that are missing to support successful implementation of e-government and telecom development initiatives supported by RCIP.</p>	<p>Through the enabling environment NITA-U will bring to mind the principle of inclusion, self-determination, participation and respect by ensuring that marginalized groups (including indigenous and vulnerable and marginalized populations and people with disability) are prioritized and given visibility and voice.</p> <p>During the policy review NITA-U will link community perspectives and voices with sub national and national policy dialogue and implementation</p> <p>The policy review will ensure that youth and children are reflected in the policy review as agents of change, whether possible, and within all development areas, where formative research demonstrate their role as key influencers and a primary participatory group</p> <p>Access to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ICT project may be an important way of increasing civic engagement and providing a platform for participation and engagement of both individual and community.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Information will promote dialogue between communities and decision makers at local, regional and international levels.</p> <p>During the review and update of policy frameworks the VMGs will be consulted through FPIC. Their views will be considered to reduce on the vulnerability and poverty gap leading to increased inclusion of the VMGs and regions.</p> <p>Enabling environment that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create spaces for plurality of services and narratives of communities</li> <li>Encourage listening, dialogue, debate and consultation</li> <li>Ensure meaningful and active participation of VMGs</li> <li>Promote gender equity and social inclusion</li> </ul> <p>ICT sector firms will benefit from a more predictable regulatory environment that would consider the regional and VMG gaps so as to strengthen inclusion</p> <p>An enabling environment will address structural and social barriers that</p>

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
	prevent the youth from reaching their full potential in the long run
<p><b>Sub-component 1.2: Institutional Strengthening and Development</b></p> <p>An assessment of ICT staffing and training requirements to develop a comprehensive change management program through; Training for leaders, Government Officers and IT Technical staff</p>	<p>Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) will benefit from training and skills; enabling effective service delivery which will accrue to the VMGs.</p> <p>Increase the awareness on the need to promote inclusion and ICT objective</p> <p>Increase private enterprises, where productivity will be boosted through improved connectivity and telecommunication users through better ICT access including areas inhabited by VMGs</p>



## 3.1.2. Component 2: Connectivity

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
<b>Sub-component 2.1: Pre-purchase of international bandwidth for Government and priority targeted user groups</b>	In ensuring geographical equity in respect to connectivity, diversity of options for access to submarine cables, the districts of Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo and Moroto will stand to benefit.
<b>Sub-component 2.2: Implementation of Missing Links to improve regional connectivity and the reach, availability and resiliency of NBI</b>	<p>Boosting of the use of ICTs in the rural areas and lowering the cost of international bandwidth by pre-purchasing bandwidth for Government Ministries, departments, agencies and priority targeted user groups will benefit VMGs in the hard to reach areas such as Tapac in Moroto District</p> <p>Boarder districts of Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo and Moroto will benefit from improved connectivity to undersea cables and border points that have alternative routes that have been redundant thereby boosting business information accessibility and possible expansion of business in these areas</p> <p>VMGs will benefit in boost of business done either on phone or internet where MTN, Airtel, UTL and Africell are providing internet services to the districts.</p> <p>ICT will help in building capacity across the country and it will help cocoa farmers in Bundibugyo to find good market for their produce by searching for better prices directly on the internet hence skipping the middlemen.</p> <p>Internet will help the VMGs and other communities to reduce on time and expense of travelling to distant places or towns like Kampala for trade.</p> <p>ICT also provide employment to the local community in the district. Providers of this services will directly or indirectly create employment opportunities for the population including VMGs</p> <p>It will also be used for climate change information, disaster and crime management since these are areas that are prone to disasters like floods, landslides, cattle diseases and drought</p>
<b>Sub-component 2.3: Government network providing broadband connectivity to MDAs, schools, hospitals, Universities and Research Institutions, and NGOs</b>	<p>In the health sector, ICT could play an important role by unleashing new possibilities and innovation through the integration of data across disparate databases to better manage patients' care, facilitate communication among healthcare providers and even to empower Ugandans to manage their own health through health related mobile applications. For example, patients in Tapac HC III will benefit from faster and quality services.</p> <p>Improved e-service delivery and emergency attention and information exchange will reduce gaps on access and increase use of ICT in project area districts.</p>

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
	<p>ICT will empower the Youth and community to voice their issues and to seek quick solutions.</p> <p>In the education sector, ICT could foster an engaging learning experience to meet the diverse needs of students in Uganda, through the innovative use of mobile devices and through creating an enriching student-centric environment in the schools. This can be applied in schools being attended by the Batwa and Tepeth children.</p> <p>Integration of ICT into schools and services will offer tremendous opportunities to empower young people in and out of school</p> <p>Internet will also benefit the district in that it will help civil servants including those in hard to reach areas inhabited by the Batwa and Tepeth to be paid their salaries in time through IFM/IFT which is very fast and efficient.</p>

### 3.1.3. Component 3: E-Government Applications

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
<p><b>Component 3: E-Government Applications</b></p> <p><b>Sub-component 3.1.1: ICT Standards &amp; Frameworks</b></p>	<p>The e-governance component 3 of the RCIP project will enhance management and preparedness for natural disasters and will go a long way in providing early warning information for timely action in conflict-prone areas such as the ethnic and cross border conflicts sometimes experienced in the cross border districts like Bundibugyo, Kasese and Moroto.</p> <p>VMGs in the project area will benefit from reduction of the cost of internet bandwidth through the economies of scale realized through the bulk purchase of bandwidth;</p> <p>Improve service delivery and access to GoU infrastructure including the ones in the VMGs communities</p> <p>Promote effective staff performance even in the hard to reach areas like Tapac in Moroto</p>

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
<p><b>Legal, Regulatory and Security Frameworks</b></p> <p>Review and draft laws and regulations for Electronic Evidence/Transactions</p>	<p>Improved governance and service delivery efforts</p> <p>Enable NITA-U rollout of e-Government services that are dependent on the accessibility to high speed internet service to the rural schools and hospitals; including those in the hard to reach areas where the Tepeth and Batwa live.</p> <p>VMGs will benefit from the boost in ICT connectivity in the country, improve service delivery to citizens, increase the range and quality of information from and to the citizens, and increase the governments' ability to ensure transparency through mainstreaming e-government services.</p> <p>By enabling e-Government foundations to simplify the implementation of sector specific electronic services and significantly reduce the cost and time taken to deliver visible benefits for its citizens including VMGs some of whom are beneficiaries of the SAGE program that requires internet</p>
<p><b>Sub-component 3.1.4: e-Government Capacity Building</b></p>	<p>Build safer communities. Using analytics to forecast and report on when and where crimes are likely to occur, law enforcement resources can be deployed to expected hot spots. VMGs living in trans-border regions are usually prone to attacks by the neighbours across will benefit from these services.</p>

#### 3.1.4. Component 4: Project Management

Project Activities	Impact on VMGs and Benefit Enhancement
<p><b>Component 4: Project Management</b></p> <p>Finance project management related costs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>monitoring &amp; evaluation,</li> <li>project communication, and</li> <li>Environmental and social safeguards.</li> </ul>	<p>VMGs will benefit from the services of the procurement of an environment and social safeguard specialist at NITA-U who will ensure that issues of the VMGs are taken care of.</p> <p>Monitoring and documentation of impacts on inclusion and vulnerability of VMGs</p>

### 3.2. Potential Negative Impacts

The RCIP project activities that involve the laying of broadband cables to border towns may lead to some land take. This may even be worse with the marginalized groups in the area who are usually ignored.

A situation may arise where there will be an infringement on people's cultures. This may lead to erosion of culture through transmission of pornographic materials. Through the use of the internet, wrong elements in society may find an avenue to promote immoral and illegal acts.

Access and free use of the internet has the negative effect that it may indirectly encourage use of the internet to promote infidelity which may cause family breakdown.

Much as ICT has the potential to build safer communities, it conversely aids in building networks of criminals who use it to commit heinous crimes of depriving innocent and unsuspecting community members

Vulnerable groups in the rural areas fall on the wrong side of digital divide, they risk further marginalization with the introduction of ICT if not well considered.

### 3.3. Proposed Mitigation Measures

A summary of the potential adverse impacts of the RCIP on any potential VMGs and possible mitigation actions are highlighted below. These should be considered as a guideline in the development of the investment specific to VMGP in terms of mitigation measures and other considerations.

NITA-U to consider development of communication centers that will promote information access and narrow the exclusion gap by creating synergies through partnering with the Rural Communication Development Fund which has already spearheaded access to ICT in the rural and hard to reach areas. The RCDF is already operational in the RCIP districts of Bundibugyo, Kabale, Kasese and Moroto.

Review of policy and regulatory frameworks with VMGs consideration will increase inclusion opportunities.

In case of land acquisition requirements, a resettlement policy framework has been developed alongside the VMGF to help guide in the processes to be taken to ensure that there adequate and fair compensation of all project affected persons including the VMGs.

Need to block/ put some limitations in content of the technology designed so that immoral or unethical materials do not come into the public domain.

During the review and update of policy and regulatory frameworks considerations should be given to address procedures governing use and operation of ICT.

ICT and communication efforts must take cultural values of marginal groups as an avenue of their participation, rather than borrowing community strategies from outside that promote change without due consideration for culture. Preserving cultural diversity, local languages and traditional systems of communication in the face of global challenges is one way of the ICT promotion

### 3.4. Analysis of RCIP Intervention Risks

Some of the risks of RCIP interventions include, but are not limited to:

Lack of community ownership for infrastructure project can result in facilities going unused or being abandoned. Expensive infrastructure investments completed without local community input face a risk of poor use and maintenance. Previous efforts to upgrade infrastructure especially in Karamoja region in the form of roads, water supplies, health facilities and schools have faced challenges to sustainability since projects were implemented in a top-down manner.

Infrastructure projects within and shared by different ethnic groups has the ability to achieve peace building goals of increasing interaction and fostering cooperation. However, there is a risk that new infrastructure improvements undertaken by the RCIP project could increase conflict and instability especially in Karamoja sub region.

Considering that VMGs reside in remote and hard to reach areas, ICT projects run a risk lack of sustainability arising from poor infrastructure (roads) and lack of electricity on which ICT promotion is heavily dependent.

Given the literacy and poverty levels of the VMGs, and the fact that ICTs are dependent on the skills and capacity to use, manage and maintain, there is a risk of ineffective utilization because they cannot afford the cost of internet access and computers.

The languages of both the Batwa and the Tepeth are already at the risk of extinction coupled with the levels of education their literature was not development and documented they would not find much information that is relevant to their lives. ICT components like the Internet will not be much beneficial.

New information and community technologies may be used to enhance cultural self-expression or stifle it through what has been variously labeled as cultural imperialism, invasion  
Marginal communities in the rural areas contain a wealth of indigenous knowledge and traditional cultural resources, a rich but fragile heritage which risks being lost with the advent of modern technology

#### 4. SOCIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS IN THE PROJECT AREA

This section gives a comprehensive picture of the social characteristics, dynamics and challenges of vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project area. The assessment specifically looked at the gender issues and concerns; livelihood and coping strategies; cultural resources; community types; Institutions; Stakeholders; land tenure systems; Social, political and other risks plus specific trans-border issues.

There is no universally accepted definition of “Indigenous Peoples.” Indigenous Peoples may be referred to in different countries by such terms as “Indigenous ethnic minorities,” “aboriginals,” “hill tribes,” “minority nationalities,” “scheduled tribes,” “first nations,” or “tribal groups.” In Uganda, the term “ethnic minorities” is used to refer to such groups. However, there are a number of groups that have been identified as satisfying the World Bank’s policy for identification of indigenous peoples and include the traditional hunters/gatherers Batwa, Benet, Tepeth and Ik communities. These people have historically suffered, and continue to suffer disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds. The term “Indigenous Peoples” is used in a generic sense to refer to a distinct social and cultural group possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:

*Self-identification* as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;

Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories;

Customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the mainstream society or culture; or

A distinct language or dialect, often different from the official language or languages of the country or region in which they reside.

It is noted that, although the Ugandan Constitution does not expressly recognize indigenous peoples it makes provision for addressing some of the negative effects arising from ethnic imbalances. The Constitution, in the section on National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at the same time recognizing the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of co-operation, understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other’s customs, traditions and beliefs.

In as much as the Bank policy OP 4.10 identifies these groups as indigenous, the Uganda Constitution refers to them as vulnerable and marginalized therefore this report will adopt to use the term “Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups” in place of “Indigenous Peoples.”

## 4.1. Definition of Indigenous/Vulnerable and Marginalized People

### 4.1.1. Vulnerable Groups

**Vulnerability** refers to the conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility of a community to the impact of hazards. A vulnerable group is therefore a population that has some specific characteristics that make it at higher risk of falling into poverty than others living in areas targeted by a project. Vulnerable groups include the elderly, the mentally and physically disabled, at-risk children and youth, ex-combatants, internally displaced people and returning refugees, HIV/AIDS- affected individuals and households, religious and ethnic minorities and, in some communities or societies, women.

Vulnerable people or groups in this study are those who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage, or social status may be more adversely affected by the project than others and may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of resettlement assistance and related development benefits. The social assessment has contributed to identifying issues of potentially vulnerable populations in the project area.

### 4.1.2. Marginalized Groups

The term “Marginalization” generally describes the overt actions or tendencies of human societies whereby those perceived as being without desirability or function are removed or excluded (i.e., are “marginalized”...) from the prevalent systems of protection and integration, so limiting their opportunities and means for survival. This applies to the Tepeth and Batwa who were evicted from their original habitats in Moroto and The Rwenzori National Forest Reserves respectively.

As a result of the stakeholder consultations the RCIP project areas, it was ascertained that there exist groups of that fulfill the definition of being vulnerable and marginalized. The following accounts give the social characteristics, dynamics and challenges of the vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project areas.

#### 4.1.2.1. The Batwa Community:

The Batwa are a minority group of people found in the South Western districts of Kabale, Kisoro, Kasese and Bundibugyo. The Batwa lived near Echuya Forest and Mgahinga and Bwindi Conservation Area as their ancestral homes. Following the 1990 Ugandan Government Policy of Bio-diversity Conservation, the Batwa were evicted from these forests. These areas were gazzated as protected areas by the Act of Parliament (Uganda Wildlife Act Cap. 200) under Uganda Wildlife Authority; the Batwa lost their original home land (forests). They were neither resettled nor compensated by government rendering them completely homeless. The Batwa ended up living as squatters on other people’s land to whom they provided manual labour in exchange for food or little pay which could not even sustain a family for a meal.

As squatters, the Batwa could only be allowed to construct a hut in which they lived as they guarded crops for the landlords. The huts were too small, poorly mudded and sometimes made of grass which acted as both the walls and roofs. These kinds of shelter made the Batwa vulnerable and subjected them to all forms of social discrimination and marginalization by the non-Batwa in their respective communities. In cases where they failed to abide by the land lords’ requirements, the Batwa family was chased away.

Due to these poor living conditions, the Batwa were perceived as backward and people of low caliber. The non Batwa sometimes were not willing to associate with them or even share a meal. The Batwa were regarded as lazy people with limited skills and knowledge to participate in any development project.

The Batwa had no concept of land ownership because they never stayed in one place for a long time. They were mobile people who were not guided by strict regulations but used to freely move from place to place hunting small game using arrows or nets and gathering plants and fruit in the rain forest.

In the late 1990s several development partners such as CARE International, ADRA, worked in collaboration with national NGOs like BMCT, UOBDO, AICM, BUCCODI, and some Government agencies like UWA came together to rescue the Batwa communities by buying land and resettling them. In order to improve the general living conditions of the Batwa, AICM in partnership with CARE International purchased 52 acres of land that was divided amongst Batwa households in the sub-counties thus: 13 acres for Muko, 10 acres for Batanda and 29 acres for Bufundi in Kabale District. Among the land beneficiaries are 83 couples and many other Batwa in different settlement centres. The Batwa now have embraced agriculture and have grown crops as well as rearing animals.

Currently the Batwa are struggling to access education, health care, employment, land for food production and settlement from time of their eviction till now they were never been compensated. However, some development actors have tried to address the issue of land by procuring pieces of land to some Batwa households but the majority is still landless.

#### 4.1.2.2. The Tepeth Community

The Tepeth are a group of people that are also referred to as the *Soo*. They live in Mount Moroto and neighbor the Turkana and the Pokot of Kenya. The Tepeth are also said to have been the original people of Moroto but due to ethnic wars with the Karimojong they were driven up the top of mount Moroto.

Tapac people are called the Tepeth. In their informal administrative structures, they have the Council of Elders at the helm. This body is constituted by the men and the women and the youth too are represented. They largely depend on livestock keeping for a livelihood and hardly practice agriculture. Previously, they settled at the hill tops due the insecurity that was prevailing in the area. Of recent they have been encouraged to come down from the hill tops to settle down. The Tepeth community at the border have limited communication network with the district because of barrier created by the mountain. Transfer of information to the target population in this community is very slow due to lack of faster means of communicating.

*“A message that is meant to reach the population today ends up reaching the target population a month after. Even if you went and interviewed people about an on-going intervention, they may tell you that they do not know. They will say this, not because they are not interested, but sometimes it is because they do not have any information about that intervention.” (District Official)*

Areas behind the mountain in the Sub counties of Rupa and Tapac that border Kenya hardly receive any network coverage from the Ugandan side. For this reason, the district sometimes uses the Kenyan radios from Kitale when they have information to pass to the community. These areas are characterized with a poor road network that has been made worse by heavy trucks ferrying marble for cement factories. This



coupled with lack of electricity has limited the use of ICT in the area as people have to travel about 47 KMs to charge phones and also to receive mobile money. There are very low levels of literacy in these communities due to low value that is attached to education, and for this reason, their ability to operate gadgets like phones is also very low.

The main distinguishing aspect in their culture is that they carry out FGM. They also have their traditional religion that is kept a secret amongst the ethnic group. They have their shrines at the top of one of the mountains that they visit. The FGM practice is also common among other communities that live along the border line. Some partners like UNFPA, UNICEF and the Government of Uganda have embarked on deliberate programs to end this practice. Committees have been formed and are working to address this practice and some of the mutilators have been arrested and taken to courts of law. The RCIP project once implemented will enhance the fight against this practice by fostering information dissemination.

Below are some of the major challenges and concerns faced by the Vulnerable/marginalized groups:

Uganda's constitution has no express protection for Indigenous/Vulnerable/Marginalized Peoples, though it does provide for affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups.

The Land Act of 1998 and the National Environment Statute of 1995 protect customary interests in land and traditional uses of forests. However these laws also authorize the government to exclude human activities in any forest area by declaring it a protected forest, thus nullifying the customary land rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, the new Land Policy 2013 seeks to address the issue of dispossession of indigenous people of their ancestral land.

Frequent attacks from hostile ethnic groups especially the Tepeth in Moroto are attacked by the Pokot and Turkana from the Kenya.

Eviction from homelands (Natural Forests) has limited the vulnerable/marginalized Peoples' access to food, medicine, and shelter. As a result, some of them are plagued by starvation, sickness and exposure. For instance the Batwa in Bundibugyo District are numbering less than 200 are on the verge of total extinction due the HIV/AIDS which they have acquired due to the integration with other communities who believe that one can get cured of the infection after sleeping with a Mutwa woman.

## 4.2. Overview of Project Area Districts

### 4.2.1. Kabale District

Kabale District is bordered by Rukungiri District to the north, Ntungamo District to the northeast, the Republic of Rwanda to the east and south, Kisoro District to the west and Kanungu District to the northwest. The town of Kabale, where the district headquarters are located, lies approximately 420 km (260 mi), by road, southwest of Kampala, the capital city of Uganda.<sup>[1]</sup> A road trip from Kampala usually takes 7 to 8 hours by private car and approximately 2 to 3 hours longer by public transportation. The coordinates of the district are: 01 15S, 30 00E.

Kabale District is a highland district. The district covers 1,827 km<sup>2</sup> (705m<sup>2</sup>). The topography is mainly green, interlocking and heavily cultivated hills with spectacular valleys. The altitude of the district ranges between 1,219 m (3,999 ft.) and 2,347 m (7,700 ft.) above sea level. This altitude makes it colder than the rest of the country. Temperatures average about 18 °C (64 °F) during the day and fall to about 10 °C (50 °F) at night. The relative humidity is between 90% and 100% in the morning and decreases to between 42% and 75% in the afternoon, all the year around. The three counties of Rubanda, Rukiga and Ndorwa, together with Kabale Municipality form Kabale District. There are 22 sub-counties and three divisions.

### **Population**

The 1991 National Population and Housing Census estimated the population of Kabale District at about 417,200. The National Population and Housing census in 2012 estimated the population at approximately 458,300. In 2012, the district population was estimated at about 498,300 and the National Population and Housing Census of 2004 reported the population of Kabale as being 534,160 with 252,164 male and 281,996 female. The population of the Batwa in Kabale is estimated at 774 with 382 males and 392 females according to the: *(The Batwa Bulletin-A bi-annual Stakeholder's experience with the Batwa by United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda 2012)*, making about 0.2% of the total population in the district.

### **Ethnicity**

Kabale District is densely populated. With an area of 1,679.1 km<sup>2</sup> (648.3 m<sup>2</sup>), the population density in the district in 2012 was estimated at 296.7 people per km<sup>2</sup> (768.6 people per m<sup>2</sup>).The land is heavily fragmented. An average household has six to seven plots of land on several hills. The communities in Kabale are based on tribes and they are predominantly from the Bakiga tribe, the Batwa (Pygmies), the Banyarwanda and the Bahororo (Toro) tribal clans.

### **Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups in Kabale**

#### **The Batwa**

The Batwa in Kabale are found in the sub-counties of Bufundi, Butanda, Ikumba and Muko in the eight communities of Murambo, Makanga, Nyakabungo, Kinyarushengye, Murubindi, Rwamahano, Karengye and Ryamihanda. The Batwa lived near Echuya Forest and Mgahinga and Bwindi Conservation Area as their ancestral homes. These areas were gazzated in 1996 as protected areas by the Act of Parliament (Uganda Wildlife Act Cap. 200) under Uganda Wildlife Authority, leading to evictions of the Batwa from the forest areas. Before creation of the authority, the Batwa used to derive their livelihood from these forests, but their eviction from the forests without proper re-location to other specific areas contributed to the Batwa being rendered homeless and landless.

Currently the Batwa are struggling to access education, health care, employment, land for food production and settlement from time of their eviction till now they were never been compensated. However, some development actors have tried to address the issue of land by procuring pieces of land to some Batwa households but the majority is still landless.

#### **Land tenure in Kabale District**

Because of high population densities, land fragmentation is a common phenomenon, and as a result most land holdings are very small in size. Most of the land in the region is held under customary private ownership; whereby the individual has the right to use or sell the land. The practice among many peasants is to sub-divide land into sections among sons when the head of the family dies. When there are several sons in a family, each gets a portion of his father's land. The result of this inheritance pattern (and a continued growth in population) is that increasingly, smaller farms are being inherited. This has resulted in over fragmentation of land and given the high population density most Bakiga have migrated to other districts like Hoima and Kibaale and have forcefully established themselves especially in the forest reserves.

### **Land for the Batwa**

With increased conservation campaign by government in the early 1990's, the Batwa lost their original home land (forests) and were evicted from the forests. They were neither resettled nor compensated by government rendering them completely homeless. The Batwa ended up living as squatters on other people's land to whom they provided manual labour in exchange for food or little pay which could not even sustain a family for a meal.

As squatters, the Batwa could only be allowed to construct a hut in which they lived as they guarded crops for the landlords. The huts were too small, poorly mudded and sometimes made of grass which acted as both the walls and roofs. These kinds of shelter made the Batwa vulnerable and subjected them to all forms of social discrimination and marginalization by the non-Batwa in their respective communities. In cases where they failed to abide by the land lords' requirements, the Batwa family was chased away. Due to these poor living conditions, the Batwa were perceived as backward and people of low caliber. The non Batwa sometimes were not willing to associate with them or even share a meal. The Batwa were regarded as lazy people with limited skills and knowledge to participate in any development project.

The Batwa had no concept of land ownership because they never stayed in one place for a long time. They were mobile people who were not guided by strict regulations but used to freely move from place to place hunting small game using arrows or nets and gathering plants and fruit in the rain forest

In late 1990's several development partners such as CARE International, ADRA, worked in collaboration with national NGOs like BMCT, UOBDO, AICM, BUCCODI, and some Government agencies like UWA came together to rescue the Batwa communities by buying for them and resettling them. In order to improve the general living conditions of the Batwa, AICM in partnership with CARE International purchased 52 acres of land that was divided amongst Batwa households in the sub-counties thus: 13 acres for Muko, 10 acres for Batanda and 29 acres for Bufundi in Kabale District. Among the land beneficiaries are 83 couples and many other Batwa in different settlement centres. The Batwa now have embraced agriculture and have grown crops as well as rearing animals.

### **Batwa Way of life**

The Batwa are believed to have been forest dwellers from time immemorial. Forests acted as their homes and provided food for their survival. The Batwa lived as fruit gatherers for their food and used herbs for medicinal purposes. Forest tree sheds rocks and fallen tree logs acted as their shelter. They lived in huts constructed of leaves and branches, moving frequently in search of fresh supplies of food and anything else that pleased them. The Batwa lived in harmony with the forest and its creatures, including the mountain gorillas for a long time. This nature of life has made their transition in the 'outside' world very

difficult for them. The Batwa still behave almost the same way they used to while they were in the forests, hoping perhaps that one day they may return to the forests. As a result of their unique way of life and eventual eviction, the Batwa have been marginalized for a long time and thus considered a vulnerable group. Livelihood and coping strategies - What are the key livelihood base in the project area.

Agriculture is the major economic activity in Kabale district. The majority of farmers are small holders who grow both perennial and annual crops. The perennial crops include banana, coffee, tea, apples and other fruits while the annuals include maize, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, beans, cassava and groundnuts.



*Batwa settlement in Kabale and Batwa Children and women entertaining visitors*

**Settlement:** The Batwa who are in settlements that are not so close to Bwindi impenetrable forest are slowly learning to grow crops. They are provided with seeds and are growing crops such as *matooke*, beans, maize, irish potatoes and cassava. Some NGOs have acquired land for a few Batwa which has enabled them grow some crops. Some Batwa in Rwamahono settlement have been trained in carpentry and masonry work and are making furniture, doors and coffins and earning a living from these activities. Poultry keeping and rearing animals like pigs, and goats is practiced, although progress is very slow because they consume most of them.

**Livelihood of the Batwa people:** The Batwa community do not own land, their main source of livelihood is offer cheap labour to the other communities where they live. They are even hired to watch over Bakiga farms at night and they are paid very little just enough for a day's meal and drink.

Most of them if not all are occupied with entertaining tourists – singing and dancing for them which earns them money, which they spend on drinking (which is a major social problem in the community). In this settlement, the growing of crops has totally failed, despite warning about the need for self-sufficiency. Even their children are involved in entertaining tourists and once they get to know that some performance will take place, they will escape from school and join their parents to perform.

Due to their refusal to grow crops, they have been trained in crafts to enhance their talent of making baskets which are sold to make additional income. A craft shops for the Batwa were thus established at their settlement centres where they bring their crafts, BDP buys from them which are then sold to tourists

and the proceeds are ploughed back through educating their children, health care, land acquisition and building them homes.

**Batwa Culture:** The Batwa have a rich cultural heritage which prompted BDP to establish a cultural centre for them. It is intended to bring Batwa children together so that they don't lose their culture, they hear stories of the past from their elders, and they learn about how they used to live in the past and, share the changes of the environment they live in today. BDP usually targets the children every end of term when sharing of ideas is done and, are sensitized on how to peacefully live with others in the communities. Batwa culture needs to be preserved. Erosion of Batwa cultural identity, values and language due to breakdown in the Batwa cultural family structure and overwhelming influence by the dominant ethnic group has highly affected the Batwa culture. High levels of alcohol consumption and drug abuse also negatively impacts on efforts to build their respect and self-esteem.

### **Challenges Faced by the Batwa people:**

#### **Food Security**

Food insecurity faced by most Batwa households due to limited access to land resources. The Batwa are mainly marginalized by both government and their neighbours within their communities and need urgent interventions to ensure that they have sustainable livelihood. The local government has tried but the Batwas' ways of life has not favored their participation in government programs. The only land that they own was bought by NGOs who are sympathetic of their conditions (even this land the Batwa are not so sure whether it is theirs because they don't have land titles). Government, after evicting them from their forest which they say was given to them by God, government never resettled or compensated them. This is a big issue that government needs to look at. Due to lack of land, the Batwa people have been reduced to squatters, laborers, servants to the Bakiga majority in Kabale.

Although the Batwa have improved significantly in terms of their dressing, feeding and shelter, they are still perceived by the majority as an inferior group in society. The Batwa take a week or so without bathing, many have no clothes to put on especially the children, can even take a whole week without eating properly cooked food. They therefore require special strategies to include them in development initiatives.

The Batwa being a minority in this region, it denies them the opportunity to compete favorably with the rest because they always go with the majority. As such, this has caused ethnic complex in the region. Especially towards elections time, there is a tendency of insurgencies. And this minority group always suffers when the big tribes fight each other. The Batwa are not represented in leadership/political structures.

**Education:** Batwa have very low levels of formal education, which culminates in rampant low self-esteem, limited livelihood opportunities, and lack of respect by members of the dominant tribes. There are no statistics about the total number of Batwa children of school going age, nor is there for those in school. The education and community development departments have never taken keen interest to know how many Batwa children are in schools. No mapping of the Batwa has ever been done because they are not used as an indicator and thus not segregated during planning – they are considered just like any other community member. This should not be the case on all aspects because of their marginalisation and the community development department agrees, arguing that their way of life makes them vulnerable to the

extent that their voices cannot be heard which is enough reason to give them some special attention to improve their lives.

Despite government UPE program, many Batwa children are still unable to get an education because of family poverty and yet the constitution of Uganda accords all persons a right to education. The Batwa children are undermined and bullied by their fellow children in schools because of the stereotypes held about them. They are often from poor households, do not sleep and eat well and appear miserable (when unsupported) compared to other children in school. The Batwa girl child's situation is a double tragedy because she is married off even earlier, at the age of 9 to 10 years. The Batwa would prefer to gather fruits and enjoy a hassle-free life rather than restricting them in one place due to some activity, thus they "escape" from school (day or boarding) to go fishing for mud fish in rivers. They do not want to be harassed or pushed and as such one has to be patient and go at their pace. The biggest challenge with the Batwa children therefore is indiscipline and impatience. They always want to fight at school because they were used to this kind of life in the bush. Most of them go to school bare foot and with no uniform.

Non-school attendance and absenteeism are common and drop-out rates high among Batwa children due to lack of scholastic materials, uniforms and food. Many of the children run out of school in search of food. Batwa children are encouraged to attend school if food is provided at school; otherwise they will easily drop out and go hunting or looking for fruits. Food attracts both children and parents to go school, and their meal is porridge which is served at 3 pm.

#### **4.2.2. Kasese District**

Kasese District is located along the Equator. It is bordered by Kabarole District to the north, Kamwenge District to the east, Rubirizi to the south and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west. The district headquarters at Kasese are located approximately 359 km (223 m), by road, west of Kampala, Uganda's capital and largest city. The coordinates of the district are: 00 11N, 30 05E.

The district has a total land area of 2,724 km<sup>2</sup> (1,052 m<sup>2</sup>), of which 885 km<sup>2</sup> (342 m<sup>2</sup>) is reserved for Queen Elizabeth National Park and 652 km<sup>2</sup> (252 m<sup>2</sup>) for Rwenzori Mountains National Park, leaving 1,187 km<sup>2</sup> (458 m<sup>2</sup>) for human habitation and economic utilization. Kasese District is part of the Rwenzururu Kingdom, which is coterminous with the Rwenzururu sub-region, home to an estimated 750,000 inhabitants, according to the (2002) National Population and Housing census. The sub region consists of Bundibugyo, Ntoroko and Kasese Districts.

#### **Population**

In 1991, the district population was estimated at about 343,600. The 2002 National Population and Housing census put the population of the district at approximately 523,000. It is estimated that in 2012, the population of the district was approximately 747,800. However, the 2014 National Population and Housing Census provisional results puts the population of Kasese District to 702,029 people with 338,796 male and 363,233 female.

#### **Ethnicity**

Kasese is a multi-ethnic district with many people of different ethnic backgrounds. The main languages and ethnic groups that dominate the area are Rutoro and Rukonjo, and the Batoro and the Bakonjo people

respectively. However, there are other ethnic groups in the district and these include the Banyankole, the Basongora and the Bakiga.

### **Ethnic Minority (Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups) in Kasese**

Kasese district is home to the Basongora, Banyabindi and Bakingwa, which are some of the smallest ethnic groups in Uganda. Most of them live in hard to reach areas in the Rwenzori Mountains and do not have access to basic services like healthcare or quality education. In Kasese District, the Banyabindi are also not represented at all on both the district and sub-county councils. Still in Kasese, in a district council of over 50 councilors, the Basongora are only represented by one person whose impact is almost negligible as voting on vital service delivery and other governance issues is based on numbers. Health units, roads, water points, etc. are constructed in areas with the highest concentration of the dominant community, suffocating minority tribes of vital service delivery.

Surprisingly, the minority communities especially in Kasese (Basongora, Banyabindi, Banyanyanja and Bakingwe) have faced both colonial and post-colonial injustices because their ancestral lands used for communal grazing were taken up by the government to set up Queen Elizabeth National Park, Mubuku and Ibuga prison farms, Ibuga Refugee Settlement Scheme, Hima Army Production Farm, Mubuku Irrigation Scheme, Hima Cement Factory, among others. The indigenous minority communities were displaced from their ancestral lands without compensation.

All the above injustices are against both national and international legal minority rights frameworks for minority communities' rights.

To uplift the livelihoods of the minority communities, there is need for an affirmative action to ensure minorities are included in all the democratic engagements at both local and central government levels. This can be done through 'ring fencing' some political, and maybe, civil service positions for the minorities similar to what Tanzania has done for the Albino community.

Ethnic minority groups in Kasese have appealed to Government to split Kasese into two districts in order for them to benefit from public services and government programs.

Paul Mugisha, coordinator of the Minority Group International, said that small ethnic groups do not have political representation in the current Kasese district structure and their needs are not met. He also said that minority groups have been encouraged to strengthen their identities and take a proactive position in politics and social development because splitting Kasese district may not happen soon.

The Program Director of Community Development Resource Network, Joseph Mugisha Bitature said that the challenges of the ethnic minorities in Kasese are faced by other small ethnic groups around the country. He further said that ethnic minorities like the Banyabutumbi of Rukungiri, the Lendu in the West Nile and the Batwa in Bundibugyo have been forcefully evicted from their ancestral homes and rendered landless without alternatives for income generation and survival.

### **Economic Activities**

Kasese district is mainly agricultural with over 85 percent of the people being peasant farmers who depend on subsistence farming for their livelihood. It has two rainy seasons that come between March to May and August to November respectively. Temperatures normally range between 23°C and 30°C. The

main crops grown include; millet, cassava, maize, sorghum, groundnuts, beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, matooke, passion fruit, tomatoes, cabbage, cotton, oranges, coffee, chili peppers, mangoes, pineapples, pears, apples and sugarcane.

Most of the agricultural produce is either sold locally or transported for sale in Kampala and to other cities and towns in Uganda. Fishing also occurs on Lake George and on smaller crater lakes in the district. Fish farming is slowly taking root in the district and demand for the fish is high both locally and in neighboring countries. Livestock kept in the district includes: cattle, goats, pigs, and poultry.

#### **4.2.3. Bundibugyo District**

Bundibugyo is a district in Western Uganda, bordering the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Like most other Ugandan districts, it is named after its 'chief town', Bundibugyo, where the district headquarters are located.

Bundibugyo District is bordered by Ntoroko District to the northeast, Kabaale District to the east, Kabarole District to the south, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west and north. The district headquarters at Bundibugyo are located approximately 32 km (20 m), by road, west of Fort Portal, the nearest large city.

This location lies about 72 km (45 mi), by road, north of Kasese, the largest town in the sub-region. The geographic boundaries of the district are: The Semiliki River to the west, the Rwenzori Mountains to the East and Lake Albert to the North. The coordinates of the district are: 00 43N, 30 04E.

The district is relatively isolated from the rest of Uganda, as it is the only Ugandan district that lies west of the Rwenzori Mountains. Though it is still a part of the Nile basin, it is ecologically and culturally part of Central Africa. Its people and customs are more similar to those of eastern DRC than the rest of Uganda, despite being politically in East Africa. In 2010, the northern part of Bundibugyo District was removed to form Ntoroko District. Bundibugyo District, together with neighbouring Ntoroko District and Kasese District, is part of the Rwenzuru Kingdom.

#### **Population**

The 1991 National Population and Housing Census estimated the district population at about 92,300. During the 2002 National Population and Housing census, the population of Bundibugyo District was put at about 158,900. The annual population growth rate in the district was estimated at 5.2%. The 2014 National Population and Housing Census provisional results put the population of Bundibugyo District at 222, 987 with 108,020 males and 116,125 females.

#### **Ethnic Minority (Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups) in Bundibugyo**

Bundibugyo District comprises of five tribes Bamba, Babwisi, Bakonjo, Babutoku, Batwa and Batooro. These tribes are found in the counties of Bwamba, and Bughendera. The ethnic groups in Bundibugyo are stipulated as follows: majority being Bamba and Babwisi (mainly in Bwamba County), Bakonzo (mainly in Bughendera County). The other groups are Batwa, Babutoku and Batooro.

The Batwa are a much smaller group also known as the Basua or Bambuti living in the Semiliki Valley. They are believed to have come from the Democratic Republic of Congo in the 1920s. In 1993 the Government of Uganda gazzated the Semiliki Valley Forest into a National Park. During consultations



with the Batwa in Bundimasoli village their King Mr. Nzito mentioned that currently they are approximately 150 Batwa in that area 50 of them men, 60 women and 40 children.

### **Economic Activities**

As is the case in most Ugandan districts, subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry are the two major economic activities in the district. Bundibugyo District is the largest producer of cocoa in Uganda, accounting for approximately 15,000,000 kilograms (33,000,000 lb.) of unprocessed beans worth UGX 90 billion (US\$36 million) annually. Crops grown in the district include: Coffee, Cocoa, Bananas, Matooke, Rice, Beans and Cassava. Animals raised in the district include; cattle, Goats, Sheep, Pigs and Mules.

The economic outlook of the district markedly improved with the tarmacking of the 104 km (65 mi) in 2013 of the Fort Portal-Bundibugyo-Lamia Road and the connection of the district to Uganda's national electric grid. With these developments, the cost of doing business in the district has been reduced and the district produce is more readily marketable.

### **Livelihood of the Batwa people:**

The Batwa communities in Bundibugyo do not own much land apart from 4 acres that were purchased for by ADRA. Their main source of livelihood is offer cheap labour to the other communities where they live. They are even hired to watch over farms at night and they are paid very little just enough for a day's meal and drink. They also sell firewood and bake bricks for both building their houses and for sell to get some income.

Most of them if not all are occupied with entertaining tourists – singing and dancing for them which earns them money, which they spend on drinking (which is a major social problem in the community). In this settlement, the growing of crops has totally failed, despite warning about the need for self-sufficiency. Even their children are involved in entertaining tourists and once they get to know that some performance will take place, they will escape from school and join their parents to perform.

Due to their refusal to grow crops, they have been trained in crafts to enhance their talent of making baskets which are sold to make additional income. A craft shops for the Batwa that was established at Semiliki Hot Springs was affected by the Bundibugyo road and instead of UNRA replacing their shelter they paid them cash which cannot be traced

### **4.2.4. Moroto District**

Moroto District is bordered by Kaabong District to the north, the Republic of Kenya to the east, by Amudat District to the south, Nakapiripirit District to the southwest, Napak District to the west and by Kotido District to the northwest It lies on the foot of Mt. Moroto. The district headquarters at Moroto, are located approximately 210 km (130 mi), by road, northeast of Mbale the nearest large city. The coordinates of district are: 02 32N, 34 40E.

Moroto District is part of the larger Karamoja Sub-region which consists of: Abim, Amudat, Kaabong, Kotido, Moroto, Nakapiripirit and Napak Districts. In 2002, the population of Karamoja sub-region was estimated at approximately 800,000, by the National Population and Housing census conducted that year.

Moroto District is a plain covered by the Savannah grassland and some low lying rocky hills. It comprises two counties: *Matheniko County* and *Moroto Municipality*. It is inhabited by the Karimojong, a distinctive ethnic group that highly cherishes its traditions. One peculiar characteristic of the Karimojong is their dress code which includes a long cultural woven *suuka* made by the Masaai in Kenya which is tied on the shoulder sometimes with an under pant or none for the men and the women, especially girls, make skirts out of them which they keep swinging from one side to another as they walk.

### Population

In 1991, the National Population and Housing census estimated the district population at about 59,100. The 2002 National Population and Housing census estimated the population of the district at about 77,200. Between 2002 and 2012, it is estimated that the district population grew at 5.9% annually. The 2014 National Population and Housing Census provisional results estimated that the population of the district had grown to about 104,539.

### Ethnicity

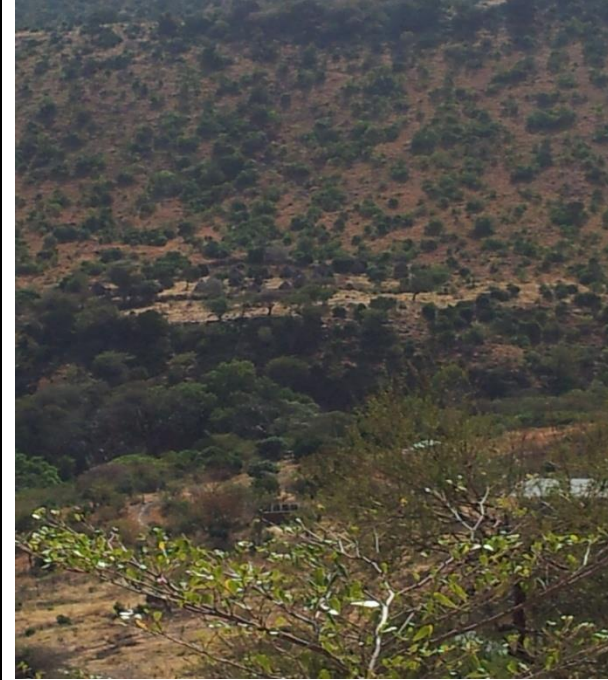
The native people of Moroto district are believed to be majorly the Karimojong of Matheniko and Tepeth lineage. Overtime so many other tribes have migrated to Moroto to do business and official work in the Public Service, International Organizations and NGO work. Therefore, Moroto is currently occupied by a mix of tribes including non-Ugandans. Common tribes in Moroto include; Bagisu, Iteso, Baganda who are mainly engaged in the day-to-day businesses. The Tepeth are the minority ethnic group living at the mountain top of Mount Moroto in Moroto District.

### The Tepeth

The Tepeth (or Tepes) who inhabit Mount Napak in Karamoja Sub-region are nomadic hunters and gatherers. The Tepeth speak the *So* language. They reside in conical huts made of sticks, thatch and mud in the semi-arid savannahs and scrubby forests. The Tepeth are also said to have been the original people of Karamoja. They were once the occupants of Moroto but due to tribal wars with the Karimojong, they were driven up the top of mount Moroto and are now confined to the top of the mountain.

There is very little written about them, but local oral history records all these groups as having been the inhabitants of wider areas of present-day Karamoja who took refuge in the mountains when the Karimojong arrived from Ethiopia in the 1600s. They are one of the few peoples in Uganda to practice Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) but the practice has been abandoned of late due to a number of campaigns by Government of Uganda. Their population is estimated at 17,000. In Moroto the Tepeth occupy the sub-counties of Katikekile and Tapac, located in the mountain valleys of Mount Moroto at the border with the Republic of Kenya.

The Tepeth are also said to have been the original people of Karamoja. They were once the occupants of Moroto but are now confined to the top of the mountain. Due to war with the Karimojong they were driven up the top of mount Moroto. They rear some animals on the slopes but come down to graze them



*A Tepeth Settlement on the slopes of the Mountain*

*A Tepeth Resettlement Home down the slopes*

They have experienced marginalization due to their being a minority ethnic group and the geographical location of their area. It is a hard to reach area due to the nature of the roads and the barrier created by the mountain that lies between the area and the district headquarters. To date some areas have no access to education services. A parish like Natumkalei has neither a primary school nor any health facility.

They experience a lot of insecurity from some of the tribes that border them. To the North, the Turkana are their immediate neighbors with whom they have a lot of enmity. They are also accused of forming alliances with their Eastern neighbors, the Pokot, to attack and raid the Turkana.

Some few Tepeth are pastoralists and practice hunting. They rear some animals on the slopes but come down to graze them. Although they rear livestock, they do not believe in selling their animals. Animals are kept mainly for milk and marriage. They were fruit gatherers and do not believe in cutting down trees. They harvested honey from the forests.

**Economic Activities**



The key distinctive characteristics of these natives is that Karimojong are mainly with pastoralists constituting over 80%, and a very small percentage 25% engaged are subsistence farming which is mainly carried out in the rainy season on communally owned land.

The district is a hub of mineral resources that are yet to be optimally exploited. There are over fifty different minerals and precious stones in the Karamoja region. Of these, Moroto has gold, silver, copper, iron, titanium, manganese, tantalite and chrome. Other proven minerals include marble, mica, granite, limestone and asbestos.

**Tepeth Livelihoods**

They are traditionally agriculturalist. The main crops that they grow include maize and sorghum among the staple foods they consume. They also grow and consume pumpkins and other local vegetables. For food, they mainly grow and eat maize and sorghum, with beans and pumpkins as their main relish dish. They have their original type of maize that is very sweet and also a special type of sorghum that is sweet and liked by birds so much. Because of the disturbance from the birds, they are slowly adopting growing other varieties of sorghum that are not liked by the birds that much. They have also adopted growing of “Sukuma wiki” which sometimes floods the Moroto town market to the detriment of the Mbale vegetable sellers.

They have also borrowed the practice of keeping cattle from the Karimojong. They keep livestock but do not believe in selling their livestock. Animals are kept mainly for milk and marriage. They rear some animals on the slopes but come down to graze them. They were fruit gatherers and do not believe in cutting down trees. They harvested honey from the forests.

	
<p><i>Socio-economic activities of the Tepeth</i></p>	<p><i>Tepeth Main source of livelihood</i></p>

**Education**

They have a strong culture that does not allow them to take girls to school i.e. the FGM. After carrying out FGM on a girl, she can be married off even if they are as young as 13 years because she will be considered a woman.

Girl child enrolment and attendance is fair. The church has been trying hard to increase the attendance of the girl child. Last year only 3 of the over 20 candidates sat for the PLE. Over the years, the observation has been that girls who stay at school for at least 2 years have a tendency to complete the primary school cycle.

There is a high dropout rate for the girl child because in most cases they start school late and when they are mature. By this time, many social obligations will have caught up with them. The practice of FGM does not affect school girls that much so they normally do not take girls to school. In this community all secondary school children are sponsored by the church.

There are very low levels of literacy in these communities due to low value that is attached to education. The most affected still in this are the women. For this reason, their ability to operate gadgets like phones is also very low. There is a high number of school drop outs in the area. This is partly contributed by lack of post primary schools in the area that could absorb primary school leavers. So potentially the ICT project could target some of this group.

### **Communication**

The Tepeth ethnic group lives mainly behind the mountain and there is no easy way of communicating any message to them through radio. Network coverage is so poor in the community that they have to travel to distances to access telecommunication services such as Mobile Money and phone charging which is done in Moroto town. If they were connected they would get information through radio or any other means of communication. Radio talk shows that are conducted to inform the communities hardly reach them. Even with phones, despite having limited reception, only about 30% of the population own phones. It is mainly the Local Councilors who have phones that they have got through government programs but these also have challenges of maintaining them.

Overall, about 87% of the recipients get their money through Mobile Money (M-M) network while 13% are manually paid. Within the gender divide, phone ownership is mainly in the hands of the leaders and the business communities where the males constitute the majority. There have not been any cases of insecurity. Areas behind the mountain hardly receive any network coverage. This largely affects the sub counties of Rupa and Tapac also border Kenya. Even when available, the internet is most times off due to non-payment. The district mainly relies on the internet services provided by UNICEF.

### **Gender Relations**

The Tepeth society practice gender inequality like most other communities in Uganda. The women are treated as inferior and socially excluded from decision making and other civic engagements because society accords them little worth. These prejudices have had effects on gender inequality as a person whose word is devalued cannot influence others, cannot exercise authority, and cannot defend herself from violence. In fact many of the people we interviewed perceived that domestic violence is normal and wife beating is perceived as disciplining.

### **Social and Cultural Relations**

**Loss of language:** The community is gradually losing its language (i.e. *Soo*). The community is deeply entrenched between 3 other tribes i.e. the Turkana, the Pokot and the Matheniko who are of the

Karimojong group. They have had to adopt the Ngakarimojong language as this is the main and dominant of the 3 tribes in the area.

The Tepeth practiced FGM but are slowly abandoning it due to government pressure. Last year, one of their surgeons was committed to prison for 11 years. Their belief in this practice arose from their thinking that it would help the women stay when men have gone away to places like the kraals. They have now designated an annual cultural day that is celebrated every November. On this day, a number of activities are carried out but the most salient are:

Sensitization on abandonment of FGM

Testimonies on FGM

Reinforcement of messages on preservation of trees

During leisure and cultural functions they perform traditional dances known as ‘*Naleyo*’ and ‘*Edonga*’. Initiations are conducted to transition men and women to the next level in society. They have intermarried a lot with neighboring tribes now.

### **Leadership System**

In their leadership structure, the Tepeth place a great honour and respect for the elders. They preside over all the traditional functions in their communities. Initiations are conducted to transition men and women to the next level in society.

They are generally a peaceful people but if attacked and killed, they will revenge severely. In their revenge they believe in killing 7 people for every kin of their killed by the enemy. In inter-tribal wars, they like having alliances with the Pokot against the Turkana or the Matheniko who are their main rivals.

### **Conflict Resolution**

The Tepeth have high respect for the elders. They are looked upon as the fountain of knowledge. They constitute the forum for conflict resolution in the community and at family levels. These provide the informal leadership at community level. This structure is organized under the elders and at the apex of it is the council of elders. They preside over local conflicts before they are forwarded to the formal government structure in case they have not managed to resolve the conflict.

### **Institutional Structures that exist**

There are community groups that are in place. These include: Child Protection, Work User Committees, , HTs, Anti-Violence Activists, Peace Groups and PDCs. Agro Pastoral Farmer Field Schools have been established.

### **Security**

Historically the Karimojong were their enemies due to raids. In the Ngakarimojong language, the word “UPE” means an enemy. On the other hand the Tepeth use the word “OMIN” on the Karimojong which also means an enemy in the Tepeth language. The Karimojong do not understand the language of the Tepeth. The Turkana think that the Tepeth ally with the Kenyan Pokot and this is the main concern in the conflict they have with the Turkana from the Kenyan side of the border. There have also been 3 recent

incidences where some people went and stole guns from the soldiers. Their language is of the Kalenjin origin. Even the word “Tepeth” means Pokot in that language. The main cause of the insecurity is cattle rustling. Their main enemies are the Turkana with who they have frequent disturbances.

### **Social Risks**

The main social risk of project success here is ignoring to involve especially the elders from the beginning of any social intervention. The arrival of other development partners has spoilt the communities through monetization of everything.

*“Here when you come up with a community project, you must involve the community, especially the elderly right from the beginning if you want it to succeed. This community of ours believes so much in elders. Sometimes when you do not go through them you can fail.”* (District Gender Official)

## 5. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION FOR ENSURING FREE, PRIOR, AND INFORMED CONSENT

This chapter highlights the summary of results of the free, prior, and informed consultation with vulnerable groups that was carried out during Project preparation and that led to broad community support of the VMGs (Batwa and Tepeth) for the RCIP. The summary of free prior and informed consultation has been structured according to the different categories of issues/comments/questions raised.

### 7.1. Objectives

The objectives of free, prior and informed consent with the Batwa and Tepeth communities also referred to as Vulnerable Group (VG) was to:

- Inform the affected and vulnerable peoples i.e. the Batwa and Tepeth about the proposed Project;
- Ensure that they support the Project
- Assess in a participatory manner the possible Project benefits and adverse impacts;
- Agree on measures to enhance benefits or mitigate adverse impacts that will be incorporated into the Project's design.
- Confer with the VMGs at the outset on how they wish to be engaged
- Understand and respect local entry protocols as they relate to permission to enter a community and access traditional lands
- Ensure that all representatives of the RCIP and executing partner agencies (including third party subcontractors and agents) are well briefed on local customs and history
- Consult on who is best to represent the Batwa and the Karimojong in decision making

Free, Prior and Informed Consent was conducted in the following manner:

### 7.2. Consultations with Local Government Authorities

Initial Consultation with District leaders with the objective of informing them about the Project and get their opinions and broad support for the same. Even though FPIC entails free and voluntary consultation without any external manipulation, interference or coercion, in observing protocol, the consultants obtained authorizations from the District and lower Local Governments of the Project areas to engage with the Batwa in the South Western districts of Kanungu, Kabale, Kasese and Bundibugyo and the Tepeth in Moroto District and obtain their consent, views on the existence of VMGs in their areas, support and participation in defining the impacts of the Project and the most adequate mitigation measures to apply.

This was also a particularly important step because failure to engage with the Local Governments of the Project areas could have led to difficulties in conducting the consultations in their jurisdiction. As a matter of protocol, activities cannot be conducted in any local authority in Uganda without the consent or



authorization of the Local Government leadership. Prior to the open and public meetings with the vulnerable and marginalized communities, there was timely dissemination of information about the Project and objective of the consultations through an introductory letter from NITA-U. The leadership channels of the Local Governments of the districts and sub counties in the project areas respectively were informed about the objective of the meeting and requested to disseminate the information to all affected persons prior to the consultations.

District and Sub County Local Governments of the Project areas that were consulted include; The offices of the CAO, LCV, LC III, Senior Administrative Secretary, RDC, CDO, DEO and DIO. These were particularly visited and they offered valuable support in the process at the local level. Their participation is important as a result of their role of coordinating all activities in their areas of jurisdiction.

*Pertinent Issues Raised during FPIC are appended in Annex 1*

### **7.3. Consultation with the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups:**

Consultations were held with the Batwa and Tepeth community members in the affected Project areas with the facilitation and participation of the institutions supporting the Batwa communities and Tepeth Elders. The consultations were held in different sites through open community or public meetings and prior to these meetings, all the Batwa and Tepeth community members were informed in advance of the objective of the meetings, the venue/location, time and stakeholders who would be present. The Tepeth Council of Elders is the supreme institution that represents the cultural views and position of the Tepeth community and oversees issues related to customs and traditions. They are the decision-making organ for the Tepeth on all matters of customs and traditions and therefore their involvement is absolute and critical.

During actual consultations with VMGs in the community level the same procedure of outlining the objectives first before starting other deliberations were followed in the conduct of the meetings in the locations with the Batwa people in the following locations: Rwamahano Village - Muko Sub-county, Kinyamishange Village - Bufumbi Sub-county, Murambo Village - Butanda Sub-county in Kabale district, and Bundimasoli Village - Ntanda Sub-county in Bundibugyo district and the Tepeth Awarokin Village - Tapac Sub-county in Moroto district.

A community member raised an issue verbally in local language, which was then translated so that the consultants and Project proponent could understand. If the issue for instance touched on traditional concern over the impact, the Council of Elders were asked to make suggestions on how to avoid this impact and then if the Project proponent accepted the proposed mitigation action, the community members present were requested to decide by acclamation whether they would support the Project if the mitigation measure(s) proposed are implemented.

### **7.4. Consultations with other stakeholders supporting VMGs in the districts**

Several consultations, meetings and deliberations were held with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) that represent and assist the vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project districts. on many aspects of issues affecting them, including culture and tradition;

For the case of the Batwa in particular African International Christian Ministry (AICM, United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU), Functional Adult Literacy, Independent Development Fund (IDF), Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT and National Youth for Development (NAYODE) were useful stakeholders in matters related to the Batwa communities in the three districts of Kabale, Kasese and Bundibugyo. As for the Tepeth in Moroto district, the SAGE programme, The Catholic Church, CARITAS, IRC, DDG, World Hunger, Save the Children, FAWE, The World Food Program:, Red Cross, C&D and The Police.

The disarmament exercise has just taken place in the region and the Police are just beginning to take its role in internal security and peace keeping. Similarly resettlement of the Tepeth from the mountain to the lower plains of both Kakomongole and Tapac sub counties for easy access to social services is being spearheaded by an NGO called Welt Hunger.

The Catholic Church in Tapac is also a major player in the provision of Education and Health services in the Tepeth communities.

Unreliable network is one of the biggest challenges faced by these districts because first of all they are very far from the centre and are difficult to reach areas especially in Tapac where the Tepeth live. The internet service providers find it very expensive to invest in these areas hence living them at the mercy of other development partners UNICEF who have invested heavily to ensure that internet services are in these hard to reach districts. Moroto Municipal Council recently installed the IFMIS but it has remained unutilized due to poor network coverage.

## **8. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE PROJECT AREAS**

### **8.1. Overview of ICT Infrastructure in Uganda**

Uganda's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector is one of the most vibrant and fastest growing sectors since its liberalization in 2010, supported by a good ICT legal and regulatory framework. The sector is growing steadily and has contributed 2.5% to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2011 and 6.2% to GDP in 2012. The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector is now regarded as a vital pillar for the social economic development of the country as indicated in the current National Development Plan (2010/11 - 2014/15). It is committed towards improvement of government service delivery through e-Health, e-Education, e-Governance, e-Commerce and trade. The ICT sector is divided into three areas namely; Policy, Regulatory and Operational with the Ministry of ICT as the lead agency.

There are five telecom providers: MTN, Airtel, Uganda Telecom Ltd, Africell and Smile. Infrastructure capacity is rapidly improving. The National Data Transmission Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) and the Optical Fibre Cable across the country is well developed, connecting major economic centres.

Although still small, export of ICT services has started generating foreign exchange inflows. With virtually no earnings in 2001, the sector now earns over US \$10 million per annum. ICTs in Uganda have been identified as a major tool for achieving socio-economic development. In order for the government to implement the long term National Development Programmes (NDP) timely, relevant information must be available at all levels of implementation. The integration of ICT into the NDP will increase growth, income and employment through skilled and semi-skilled job creation.

### **8.2. Policy and Regulatory Environment for ICT in Uganda**

The Government of Uganda has recognized the critical importance of ICT in national development, and has initiated a policy framework to implement these technologies throughout the country. A number of policy and regulatory reforms have been undertaken over the past decade to promote development of ICT infrastructure and increase access to affordable communications and IT services. The main policies that support Innovation in Uganda include:

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (August 2009) - Implemented through the National Science, Technology and Innovation Plan 2012/2013 - 2017/2018. Expected outputs include a Science and Technology Park and Incubation Centres.

Information Communication Technology Policy (October 2003) is currently under review.

Rural Communications Development Policy implemented by Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) as Rural Communications Development Fund (RCDF) / Universal Service Fund

e-Government Strategy, formulated in 2004 and approved by Cabinet in June 2011

Telecom Sector Policy (1996) combined with the Uganda Communication Act 1997 (Laws of Uganda Cap 106) resulted in licenses being issued to telecommunications operators, an independent regulator and deregulation of the market

National Broadcasting Policy is currently under review

Uganda has received substantial support from donor agencies in the area of ICT for development. This has translated into a myriad of ICT projects being implemented in various sectors of Ugandan society, most notably in rural infrastructure, education, livelihoods and health.

### 8.3. Rural Communications Development Fund

In Districts Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo and Moroto, the Rural Communications Development Fund (RCDF) has spearheaded ICT implementation. RCDF is a mechanism that UCC employs to leverage communications access to the hard-to-reach areas such as the rural areas which remain after operators and service providers have selected their preferred areas of operation. RCDF then causes the delivery in those areas, of communications services that are similar to those ordinarily delivered by operators and service providers.

To deliver communications services into rural underserved areas of Uganda, RCDF uses districts as the building blocks for a more equitable delivery. In order to enhance the sustainability of delivery of ICTs in underserved areas, RCDF forms strategic partnerships with the public and the private sector in districts. Delivery of ICT services through the RCDF programme involves several stakeholders that among others include the district local administration, area MPs, the RDCs, local government officials such as CAOs, ICT project implementers, and most importantly, the users. Through the RCDF programme, ICT opportunities are made available to all the stakeholders in their respective settings. All stakeholders therefore ought to seize the opportunity by embracing and integrating the ICTs made available into their development programmes and activities. That way, the country and more specifically the rural underserved areas will achieve meaningful socioeconomic development.

In the project Districts, RCDF has implemented the following program; Internet Points of Presence (POP), Public payphones, Research projects, Postal support projects, Multipurpose Community Telecenters (MCT's), School ICT facilities, Health Care ICT facilities and Call centers.

UCC through the RCDF programme developed the district web portal and handed it over to the district local administration. The district web portal names are: [www.kabale.go.ug](http://www.kabale.go.ug), [www.kasese.go.ug](http://www.kasese.go.ug), [www.bundibugyo.go.ug](http://www.bundibugyo.go.ug) and [www.moroto.go.ug](http://www.moroto.go.ug).

Common information provided by the district web portals include; the district overview, Health, Agriculture, Education, Government & Politics, Investment & trade, Tourism, Government Programs, Environment, SMS services, Infrastructure, News and district Contacts,. The web portal also provides a translation in to a common language found in the district.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 9.1. Conclusion

The project investments have great potential to transform the lives of different groups of people including, the Batwa and other vulnerable and marginalized people in the project areas of Bundibugyo, Kabale, and Kasese in Western Uganda and Tepeth in Moroto in the Karamoja sub region.

Over all, all components need to have inclusion and participation of the vulnerable and the marginalized groups in the project area.

It can be concluded that this Social Assessment has kick started the continued consultation and participation of the vulnerable and marginalized groups throughout the project cycle. NITA-U through its Social Development Consultant plan to continue with the process of free, prior and informed consultation with the **Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups**' communities during project preparation to inform them about the project, fully identify their views, obtain their broad community support to the project, and to develop project design and safeguard instruments and consider their inclusion and benefit from the project.

### 9.2. Recommendations

To avoid or minimize adverse impacts and, at the same time, ensure benefits for the Vulnerable and Marginalized communities, the NITA-U will apply the following basic principles in selection and design of particular project activities:

During policy and regulatory framework reviews, NITA-U should consider inclusion and participation of the vulnerable and marginalized groups in respect of their knowledge, values and culture which risk being lost in the advent of modern technology. This process should ensure that vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project area are involved in the prior, free and informed consent consultations and their views and contributions be considered during the review and development of policy, legal and regulatory frameworks

Together with Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, NITA-U and local Governments involved should carefully screen the activities of all subprojects for a preliminary understanding of the nature and magnitude of potential impacts, and explore alternatives to avoid or minimize and mitigate any adverse impacts.

Where alternatives are infeasible and adverse impacts on VMGs are unavoidable, the NITA-U, together with Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups and others knowledgeable of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups culture and concerns should immediately make an assessment of the key impact issues and define possible mitigation measures.

NITA-U should undertake the necessary tasks in order to adopt appropriate mitigation measures. The most important in this respect is intensive consultation with the tribal communities, community elders/leaders, and formal and informal tribal organizations, civil society

organizations like NGOs who are interested in and have knowledge of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups issues.

During implementation, NITA-U should safeguard Vulnerable and Marginalized Group communities in general and their organizations through free, prior and informed consent so that they are not excluded by any means in activity selection and design processes.

NITA-U should carry out specific assessments of the impact of proposed projects on the economic and social development of vulnerable and marginalized groups as an integral part of the project cycle, through a transparent process with the free and informed participation of the affected communities. NITA-U has to consider that the RCIP interventions do not unnecessarily and unintentionally exacerbate factors outside the scope of planned impacts.

In order to enhance the positive benefits of the project on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, there should be **adequate consultation and participation** of indigenous people during the project design and implementation to ensure that the project adequately deals with the needs, priorities and preferences of the VMGs. To strengthen cohesion among VMGs stakeholders, RCIP activities should be implemented on a community level, with participation from all individuals. In conflict-affected environments like Karamoja region, RCIP projects should utilize a participatory and dialogue-oriented process, engaging different stakeholders in joint problem analysis, planning and implementation.

It is also important to note that currently there are a number of different development actors working in RCIP project areas where VMGs live. With these many actors, there are bound to be overlaps and doubled efforts, as well as opposing missions and contradictory activities. While coordinating the work of all development actors in the region may be an impossible task, coordination of at least the major contributors to development, especially government bodies, UN agencies, and major international NGOs, is necessary for ensuring that activities are meeting their goals and that they feed into larger development goals for the region. The degree to which development actors are able to collaborate, share information, and synthesize efforts will determine, to some extent, the success of interventions in this region.

In order to help VMG communities benefit from the project, NITA-U should consider procuring the services of a Social development Expert as part of the project implementing team to help highlight the inherent VMG issues at the different phases. The Social Expert can be engaged on the project full time basis or on consultancy basis.

The Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups in the project areas present unique social characteristics which can be a challenge in the implementation of the Project. Their uniqueness is reflected in terms of their location, ways of lives, access and levels of education. Access to their areas is a challenge due to poor and non-motorable roads. In such cases, delivery of services and infrastructure to these communities under the RCIP needs serious considerations and planning. In light of these, RCIP would consider working together with other government agencies and other development partners' so as to mainstream implementation of RCIP in the on-going infrastructure development programmes in the regions hence contributing to reduction of the vulnerability gaps.

In some RCIP districts, there are some NGO groups implementing project interventions with success such as IACM, NAYODE and UOBDO in Batwa communities and CARITAS who have successfully worked with some communities in Karamoja region on farming activities. All these have reportedly had successful stories in their interventions and RCIP could implement some of its activities through such groups. NGOs in the district should work closely with The District Project Advisory Committee (DPAC), in conducting sensitization and awareness trainings of staff of the District Coordination Unit, with the involvement of Community Development Officers (CDOs) in DCU. These will then conduct sensitization of communities and local leaders.

**HIV and AIDS:** During stakeholder consultations, it was reported that in Bundibugyo there is belief that sleeping with a Mutwa woman if one has HIV has a cleansing effect, which has become a big avenue of spreading HIV/AIDS. GoU has adopted a Multi-Sectoral Approach in its fight against HIV/AIDS in the county. The Approach obliges all sectors of economy to integrate HIV/AIDS mitigation measures into their plans and activities. To this end, RCIP should integrate measures to address the scourge in its activities especially that will involve mobility of workers and will require procuring services of an HIV/AIDS Service provider to undertake this task. Original strategies of using existing framework, of late, do not work as the assignment will be an added role i.e. more or less secondary to them. The intervention should not only look at during the project construction time where labour is sometimes brought from outside but permanent measures should be put in place for the provision of a facility for Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT).

### 9.3. Strategy for Participation

Each of the marginalized and vulnerable groups described above confronts a different set of problems that it must overcome in order to fully participate in the project as below:

The vulnerable and marginalized groups live in remote, rural areas with significantly reduced access to basic social services and economic opportunities. Generations of ethnic discrimination has further exacerbated this isolation, where vulnerable and marginalized group communities have not received the same benefits from government as other citizens.

Disabled people confront physical barriers that prevent them from taking advantage of the services that may be available in their community, which, in turn, may make it more difficult for them to participate in the RCIP. They also tend to be victims of social stigma that further limits their opportunities and isolates them.

Therefore, RCIP subprojects must be designed so that all community subgroups have a voice in decision-making and management. Effective monitoring and evaluation systems will be very critical for ensuring that the efforts to promote inclusion of vulnerable people are being successful, and for making the necessary adjustments if otherwise. Guidelines for including Vulnerable Groups include:

- Identify subgroups among the poor, especially those at risk of exclusion;
- Structure project rules and procedures to promote their participation;

Determine participatory techniques that can help facilitate their involvement (where existing systems of social organization are highly inequitable, new groups may need to be created to enable excluded groups to participate);

Ensure that intermediaries (NGOs, local government, etc.) working with communities have expertise in working with these groups and using participatory techniques;

Investigate how local institutions can be made more responsive and inclusive of these groups;

Include specific indicators related to these groups in monitoring and evaluation systems, and involve all stakeholders in monitoring and evaluation.

#### 9.4. Consultation during Implementation

During implementation, the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be responsible for the planning and performance of regular consultation with VMGs. Community Liaison Officers (to be assigned immediately by the start of implementation. The staff will operate the consultation program for the VMGs during the implementation phase. Key elements of consultation during Project implementation are:

Routine consultation of the Batwa communities and Tepeth Elders in the context of the VMGP monitoring program;

Public consultation events in the context of the VMGP monitoring program;

Continuous information of the VMGs and other Project stakeholders about Project progress and upcoming relevant activities;

Provide accessibility for VMGs; establish capacity/availability for quick response to consultation needs expressed by VMGs

During implementation the grievance redress forum or system also acts as part of consultation and information sharing through consultation and compliant resolution

#### 9.5. Consultations in Context of SA/VMGP Disclosure

The Social Assessment and VMGP will be disclosed in the District Local Governments of the affected people/ communities, World Bank and MICT to allow the public and stakeholders to consult the documents for final feedback. Publications will be in English. Hard copies will be placed in public areas in the Project areas to allow for public consultation.

The disclosure process will be accompanied by the consultation of the VGs in order to obtain their views and concerns on the overall approach. A disclosure program, comprising:

Public information events for presentation and explanation of the VMGP,

Consultation events during disclosure will be held on site in the affected villages and be made accessible for all vulnerable groups.

The disclosure process will be explained and the VMGP's executive summary will be presented and explained and translated in languages commonly spoken by the VMGs

During the consultation events, concerns were recorded and questions answered.

The Local Governments of the Project areas will support the performance of the disclosure consultation program.



## Annexes

### Annex 1: Pertinent Issues Raised during FPIC

#### Consultation with the Local Government Leaders:

Stakeholder s	Issues Raised
<p><b>Moroto district Leadership</b></p> <p><i>Chairman LC V.</i></p> <p><i>Chief Administrative Officer</i></p> <p><i>District Community Development Officer</i></p> <p><i>Deputy RDC</i></p> <p><i>Senior Community Development Officer Gender</i></p> <p><i>Technical Officer SAGE</i></p>	<p><b>Broad Support for Project</b></p> <p>The district pledged support for the RCIP project because they believe it is going to ameliorate the communication challenges currently being experienced in the district.</p> <p><b>Communication Challenges</b></p> <p>There are communication challenges experienced in the region and are characterized by: Intermittent network and limited internet providers in the district – MTN and Airtel only. Even when available, the internet is most times off due to non-payment. The district mainly relies on the services provided by UNICEF for internet. Transfer of information to the target population in the community is very slow due to lack of faster means of communicating.</p> <p><i>“A message that is meant to reach the population today ends up reaching the target population a month after. Even if you went and interviewed people about an on-going intervention, they may tell you that they do not know. They will say this, not because they are not interested, but sometimes it is because they do not have any information about that intervention.” (District Official)</i></p> <p><b>Limited Network Coverage</b></p> <p>There is very limited radio coverage from the Ugandan side. For this reason, the district sometimes uses the Kenyan radios from Kitale when they have information to pass to the community.</p> <p>Radio communication from the district headquarters in Moroto does not cover the area. They only receive radio broadcasts from Kenya (main Kitale based) and Mbale. Areas behind the mountain completely do not hardly receive any network coverage. This largely affects the sub counties of Rupa and Tapac that also border Kenya</p> <p><b>Hard-to- Reach Areas</b></p> <p>Moroto District is challenged by the existence of natural and physical barriers that make it hard or difficult to access some of the areas. These include mountains and rivers that are impassable, especially during the rainy season. Due to these barriers, passing across information to these areas becomes very difficult most of the times.</p> <p><b>Road network</b></p> <p>The main road to the area is in a very poor state due to the heavy traffic of trucks that come to pick cement stones from the quarry in the area. When there is any emergency, like the need to take a sick person to the hospital in Moroto, it is a nightmare, let alone the availability of the means of transport.</p> <p><b>Land</b></p> <p>Land is communally owned and operated. People have started selling land individually yet the land belongs to the community (the recent case of the land row along Soroti Road).Such acts have slowly started raising conflict among the community members. If there is any development program to be brought to the community, consent is first sought and land in most cases is given for development programs if the community is involved.</p> <p><b>Political Manipulation</b></p> <p>There are also leaders who want to use the community to ensure that they achieve their</p>
<p>Tapac Catholic Parish Priest</p>	

	<p>own motives too. The communities have not yet learnt to own projects on their own from day one without the involvement of the leaders.</p> <p><b>Literacy Levels</b></p> <p>There are very low levels of literacy in these communities due to low value that is attached to education. The most affected still in this are the women. For this reason, their ability to operate gadgets like mobile phones is also very low. Due to low literacy level, there are serious challenges in documentation of individual and community characteristics.</p> <p>There is lack of concern for the girl-child education in the community. It is taken that girls' going to school interferes with their ability to be initiated into womanhood and eventually marriage. The few who have managed to get beyond the primary level have done so with the support of the church.</p> <p><b>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)</b></p> <p>They have a strong culture that does not allow them to take girls to school i.e. the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Initiated girls are all potentially married off despite the age they are in. This predisposes them to so many risks associated with pregnancy and child birth at their tender ages.</p> <p>Women and children are at risk of being dispossessed of any opportunity to take part in the decision making process on issues affecting them as a result of the implementation of the RCIP and their immovable and productive assets as a result of the compensation process that may solely benefit the male household head.</p>
Bundibugyo District Leaders	<p><b>Low and Inadequate Computer skills</b></p> <p>Low and inadequate computer skills among the workers at the districts, despite Government efforts to computerize most or its entire operations majority of civil servants are still not computer literate.</p> <p>In Bundibugyo, public servants especially teachers had to part with 10,000/= for acquiring Tax Identification Numbers which was a mandatory requirement before they can get paid. This has also affected the use and control of IFMIS systems at the district hence leading to delay of non-receipt of salaries.</p> <p>The costs involved in acquiring both the computer equipment and airtime for internet operations are exorbitant.</p> <p>In Bundibugyo District e-society of Rwenzori Network (R-NET) bought all the equipment and used to pay for the internet bundles and the district use to access free internet services but since they left a year ago the district sometimes cannot afford to the bundle.</p> <p><b>Benefits of ICT to the district</b></p> <p>ICT has helped in building capacity across the country and it has highly helped cocoa farmers in Bundibugyo to find good market for their produce by searching for better prices directly on the internet hence skipping the middlemen.</p> <p>It was also noted that the internet helps the community to reduce on time and expense of travelling to Kampala for trade. Business is done either on phone or internet.</p> <p>ICT also provides employment to the local community in the district. Internet is being used by employees to get hired. And also employers use the same to hire the best workers for their organizations.</p> <p>Internet has also benefited the district in that it has helped civil servants be paid their salaries in time through IFM/IFT which is very fast and efficient.</p>

	<p><b>Challenges of the ICT in the district:</b></p> <p>This project may receive a lot of resistance from the locals because of some <u>other projects which have been in the district and dug up peoples' land and failed to compensate them.</u> Uganda National Road Authority (UNRA) has lost creditability from the community because people were not compensated. As such they might think that this project is the same with UNRA's and they might uproot up the cables. So people need a lot of sanitation in order for this project to be successful. The project can also use road reserves. Land in this region is customary (individual ownership).</p> <p>There is always network failures especially MTN. This has greatly affected service delivery.</p> <p>Recognition of the existence of other ICT platform and need to strengthen mastery of the ICT skills is still very low in all the project area districts. Most of the civil servants are not well vast with the use of computers and internet.</p> <p>In Bundibugyo district it was reported that the education department which has about 1,000 workers, most of them do not know how to operate computers. The same applies to the health department with about 700 workers, also has a high level of computer illiteracy. For example, when Ministry of Public Service required that every civil servant should have a TIN; majority of them had to pay shs. 10,000/= to acquire one.</p>
Kasese District leaders	<p><b>How the RCIP should be designed</b></p> <p>From the interaction with the local leaders and the communities, views were expressed as to how the RCIP project should be designed in order that the local communities benefit. The following were their views:</p> <p>The majority of the people in the district are engaged in agriculture therefore the project should be designed such that it benefits farmers especially in accessing markets. There is need to link with Agriculture and Fisheries markets accessibility and information.</p> <p>For the marginalized communities who are fishermen, the ICT should be directed towards access to major markets such as Kisinga, Kinyamaseke and Mpondwe border points with DRC.</p> <p>Gadgets to predict weather on the lake as this is the most dangerous phenomenon while fishing because most lives have been lost due bad weather conditions.</p> <p>Gadgets to protect them against hippopotamuses that usually hide under water and knock the canoes and fishermen to death could be catered for.</p> <p>Kasese District leadership pointed out that they have the following capacity at their disposal to harness for the RCIP project:</p> <p>Structures that house the project, Staff that is already paid by government, Power (electricity supply) and network to those areas (sub- county chiefs, CDOs, E-society at the district).</p> <p>However, they expressed skepticism due to the following:</p> <p>The way government works (hierarchal and bureaucratic)</p> <p>There is a growing gap between the community and administration due to corruption</p> <p>Ethnic communities(marginalized) considered it as alien by oppressors.</p>
	The local government system is the formal channel, through the local government of Kasese and

especially community development department is the most important channel through which support and influence to these communities can be reached. The department has promoted FAL to the vulnerable and marginalized though they face financial constraints.

Among the informal ones, the most influential informal institutions include: NAYODE (National Youth Organization for Development), Baylor Uganda and Save the Children. Most of these deal with HIV and AIDS and its related effects.

Local politicians of the district who have spearheaded reconciliation by sensitizing these communities are another distinct category that can serve that purpose. However, caution must be exercised when dealing with this category for they can be a source of confusion which can lead to hatred and division in the community.

These institutions can be used to bring on board the vulnerable and marginalized by first identifying the needs of those people who are marginalized and vulnerable and integrate them since these institutions have been working with them and are used to them.

	<p><b>IT challenges in the District</b></p> <p>Kasese district local government has IT resource centre but faces the following challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has out dated equipment(old computers)</li> <li>No budget for the Resource Centre</li> <li>Staff not interested in acquiring modern IT skills</li> <li>For the vulnerable and marginalized, there is a problem of inferiority complex</li> <li>There is also a challenge of failed networks among service providers (MTN, Airtel, Orange and UTL).</li> <li>Some places have no networks at all.</li> </ul> <p>The Resource Centre that is meant to train both hands-on and theory has failed due to financial constraints, the target group (district officials) has not come on board. Instead it is utilized by students in holidays.</p>
	<p><b>Mitigation Measures</b></p> <p>To mitigate the above challenge, the district could identify a NGO that has the capacity and has been working with these communities to implement such project.</p> <p><b>Capacity of NGOs in ICT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have buildings, staff and have ongoing projects with the targeted groups</li> <li>- Have equipment like computers, are connected to internet services and have all types of ICTs and trainings</li> </ul> <p>Have donors so it is a matter of building a house that already has a strong foundation e.g. NAYODE has a magazine that communicates a lot on local innovations in pastoral communities that are also marginalized.</p>
Kabale District Leaders	<p><b>Benefits of ICT to the population</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helpful for communication both in and outside the district; and</li> <li>Farmers use it to market their produce.</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Telecom services are very expensive. MTN and Airtel are the main providers of this service.</p> <p><b>Vulnerable and marginalized groups in the district</b></p> <p>The minority ethnic groups like the Batwa. The Batwa are the most marginalized by both the government and their neighbours within the communities and which places them in dire need for urgent interventions to ensure that they have sustainable livelihoods. The local government has tried but the Batwa way of life has not favoured their participation in government development programs.</p> <p>Other groups include the widows of HIV and AIDS, the elderly, Albinos, the disabled, women, the young, orphans, disabled and the needy</p>

	<p>The Batwa are marginalized group in Kabale. One of the main manifestations of this marginalization was government failure (intentionally or otherwise) to resettle them after evicting them from their ancestral home – the forest in 1991.</p> <p>The district has got to pay special attention to them as a minority group, which should also be extended to Parliament.</p> <p>They are mainly hunters who were removed from the forest by UWA. They have a different language from other communities near them.</p>
	<p><b>Support Institutions/ Organizations</b>  There organizations that support and these include:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">International African Christian Mission (IACM) founded by Bishop Kahere;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a vocational school that runs programs that include building houses for the Batwa. They have helped educate the Batwa through programs designed to integrate them. A few of them have gone to school and are now in higher institutions of learning, including university;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Bwindi and Mgahinga Forest National Parks have provided land, education and care;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Clan heads in their communities of Bufundi, Muko, Ikumba and Butanda; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Community Development Office of Kabale District that works hand-in-hand with other NGOs to improve the welfare and living conditions of the Batwa.</p> <p>These organizations offer services empowering the communities include: Literacy, Better Livelihoods, Evangelist and meeting basic needs of targeted beneficiaries</p>

### Consultation with the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups:

<p><b>Tepeth Community members</b></p> <p><b>Akariwon Village</b> <b>Tapac sub-county</b></p>	<p>The elders command a lot of authority in matters that affect the community in these communities. They are the gate keepers of all community access ventures.</p> <p>During all the consultative meetings with the Tepeth, the Elders, Council of Elders and Local Council Officials were present and the gave consent for the meeting to take place.</p>
<p>Women Group</p>	<p>The Tepeth women group, pointed out that they are still considered and taken as beasts of burden and therefore responsible for the production of food and other household requirements for the family. They burn and sell charcoal, trade in jerry cans and firewood. This is a burden that the men have put on the women from time immemorial. They think they paid dowry and so the women have a duty to provide all the labor needed in the family. Their only duty is to wait and ask for food to be brought to table by the women. While they are busy telling and fending for the family, the men folk rest and relax in groups, usually drinking.</p> <p>The men only occasionally step in during times of scarcity when they contribute by selling an animal in order to buy food. Men have a low attitude towards women. They are not respected and given the status they deserve in the community.</p> <p>Women do not have any control over resources and the phones inclusive at both individual and community levels. This is worsened by the fact that most of them are not literate and are</p>

	<p>challenged in the use of phones.</p> <p><b>Gender Considerations</b>  The Tepeth community is highly patrilineal societies where women and their views are generally not considered. Majority of the Tepeth still hold to the traditional misconception that women cannot make decisions and thus women are under-represented in property ownership, education, and political leadership among others.</p> <p>This situation is the outcome of the interplay of a myriad of factors ranging from discriminatory property ownership laws and practices to deep seated cultural biases that relegate the female gender to subordinate status in the local communities.</p>
	<p><b>Project Support</b>  The Tepeth were asked whether they support the Project or otherwise. According to the Tepeth culture, the Council of Elders including the Tepeth Elders wields great influence as representatives of the community on matters of culture and tradition. All matters of tradition and culture, including ceremonies and rituals are first reviewed by the Council of Elders that, thereafter, offers guidance to the community on the action and or direction to take based on the laid down traditions and culture. In almost all cases, the decision or advice of Council of Elders is supported by the entire community. They reiterated the issue of consultation both before and during the implementation of the project.</p> <p><i>“For us if the project is bringing development to area we do not mind we can even offer our land for free” (Tepeth Elder)</i></p>
The Tepeth Youth	<p>The youth in Tepeth in particular raised the issue of none involvement during the consultation process where they have lost out on employment when the implementation starts. They said that in the past they have witness scenarios where project implementers come with people from outside the community, leaving them to be onlookers of the entire process.</p>
The Batwa	<p>The level of literacy among the Batwa is very high. There is need to design a special program for them. They don't have any ICT skills. The whole community has only 6 mobile phones. They do not know about mobile money. They also want to own more phones, television sets and internet after a lot of education.</p> <p>It was also noted that Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) says that they are conserving as part of the forest community and they are a tourist attraction. And also the tourists want them to continue in that state to conserve their culture. Enough has got to be done in order to understand their culture.</p> <p>However, there is a MoU between Uganda Wildlife Authority and Batwa to improve their livelihood through access to resources, collecting of firewood, building materials medicinal plants, secret sites, etc. to improve on their well-being. Through the Batwa Cultural project, the guides were trained to so that they can take guests into the forest to see secret sites.</p>
The Batwa Communities	<p>Most Batwa adults are uneducated and illiterate and need Functional Adult Literacy (FAL). FAL can play a big role in the lives of the Batwa in according them new skills that can enable them have meaningful and sustainable livelihoods outside the forest.</p> <p><i>“The Batwa transformation is a process that must be handled carefully because people who have been living in the forest for many years cannot be brought out and expected to start socializing with others. It takes some time and patience until a time when these people can be able to freely</i></p>

*mix with others. And the quicker one tries to change them, the more endangered they become. Therefore since the Batwa are out of the forests, they need integration and not isolation and or giving handouts. Prior to BDP intervention, the Batwa were slowly integrating in the wider community, digging and having their own gardens but since BDP activities, they are now on the receiving end expecting handouts all the time. There are many people who came from the Batwa or were Batwa but have changed their way of life and are NOT Batwa anymore, at least in terms of their way of life.”*

### Recommendations from Stakeholder Consultations

Government needs to design a special program to integrate the Batwa, Tepeth and other marginalized groups. The government of Uganda is obliged under its Constitution to protect the Batwa and ensure their equal treatment in all areas of development.

Identify employment opportunities for Batwa like in neighbouring countries of Rwanda and DRC who have brought the Batwa on board in their Wildlife Authorities where the Batwa communities in those countries are engaged.

Prepare and develop information, education and communication materials for use in the Batwa communities training and sensitization sessions. Due to their high level of illiteracy, visual aids, including charts, video and documentaries, music, drama should be used.

Promote human rights awareness among the Batwa communities through community mobilization and sensitization.

Advocate and lobby government to formulate policies that promote human rights among the Batwa ethnic minority group, affirmative action to enable the Batwa benefit from the existing government programs such as NAADS, SACCOs, UPE, and USE among others.

Training should be conducted as a means of addressing some of the challenges that the Batwa currently face and will cover areas like functional adult literacy, enterprise skills, development and communication.

Interact with the Batwa community representatives; bee keeping, animal husbandry, vegetable growing and crafts making be identified as some of the enterprises that the Batwa could be interested in underrating.

Radio connection for awareness creation for government programs like immunization and Family Planning. Because of the terrain and the state of the roads, the community workers are most times not able to reach these areas for direct awareness creation programs. The easiest method of passing on information to the communities there would be the radio and other related media.

Government has crime preventers in Karamoja. These should be tapped into in attempts to curb cases of lawlessness where individuals or groups may come up and misuse the communication targets for unlawful acts

Proper and effective communication would serve as a medium for alleviating the current injustices meted on some vulnerable members of the community through the practicing of undesirable cultural practices like FGM. Place where victims could get assistance will be popularized through radio and other means of communication. For example, there is a shelter at



Moroto Hospital for counseling the FGM victims but due to inadequate communication about its existence some sections of the community may not seek its services.

**Capacity Building at Technical Level:** There is need to build the capacity of district level staff, especially the office of the ICT focal persons to liaise with other departments on issues to do with ICT development and utilization in the district. This capacity building efforts should also target the health and the education sectors that are supposed to be the major consumers of ICT services yet they currently have no or limited capacity.

**Capacity Building at community level:** There is need to build the capacity of the community leaders in aspects of public speaking like how to deliver the message and correctly as such, targeting particular groups e.g. women and not generalizing. This could target the offices of the Information Officers, DHEs and the Community Officers who interact with the community on a day-to-day basis. This also applies to the politicians as they are the people's representatives and are often in regular engagement with the community.

Most officers are also not conversant with the computer packages that they are supposed to use in collecting and synthesizing information that they pass on to the community.

Internet connectivity as a major challenge should be improved as it is a medium of transmission of the information that the community needs for its development.

## **Annex 2: Guide for Key Informants District Officials**

### **Community**

1. What types of communities are present in these regions, are they based on clan, ethnicity or geographic boundaries?
  - (a) If in clans which ones?
  - (b) If ethnic which groups?
  - (c) If geographical which ones?
  
1. Are any of these groups considered vulnerable or marginalized by virtue of their way of life, gender, economic status or ethnicity?
2. How can the RCIP project be designed so that some of these communities especially those that are vulnerable and marginalized also benefit.
3. What are some of the Institutions both formal and informal institutions dealing with vulnerable and marginalized available in this district?
4. How can these institutions be used to bring on board these vulnerable and marginalized during project design and implementation?
5. What constraints barriers are these institutions facing and what does this mean to project success opportunities?
6. Who are some of the key stakeholders in this region who influence these vulnerable and marginalized groups?
7. What specific interests do they have and how can the Participation of the poor and vulnerable groups be enhanced?
8. What is the Land tenure system of this area?
9. What are some of the land tenure issues and their implications to project implementation especially where land will be needed for laying of the underground cables?
10. What are the social, political and other risks that may jeopardize the success of the project or the achievement of the goals: such as the issues of conflict, the drivers of conflict and implication of this to project design and implementation?

- (a) Social
- (b) Political
- (c) Conflict Drivers

Implications to project design and implementation

11. How can these conflict, elite capture risks, etc. be managed and minimized during implementation so that the project can also benefit the vulnerable groups?
12. What are some of the Social/Cultural issues that could be impacted (negatively) by the project?
13. How this can be managed during project implementation including recommend ways of avoiding, minimizing and mitigating including improving vulnerable groups such as Batwa and Karimojong.
14. What are the Communications and IT infrastructure found in this region?
15. What can be done to promote the use and application of this infrastructure for e-government and other services?
  - (a) In this region?
  - (b) Amongst the vulnerable person?
16. How can capacity in management of IT programs and projects in this region be built?
17. How can policy and regulatory environment for ICT in Uganda including this region be improved?
18. What should the project design take consideration to improve the above issues and what are the implications to the project design.
19. What are the risks of excluding the groups from benefiting in this project?
20. What could the identified group(s) be excluded from and why should the groups could be excluded?
21. What are some of the key communication and IT challenges in the region?

### Annex 3: Community Consultation Guide

#### TASK 2 VMGF

1. What categories of communities exist in this area?
2. What is main source of livelihood of the people living in this community?
3. If one wanted to freely consult the people in this community, probe for:
  - Who to approach first
  - How to approach them
  - Medium of exchange
  - Where to consult them from
  - Gender aspects in consultation
  - Religious aspects in consultation
4. What Institutions relate and interact with these groups.
5. What are some of the relevant cultural, demographic characteristics of the people in this community?
 

**Probe for:**

  - Total Numbers.....
  - Men .....
  - Women.....
  - Youth.....
  - Education status.....
  - Average ages.....



*Religious affiliations*.....

*Marital status etc*.....

How do these groups access land and other natural resources and what are the implications of their access to natural resources in terms of depletion of these resources?

6. What guidance and mechanisms does the project needs to adopt to ensure that these groups participate and benefit from the project interventions.
7. How can the project benefit these people in an equitable manner?
8. What will be used to show that these groups have benefited from the project
9. What capacity does the district, sub-county or NGO have or not have to implement the RCIP project in this area?

Annex 4: Lists of Attendances

NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA  
 DATE: 10/07/2015  
 DISTRICT: KASESE

DISTRICT OFFICIALS  
 NGO:

Sr. No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	MATTHEW MUKAMA	CEO	0772424623	<i>[Signature]</i>
2.	BIRUNGU BEN HENRY	DCDO	0772605579	<i>[Signature]</i>
3.	BWOMBALE MUSAEBU	VOL. ICT OFFICE	0773955040	<i>[Signature]</i>
4.	BALUKU SHAM	LC'S OFFICE	0781552315	<i>[Signature]</i>
5.	TUMWINE JASIN	Director		<i>[Signature]</i>
6.		National bank	0772893992	<i>[Signature]</i>
7.		reg. for Dev.		
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION DATE: 22/01/2015  
 DISTRICT: BUNDIRUGYI NGO/CBO

NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1-	MASABA EDMOND	SENIOR CDO	072395975	
2-	Mathe Charles	S. E.O	0772966257	
3-	Mwesige A. Juma	Ag. CFO	0772364216	
4-	BTAMUKAMA JOHN	D. J.S	0772446484	
5-	BYASALYA CHARLES	Ag. I.O.S	0783490281	
6-	BIRUNGI PAULINA	OFFICE T/pt	075400389	
7-	Mubusinge JACKLINE	FDR SEC. DSC	0772-690659	
8-	MUGISA SIMON	S.P.S.W	0712338310	
9-	KAMISA HERBERT	A.C.A.O	0772358541	
10-	ISENYONDO F.	PHARO	0782741795	
UWA - NTANDI PARK HQ SEMILUKI				
	Richard Muhabwe	Warden-Incharge	0772367245	
	AGREY OUNDO	WARDEN TOURISM	0772686010	
	Mbambu M. Lavynah	Cultural Values Conservation Coordinator	0782147512 lavynahmbambu@yahoo.com	

DISTRICT: BUNDIBUGYO DATE: 23/01/2015  
 COMMUNITY/VILLAGE: BUNDIMASO

No.	NAME	CONTACT TEL. NO.	SIGNATURE
1	King Nzito Jofuley		
2	Kainta Kilson		
3	Dingoto Edeleda		
4	Manga Muzei		
5	Balyebulya Julius		
6	Masika Joromina		
7	Kabanaky Sefurza		
8	AKumanya Tolamy		
9	Tababa James		
10			



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 16/02/2015

DISTRICT: KABARE

DISTRICT OFFICIALS  
NGO: .....

Sr. No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	Navehinda Darius	D DC	0783932332	
2.	Busingye W. Mubone	DCDO	0772673898	
3.	Kicero Immacule	PS (CAO)	0782599820	
4.	Beebwajuba Mary	DVU elPesca	0782772293	
5.	IWEBAZE Immanuel	AICO UGANDA NGO - PRESIDENT	0782769906	
6.	LUSHABE FAITH	AICM F.A.	0712557551	
7.	Asimwe Gloria Nkagira	AICM community leader	0775726118	
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 17/12/2015

DISTRICT: Kabale SUB-COUNTY: Muko VILLAGE: Rwamuhango

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	BANAGIE VANANSIO	0756374243	Banage.v
2.	IUMUHEIRWE EPAPHA	075419248	Ium
3.	TUMAMBAZIBA FRANK	0778362808	Frank.
4.	TUMWEBAZE CONFIDENCE	0787568063	Confidence
5.	AINEMBABAZI SONIA	0701231993	Sonia
6.	KANUSU JOHN		KANUSU JOHN
7.	MYIRAKATICA NORAH		
8.	LYDIA HOPE		
9.	MUKYEZI HAPPY		MUKYEZI
10.	KYABAZAGA NORAH		KYABAZAGA
11.	SIMAKO AMOS		
12.	KABARA MIRIA		MIRIA
13.	KOSABARANYE PEACE		
14.	KAMUBWERA BINARETA		
15.	BIRARO YOHAN		BIRARO
16.	KAYEYE LAUBEN		KAYEYE
17.	TWIZEZI LAUBEN		TWIZEZI
18.	RUJOJO ITAKUDEJE		RUJOJO
19.	TWIZEZI		TWIZEZI
20.	BYARUGABA ROBERT		ROBERT
21.	BAYENDA AMBROSE		BAYENDA
22.	REBECCA BIKYENYERE		
23.	KABARA EDNASE		KABARA
24.	JOSELINE NYIRABUSHOGI		
25.	AMOS TUGUMISIRIZO	0775426331	AMOS





NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 17/2/2015

DISTRICT: Kabale SUB-COUNTY: BIFUMBI VILLAGE: KINYAMISHANGE

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	Ruhakema Gad	0755975520	Ruhakema
2.	Rwagasore		Rwagasore
3.	Katama Edward		KATAMA
4.	Kacori Robert	0750872700	KACORI
5.	KIANI Jackson	-	KIANI
6.	Melakito Justus	-	Melakito
7.	Gobatware William	-	Gobatware
8.	Bakabwira mebula	-	Bakabwira
9.	Mwura Medadi	0779762150	Mwura
10.	Musimanta Provia	-	PROVIA
11.	Kasori Jackson		Kasori
12.	Mwirawagori Janos		Mwirawagori
13.	Rwebishaka Peter		Rwebishaka
14.	Mwirakiza Roy		Mwirakiza
15.	Turakabwira scovia		SCOVIA
16.	Juliet medika		Juliet
17.	Bizeyimama scovia		Bizeyimama
18.	wensheshirasia		WENSISI
19.	Mwabuhari Grace		Mwabuhari
20.	Biryomumeso		BIRYOMUMESO
21.	Mwabwizi Charity		Mwabwizi
22.	Kayuni		Kayuni
23.	Mukandori Gerald		Mukandori
24.	Hirari Janet		Hirari



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 17/2/15

DISTRICT: KABALE SUB-COUNTY: BUFUMBI VILLAGE: Kinyamishanga

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	Mukyeshimana Sarah		SALAH
2.	Mirabazungu		
3.	Burapha Gaeti		
4.	Boy Payson		KBOY
5.	Biraro Javerous		
6.	Myamishanga		
7.	Robina Molly		
8.	Burakenela shallon		
9.	Tumwetize xuyakabwa		Kyakabwa
10.	Rwigyemera John		
11.	Makarimaze Jack		
12.	Kinkubwere		Kinkubwere
13.	Mirandiko scovia		SCOVIA
14.	Owomugabi Ronard		Ronard
15.	AURAH		Aurah
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA  
 DATE: 17/2/2015

DISTRICT: Kabale.....SUB-COUNTY: BUTANDA.....VILLAGE: MURAMBO

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	Rwabinumi Nicodemus	0781193873	<del>Rwabinumi</del>
2.	AICM Agriculture Extension Worker		
3.	Akongwanotho Bosco	MURAMBO	Bosco
4.	MUGABO	//	MUGABO
5.	MANIRIHO MARIYU	//	MANIRIHO
6.	MUNKA	//	MUNKA
7.	PROVIA CHARITY	//	
8.	FLORANCE MUDEDEYI	//	
9.	MACARI BUSINGYE		Busingye
10.	PRECIOUS BETTY	//	
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA  
 DATE: 18/02/2018

DISTRICT: MOROTO - CAO

NGO: .....

Sr. No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	MULONDO ROBERT	CAO	0772-521556	
2.	Putan Daniel Kinter	Technical Officer SAGE	0783 929597	
3.	Margie Lolom	SCDO Gender	0751806237	
4.	LOGIEL ANTHONY	CDO-MOROTO	0778047544	
5.	OLWARIA LAWRENCE	SPSM - KOTIDO	0782126227	
6.	FR. KAMUNTU ROLAND MAF	Papish Priest/Tapac	0789128639	
7.	Ruhukwa Helen	DEPUTY/RDC	0772-979911	
8.	AYEPA COSMAS	LCI Vice-Chair	0772-313750	
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 21/02/2015

DISTRICT: MOROTO SUB-COUNTY: TAPK VILLAGE: AKARIWON,

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	LOUMO ANDREW		
2.	AMAKUN MARIA		
3.	ABEKE MARGARET		
4.	NADIM NAKIRU		
5.	LOTUKI MARGARET		
6.	ANGOLE NATWA		
7.	LOKWAANK MARCIA		
8.	NATAO ALICE		
9.	NAMER REGINA		
10.	AMUGE VERONICA		
11.	AMULTU ESHER		
12.	OKOU KOKI		
13.	LONONYANK ROBERT		
14.	TALUP APALOWAKA		
15.	KALIO SAULDE		
16.	LOUSE TIZIANO		
17.	LOLI RUBEN		
18.	LOTUP EMMANUEL		
19.	LOKIRU LOBIKER		
20.	ILUKOL ROBERT		
21.	LGEE EMERIESE		
22.	NAKIDON LORUMU		
23.	LOMER ENGUWARTUK		
24.	LOLUM LOMILO		



NATIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY-UGANDA

DATE: 17/02/2015

DISTRICT: MoloTo SUB-COUNTY: TAPAC VILLAGE: AKARIWON

Sr. No.	NAME	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	NALINDI ENYAN HARANHA		
2.	ASIWA BETHIMTRI		
3.	LOCHAP EPUCHINHURA		
4.	LOBUK EKORINHURA		
5.	NACHAI ANGELLA		
6.	ALIM PAULINA		
7.	EJULI JOHN STEPHEN		
8.	ACHENG WINNIE		
9.	LOKWANG PETER		
10.	TUKOT LOKIM		
11.	LOMULO ENHARIASANO		
12.	OKILWA MARK	07 87353598	
13.	LOGWEE LOBUNGWANIK	@	
14.	LIMAW PAUL	0783466246	
15.	LOTUKI CHARLES		
16.	AWAS SAMSON		
17.	LOKERIS FRANCIS	0774125935	
18.	MARUK APALOBRE		
19.	NAKORU TIAI		
20.	ASEKA Grace	0776441666	A.G.
21.	LOWLAK ANNA		
22.	NABUK ALICE		
23.	NAWONHA LOMDKOL		
24.			

## Annex 2- Social Screening Form

### SOCIAL SCREENING FORM FOR ACTIVITIES

#### A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A 1. Type/description/justification of proposed activity

A 2. Location of activity

A3. Duration of activity

A 4. Focal point and person for activity

#### B. EXPECTED BENEFITS

B1. Benefits for local people	
B2. Benefits to Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMGs)	
B3. Total Number of expected beneficiaries	
B4. Total Number of expected Vulnerable and Marginalized Peoples beneficiaries	
B5. Ratio of B4 and B5; Are benefits distributed equitably?	_ YES _ NO If NO state remedial measures

#### C. POTENTIAL ADVERSE SOCIAL IMPACTS

C1. Will activity entail restriction of access of VMP to lands and related natural resources	_ YES _ NO If yes exclude from Project
C2. Will activity entail commercial development of natural and cultural resources critical to VMGs	_ YES _ NO If yes exclude from Project
C3. Will activity entail physical relocation of Vulnerable and Marginalized Peoples _YES _NO If yes exclude from Project	_ YES _ NO If yes exclude from Project

#### D. CONSULTATION WITH VMGs

D1. Has VMP orientation to Project been done for this group?	_ YES _ NO
--	------------

D2. Has PRA/RRA been done in this area?	_YES _NO
D3. Did the VMG give broad support for Project	_YES _NO

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Verified by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Attach sketch maps, PRA/RRA results and other relevant documents.

### ANNEX 3: SAMPLE GRIEVANCE AND RESOLUTION FORM

<b>GRIEVANCE RECORD</b>				
Grievance Number		<b>Copies to forward to:</b>		
Name of the Recorder		(Original)-Receiver Party		
District/Sub-county/Town		(Copy)-Responsible Party		
Date				
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT GRIEVANCE</b>				
Define The Grievance				
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINANT</b>			<b>Forms of Receive</b>	
Name-Surname			Phone Line	
Telephone Number			Community/ Information	
Address			Meetings	
District/Town			Mail	
Region			Informal	
Signature of Complainant			Other	
<b>DETAILS OF GRIEVANCE</b>				
<b>1. Access to Land and Resources</b> a) Fishing grounds b) Lands c) Pasturelands d) House e) Commercial site f) Other	<b>2. Damage to</b> a) House b) Land c) Livestock d) Means of livelihood e) Other	<b>3. Damage to Infrastructure or Community Assets</b> a) Road/Railway b) Bridge/ Passageways c) Power/Telephone Lines d) Water sources, canals and water infrastructure for irrigation and animals e) Drinking water f) Sewerage System g) Other	<b>4. Decrease or Loss of Livelihood</b> a) Agriculture b) Animal husbandry c) Beekeeping d) Small scale trade e) Other	<b>5. Traffic Accident</b> a) Injury b) Damage to property c) Damage to livestock d) Other



<b>6. Incidents Regarding Expropriation and Compensation (Specify)</b>	<b>7. Resettlement Process (Specify)</b>	<b>8. Employment and Recruitment (Specify)</b>	<b>9. Construction Camp and Community Relations</b>  a) Nuisance from dust b) Nuisance from noise c) Vibrations due to explosions d) Misconduct of the project personal/worker e) Complaint follow up f) Other	<b>10. Other (Specify)</b>
--	--	--	---	----------------------------

#### ANNEX 4: GRIEVANCE CLOSE OUT FORM

<b>GRIEVANCE CLOSE OUT FORM</b>		
Grievance closeout number		
Define long term action required (if necessary)		
Compensation required:      Y                  N		
Verification of Corrective Action and Sign off		
	Corrective Action Steps:	Due date:
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
Responsible Party		
<b>COMPENSATION ACTION AND SIGN OFF</b>		
This part will be filled in and signed by the complainant when he/she receives the compensation or the file is closed out.		
<b>Notes:</b>		
Date: >.....		
Complainant	Representative of Responsible Party	
Name and Signature	Name and Signature.....	
>.....		

#### Annex 5: Annotated outline for preparation of a VMG Plan

The VMG Plan includes the following elements, as needed:

- (a) A summary of the information referred to in paragraph 2 (a) and (b).
- (b) A summary of the social assessment.
- (c) A summary of results of the free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected Indigenous Peoples' communities that was carried out during project preparation and that led to broad community support for the project.
- (d) A framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected Indigenous Peoples' communities during project implementation (see paragraph 10 of this policy).
- (e) An action plan of measures to ensure that the Indigenous Peoples receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate, including, if necessary, measures to enhance the capacity of the project implementing agencies.
- (f) When potential adverse effects on Indigenous Peoples are identified, an appropriate action plan of measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for these adverse effects.
- (g) The cost estimates and financing plan for the VMGP.
- (h) Accessible procedures appropriate to the project to address grievances by the affected Indigenous Peoples' communities arising from project implementation. When designing the grievance procedures, the borrower takes into account the availability of judicial recourse and customary dispute settlement mechanisms among the Indigenous Peoples.
- (i) Mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the project for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the implementation of the VMGP. The monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should include arrangements for the free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected Indigenous Peoples' communities.