## AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE EFFECT OF THE FIVE-YEAR CIVIL WAR ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIVELIHOOD OF THE PEOPLE OF LUWERO DISTRICT

BY SENTONGO BADRU REG.NO: 2070509300260 BPA HONS, (IUIU)

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study was conduct in Luwero District to investigate into the impact of the Five Year Civil War on the Socio-economic Livelihood of the people of Luwero District.

The methodology, which was used to carry out the study, was descriptive, where both qualitative and quantitative approaches were used to gather data from respondents regarding how the impact of the Civil War on Agricultural Production, the impact of the Civil War on infrastructural development and the impact of the Civil war on Economic Development affect their social economic livelihood. The result of the study indicate that the Five Year Civil War 1981 - 1986 impacted on the socio-economic livelihoods of the people of Luwero District by creating negative effect on agriculture, infrastructural development and socio- economic development which have resulted into undesirable consequences of poverty and hunger. There was a tremendous decrease of average percentage of agricultural production, average percentage of coffee production decreased by 24 %, and the average percentage of beans production decreased by 67 %. This implies that the concentration of the war in the District disorganized Agricultural processes, patterns and production. The decrease in the average percentage of infrastructural growth implies that the existence of the war in the District significantly impacted on the roads, hospitals, schools and health centres. The average percentage growth of main roads reduced by 40%, that of feeder roads by 31%, average percentage growth health center reduced by 10%, primary and secondary schools reduced by 37% and 23% respectively. The decrease in average percentage growth of retail and whole sale shops by 43%, decrease in agricultural business by 44% and decrease in average percentage of growth of wood and art craft by 34% implies that the existence of the war in the district affected community members' source of income, and increased poverty levels among Community members. All these effects plus others have reduced the socio-economic livelihood of the people of Luwero District affecting peoples' lives of some community members negatively in a permanent manner.

Since the civil war ended in 1986, the Government and others partners in development like NGOs like Plan Uganda, World vision, Buso Foundation and VEDCO have introduced a number of development programmes (postwar recovery) aimed at revitalizing the weakened economies such as NAADS, LGDP, PMA, Prosperity for All UPE, USE, Luwero Triangle and Luwero Rwenzori Development programmes amongst others, but these have not contributed much to improve on the socio-economic livelihood of the people of Luwero district. This has been largely due to the fact that there has been poor implementation due to corruption tendencies among the implementers and diversion of economic resources by politicians. Secondly most people in the community majority of who are youth are reluctant to adopt these new programmes as they prefer fast but less paying jobs such as riding Bodaboda motorcycles.