VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS FRAMEWORK (VMGF) UGANDA INVESTING IN FORESTS AND PROTECTED AREAS FOR CLIMATE-SMART DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Ministry of Water and Environment
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AICM	African International Christian Ministry
BMCT	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CFM	Collaborative Forest Management
CFR	Central Forest Reserve
CRM	Collaborative Resource Management
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NP	National Park
VMGs	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups
VMPF	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework
VMGF	Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups
WB	World Bank

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups refers in this document to the Batwa communities which have cultural attachment to the Target Protected Areas.

Meaningful Consultation refers to provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.

Stakeholders are persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively. These may include but not limited to Government ministries and institutions, private sector, local communities, civil society organisations and Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups.

Stakeholders' participation refers to meaningful involvement of people regarding all relevant rights, benefits or impacts throughout the process, and includes meaningful consultation.

Target Protected Areas. The Batwas live around and have cultural attachment to four protected areas included as part of project support, namely: Echuya Central Forest Reserve (CFR), Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, NP, Mgahinga Gorilla NP, and Semuliki NP. Provisions of VMGF apply to activities in these protected areas (also see Annex 6)

INTRODUCTION

Overview of the Project

The Government of Uganda has designed the *Investing in Forests and Protected Areas for Climate-Smart Development* Project (the Project) that will be financed by the International Development Association (World Bank) and Government of Uganda (GoU). Preparation of the project is led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities (MTWA), Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), and the National Forestry Authority (NFA).

The Project aims to improve sustainable management of forests and protected areas and increase benefits from forests in target landscapes.

The project will apply the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and National policy and legal procedures.

Project preparation builds on the national REDD+ Readiness processes during which a national RDD+ Strategy was prepared, through a wider stakeholder consultation process. The National REDD+ Strategy includes 8 REDD+ Strategy Options (details in Annex 1) which have formed the basis for identifying appropriate interventions to be supported by the Project. IFPA-CD was one of priority projects (FIP Project 1) identified in Uganda's Forest Investment Program (FIP)[1] which has undergone extensive consultations, including specifically with the Batwa.[2]

Purpose of VMGF

The ESS7 recognizes the importance of rights and interest of the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMG) and requires engagement with VMGs in the design, determination and implementation of the project *proportionate to the scope and scale of potential project risks and impact as may affect them.*

This Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VGMF) has been prepared to meet the requirements of Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 7 on Indigenous Peoples / Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities which addresses the needs of *distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural groups which possess the following characteristics: (i) self-identification as members of a distinct cultural group; (ii) collective attachment to geographically distinct -habitats or ancestral territories; (iii) customary cultural, economic or social institutions that are separate from those of the rest of the society; and (iv) an indigenous language, often different from the official language of the country or region.*

The purpose of the VMGF is to guide the preparation and implementation of Project interventions that may affect VGs in the proposed project areas. The VMGF is based on the

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[1] Republic of Uganda. Forest Investment Plan. 2nd May, 2017.
[2] Nature Uganda. Views of targeted IPs and local communities on FIP Priorities and Projects; Opportunities and Challenges for IP participation in FIP design and implementation. Activity Report, February 2017

ESS7 of the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and the applicable laws and regulations of Uganda. The ESS7 is triggered when it is likely that groups that meet criteria outlined above *"are residing in, or have collective attachment to, the project area"*. The VMGF includes a description of project activities; potential positive and negative effects on VMGs; and a framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consent (where relevant). The VMGF serves as a practical tool to provide guidance for the project in handling any anticipated issues related VGMs in activities in and around Echuya CFR, Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Mgahinga Gorilla NP, and Semuliki NP. The VMGF identifies measures required for avoiding or minimizing any adverse impacts on the Batwa and supports the development of alternative livelihoods where and as needed. This VMGF applies to all components and activities that will impact the Batwas and provides procedures to ensure that the impacts are mitigated and that the Batwas benefit from the project.

The VMGF has been informed by the consultations undertaken with the Batwa as part of the REDD+ Readiness process and FIP preparation.

The Legal and Policy Framework for Indigenous Peoples / Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups in Uganda

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, which are categorized as vulnerable and marginalized.

Uganda has subscribed to several international legal instruments that oblige the State to observe the rights of ethnic minority groups. These include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007).

According to Uganda's 1995 **Constitution**, there are 65 ethnic groups referred to as its indigenous communities as from the date of February 1, 1926.

The Ugandan Constitution does not expressly recognize indigenous peoples within the scope of definition of ESS7. However, there is provision for addressing some of the negative effects arising from ethnic imbalances. 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. Article 32 on affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups states that the State shall 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 that Parliament shall make relevant laws, including laws for the establishment of an equal opportunities commission, for the purpose of giving full effect of clause (i) of article 32. The Ugandan Constitution goes further to provide for the protection of minorities in Article 36 which

grants Minorities the right to participate in decision making processes and their views and interests shall be taken into account in the making of national plans and programs.

The **Equal Opportunities Commission Act (2007)** makes provisions to effect the state's constitutional mandate to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground including ethnic origin and tribe, and to take affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them.

Policy statement 57 of the **Uganda Land Policy (2013)** provides for Government to recognize and protect the right to ancestral lands of ethnic minority groups and obliges Government to pay prompt, adequate, and fair compensation to ethnic minority groups that are displaced from their ancestral land by government action. Many ethnic minorities have been displaced and rendered landless through expansion of agricultural communities and land grabbing by members of dominant ethnic group and conservation areas. Land is a key asset in rural economies. Without land, at least to set up their homes, households become vulnerable to extreme exploitation (e.g. among the Batwa).

The Uganda Wildlife Policy (2014) states that livelihoods should be improved through the contribution of wildlife conservation, and that Protected areas and associated landscapes must be conserved in order to enhance community benefits.

The Uganda Wildlife Act (2019) has, as one of its objectives, the enhancement of economic and social benefits from wildlife management by establishing wildlife use rights and the promotion of tourism. Article 6 authorizes UWA to develop, implement, and monitor collaborative arrangements for the management of wildlife. Article 27 calls for sustainable exploitation of the natural resources of the [wildlife management] area for the benefit of the people and communities living in the area. Article 32 recognizes historic rights of communities around conservation areas and mandates UWA to establish guidelines for sustainable access of communities neighboring conservation areas to resources which are historically crucial to the survival of those communities.

The Uganda Forest Policy (2001) identifies addressing livelihoods and poverty as one of the guiding principles for the forest sector, and contribution to poverty eradication as a major goal in all strategies and actions for the development of the forest sector. It also states that forest sector development should take into consideration cultural and traditional attributes and institutions.

The National Forestry and Tree Planting Act (2003) provides for development of collaborative forest management as an option for sustainable management of government and private forest lands through increased participation in decision-making, planning, managing and benefit from forests.

The National Environment Management Act (2019), in article 68, provides for protection of cultural and natural heritage.

World Bank ESF Requirements of ESS7

The World Bank in ESS7 Paragraph 6 defines indigenous people as a "*distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees: (i) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others; (ii) collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to natural resources in these habitats and territories; (iii) customary cultural, economic, social or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and (iv) an indigenous language, often different from the official language of the country or region*.

Also paragraph 11 of ESS7, insists on the importance of the vulnerable groups and states that; *A key purpose of this ESS is to ensure that Sub-Saharan African historically underserved local communities present in or with collective attachment to, the project area are full consulted about, and have opportunities to actively participate in, project design and determination of project implementation arrangements. The scope and scale of consultation, as well as subsequent project planning and documentation processes, will be proportionate to the scope and scale of potential project risks and impact as may affect indigenous peoples/sub-Saharan African historically underserved traditional local communities.*

ESS 7 para 12 also states that "*The borrower will prepare consultation strategy and identify the means by which affected indigenous peoples/sub-Saharan African historically underserved traditional local communities will participate in project and implementation.*"

There are a number of groups in Uganda that have been identified as satisfying the World Bank's policy for identification under ESS7:

- Batwa, also known as Twa or Pygmies who live primarily in south-western Uganda
- Ik, who live on the edge of the Karamoja-Turkana region along the Uganda-Kenya border in Kaabong district, Karamoja
- Benet, also known as Ndorobos, live in Kween district on the margins of and inaccessible parts on the slopes of Mt. Elgon in the north-eastern part of Uganda
- Tepeth, also referred to as the Soo. They live in Mount Moroto and neighbor the Turkana and the Pokot of Kenya. They are also said to have been the original people of Moroto but due to ethnic wars with the Karamojong, they were driven up the top of mount Moroto.

Rationale for the VMGF

The World Bank's ESS7 requires that a VMGF is prepared to ensure that the Project fully respects the dignity, human rights, economies, and culture of VMGs and that the Project has broad community support from the VGs which may be positively or negatively affected by this project. As the specific activities in target project areas will be identified during project implementation, a VMGF has been prepared. The VMGF will guide preparation of site-specific Vulnerable and Marginalized Peoples Plans for Echuya CFR, Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Mgahinga Gorilla NP, and Semuliki NP.

This VMGF provides for the screening and review of the proposed project in a manner consistent with ESS7. It shows how the Project will integrate the VMGF recommendations into the project design, implementation and how negative impacts to VMGs will be mitigated or avoided.

Organization of the Document

This framework is organized in eleven chapters. The **Introduction** outlines the purpose of the document, rationale of the VMGF, methodology adopted, WB ESF requirements, and organization of the document. **Chapter One** provides an overview of the project description including but not limited to project justification, aim and objectives of the project, the major components of the projects, and description of the implementing entities. **Chapter Two** provides baseline information on the Batwa with a focus on their relationship to the Target Protected Areas. **Chapter Three** discusses stakeholder consultations that informed the VMGF and the approach to engagement during implementation. **Chapter Four** describes potential impacts on VMGs as the result of project implementation. **Chapter Five** outlines the framework for ensuring free, prior and informed consent where required. **Chapter Six** provides an explanation on the approach to be adopted for the preparation of VMGPs. **Chapter Seven** focuses on institutional arrangement for implementing the VMGF and VMGPs. **Chapter Eight** outlines the approach to monitoring, evaluation and reporting. **Chapter Nine** presents the budget for implementing the VMGF and subsequent VMGPs. **Chapter Ten** describes the disclosure arrangements. The document is supported by a number of annexes.

CHAPTER ONE: DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AND COMPONENTS

The project is intended to support a landscape approach to improve management and economic productivity of forest ecosystems in the targeted landscapes. It combines investments in forest management in both state-managed and community managed lands. It focuses on improving the management of forests and increasing revenues for sustaining forests and supporting resilient livelihoods.

The project supports higher inclusion and equitable participation of women, men, boys and girls, and the historically marginalized communities of Batwa through specific activities. Attention is given to a range of technical options for addressing gender gaps.

In forest management and use, the Batwa are limited in active participation in decision making and leadership; they suffer from inadequate sharing of benefits. Such limitations are attributed to negative cultural beliefs and norms, lower levels of literacy and education, and disproportionate access to information (e.g. technology) which generally facilitate exclusion of women, poor households, and vulnerable populations. However, community participatory management models for managing protected areas, which are being promoted by the NFA and UWA, include all categories of community members.

Existing community forest co-management models

(i) *Collaborative Forest Management (CFM)* - This is an arrangement that is provided for in the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act 2003. By definition, "It is *a mutually beneficial arrangement in which a forest user group and a responsible body share role, responsibilities, rights and returns (benefits) in a forest reserve or part of it."* To date, there are over 320 CFM groups in CFRs formally established or are in the process of being established.

(ii) *Collaborative Resources Management (CRM)* - This is an arrangement of management in protected areas managed by UWA. It is based on the result of a negotiated process, whereby pprotected area management shares benefits, costs, decision-making authority and responsibilities, rights and roles in the management of wildlife resources with local communities and other stakeholders. UWA started establishing CRMs in the 1990s with an objective of increasing support for conservation.

Under the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019, a provision has been made for Community Wildlife Committees for each conservation area that oversee the utilization of shared revenue with the CRM.

Project Objective

The project's objective is to improve sustainable management of forests and protected areas and increase benefits from forests in target landscapes. The project also contributes to Uganda's sustainable development priorities and the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity in a sustainable manner.

Description of the Project Areas

The geographical focus of the project is on selected priority areas in western and north-western Uganda. The project area includes the Albert Water Management Zone (WMZ) and West Nile region (part of Upper Nile Water Management Zone). The Albert WMZ contains the Albertine Rift, which supports the most carbon-dense forests remaining in Uganda and is also a global biodiversity hotspot (refer to Map 1 of project area). Many intact areas of forest remain in this landscape, but most are under high pressure, and forest areas are also becoming increasingly fragmented. As these forests fragment, their productivities and ability to protect and deliver environmental services, such as catchment protection decline. They also become increasingly vulnerable to forest fires - a trend exacerbated by longer dry periods now being experienced countrywide and in the Albertine region. Fragmentation is also leading to biodiversity loss and, increasingly, Human Wildlife Conflicts as wildlife, such as African elephant and chimpanzees which require large ranges, move between remaining blocks of habitat.

Target Protected Areas. The Batwas live around and have cultural attachment to four protected areas included as part of project support, namely: Echuya CFR, Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Mgahinga Gorilla NP, and Semuliki NP (see maps in Annexes 6 and 7). Provisions of VMGF apply to activities in these protected areas. in addition to settled groups, there are local movements among these settled communities and between Batwa groups in Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Rwanda.

Echuya CFR is located in the most densely populated area of Rubanda and Kisoro districts. Other than Batwa, the forest is surrounded by Bakiga and Bafumira who comprise a bigger percentage of the population. Their households are scattered in various settlements in villages located adjacent to the forest including Murubindi, Kashasha; Gitebe-Kanaba, Biizi-Rugeshi–Murora, Mukasaayi that comprises two settlements, Karengyere-Rwamahano and Kinyarushengye. The main settlements are located in Birara and Rwamahano Batwa Communities.

Bwindi Impenetrable NP is home to a fantastic diversity of flora and fauna and lies in the southwestern part of Uganda in the districts of Rubanda, Kanungu and Kisoro and is recognized a World Heritage Site for preservation of endangered mountain gorillas in 1992. Batwa are settled in all surrounding districts in particular; Ntenko Batwa Community located north of Nkuringo and Rubuguri Batwa Community
Mgahinga Gorilla NP is located in the district of Kisoro. The park stretches beyond Uganda's borders into Rwanda, Democractic Republic of the Congo, and Burundi. The major community

groups are located in Rukyeri Batwa Community, Rukongi, and Rurembwe (Rwerere) Batwa Communities.

Semuliki NP is found in the districts of Bundibugyo and Kasese, sprawls across the floor of the Semliki Valley on the remote, western side of the Rwenzori, and covers a distinct ecosystem within the larger Albertine Rift ecosystem. The Batwa are settled in one settlement of Bundimasyori (Ntandi) Batwa Community in Bundibugyo District.

Project Components Description

The project has four components with subcomponents as summarised in Table 1. Components 1 and 2 include activities in Target Protected Areas.

Table 1: Project Components and Activities

Components/sub-components	Activities
Component 1: Investments to improve the management of forest protected areas. Focus on improving the management of government-owned forest and wildlife protected areas to ensure they can continue to generate revenues and provide important environmental services. Provide support to seven National Parks, four Wildlife Reserves, and up to 28 CFRs. Implementation led by the NFA and UWA. *Summary of activities*: Improve management of high biodiversity values of forests and for generating jobs and revenues that can help sustain their conservation and increase benefits to local communities.	
Sub-component 1.1: *Improvement of infrastructure and equipment for the management of forest protected areas*	Implemented by UWA and NFA Activities include: (i) Provide investments in: (a) grading and maintenance of tracks and trails within protected areas to improve access for park management; (b) boundary planning (including community consultations) and demarcation(using boundary markers),;(c) infrastructure (such as gates and fences); (d) equipment and community-oriented activities to manage human-wildlife (e.g. trenches, fences); (e) investments in staff ranger housing; (f) communications; (g) vehicles and equipment and; (h) management plan revisions and updates.
Sub-component 1.2: *Increasing the involvement of local communities in the management of forest and wildlife areas by increasing their access and benefits from these areas.*	Implemented by UWA and NFA Activities include: technical assistance packages and training aimed at developing the skills at community level to actively participate and benefit from the management of forest and wildlife resources. The technical assistance packages will include targeted support for women to empower them to participate and take leadership roles in natural resources management. At field level, support will be provided for community engagement in the management of forest resources within protected areas. This will include establishment of collaborative resource management groups, collaborative forest management groups and support of livelihood activities with existing groups.

Sub-component 1.3: *Restoration of degraded natural forests and habitats in forest reserves.*	Implemented by UWA and NFA Activities include: Restoration through natural regeneration (based on enclosure of areas) and, where needed, enrichment planting, including through engaging and employing local communities.
Sub-component 1.4: *Increased forest protection in CFRs and WRs in close proximity to refugee settlements*	Implemented by UWA and NFA At a small number of locations (e.g. at Bugoma CFR and Katonga Wildlife Reserve), deployment of additional resources to improve protected area management where there are site-specific threats to high value forest assets, either as a direct result of refugee incursion or indirectly by the added commercial demand for forest products arising from their presence. UWA and NFA to engage local communities in resource management efforts, including forest restoration, and strengthen enforcement efforts to better-protect remaining natural forests in these protected areas. Project supported activities include: (a) community livelihood activities (such as beekeeping and wild mushroom growing); (b) removal of invasive species; (c) forest restoration; (d) improvements for basic protected area management (communication and other equipment, vehicles, ranger posts, essential infrastructure); (e) improvements for wildfire management (fire observation towers and equipment); and (f) boundary demarcation.
Component 2: Investments to increase revenues and jobs from forests and wildlife protected areas Increase revenues and jobs from these forest and wildlife protected areas through targeted investments in tourism and productive forestry *Summary of activities*: Increase the economic contribution of forests through boosting revenue generation and job creation and strengthen incentives for improved forest management. Investment in tourism infrastructure to achieve continued development of nature-based tourism, and in addition, investments to increase forest industry-based jobs and incomes. Targeted information campaign to narrow the gender gap in the forestry sector, support to women entrepreneurs and women-led producer organizations.	
Subcomponent 2.1: *Investments in tourism*	Implemented by UWA and NFA Activities include: tourist reception, information and interpretive facilities in identified protected areas infrastructure for new (or improving existing) tourist products and activities.
Subcomponent 2.2: *Investments in productive forestry*	Implemented by the MWE. Activities include: Investments to further increase plantation area to reach a critical mass that can meet the demands of the local and regional market Investments to support processing and utilization of forest products to produce higher value wood products.
Component 3: Improved tree cover, forest management and landscape resilience on private and customary land, including refugee hosting areas. Encourage establishment of greater tree cover in refugee-hosting landscapes outside protected areas, supporting sustainable forest management and landscape resilience on private and customary land. *Summary of activities*: Activities to be led by the MWE. This is to enhance the productivity of the	

	landscape through improved tree cover, forest management and landscape resilience on private and customary land, including in refugee hosting areas. Support channeled through specialist service providers to work closely with DLGs to build capacity and facilitate implementation of agroforestry, small-holder plantation investments, and community forestry. The project will also support an on-farm woodfuels production scheme that will supply woodfuel to target refugee settlements. Activities to be carried out in host communities in refugee hosting districts. Districts selected are: in Albert Rift (Hoima, Kagadi, Kakumiro, Kamwenge, Kibaale, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Kyegegwa) and West Nile (Adjumani, Amuru, Arua, Koboko, Lamwo, Madi Okollo, Moyo, Obongi, and Yumbe).
Subcomponent 3.1: *Increased tree cover on community land in refugee-hosting areas*	Activities include: Development of intensive, mixed-use agroforestry systems on household plots, with a strong orientation towards multi-purpose woody species that can provide fruit, fodder, fencing, fuel, shade, and also fix nitrogen, in intensive, multi-layered systems suitable for small areas. Support for woodlots on private land. These will enhance the supply of timber, poles, fuel, and other plantation products with seedlings supply from the private nursery network to provide context-appropriate planting material and an extension support mechanism. Enhanced management and protection of natural forests on customary, leasehold and freehold land, through support to establishment of community forests and implementation of activities within them Development and promulgation of Community Forest Regulations, through a consultative process that builds on existing guidelines and experiences, working with legal experts and GoU to secure assent and ensure dissemination and awareness-raising Support for district local governments through capacity building, provision of basic support packages of office equipment, for mobility and operational costs.
Subcomponent 3.2: *Supporting farm forestry for refugee fuel supply*	The project will, therefore, set up a program to purchase fuelwood from communities and supply it to refugees. This will simultaneously stimulate farm forestry, provide an energy lifeline to the refugees, and reduce pressure on natural woodlands.
Component 4: Project management support Support to overall project management and forest monitoring. *Summary of activities*: Support project management support activities to ensure cost-efficient, timely, and quality delivery of project activities and results. Support for fiduciary management aspects, including procurement and financial management safeguards, social inclusion and gender competency development including a project gender strategy/action, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting.	

Implementing and Collaborating Institutions

Table 2 provides information on implementing and collaborating institutions and their roles. The application of this VMGF takes recognition of mandates, procedures, processes and roles of institutions involved in the project. National Forestry Authority and Uganda Wildlife Authority lead implementation of project activities in Target Protected Areas.

Table 2: Implementing and Collaborating Institutions

Agency	Role	Where applicable	How it applies in the context of engagement with the Batwa
Directly implementing			
Ministry of Water and Environment	Initiate legislation, policy formulation, setting standards, inspections, monitoring, and coordination in forests, water, weather, and environment	Conservation and management of the natural resources to prevent degradation such as forests, environment, wetlands, and water.	Issuances of forest concessions, permits Regulations on usage of forests, wetland and environment Area ex-closures that may prevent communities to access the resource
Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities	Initiate legislation, policy formulation, set standards, inspections, monitoring, and coordination for wildlife protected areas, cultural sites, areas of antiques	Management and development of the tourism assets	Issuance of licenses and permits for tourism establishments
National Forestry Authority	Management of central forest reserves such as planting, inspections, monitoring, and coordination for forestry resources	Central forest reserves	Assigning concessions for forest land utilisation and planting. Controlling forest resources exploitation and use can, induces restriction of access to the forest land/forest resource by communities. Supporting collaborative forest management arrangements
Uganda Wildlife Authority	Conservation and management of wildlife. Administers national parks and game reserves.	Controlling wildlife conservation areas	Assigns permits. Restriction of access to the game land and exploitation of resources by communities. Supporting CRM
Collaborating Institutions (of relevance to VMGF)			
District Local Governments and Sub-County Local Governments	Governance and management of local government jurisdiction. Responsible planning and execution of local development, land and implementation of national policies.	Land use and natural resource management	Guiding and mobilisation in surveys, settling disputes, dissemination of information, creating awareness, following up implementation of plans, participate in the creation of CFM groups Role in grievance redress

CHAPTER TWO: BASELINE INFORMATION ON VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS

Background information on the Batwa

The Batwa people are the original inhabitants of the forested areas that are extension of the Equatorial Congo Basin locally known as the *Ituri* forests (Forest People Programme 2003). Historically, the Batwa are hunter-gatherers communities that lived in these forests. Semliki, Mgahinga, Bwindi and Echuya protected areas, are remnants of these forest ecosystem that served as 'homes' to the Batwa (Lewis 2000, Kathryn Ramsay 2010).

The Batwa dwell mainly around the National parks and Forest Reserves. The Batwa live around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Echuya Central Forest Reserve, Mgahinga Gorilla, National Park and Semliki National Parks. All the areas where Batwa traditionally reside in Uganda are located in the Albertine Rift area and they were traditionally known to rely entirely on the forest resource for food and livelihood. The Batwa are found in the South Western districts of Rubanda Kisoro, Kanungu, and Bundibugyo. The population and housing census of 2014 estimated the total population of Batwa at 6,200 (comprised of 3,022 males and 3,178 females).[3]

The Batwa deeply value the forests as their cultural heritage. They attach considerable cultural importance to forest resources, including caves, hot springs, rivers, hills, plants, and animals. To the Batwa, the forests are a source of physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Before the forests were gazetted, Batwa fully depended on forest resources for food, medicine, basketry, firewood, marketable items, house construction, tools, rituals, hunting, and recreation.[4] The Batwa continue being heavily dependent on the forest resources – and there provisions in place to allow their access to the forests in protected areas for most uses, with the exception of hunting; their access was restricted in the early 1990ies, when in 1992-1993 the Mgahinga, Echuya and Semuliki forests were gazetted as National Parks (with higher protection status).

Whereas Echuya Forest Reserve, Mgahinga, Bwindi and Semliki Conservation areas are considered their ancestral homes, following the change of policy in 1990s, the conservation status of some of these reserves (Bwindi, Mgahinga Forest and Semliki) changed and became national Parks in 1991 and 1994 respectively by an Act of Parliament (Uganda Wildlife Act Cap. 200) and are today managed under Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). Since then, the use and access of the forest resources became limited and the Batwa started living on the margins of these forests. Much of the commentary indicate that the Batwa lost their socio-cultural and original home land (forests) and they were neither resettled nor compensated by government at the time rendering them landless[5] and now face all forms of social discrimination and marginalization by the non-Batwa in their respective areas. Today many Batwa families still do

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3 Uganda Bureau of Statistics 2016. The National Population and Housing Census 2104, Main report, Kampala, Uganda.

[4] Flora and Fauna International. Batwa cultural values in in Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla National Parks, Uganda: A report of a Cultural Assessment. October 2013.

5 Lewis J (2000). The Batwa Pygmies of the Great Lakes Region. Achieve.niza.nl.

not own land and often live as squatters on other people's land to whom they provide manual labor in exchange for food or little pay.[6]

Batwa have received support from local governments and the lead agencies, in particular UWA and NFA, especially through provision of access to the parks or reserves respectively and, most recently, provision of land.[7] Other agencies, in particular, NGOs have provided support to the Batwa over the years, including purchase and provision of housing estates and land in Nteko, Kyeshero, and Kanungu by BMCT and other partners.

Before gazettement of Forest reserves (in the early 1930ies) and National Parks (early 1990ies), 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 that came with protected areas 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.[8]

In *most* areas, the Batwa live in small huts, poorly mudded and sometimes made of grass for walls and roofs. Due to the poor living conditions, the Batwa are perceived as backward and may not associate freely with other non-batwa communities. They are perceived as people with limited skills and knowledge to participate in any development and conservation project.

However, the critical role indigenous peoples' communities play in the protection and conservation of ecosystems and species and genetic diversity has been recognized by international bodies such as the CBD, regional courts in the Americas and Africa have recognized their claims, and the national and international legal frameworks including World Heritage Convention and UNFCC recognize the vital contribution to the implementation of sustainable solutions for tackling development challenges, from the management of natural resources to the fight against climate change.

United Organisation for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU) staff with their new office signpost, Kisoro, Uganda, August 2002 (by FPP)

In 2000 the Batwa organized themselves and formed their own organization, the United Organisation for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU).[9] Its aim is to support Batwa in south west Uganda to address their land problems and help them develop sustainable alternative livelihoods. Through its Batwa members, UOBDU has identified four key areas it hopes to address including:

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6 FPP 2015. Indigenous peoples in Uganda: A review of the human rights situation of the Batwa people and pastoralist communities. http://www.forestpeoples.org/sites/fpp/files.

[7] https://ugandawildlife.org/explore-our-parks/parks-by-activity/boat-launch/uganda-wildlife-authority-hands-over-land-worth-ugx180-million-to-batwa-community

[8] Kathryn Ramsay (2010). The Hidden Lives of Batwa Women. Minority Rights Group Internal.

[9] https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/partner/united-organisation-batwa-development-uganda-uobdu.

- Land and Housing;
- Education and Adult Literacy;
- Income Generation including Agriculture; and
- Forest Access and Benefit-Sharing.

Among these priority areas, securing their rights to land and forest resources are an integral part of Batwa's own strategy to build more secure livelihoods, since their landlessness and restricted access to forests have contributed so significantly to their persistent social and economic marginalization in Southwest Uganda.

Current Engagement of NFA and UWA with the Batwas in Target Protected Areas

Relations between UWA and the Batwa communities were distressed by conflict in the 1990ies, especially immediately after establishment of National Parks in Bwindi, Mgahinga and Semliki. In recent decades, though, both NFA and UWA have been promoting community engagement and community co-management of forest resources, including in Target Protected Areas.

National Forestry Authority (Echuya CFR)

NFA has entered into collaborative forest management agreements with four CFM associations in managing the buffer zone of the CFR (see Annex XX 7 for a map of the CFR) – these CFM agreements cover all villages around the Echuya forest in Rubanda and Kisoro Districts:

- Bufundi Echuya Forest Conservation and Livelihoods Improvement Association (BECLA) in Bufundi sub-country
- Kanaba Community Development and Echuya Forest Conservation Association (KADECA), in Kabana sub-county
- Muko Echuya Forest Conservation Development Association (MECDA), in Muko sub-county
- Murora Echuya Forest Conservation and Poverty Alleviation Association (MEFCPAA), in Muroro sub-county.

The Batwa in the landscape were all integrated in the CFM groups and associations formed. In all CFM groups the Batwa were voted into executive committees, a breakthrough to Batwa communities starting to participate in decision making discussions. Each of the CFM groups has two Batwa representatives on the CFM group (a registered community-based organization) executive committee.

Echuya Ecotourism Association (ECOTA) is a CFM umbrella group coordinating all the CFM groups and implementing ecotourism in Echuya. It has a Memorandum of Understanding with NFA and has two Batwa representatives on the executive committee as well.

One of the groups (MECDA) has the highest number of Batwa CFM members (15 in total) while the other three groups have less than this number.

As a result of its demand driven approach, CFM has been opened to all segments of society adjected to CFRs to access resources and to participate in social economic development. In Echuya, affirmative action has been taken for the Batwa to harvest more bamboo and woodfuel from the forest than other members, recognizing that they have never acquired land. Under the CFM arrangement, it was agreed that the Batwa shall collect fuel wood (dead and dry wood) on a daily basis, while the rest of the tribes (Bakiga and Bafumbira) collect once a week. This goes beyond the Batwas' immediate subsistence livelihood because the Batwa sell woodfuel for cash.

In all CFM groups, people have rights to access forests for cultural values, medicinal herbs, honey harvesting, sand (using manual extraction), water, grass, ropes, and fee-based woodfuel and rattan extraction (with the exception for Batwa, as described above). See Annex 3 for a complete description of agreed arrangements for resource use in Echuya forest, including special conditions for CFM groups and the Batwa.

The CFM agreements were signed in 2007, for a 10-year period, and they had lapsed. However, NFA respects agreed arrangements with the communities and intends to renew the CFM agreements with project support.

The Echuya CFR Forest Management Plan (2016-2026) includes a requirement for the management to prioritize the socio-economic and cultural rights of the indigenous Batwa in collaboration with other partners (Prescription 41).

Uganda wildlife authority (Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Mgahinga Gorilla NP, and Semuliki NP)

UWA has implemented various process that benefit the Batwa people. These include support to the tourism initiatives that benefit the Batwa, such the Batwa trails in Mgahinga; programs for engagement of the Batwa in CRM, etc. Although the revenue sharing arrangement whereby UWA shares 20% of all gate revenue and a portion of proceeds from the gorilla permits with park-adjacent communities is expected to benefit the neighboring communities to the parks, the set up of this scheme does not allow individual households or individual Batwa to benefit. For example, to access funds for projects from the districts, one is required to write a proposal that is vetted for its viability before the funds are given. Very few Batwa if any would participate since they are not any Batwa who know how to write a proposal. However, in all the national parks, the Batwa are given preferential treatment when it comes to access to the forest resources such as medicinal plants, firewood, and visiting ancestral sites in the forests.

In order to gain support from communities surrounding the parks for the various park management programs, UWA has implemented the resource-use program in the multiple use zone since 1993. Under this program, communities, including the Batwa, are allowed to access some resources in the park through Memoranda of Understanding.

All three national parks have huge cultural significance, especially for the Batwa (see Annex 4 for the list of identified culturally significant locations in Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla NPs).[10]

Bwindi Impenetrable NP

One of the stated management objectives of the park is to involve marginalized communities, especially the Batwa, in selected park programs. The park General Management Plan includes management prescriptions targeting the Batwa specifically (see Table 3 below.

Table 3. Management Prescriptions Targeting the Batwa in Bwindi Impenetrable NP General Management Plan

Activity	Resp	Others involved	Timing	Estimated cost (Ug. Shs)
Working with the Batwa, take an inventory of all medicinal plants for further research and mapping	WEM	Batwa herbalists, FFI, WCC	Year 1	20,000,000
Involve the Batwa in establishing herbal demonstration sites outside the park	WCC	Batwa herbalists, FFI, WEM	Year 5	30,000,000
Together with the Batwa, Identify and map out earlier spiritual batwa sites in the park	WCC	Batwa spiritual leaders, FFI,WEM	Year 2	5,000,000
Negotiate/collaborate with stakeholders to access Batwa cultural priority sites	CAM	Batwa spiritual leaders, FFI	Year 2	2,000,000
Identify and establish a centre in the park for Batwa forest experience demonstration as a tourism product	CAM	Batwa community leaders, DTBS, FFI	Year 6	12,000,000
Use forest experienced Batwa in tourism Guiding	CAM	Batwa community leaders, DTBS, FFI	Year 3	500,000
Support Batwa elders to train young ones with the intention of passing on their forest experience	CAM	Batwa community leaders, ED, HRM, FFI	Year 4-10	40,000,000
Organize and train Batwa groups on identification and management of livelihood improvement projects	WCC	Batwa community leaders, FFI	Year 4-10	35,000,000
Establish Conservation Batwa education dramas	WCC	Batwa community leaders, WT, FFI	Year 1-10	4,000,000
Work with other institutions to fundraise for the Batwa dance improvement	CAM	Batwa community leaders, FFI	Year 1-10	5,000,000

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[10] Flora and Fauna International. Batwa cultural values in in Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla National Parks, Uganda: A report of a Cultural Assessment. October 2013.

Mgahinga Gorilla NP

Currently, the resources being accessed in the multiple use zone of the park include harvest of dry bamboo, bamboo rhizomes, medicinal plants, weaving materials, grass for Batwa communities, and access to areas for bee keeping in the park.

The Batwa Trail

In June 2011, UWA, Kisoro District Local Government and UOBDU launched the Batwa Cultural Trail. The launch was marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the three parties stipulating the roles and responsibilities of each. The Batwa trail is a Batwa led tourism venture. The trail serves as an educational tool for tourists, as well as a source of employment and income for the Batwa. Establishment of the trail was supported by the International Gorilla Conservation Program, the Greater Virunga Trans-boundary Core Secretariat, USAID-STAR, and the Royal Netherlands embassy, among others.

The trail started in 2006 out of research on Uganda National parks carried out in 2002 which discovered that the Batwa were one of the biggest encroachers on the national park due to lack of land, employment and any other source of livelihood. It was from this research that IGCP and UOBDU with support from USAID Prime West embarked on developing a product that would offer an alternative source of livelihood to the Batwa and a consultant was hired to develop a tourism plan.

Accordingly, from 2006, studies were carried out and recordings made of the Batwa traditional way of live as well as a study on the economic and social impact of the planned product. In 2007, the process of developing the product began in Ernest with the training of the Batwa guides, putting in place the necessary infrastructure. In 2009, the project received a boost from GVTCS with funding from the Royal Netherlands embassy to complete the product but which remained unmarketed. In 2010, the Tourism Management Committee sought assistance from USAID-STAR program to begin marketing the unique product.

The main objectives of the product are to create an avenue where Batwa can earn an income for livelihood, preserving the Batwa rich culture, preserve the traditional relationship between the Batwa and the forest and to diversify tourism activities besides the renowned gorilla trekking.

The revenue generated from this product is shared equally between UWA and the Batwa. The share for the Batwa is saved on their development account. In April 2019, UWA purchased, with proceeds from this account, two pieces of land measuring 7.5 acres worth UGX180 Million to a group of 35 people of the Batwa community neighboring Mgahinga Gorilla NP. One piece of land is situated in Musana, while the other is situated in Nyagacence, both in Kisoro District.[11]

Semuliki NP

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[11] https://ugandawildlife.org/explore-our-parks/parks-by-activity/boat-launch/uganda-wildlife-authority-hands-over-land-worth-ugx180-million-to-batwa-community

There is a single Batwa community living close to Semuliki NP. In 1993, the Seventh-day Adventist Church Development Arm resettled the Batwa near Ntandi in a bid to integrate them into local cultural and agricultural life. The Batwa in this community now live both by firewood collection for sale, assistance from local communities, and contributions from tourists who go to interact with them. Currently, they access the park mainly for firewood collection, poles, and herbal medicine. Some of the Batwa with support from UWA showcase their cultural heritage to visitors through dance, storytelling and other demonstrations.

UWA and the Batwa community have established the Batwa trail in Semuliki NP; however, it is not well developed yet. The current General Management Plan for Semuliki NP envisages erecting appropriate interpretation panels and shelters along the Batwa trail (see budget below). During the planning process, it was realized that a Batwa cultural center is one of the key infrastructures necessary to supplement on the Batwa benefits from the park. This cultural center could be used for Batwa handicraft sales and cultural performances, among others.

See table 4 below for a list of budgeted management actions with regard to the Batwa in the Semuliki NP General Management Plan

Table 4. Budgeted management actions in Semuliki NP General Management Plan.

Action	Responsibility	Others involved	Timing	Budget notes	Total cost
Tourism trails-Batwa trail					
Design and erect appropriate interpretation panels and shelters at appropriate locations along the batwa trail.	WT	WCC, WIC	YR 2	4 Panels; 4x400,000 = 1,600,000 ; Construction of huts 100,000	1,700,000

Lobby funding agencies to construct Batwa cultural centre for displaying Batwa handcrafts and cultural drama performances at Batwa cultural Boma near Bumaga trading centre.	CAM	WIC, PC	YR 1-10	Fuel 100ltrsx-3,500x10yrs =3,500,000 Staff facilitation 2x130,000x4qtrsx-3daysx3yrs =9,360,000	12,860,000
Mobilize and support the Batwa to engage in cultural tourism activities along the existing Batwa trail and at the Batwa Cultural centre.	WCC	WIC, WT	YR 2-3	Facilitation during meetings, 8meetingsx 200,000/= =1,600,000; skilling the Batwa, 1,500,000; Launching of the Batwa cultural tourism , 1,000,000/=;	4,300,000

Other development partner support to the Batwa

There are several organizations that support Batwa in various activities including improving housing (Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust and African International Christian Ministry), others provide support in livelihood improvement through land and housing, education, agriculture, sanitation, health, etc. (see Table 5 for an illustrative list of projects around Echuya CFR that supported a wide range of activities, including activities specifically targeting the Batwa).[12] Nature Uganda, in partnership with Birdlife International, has been a steady partner in Echuya, actively promoting community engagement and supporting community livelihoods.

Table 5. Illustrative list of projects implemented in the last 10 years around Echuya CFR

Project / grant	Donor	Location	Duration	Amount, UGX
Darwin Project	Darwin Initiative	Ecosystem service in Echuya and Kalagala areas	2008-2017	447 million

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust

BMCT provides long-term reliable support for projects promoting sustainable use of natural resources around Mgahinga Gorilla NP and Bwindi Impenetrable NP, in order to minimize the negative impact on the parks. BMCT implements projects with the purpose of increasing awareness creation among farmers, integration of conservation into community development programs, mitigating the negative impacts of climate change, and improving Batwa livelihoods through involvement in agricultural enterprises and education. Over the last 25 years BMCT has invested Ushs. 12,551,246,972 into grants for communities around Bwindi and Mgahinga National Parks. The projects range from agricultural, livestock and conservation for both men and women. BMCT is also implementing a Batwa Scholarship Scheme, supporting pupils in primary and secondary schools, technical institute, and at university.

Echuya Forest Conservation Project	Danida through DOF	Echuya CFR	2011-2015	2.2 billion
Civil society capacity to advocate for mainstreaming biodiversity project	CISU through DOF	Echuya CFR	2017-2018	16 million
People partner with Nature programme	CISU through DOF	Echuya and Kasyoha-Kitomi CFR	2015-2018	11.6 billion
TESSA project	Birdlife	Echuya CFR	2017-2018	29 million
Marginalized communities in Uganda (Batwa)	FAO	South Western Uganda	2016-2017	46 million

African International Christian Ministry (AICM)

AICM is a Ugandan NGO run by Ugandan Christians. AICM is providing assistance to the Batwa to improve their living standards and health. AICM is also helping with advocacy to improve their human rights status. Since 1993, AICM has bought land to resettle 850 Batwa households in eight areas / village groups; provided schools in two settlements; taught and encouraged them to build their own homes; taught them to grow food; built community halls and latrines; helped them to integrate with their neighboring Bakiga people.

CHAPTER THREE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

National process in preparation of the Project

Project preparation builds on the national REDD+ Readiness processes during which a national REDD+ Strategy was prepared, through a wider stakeholder consultation process. The National REDD+ Strategy includes eight REDD+[13] Strategy Options (details in Annex 1) which have formed the basis for identifying appropriate interventions to be supported by the Project. IFPA-CD was one of priority projects identified in Uganda's Forest Investment Program (FIP)[14] which has undergone extensive consultations, including specifically with the Batwa. [15] These consultations were used to inform the development of the VMGF as well as the approach to engagement during implementation.

Consultations that informed preparation of VMGF

Consultations with the VMGs, including Batwa, have been a cornerstone of Uganda's REDD+ Readiness Process and preparation of **Uganda's REDD+ Strategy**, starting in 2010. Activities on increasing awareness on REDD+ and enhancing capacity of the VMGs, including the Batwas, have been undertaken with support from the NGOs and CSOs, such the Wildlife Conservation Society (under the assignment for *Strengthening Participatory Structures and Conducting Capacity Building Trainings to Enhance Stakeholder Engagement for Uganda's National REDD+ Programme in the Albertine Region,* in 2016-2017*)* and Pro-Biodiversity Conservations in Uganda (PROBICOU) (under the assignment for *Mainstreaming Gender into REDD+ processes and strengthening capacity of Forest Dependent Indigenous People to actively engage in REDD+ Strategy Implementation,* in 2019).**[16]** The following key recommendations have come out of these consultations, with regard to inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in implementation of REDD+ Strategy Options:

- Ensure that indigenous peoples communities in general and their organizations/local leaders are not excluded by any means in activities of planning, selection, design, and implementation processes;
- Provide benefits to all indigenous peoples;
- MWE should ensure that indigenous peoples in the project areas get a fair share of the REDD+ Program's project in their ancestral lands;
- MWE through the REDD+ Program Secretariat should carry out specific assessments of the impact of proposed REDD+ Program's project on the economic and social development of indigenous peoples as an integral part of the project cycle, through a

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[13] REDD+ stands for countries' efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

[14] Republic of Uganda. Forest Investment Plan. 2nd May, 2017.

[15] Nature Uganda. Views of targeted IPs and local communities on FIP Priorities and Projects; Opportunities and Challenges for IP participation in FIP design and implementation. Activity Report, February 2017.

[16] In addition, PROBICOU received support from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Capacity Building Program for Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in international discussions on the role of REDD+ in climate change mitigation.

transparent process with free and informed participation of the affected communities. REDD+ Program Secretariat has to ensure that the REDD+ Program's project interventions do not unnecessarily and unintentionally exacerbate factors outside the scope of planned impacts;

- Together with indigenous peoples, REDD+ Program Secretariat should carefully screen the activities of all its projects for a preliminary understanding of the nature and magnitude of potential impacts, and explore alternatives to avoid or minimize any adverse impacts;
- Where alternatives are not feasible and adverse impacts on indigenous peoples are unavoidable, REDD+ Program Secretariat and the implementing agency together with indigenous peopples and others knowledgeable of indigenous peoles culture and concerns particularly local leadership and the local governments (district and sub-county) should immediately make an assessment of the key impact issues; and
- REDD+ Program Secretariat and implementing agency should undertake the necessary tasks in order to adopt appropriate mitigation measures. The most important in this respect is intensive consultation with the indigenous peoples communities, district and local government leaders, community elders/leaders, CSOs/NGOs and others who have experience in working with indigenous peoples.

Key recommendations from **PROBICOU's engagement on REDD+ with the Batwa** relevant to Project design, as recorded in the report of consultations with Nyabaremura Batwa Held at Nkuringo Cultural Centre, Kisoro On March 2, 2019, include:

- Develop arrangements to channel benefits directly to Batwa - Batwa should be made aware of a mechanism through which REDD+ benefits could be delivered from the – national level (reference was made to tourism revenue sharing). However, they proposed a parallel system whereby REDD+ benefits could directly flow to the community level. Batwa think that the benefits from national level had been going through a very bureaucratic process and do not effectively respond to their unique needs. They proposed that setting up a special fund targeted at the Batwa themselves would increase the benefits directly within their communities.

- Strengthen Collaborative resource access and Forest management arrangements - across the groups, currently, the main resource access mechanism is collaborative arrangements either under CFM or co-management with NFA and UWA respectively. They proposed that REDD+ revenues be invested in strengthening CFM groups through skills development for production of high-quality craft products, bee keeping, and confidence building initiatives for the adult Batwa so as to benefit more from REDD+.

- Design REDD+ scheme to strengthen governance - Batwa suggested the need to support reforms in the governance and to create an enabling institutional framework to protect their rights, secure land tenure and land rights. Since CFM was identified as one of the best entry points to REDD+; Batwa proposed that there was a need for them to become directly represented on CFM user groups' governance structures and other community leadership structures.

The above consultations also indicated that limited land ownership by the Batwa is a significant constraint to them. The project cannot support acquisition of land for donation to the Batwa as this is beyond the project mandate.

As part of FIP preparation, Nature Uganda was commissioned to undertake specific consultations with the Batwa and partner organizations to Batwa (UOBDU, Batwa Development Program, Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust, and Uganda Wildlife Authority[17] The following recommendations to **design of FIP Project 1** were made:

- Ensure coordinated interventions to address the needs of the Batwa to achieve conservation and development objectives. The consultations so far have raised the awareness about the FIP, but more forwarding looking planning interventions are essential to make the FIP to a reality.

- Through the FIP planning process, the Government should effectively communicate and explain its policies and demonstrate how the marginalized Batwa communities can benefit from the legislative and policy provisions. For example, the FIP should leverage the revenue sharing and tourism development for the long-term sustainability of indigenous people engagement.

- The Batwa consulted, especially the elderly people strongly expressed their dismay at the rate at which the forests are being destroyed. They decry loss of their culture that is conservation friendly. They expressed their commitment and readiness to collaborate with all concerned to ensure the forests are sustainably managed. The FIP planning should take this cue and ensure the integration of the conservation friendly cultural values of the Batwa people into forest investment planning and the management of the protected areas where possible. Such approach will not only be beneficial for conservation but will also be a good avenue to empower and enforce the affirmative action, which can also spill over into education and employment skills based on indigenous knowledge.

Stakeholder Engagement Approach During Project Implementation

Key principles of stakeholder engagement are laid out in the project specific stakeholder engagement framework:

a. **Commitment:** by recognizing the need to understand, engage and identify the stakeholders and consulting them in formulation process. Further, engaging approval processes that secure institutional commitment to the project.
b. **Integrity:** ensuring that consultations and engagement are conducted in a manner that fosters mutual respect and trust.
c. **Respect:** of rights, cultural beliefs, values and interests of stakeholders and affected communities.

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[17] Nature Uganda. Views of targeted IPs and local communities on FIP Priorities and Projects; Opportunities and Challenges for IP participation in FIP design and implementation, Activity Report; Feb 2017.

d. **Transparency:** ensuring that stakeholder and community concerns are responded to in a timely, open and effective manner.
e. **Inclusiveness:** ensuring that broad participation is encouraged and supported by appropriate participation opportunities., including unlimited access to consultations meetings.
f. **Trust:** through open and meaningful dialogue that respects and upholds a stakeholders and community's beliefs, values and opinions.

It is important to carry out consultations with various communities in their various settings in the project areas. Different communities have different issues and demands as well as interest. A community is the ultimate recipient of project impacts and benefits, and therefore a key stakeholder. Besides, interventions need community support or participation in order to succeed. Since the community is going to be required to change in some way (its attitudes, behavior) in relation to its interaction with the forests and wildlife, it is fair to have them at the forefront in the refinement of mitigation measures, planning process, designing interventions and implementation. For instance, community participation in planning will help to solicit and assure support.

For the process to be as inclusive as possible, it is important to use as many avenues as possible to inform all stakeholders through advertisements, local and national radios and televisions, local group meetings, social gatherings, market days gathering, etc.

The message must be simple and clear, and in the languages that the community speaks. This means both using plain, understandable English and using the Twa language (a Bantu language). It is expected that UWA and NFA will convene the meetings. These meetings should be held in collaboration with the local administrative authority (LCI) but led by the local community. The collaboration would be important to lend credibility to the intervention as it may be identified as a community effort rather than an imposition by the government or any particular organization. Upon identification of the specific communities and activities, the following areas of concern should be covered during consultations with affected communities:

- General strategies in devising use of forest and wildlife resources or alternative means of livelihood;
- How to obtain or enhance access to resources or alternative resources, generally focused on livelihoods;
- Examine access to services including seedlings supply to provide communities with livelihoods support;
- Establish procedures for specific activities and their phasing for particular protected areas.

The discussions on livelihoods impacts and possible mitigation activities encompass; (i) identification and ranking of site-specific impacts; (ii) criteria and eligibility for livelihood assistance; (iii) the rights of persons who have been legally using forest resources or the associated land to be respected, (iv)) brief description and identification of available mitigation measures alternatives, taking into account the provisions of applicable local legislation, and the available measures for mitigation actively promoted via project activities; and (iv) considering any additional sound alternatives, if proposed by the affected communities or persons.

Once the consultation process starts, it must be maintained. Stakeholders, including the community, must be kept interested, and support has to be provided when needed, conflicts have to be resolved, methods have to be devised to keep the process reasonably efficient, goals and deadlines have to be set.

Specifically for the Batwa, engagement needs to include trusted intermediaries such as the OUBDU, BMCT, AICM, etc.

Grievance Redress Mechanism

A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is necessary for addressing the legitimate concerns of the project affected persons. Grievance handling mechanisms provide a formal avenue for affected groups or stakeholders to engage with the project on issues of concern or unaddressed impacts. Grievances are any complaints or suggestions about the way a project is being implemented.

The Environmental and Social Standards requires project financed by the World Bank to define one or more mechanisms to resolve complains, issues, recommendations, presented by the project stakeholders, citizens or anyone expressing concerns on the environmental, safety and social project development. The mechanisms developed for the project will need to be adapted to take into account the needs of vulnerable groups to ensure they are able to utilise the mechanism. The stakeholder engagement process will ensure that the VMGs are adequately informed of the GRM.

There are a number of aspects that potentially could bring a dispute or conflict. These will be localized to each specific area. Therefore, the forms of settling of such disputes and conflicts are not necessarily uniform. What is important is the use of locally appropriate dispute and conflict settlement mechanisms agreeable to all parties concerned. Such mechanisms include the use of:
- local influential opinion leaders such as religious leaders, cultural/traditional leaders, elders, civil society organisations, political leaders and government agencies;
- the Collaborative Forest Management, CRM or game parks management structures;
- Community Wildlife Committees; and
- Local Council Committees

In this VMGF, the following key elements are suggested for guiding in disputes and conflicts settlements:
- Specifying rights and penalties in the beginning of the project activities;
- Defining the roles of each party and, in particular, these roles must be specified in the agreements with CFM and CRM agreements;
- Identify potential mediators and their roles. For example, defining the roles of local leaders including the local councils;
- Defining corrective actions for implementing and feedback mechanism for the complainants;

- Identifying potential areas of conflicts. This must be identified at the community participatory planning;
- Defining the involvement of the district leadership particularly Community Development Officer, Forest Officers, Game Wardens, or other offices;
- Defining the role of the project staff;
- Defining the roles of CBO/NGO, if they are involved in the implementation;
- Defining the communication channels aimed at reducing disputes and conflicts;

Though it is expected that settlement of disputes and conflicts should as much as possible be within the project structures, it does not replace existing legal processes. Settlement of disputes/conflict is expected to be based on consensus, guided by facts when making conclusions as a basis of action. The procedures should be inclusive and participatory in nature with an aim of facilitating communication between conflicting parties, promoting dialogue, and facilitating reasonable agreement between the parties to a dispute or conflict. It should seek to resolve issues quickly in order to expedite the receipt of what could be due or reaching settlements, without resorting to expensive and time-consuming legal actions. See Annex 5 for the project grievance record form.

CHAPTER FOUR: POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON VULNERABLE GROUPS AS A RESULT OF THE PROJECT

The implementation of the project will result in a range of different impacts as presented in the ESMF document. Project preparation indicates that key impacts related to the Batwa relate to enhanced management of protected areas and related resriction of (unregulated) acess to forest resources. Project support to the Target Protected Areas will **not** impose additional restrictions of of the Batwa or affect their livelihoods, as compared to baseline situation. On the contrary, through better engagement of the Batwa in Collaborative Forest Management (in Echuya CFR with NFA) and in Collaborative Resource Management (in Bwindi, Mgahinga and Semuliki) and provision of livelihoods support, the project is expected to have positive impacts.

However, the existing Forest management and National Park management policies and regulations restrict unlimited use of forest resources by the Batwa and prohibit hunting. This VGMF identifies measures to ensure avoidance of any adverse impacts upon local livelihoods and supports the development of alternative livelihoods where and as needed.

The main project benefit will be the increased protection of the VMGs' rights to access the forest natural resources and receive livelihoods support through CFM and CRM arrangements. The Batwa will also be able to benefit from job opportunities provided by the project for removal of invasive plant species, restoration planting of trees, ecotourism opportunities, etc. The Batwa, like other communities, are also expected to benefit from the project's focus on participatory planning for forest resources and improved access to decision-making and from activities targeting reduction of human-wildlife conflict. The Batwa expect to benefit from improved tourism facilities in Target Protected Areas and the resulting increased visitor numbers which will afford more tourism-related employment opportunities.

Specific measures to mitigate impacts on project/sub-project(s) beneficiary, local communities should include the following, among others, depending on locations/sites:

- Prioritize local community members for employment opportunities in activities within the protected areas, such as restoration planting, removal of invasive species, and infrastructure construction;
- For ecotourism activities, prioritize local community members employment as tour guides considering their unique local and cultural knowledge;
- Provide capacity building and trainings to CFM and CRM committee, community committees, local council committees, women and youth groups, elders groups and community-based organizations, in sustainable use and monitoring of forests and wildlife resources, including protection, preservation, conservation, reforestation, tourism management, business enterprises, agriculture practices, fire management, wood harvesting and other community profitable ventures based on identified restrictions and needs;
- Use of deterrents for animals such as chilli plants and bee hives from destroying communities' crops;
- Ensure clearly visible demarcation of National Park and Forest Reserve boundaries in sensitive areas, through maintenance and clearing of the existing boundary lines;

- Promote establishment of sustainable household woodlots, to progressively reduce pressure on resources from forest reserve;
- Provide alternative livelihood support such as collection of non-forest products including mushrooms, medicinal plants, wild fruits and bee- keeping to local communities around forest and forest reserves. Honey is of particular cultural value to the Batwa as it is important in preparing the beer used in offerings and sacrifices to appease the spirits of their ancestors;[18]
- Engage communities in new business opportunities through , forest based enterprises e.g. crafts;
- Through new or old Collaborative Management Committees and CRM, defining modes of beneficiary engagement;
- Make use of new and old Collaborative Management Committees and CRM in identifying training gaps, modes of training, development of products as well as engagement with other stakeholders.
- Conduct project awareness-raising campaigns to local communities on the importance of sustainable forests and wildlife management.

Table 6 contains a summary of some of the potential impact and mitigation measures related to restrictions of forests and wildlife resource use under Project components / subcomponents that will be implemented in Target Protected Areas. The livelihood restoration measures will consider issues such as (1) income levels of affected communities/persons, (2) other non-monetary sources of livelihood, (3) constraints and opportunities for income generation, (4) number of persons not able to revert to previous occupation, and (5) existing skills and project preferences of affected persons.

It is important to note that the project does not include activities that require land acquisition / resettlement.

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[18] BMCT reports that projects like beekeeping give local people and the government economic incentive for the protection of natural habitats and is an ideal activity in our conservation program. Beekeepers have admitted that being close to the forest has helped them in beekeeping and reduction of illegal activities especially wild fire because where beekeepers have put their hives they protect and avoid bush fires, and discourage people from grazing animals, cutting trees and harvesting other forest resources. After some time, these areas become greener because the vegetation is allowed to grow. It is also a source of income and this has changed people's attitude of relying on the forest. This has contributed to sustainable management of natural resources and increased biodiversity (BMCT Annual Report 2016-2017).

Table 6: Components/Sub-Components Potential Restrictive Impacts

Components/subc omponents	Proposed Project Activities	Specific Project Activities of Potential Concern	Potential Impacts	Proposed Mitigation Measures
Component 1: Investments to improve the management of forest protected areas				
Sub-component 1.1: *Improvement of infrastructure and equipment for the management of forest protected areas*	(a) Provide investments in: (a) grading and maintenance of tracks and trails within protected areas to improve access for park management, (b) boundary planning (including community consultations) and demarcation(using boundary markers), (c) infrastructure (such as gates and fences); (d) equipment and community-oriented activities to manage human-wildlife (e.g. trenches, fences),, (e) investments in staff ranger housing, (f) communications, (g) vehicles and equipment, and (h) management plan revisions and updates .	• Infrastructure (such as gates and fences) • Equipment and community-oriented activities to manage human-wildlife (e.g. trenches, fences) • Management Planning • Trails	• Limitations of unregulated access due to improved patrolling • Building of infrastructure such as tourism gates and wildlife fences	• Restrictions addressed by CFM and CRM agreements. • Engagement of local communities through their group in determining timing of access to resource and the type/nature. • Involvement of community groups in ensuring adequate planning of activities • Support to community-based tourism initiatives. • Accommodating controlled harvesting by locals to the extent possible in protected area management plans and CFM agreements / CRM MOUs.
Sub-component 1.2: *Increasing access to and benefit from forest and wildlife protected areas for local communities.*	Support for an increase of area under Collaborative Forest Management and resource management agreements- 45 new and 24 renewed CFM agreements and up to 120 new resource management agreements. Provision of technical assistance to women's associations to support CFM planning and implementation that promotes women's engagement in CFM.	• Setting of Collaborative Forest Management agreements. • Identification of women associations. • Empowering of women associations	These activities are expected to have overall positive impact on enhancing communities' livelihoods due to improved access to the designated areas within national parks,	• General sensitization of communities and setting of livelihood activities that will contribute to increased earning. • Engagement of local communities in resource management efforts, including forest restoration ensures better sharing • Technical assistance to build

	Technical assistance to build the skills needed to empower women for management and leadership in CFM and producer organizations and strengthen women-led producer organizations.		wildlife reserves and central forest reserves	the skills for empowering women for management and leadership in CFM and producer organizations • Provision of technical assistance to women's associations • Promotion of women's engagement in CFM.
Sub-component 1.3: *Restoration of degraded natural forests in Wildlife and Forest Protected Areas.*	Aims to restore up to 22,700 ha of forest. Restore degraded areas in key National Parks and CFRs through natural regeneration (based on enclosure of areas) and, where needed, enrichment planting, including through engaging and employing local communities based on pilot approaches applied previously by UWA.	• Restoration of up to 22,700 ha of forest. • Participation of local communities in planting	• Limitations in accessing the restored areas of the forest	• General sensitization of communities on improved ecosystem services provided by restored forests. • Engagement of local communities in forest restoration through contracts. • Support UWA and communities to plan and develop products hence increasing economic opportunities
	Training and equipment for the avoidance, response and monitoring of wildfires and the removal of invasive species. Activities: the development of landscape-level strategies for fire management and the eradication of invasive species in PAs: fire management training; establishment and maintenance of fire breaks; construction of fire towers; equipment for firefighting and fire avoidance; community sensitization; response and monitoring; with appropriate modern approaches- more	• Fire management training • Establishment and maintenance of fire breaks • Construction of fire towers • Community sensitization, response and monitoring	• Limitations in access of communities to fire-prone areas • Exclusion of adjacent community members from contracts for removal of invasive species resulting in them missing out on	• Encourage participatory community involvement including community initiatives such as community monitoring of fire occurrences (e.g. reporting any community members that engage in illegal activities such as bush burning) • Instilling of community social accountability. • Employment of community members for removal of

	efficient fire monitoring practices at the landscape level including consideration of satellite-based monitoring systems.		employment opportunities	invasive species
Component 2: Investments to increase revenues and jobs from forests and wildlife protected areas				
Subcomponent 2.1: *Investments in tourism*	Complement private sector investment in wildlife-based tourism, most notably interest generated through the 'Space for Giants' initiative. Interventions involve direct investments to construct or renovate access infrastructure (upgrading trails and graveled roads) and utilities (water, power) to connect key concessions with have a confirmed interest from private sector. Fencing in some areas near the boundaries of the national parks.	• Fencing in some areas near the boundaries of the national parks.	•	• Support enhancement of opportunities for boosting wildlife/nature-based tourism and alternative sustainable livelihoods for communities surrounding protected areas (through CRM arrangements).
	Implemented by UWA and NFA, investments in tourism infrastructure and products in select NPs and CFRs. Potential activities include the development of a wide range of products such as picnic sites, canopy walks, hiking trails, jetties, zip lines, bird hides, and student centers, among others, to enhance diversification and overall quality of tourism products. Tourist reception, information and interpretive facilities used to improve visitor experience in the PAs and to encourage visitors to stay longer at each site- investments include visitor centers, visitor gates, tracks, trails, bridges, and board walks. Support the development of infrastructure in the	• Development of a wide range of products • Development of infrastructure.	• Construction of infrastructure may limit or control access.	• Establishment of participatory and sustainable natural resources management. • Supporting communities to tap into new livelihood investments opportunities. • Provision of technical training to community members to tap on new opportunities. • Support community-based tourism initiatives and involvement in merging opportunities. • Support UWA and communities to plan and

	following PAs: Bwindi, Semuliki NPs, and Echuya CFR. Other sites added as new priorities emerge. (i) investments to construct, equip and maintain Visitor Centers, (ii) the development of new tourism products-trails, signage, interpretation panels, marketing material) in and around parks that promote 'new' tourism destination; and (iii) advanced tourism infrastructure-boardwalks and canopy walks) in and around parks.			develop products hence increasing economic opportunities
	Activities involve community investment in the development of hospitality facilities and services, and investment in the provision of tourism vocational training. Promote community tourism-related activities to increase jobs and benefits for local communities- UWA to continue to develop and implement programs aimed at improving community livelihoods through supporting community-based tourism initiatives. Support UWA and communities to plan and develop products and train communities through the Uganda Community Tourism Association. The project to carry out a rapid assessment to determine the sub-projects. This rapid assessment to be: (a) performs an inventory of existing community tourism experiences, accommodation, and products in the project area,	Provision of o vocational training. Promotional materials for community tourism related activities Planning and development of products Training of communities Assessment of sub-projects	• Marginalization of the Batwa in selection of community subprojects and in their implementation-	• Supporting communities and their organizations in product development. • Possibilities for accessing women credit and inputs. • Provide support for increasing value of the products through processing and marketing • Support training of communities through the Uganda Community Tourism Association. • Support UWA and communities to plan and develop products hence increasing economic opportunities.

	(b) develop six project profiles for existing successful community-based tourism enterprises, and (c) six emerging community-based enterprises that add value to overall tourism.		

CHAPTER FIVE: FRAMEWORK FOR ENSURING FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT

This section outlines the process that will be followed for ensuring Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) can be achieved in case where this may be required. Currently planned activities are not expected to trigger the need for FPIC.

FPIC Definition

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) refers to the process, under certain specific circumstances whereby Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups will be consulted in good faith based on sufficient and timely information concerning the benefits and disadvantages of a project and how the anticipated activities occur. Consent refers to the collective support of affected VGs for the project activities that affect them, reached through a culturally appropriate process. Under provisions of the World Bank ESF FPIC applies in circumstances in which the project will:

- Have adverse impacts on land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation;
- Cause relocation of Indigenous Peoples / Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities from land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation; or
- Have significant impacts on Indigenous Peoples / Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities' cultural heritage that is material to the identity and / or cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual aspects of the affected Indigenous Peoples / Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities' lives.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) refers to the process, under certain specific circumstances set out above, whereby Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, will be consulted in good faith based on sufficient and timely information concerning the benefits and disadvantages of a project and how the anticipated activities occur. Consent refers to the collective support of affected VMGs for the project activities that affect them, reached through a culturally appropriate process. FPIC does not require unanimity and may be achieved even when individuals or groups within or among affected VGs explicitly disagree. The FPIC principles are as follows:

a) **Free** – people are able to freely make decisions without coercion, intimidation or manipulation
b) **Prior** – sufficient time is allocated for people to be involved in the decision-making process before key project decisions are made and impacts occur
c) **Informed** – people are fully informed about the project and its potential impacts and benefits, and the various perspectives regarding the project (both positive and negative)
d) **Consent** - refers to the collective support of affected Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities for the project activities that affect them, reached through a culturally appropriate process.

Where applicable, FPIC applies to project design, implementation arrangements and expected outcomes related to risks and impacts on the affected VMGs. It builds on and expands the process of meaningful consultation that should be established through good faith negotiation between Project and the VMGs.

FPIC Process for Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

The key steps involved in the process are presented below.

Screening of the Need for FPIC: The implementing agencies, UWA and NFA, with support and guidance from the E&S Specialist in the Project Coordination Unit will identify the need for FPIC based on the activities being undertaken and if any of the conditions outlined above. This will be undertaken in consultation with the VMGs as part of the development of the VGMP. The screening will be verified by the World Bank.

In case the need for FPIC is confirmed:

Sensitisation of the VGs and Community: The Project will inform VMGs about the project process and proposed outcomes, potential beneficiaries and geographical scope of the project. The community will also be informed about the principles of FPIC, their right to refusal and what will be needed to achieve FPIC. The wider community will also be informed about this process and any implications if FPIC cannot be achieved with the VMGs. At this time no decisions are expected to be made and the process is designed to inform communities about the process.

Additional Meetings: Additional meetings will be held as need to discuss the concerns and any other issues that the VMGs have including any barriers to the achieving consent (recognising that unanimity is not needed). The VGs will be further informed of any benefits or potential impacts associated with the project, other beneficiaries and approaches to grievance resolution. As part of this the VG will discuss and agree with the team how they will demonstrate consent in line with their traditional decision-making processes while demonstrating that men, women, the youth etc have all participated in the decision-making process. The VMGs will also discuss and agree on project design elements that need to be incorporate recognising that there is very limited scope for changing the project design.

FPIC: When ready, the VMGs will demonstrate consent (or lack thereof) through processes that are appropriate to that group. The agreements will be documented in the appropriate manner. FPIC should be established through good faith negotiation between Project and the VMGs. The Project will document:
  a) the mutually accepted process to carry out good faith negotiations that has been agreed by the Borrower and the VMGs; and
  b) the outcome of the good faith negotiations between the government and VMGs, including all agreements reached as well as dissenting views.

CHAPTER SIX: APPROACH FOR DEVELOPING VULNERABLE GROUPS PLANS

Vulnerable Group Plans will be prepared when activities have been identified in areas where Vulnerable Groups are present or in which they have a collective attachment to land. This process will be undertaken as part of the screening activities outlined in the ESMF. A separate Plan will be prepared for each Target Protected Area. They will outline activities that will supplement management prescriptions already included in the management plans of these protected areas.

The VMGP will be developed to document the:

a) aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the affected vulnerable groups;
b) local social organizations, beliefs, ancestral territory, and resource use patterns among the affected vulnerable groups;
c) potential positive and negative impacts on vulnerable groups;
d) measures to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts;
e) measures to ensure project benefits will accrue to vulnerable groups;
f) need for FPIC to be undertaken and the process to be implemented;
g) measures to strengthen the capacity of local authority and relevant government departments to address vulnerable groups' issues;
h) involvement of community organisations from the project area and the expertise from the local authorities and national level.
i) budget allocation; and
j) monitoring and evaluation requirements.

The Vulnerable Groups Plan (VMGP) will provide guidance on environmental and social issues to be addressed during implementation of the project. The VMGPs may vary depending on social-cultural behaviour, geographical location and livelihood activities of the respective community.

The VMGP will also outline if FPIC is required and the approach that will be taken to achieving FPIC based on Chapter 5 of this VMGF and the specific needs of the VMGs.

CHAPTER SEVEN: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VMGF

The project will be implemented through government structures and will promote inter-ministerial and LGA coordination from the national to local level. The project will contribute to strengthening land administration through institutional capacity building in the land sector by ensuring security of the land tenure system and associated social and environmental sustainability in the country. Different stakeholders will play different roles and responsibilities in relation to supervising, implementing and management of this project.

Establishing institutional roles and responsibilities related to implementation arrangement of the VMGF is important to ensure that activities are carried out adequately. MWE, as the coordinating project ministry, two key government national agencies (NFA and UWA) that are responsible for implementation of activities in an around Target Protected Areas, and a number of government departments and local governments (district local government and sub-county local governments), several local communities and stakeholders will be called upon to participate in the appropriate planning and implementation of the activities identified in the VMGF. Table 7 presents institutional responsibilities for implementation of the PF.

Table 7: Proposed Roles and Responsibilities for implementation of the VMGF

Institution	Roles and Responsibilities
MWE	• Provide strategic direction and monitor overall implementation of VMGF. • Overall supervision of the VMGF and preparation of VMG Plans. • Participate in the district level meetings. • Coordinate with other Government Line Departments for ensuring effective delivery of mitigation. • Make budgetary provisions for implementation of project activities. • Provide technical support for implementation of the project activities.
NFA (range manager) and UWA (Chief Warden)	• Involvement in studies as per project components - Component 1 activities to be implemented by UWA- in and around NPs and wildlife reserves, and NFA - activities in and around CFRs, and Component 2 activities to be implemented by UWA and NFA (for tourism-related investments in Protected Areas). • Implementation of mitigation measures as per project components- Component 1 activities to be implemented by UWA- in and around NPs and wildlife reserves, and NFA - activities in and around CFRs, and Component 2 activities to be implemented by UWA and NFA (for tourism-related investments in Protected Areas). • Supervision of plans and reporting to ministry • Producing regular activity reports to feed into the project level monitoring and evaluation system. • Assist in resolving issues referred to it by the District and communities

Institution	Roles and Responsibilities
District Local Governments	• Supporting communities in preparation of project activities. • Participating in monitoring activities. • Instrumental in mobilisation of communities, formation of CFM and CRM, following up implementation of plans, including livelihoods and income-generating activities, on the ground provision of technical guidance, and in dispute settlement
Individual or Affected Persons or communities	• Participating in consultations and communication related to the VMGF. • Identifying project impacts and alternative livelihood options. • Participating in monitoring activities • Implementation of project activities.
NGOs AND CBOs	• May be engaged to participate in the process to support implementation. • Some NGOs may serve as "trusted intermediaries" to consultations with the Batwa

CHAPTER EIGHT: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Purpose of Monitoring

Monitoring will be the main mechanism through which the implementers of the project will get the feedback and alerts on any delays and problems. The monitoring plans help the implementers to measure the pace of implementation of activities. It enables timely responses while providing lessons on implementation strategies. It is expected that every Target Protected Area will have its plan that will be used for verification of these, among others:
- Time to execute an activity;
- Ensuring all affected persons/communities are involved;
- Scheduling of meetings with affected communities and persons;
- Scheduling of compensation (if any);
- Scheduling of processes;
- Provision of indicative time for fund releases;
- Provision of indicative times for receiving and settling grievances and complaints; and
- Scheduling of periodically evaluation and check on compliance

The project will utilize a participatory monitoring and evaluation process which will ensure monitoring of the effectiveness of mitigation measures to improve (or at least maintain) community's standards of living. Monitoring will involve the local populations, so that they have first-hand understanding and appreciation of the process as well as have the opportunity to express their views on the positive and negative impacts.

The project will support affected communities so that they are able to monitor:
- The status of adverse social impacts (e.g. limited access to forest and wildlife resources inside the project-supported forests, forest reserves, national parks and wildlife, etc.) and the effectiveness of mitigation measures outlined. The project will have to ensure that communities are aware of the potential adverse impacts to monitor; also, specific indicators will be developed with the communities to ensure effective monitoring of each impact;
- The implementation of agreed activities; and
- The effectiveness of the conflict resolution and grievance settlement mechanisms.

The project will institute interrelated monitoring systems:
- i)   Project administrative and performance reporting,
- ii)   Socio-economic monitoring to ensure that mitigation measures are addressing the economic and social needs.

Project Administrative Reporting

Under this monitoring, the standard record of activities undertaken in each reporting period, along with financial information, will be provided. This will cover routine project activities reporting, equipment needs, and other administrative concerns (e.g., additional studies needed). For this VMGF, the annual project progress reports will include a section that details, for instance, the number and type of local meetings held (e.g., on restrictions on forests, forest

reserves, national parks and wildlife reserves), the number and types of grievances registered and their resolution, and the nature of measures implemented, as well as the findings on the socio-economic monitoring.

Socio-economic Monitoring

This will focus on following changes and happenings to income levels and standards of living of PAPs/community. For areas in the vicinity of Target Protected Areas, basic baseline socio-economic information is included in the area management plans. As part of the VMGP preparation, a baseline assessment will include detailed information on demographic characteristics and income sources. With this baseline, the Project Technical Team will monitor the planned activities over time.

Follow-up assessments will update these data for the purpose of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation and impacts of the protected area management plans, community CFM agreements, community wildlife management and revenue sharing agreements and other project specific Action Plans. The specific monitoring indicators will be outlined in the Action Plan. Possible indicators include: livelihood benefits of measures to assist the affected persons; numbers of communities, households, groups and individuals participating in livelihoods support; and types of activities supported in eligible communities.

Independent monitoring of the activities can be done by NGOs, private consultants where appropriate. Carrying out such independent monitoring will enhance the openness and transparency of the implementation of mitigation measures. The Project Steering Committee will have to approve participation of NGOs in independent monitoring activities, depending on their requirements. The NGOs' participation will be funded by the NGOs themselves, using their own resources unless special funding and participation arrangements are approved by the Project Steering Committee.

Monitoring Plans and Indicators

The monitoring activities will result in a regular feedback on the implementation of the VMGF. Monitoring teams at the respective component implementation level will be constituted, who will report regularly at the national level.

The monitoring indicators should cover areas such as: (1) basic information on affected persons' households, (2) Number of people that participated in consultations on use of forest resources in targeted landscapes (including female) (number), (3) Beneficiaries in CFM and Collaborative Resource Management groups provided with project support (including female), (number), (4) Number of grievances or complaints and Time spent to resolve the complaint, Number of resolved and unresolved grievances).

Livelihoods: Key indicators may include (1) alternatives provided and number of people taking on the alternatives; (2) support and incentives available; and (3) results documented

These indicators may be verified from various sources such as field inspections, site reports, special project audits, annual monitoring and local government reports.

CHAPTER NINE: BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF VMGF and VMGPs

Component 1 of the project includes a budget for supporting formation of the CFM groups / CRM groups and for implementing livelihoods activities in CFM and CRM groups around target protected area.

Monitoring budget related to VMGF implementation will be included under Component 4. Annual costs of these activities is estimated at US$10,000 and will be included as a budget line for the project coordination unit at the Ministry of Water and Environment. Additional budget of U$10,000 will be required in year 1 of the project for preparing a brief summary of this process framework in simple plain English and for translating it into key local languages in the project areas.

CHAPTER TEN: DISCLOSURE ARRANGEMENTS

The VMGF will be made available to the affected VMGs, UWA and NFA staff in Target Protected Areas and headquarters, and to responsible local government authorities. A summary version will be prepared at the beginning of the project and provided to every Batwa community around Target Protected Areas.

VMGPs, once prepared and approved, will be made available to the same audience.

In case of changes made to the VMGF or VMGPs, revised versions will be made available as well.

After submitting the VMGG to the Bank for review and clearance, MWE shall post the above document on its website https://www.MWE.go.ug and on the Bank's external website~~Infoshop~~. VMGPs will be similarly disclosed.

During implementation, MWE will prepare monitoring reports including ESS issues, make them available to affected communities and persons, post them on its website, and submit to the Bank for review.

ANNEX 1. NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY OPTIONS

Options	Sub-options
Strategic option 1: Climate smart agriculture	1. SLM and agroforestry practices; 2. Rainwater harvesting with collection tank and drip irrigation; 3. Greenhouse cultivation of vegetables;
Strategic option 2: Sustainable fuelwood and (commercial) charcoal production	1. Commercial small-holder and community bioenergy woodlots; 2. Commercial small-holder and community poles and timber plantations; 3. Improved charcoal kilns linked to bioenergy woodlots;
Strategic option 3: Large-scale commercial timber plantations	1. Commercial transmission pole and timber plantation; 2. Commercial pole and sawlog plantation; 3. Improved charcoal kilns linked to plantation sites;
Strategic option 4: Restoration of natural forests in the landscape	1. Designated areas for natural forest regeneration; 2. Restoration of degraded protected natural forest (i.e. national parks and forest reserves and forests on privately owned land); 3. Devolution of forest management through PFM and similar set-ups; 4. Traditional and customary forest management practices;
Strategic option 5: Energy efficient cooking stoves	1. For fuelwood; 2. For charcoal
Strategic option 6: Integrated wildfire management	1. Integrated wildfire management
Strategic option 7: Livestock rearing in Cattle Corridor	1. Change to exotic cattle varieties and cross-breeding; 2. Agroforestry fodder production; 3. Establishment of drinking water dams
Strategic option 8: Strengthen Policy implementation for REDD+	1. Strengthen Policy implementation for REDD+

ANNEX 2: REFERENCES

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ANNEX 3. AGREED ARRANGEMENS FOR RESOURCE USE IN ECHUYA FOREST

BAMBOO HARVESTING

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Only licensed local communities **WHAT** Dry bamboos ,Fresh bamboos, young bamboos and rhizomes and dry bean stakes **WHERE** Hamunara,, Rwakatwaro, Mukasmisi Upper Muruhira, Mucogo, Kinyankoko, nyamgugu and murususa **WHEN** Kabale side-Tuesday &Thursday Kisoro side-Wednesday & Saturday Young bamboos-November of every year for 4 days. Rhizomes-October-December of every year **HOW** Selective cutting for stems and uprooting using pangas, Hoes and pick axe for rhizomes. **HOW MUCH** -Fresh bamboos: 12 stems per week per person at shs. 300/= per stem. -Dry bamboos: 40 stems per person per week at sh. 100 per stem. -Young bamboos: 4 days of cutting bamboos at a licence fee of shs. 10.000/= per person. Rhizomes: Free to CFM members (for domestication.) Dry bean stakes for 1000/- per headload **ALTERNATIVES** Bamboo domestication, tree planting and Agro forestry	**OFFENCE** 1) Illegal harvesting of bamboos (non-agreed days) 2) Harvesting beyond the production zone 3) Excessive harvesting 4) Cutting un responsibly 5) Burning the forest **PENALTY** *Offence 1)*-Tripling the price of what the culprit will be carrying *Offence 2)*- Shs.10.000/= fine. *Offence 3)*-Double the normal prices for excess stems *Offence 4)*-Shs 15,000/= fine. *Offence 5)*-Culprit faces the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Participate in forest patrols - Participate in fighting wild fires. -Provide information about illegal activities. -Implement the CFM plan. -harvest forest resources sustainably. -participate in monitoring of CFM activities. **NFA** -Carry out Forest Patrols -monitor and evaluate CFM plan. -Participate in implementation of community livelihood improvement activities. -Supervise forest resource harvesting. -Mobilise and sensitise communities **NGOs** -Strengthen CFM groups -Implement livelihood improvement projects. -Community sensitization. -Capacity building **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Incorporate CFM plans in sub county development plans -Participate in law enforcement. -Link communities to service providers and other programmes.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Access to forest resources. -Livelihoods improved through implementation of income generating projects. -Biodiversity Conservation **NFA** - Forest conservation -Livelihood of local people improved. -Improved relations between NFA and communities -Revenue **NGOs** Reduced pressure on forest -Improved livelihoods of community - Recognition and prestige. -Influence **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -Easy entry into organised communities for government programmes. -sustainable use of forest.

FUEL WOOD HARVESTING

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Domestic: Echuya Forest Adjacent communities **WHAT** Dry bamboo (stumps and tops), and dry wood. **WHERE** Any where in the production zone. **WHEN** Once a week on Saturdays from 6:00a.m -12. Noon. (free for Batwa) **HOW** Without any cutting material **HOW MUCH** -One head load per person per week. -free for Batwa. **ALTERNATIVES** Tree planting, Agro forestry and energy saving stoves	**OFFENCE** 1) Collecting fresh forest material/products 2) Entering the forest with any cutting material 3) Collecting firewood in non agreed days 4) Collecting firewood from strict nature reserve. 5) Setting wild fires **PENALTY** *Offence 1)*-culprit to pay a fine of shs.5000/= Or Community service equal to 5000/= *Offence 2)*- Pay fine of shs.3000/= *Offence 3)*-Pay fine of 5000/= *Offence 4)*-Pay fine of shs. 3000/= *Offence 5)*-Culprit faces forest act.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Participate in off- take monitoring of firewood -Participate in fighting wild fires. -participate in the implementation of the agreed regulations. -Mobilise and sensitise communities **NFA** -Forest Patrols -participate in implementation of community livelihood improvement activities. -Supervise forest resource extraction. -Mobilise and sensitise communities **NGOs** -Promote alternatives to forest resources -participate in off-take monitoring of forest resources. -Strengthen CFM groups -Implement livelihood improvement projects. -Community sensitization. -Capacity building -Lobby and advocate **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Encourage communities to do tree planting -Participate in law enforcement -participate in capacity building	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Increased access to forest resources. -improved income and livelihoods -Improved forest management and sustenance **NFA** - Forest conservation -Livelihood of local people improved. -Improved relations between NFA and Communities -Revenue **NGOs** -Reduced pressure on forest -Improved livelihood of community - Recognition and publicity -Increased forest alternatives on peoples' own land -Improved relations between NFA and Communities -Improved skills in negotiation, planning and management. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -minimized conflicts on forest resources.

MEDICINAL HERBS

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Echuya Forest Adjacent communities **WHAT** Flowers, Leaves, Roots, Stems and barks. **WHERE** Any where in the production and buffer zones. **WHEN** Whenever need comes. **HOW** -Using tools like a knife, panga and Hoe. -Collecting parts that will not affect the growth of the herb or tree **HOW MUCH** -Sufficient amounts. **ALTERNATIVES** -Domestication of medicinal herbs - Use public health institutions	**OFFENCE** Destruction of the medicinal plants and trees **PENALTY** *Offence:* culprit to pay a fine of shs.5000/= Community service equal to 5000/=	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Obey the agreed regulations. -Mobilise and sensitise communities on sustainable forest management and laws -Domesticate some herbal plants Participate in reporting and monitoring. **NFA** -supervise communities for proper herb extraction methods. -Mobilise and sensitise communities on laws concerning resource use in Echuya forest **NGOs** -Promote Domestication of medicinal herbs -Community sensitization on hygiene and use of healthy institutions -Capacity building **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Sensitise communities on healthy issues. -Participate in law enforcement	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Improved health and livelihoods -Increased incomes and less expenditure on drugs **NFA** - Forest conservation/ better management -Livelihood of local people improved. -Improved relations between NFA and Communities **NGOs** -Reduced pressure on forest -Improved livelihood of community - Recognition and publicity -Increased forest alternatives on peoples' own land -Improved relations between NFA and Communities -Improved skills in negotiation ,planning and management) **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -A healthy and productive community.

HONEY

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Echuya Forest Adjacent communities **WHAT** Honey **WHERE** Production zone only. **WHEN** In season for honey harvesting **HOW** Using honey harvesting gears like smokers. No use of fire **HOW MUCH** Two group representatives to go and get any amount of honey available in the beehives. **ALTERNATIVES** Establishing apiaries out side the Forest reserve	**OFFENCE** 1) Setting wild fires 2) Stealing honey 3) Stealing and destroying beehives **PENALTY** *Offence 1)*-culprit to pay a fine of shs.150,000/= *Offence 2)*- Pay fine of shs.50,000/= *Offence 3)*-Pay fine of 100 000/=	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Participate in fighting wild fires. -participate in implementation of the agreed regulations. -Avoid stealing honey and beehives **NFA** -Forest Patrols -Allocate apiary sites in the forest for communities to practice beekeeping. -Support communities to improve bee keeping. -Mobilise and sensitise communities **NGOs** -Promote domestication of bee foraging plants -Capacity building of communities in improved beekeeping, honey harvesting and marketing **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Encourage communities to do tree planting -Participate in law enforcement -Provide a linkage between CSOs and communities	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Increased access to forest resources. -improved income and livelihoods -Improved forest management and sustenance **NFA** - Forest conservation and sustainability -Improved relations between NFA and Communities -Less conflicts with communities -minimized fires. **NGOs** -Reduced fire occurrences on the forest -Improved health and livelihood of community -Increased beekeeping forage on peoples' own land -Improved relations between NFA and Communities -Improved skills in (beekeeping, honey harvesting and marketing) **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -Good health

SAND

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Echuya forest adjacent communities **WHAT** Sand **WHERE** Production zone **WHEN** After EIA has been done (in extreme cases) **HOW** Using hoes and other tools but not tractors.(Machines) **HOW MUCH** Sufficient amounts -For domestic use only **ALTERNATIVES** People should collect sand from their own private land	**OFFENCE** 1) commercial extraction of sand 2) Using tractor **PENALTY** ▪ Culprit handled according to the laws under NEMA.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Monitor extraction -Abide by the existing laws. **NFA** -Monitor extraction -Identification of sites for sand extraction **NGOs** -Community sensitization. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Participate in law enforcement.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES.** -Livelihoods improved with better housing. **NFA** -Improved relations between NFA and communities **NGOs** -Improved livelihood of community -Recognition and prestige. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -Sensitisation and hygiene

RATTAN CANES

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Men adjacent to Echuya **WHAT** Stems **WHERE** Buffer and production zone. **WHEN** After getting a licence at 5000/= per month **HOW** With only pangas **HOW MUCH** -Four head loads per person per month **ALTERNATIVES** Locals to use other different species in the forest and on their land e.g. elephant grass, *Mushanje*, *Umukararanka*, emirondorondo and bamboos	**OFFENCE** 1) Getting the material illegally without licence **PENALTY** ▪ Warn the culprit and confiscate the material ▪ Deal with the culprit according to forest regulations	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Obey the agreed regulations. -Sustainable harvesting of the produce **NFA** -Forest Patrols -Supervise resource extraction. - Law enforcement **NGOs** -Promote the use of alternatives -Implement livelihood improvement projects. - **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Participate in law enforcement	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -improved income and livelihoods -Improved forest management. **NFA** -Revenue Improved management. **NGOs** -Improved livelihood of community - Recognition and publicity -Increased use of alternatives **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -forest sustainability.

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Echuya Forest Adjacent communities **WHAT** Running water **WHERE** Kabale -Mucogo, Mukasmisi, Rushayu and Mukashayu **WHEN** Daily **HOW** -Fetching using containers -Watering cattle/ goats or livestock using designated paths **HOW MUCH** -Sufficient **ALTERNATIVES** -Develop water harvesting systems -Protect and continue using streams and springs outside the forest	**OFFENCE** ▪ Grazing in the forest ▪ Using un designated paths in the forest **PENALTY** ▪ Warning ▪ Culprit to be handled by CFM committee ▪ Culprit to pay a fine of 5,000/= per goat/sheep and shs. 10,000/= for cattle (per head)	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Obey the agreed regulations. -Ensure cleanness of water sources **NFA** -Forest Patrols. -Mobilise and sensitise communities about forest regulations. -Monitoring. **NGOs** -Lobby and advocate different Stake Holder for promoting water harvesting systems **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Supervise water source committees - Formulate water source by-laws and enforce them.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Proper use of the identified water sources. -improved income and livelihoods **NFA** - Forest conservation -Livelihood of local people improved. -Improved relations between NFA and Communities **NGOs** -Healthy people and animals -Recognition and publicity **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -Healthy people and animals -Law abiding community

REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Domestic: Echuya Forest Adjacent communities **WHAT** Barks **WHERE** Production zone. **WHEN** June to August on Saturdays only. **HOW** Using knives and pangas **HOW MUCH** -One headlaod per person per week. **ALTERNATIVES** -Domesticating some of the species on community land. -Encourage communities to use alternatives available out side the forest	**OFFENCE** ■ setting wild fires ■ Irresponsible cutting/ harvesting **PENALTY** *Offence 1)*-culprit to pay a fine of shs.5000/= Community service equal to 5000/= *Offence 2)-* Pay fine of shs.3000/=	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Obey the agreed regulations. -Mobilise and sensitise communities **NFA** -Forest Patrols -Supervise resource extraction. -Mobilise and sensitise communities -Monitoring and evaluation. **NGOs** -Promote alternatives to forest resources -Implement livelihood improvement projects. -Community sensitization. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Encourage communities to domesticate some of the species -Participate in law enforcement	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -improved income and livelihoods **NFA** - Forest conservation -Improved relations between NFA and Communities **NGOs** -Reduced pressure on forest -Improved livelihood of community -Increased forest alternatives on peoples' own land -Improved relations between NFA and Communities **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition. -Conflicts in forest resource access minimized.

GRASS

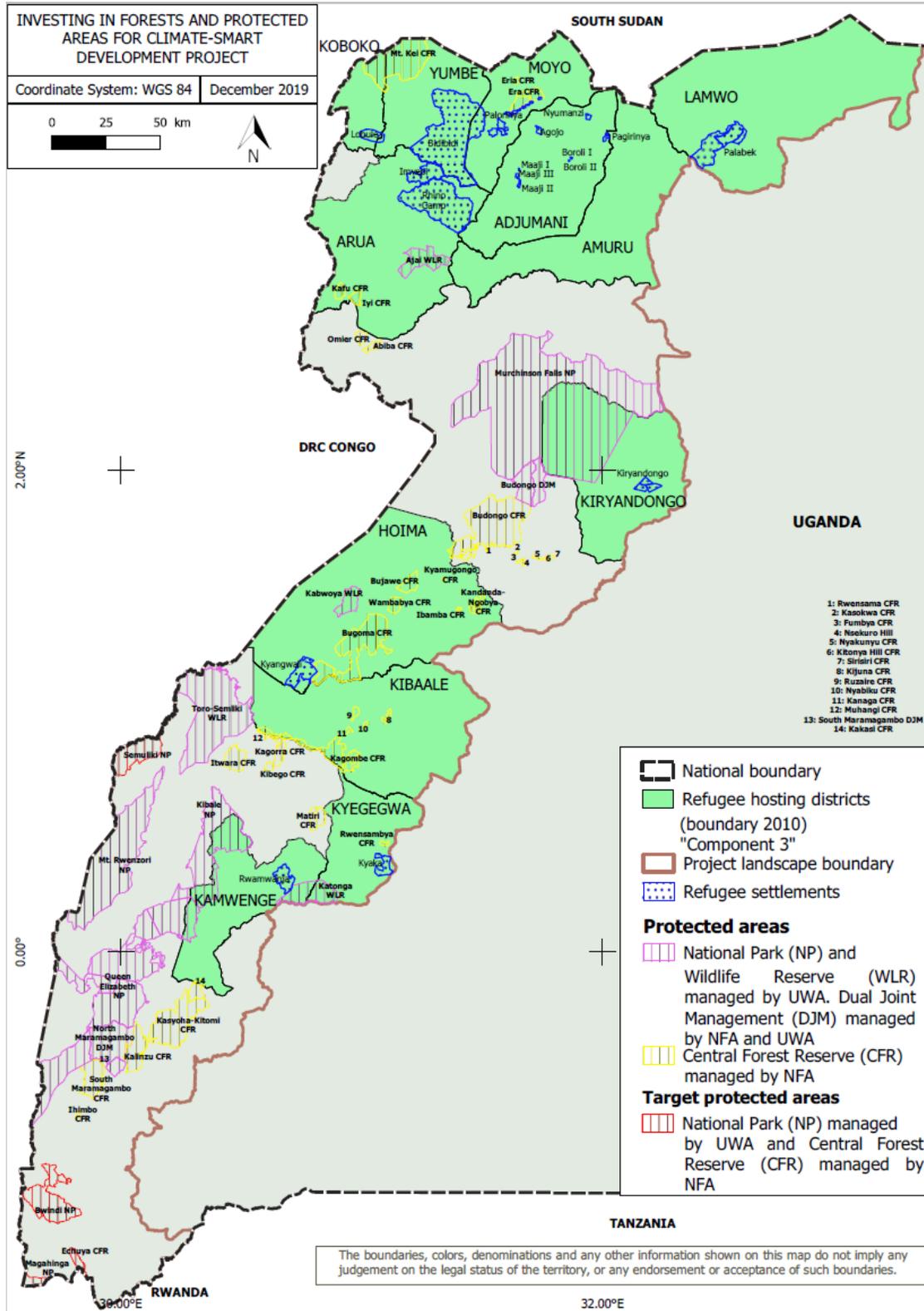| REGULATIONS	PENALTIES /OFFENCE	RESPONSIBILITIES	BENEFITS
WHO? Men and women adjacent to Echuya. **WHAT** Thatching and craft making grass **WHERE** Muchuya Swamp and production zone. **WHEN** - Saturday only in grass season for craft making grass. -15th day of every month only for thatching grass **HOW** Using pangas and knives **HOW MUCH** -Sufficient for thatching grass - One Head load per person per week for craft making grass. **ALTERNATIVES** -Collect grass outside the forest. -Promotion of roofed houses	**OFFENCE** ▪ Setting fires **PENALTY** ▪ Culprit to pay a fine of 50,000/= ▪ face forest law.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -Obey the agreed regulations. **NFA** -Forest Patrols. -Mobilise and sensitise communities about forest regulations **NGOs** -Promote value addition to the handicraft. -Promote IGAs **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -support NFA in law enforcement.	**LOCAL COMMUNIITES** -improved income and livelihoods **NFA** - Forest conservation -Livelihood of local people improved. -Improved relations between NFA and Communities **NGOs** -Improved livelihoods of FACS -Recognition and publicity **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** -Recognition.

CULCURAL VALUES
The reserve is used as a major cultural site for especially the Batwa.

ANNEX 4. IDENTIFIED CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT LOCATIONS IN BWINDI IMPENETRABLE AND MGAHINGA GORILLA NP

| Sites in Bwindi	Importance
Hakisharara swamp	Source of weaving materials
Mubwindi swamp	Place for worshipping
Murugyezi swamp	Place for Batwa gatherings and worshipping
Hamasoho valley	Fishing site especially for mudfish
Iguugu valley	Had hot springs for curing diseases
Ihihizo river	Important for fishing and mining
Ishasha river	Important for fishing
Itaama river	Respected as a place of spirits
Ivi river	Important for fishing
Kahororo valley	It was frequented by gorillas associated with bad omens
Karingaringa valley	Fishing site especially for mudfish
Kasinga valley	It has a cave where Batwa used to converge for dancing and singing
Kihungye valley	Source of weaving materials
Ntengyeri river	Fishing site especially for mudfish
Rushabo valley	Fishing site especially for mudfish
Rushuura valley	Fishing site especially for mudfish
Hakamatunda hill	It was a resting place and had many fruits of *Cyphomandra* sp.
Hamuhingo hill	It was a meeting place for parties, singing and dancing
Ibaare hill	It was a meeting place for Batwa of Nteko and Kayonza
Kagote hill	Had abundant honey, many trees of *Syzygium* sp. and was liked by chimpanzees
Kanyabweru hill	Had stingless bees and was used as a resting place and for sighting foot paths
Kaseresere hill	It was frequented by elephants
Kasiru hill	Source of rivers, stingless bees, duikers, bush pigs, weaving materials and gold
Katendegyeri hill	Had stingless bees, honey bees and yellow-backed duikers
Kishegura hill	Had many trees of *Agauria salicifolia* good for firewood
Kitobere hill	Had stingless bees, honey bees and a big cave where Batwa lived
Kumbagara hill	Had wild yams
Mariburira hill	It was frequented by gorillas
Mubare hill	Had wild yams, honey, walking sticks and weaving materials
Mubiko hill	It had many trees of *Erythrina abyssinica*. Batwa lived here and built small huts
Mubitooma hill	It was important for worshipping
Mukebigunzu hill	It had many tree ferns of *Cyanthea manniana* and was frequented by gorillas
Mukibaraga hill	Had stingless bees
Mukisha hill	It was good for hunting buffaloes
Munteza hill	It was good for hunting many animals
Murwendanda hill	It was a good hunting area
Muryeshengye hill	It was a good hunting ground for giant forest hogs
Nkuringo hill	Had stingless bees, honey bees and many trees of *Alangium chinense*
Nteko hill	Had *Ficus* trees used as worshipping sites
Ntendure hill	Had many medicinal plants especially *Rytyginia kigeziensis*
Ntungamo hill	Had a lot of wild yams
Nturo hill	It was a good resting place
Nyabubare hill	It was frequented by gorillas
Nyamiyaga hill	Had a conducive atmosphere
Nyiguru hill	Source of iron ore used for producing spears and arrows for hunting

Ruherere hill	The place of stingless bees which produced delicious honey
Rukubira hill	Had the greatest abundance of wild yams in the whole of Bwindi
Rungo hill	It was a good hunting area
Rutonde hill	Had wild yams
Mgahinga sites	
Mt Muhabura	Important for direction especially in areas with tall and thick vegetation
Mt Mgahinga	Source of water, weaving materials, honey and herbal medicine
Mt Sabinyo	Source of water and honey
Buhuye hill	Good hunting ground
Kuhanika hill	It was a resting place for Batwa children when their parents went hunting
Kumufuregye hill	It is where Batwa used to fetch water
Kunyamuzimu hill	Had a well where Batwa used to fetch water
Kuzuru hill	Path to and from hunting in Rutegamasunzu
Manyenya hill	Path to and from Garama cave
Mumutiba hill	It is where Batwa used to harvest honey
Murunyinya hill	It is where Batwa used to harvest vegetables
Muryabagoro hill	Pathway for Batwa when they started hunting near Garama cave
Rutegamasunzu hill	Good hunting ground for duikers and buffaloes
Rwabikomere hill	Path for fetching water
Nyagisenyi swamp	Respected as a place of spirits
Ntebeko river	Frequented by elephants and buffaloes
Nyabiremu river	Source of water for domestic use
Nkanda river	Respected as a place of spirits
Nyinagongo river	Respected as a place of spirits
Nyagisenyi river	Respected as a place of spirits
Gahindu river	Respected as a place of spirits
Nyabyiyoni river	Respected as a place of spirits
Nkanda river	Respected as a place of spirits
Kyamahano river	Respected as a place of spirits

ANNEX 5: PROJECT GRIEVANCE REDRESS FORM

Grievance and Resolution Form

Name (Filer of Complainant): _____

ID Number (PAP's ID Number): _____

Contact Information (mobile number): _____

Nature of Grievance or Complaint Submitted: _____

_____

_____

Date	**Individuals Contacted**	**Summary of Discussion**
_____	_____	_____

Signature: _____

Signed (Filer of Complaint): _____

Name of Person Filing Complaint (if different from Filer): _____

Position or Relationship to Filer: _____

Review/Resolution

Date of Mediation Session: _____

Was filer present?   YES   NO

Was field Verification of complaint conducted?   YES   NO

Findings of Field Investigation: _____

Summary of Conciliation/Mediation Summary Discussion

Issues: _____

Was agreement reached on issues?   YES   NO

If agreement was reached, detail agreement below:

If agreement was not reached, specify points of disagreement below:

_____

_____

Signed (Conciliator): _____   Signed (Filer): _____

Signed (Independent Observer): _____

Date: _____

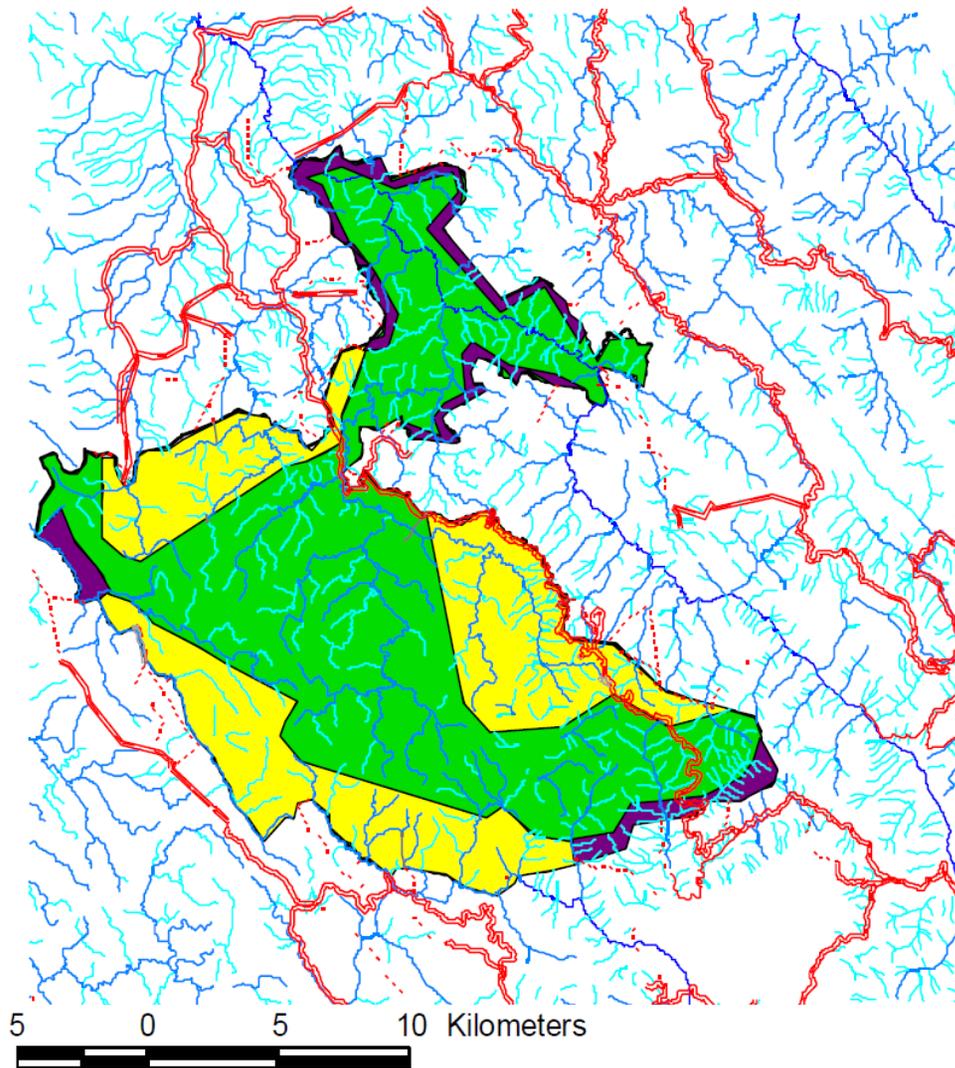# ANNEX 6. PROJECT AREA MAP (WITH TARGET PROTECTED AREAS HIGHLIGHTED)
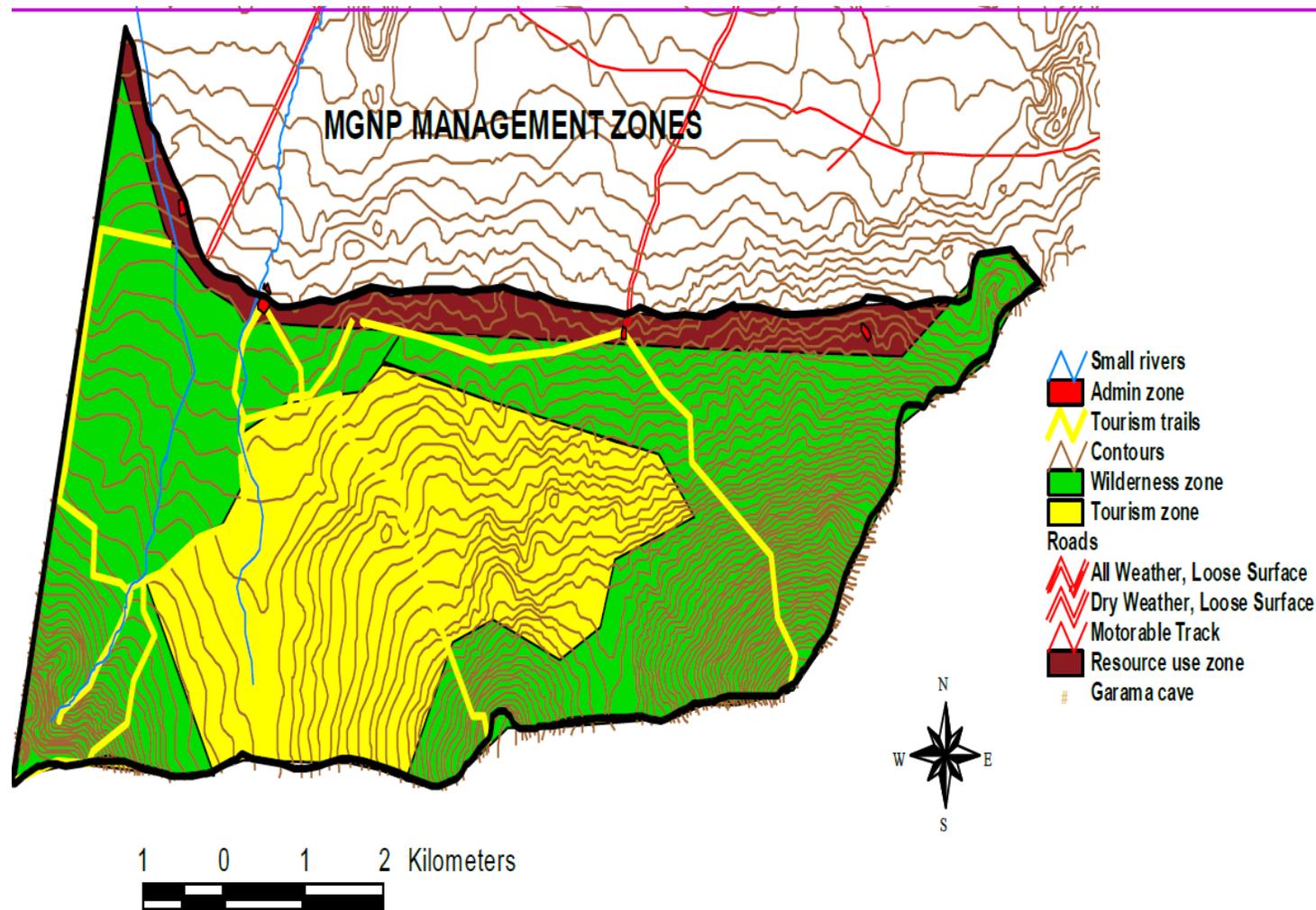
ANNEX 7 MAPS OF TARGET PROTECTED AREAS

Echuya CFR
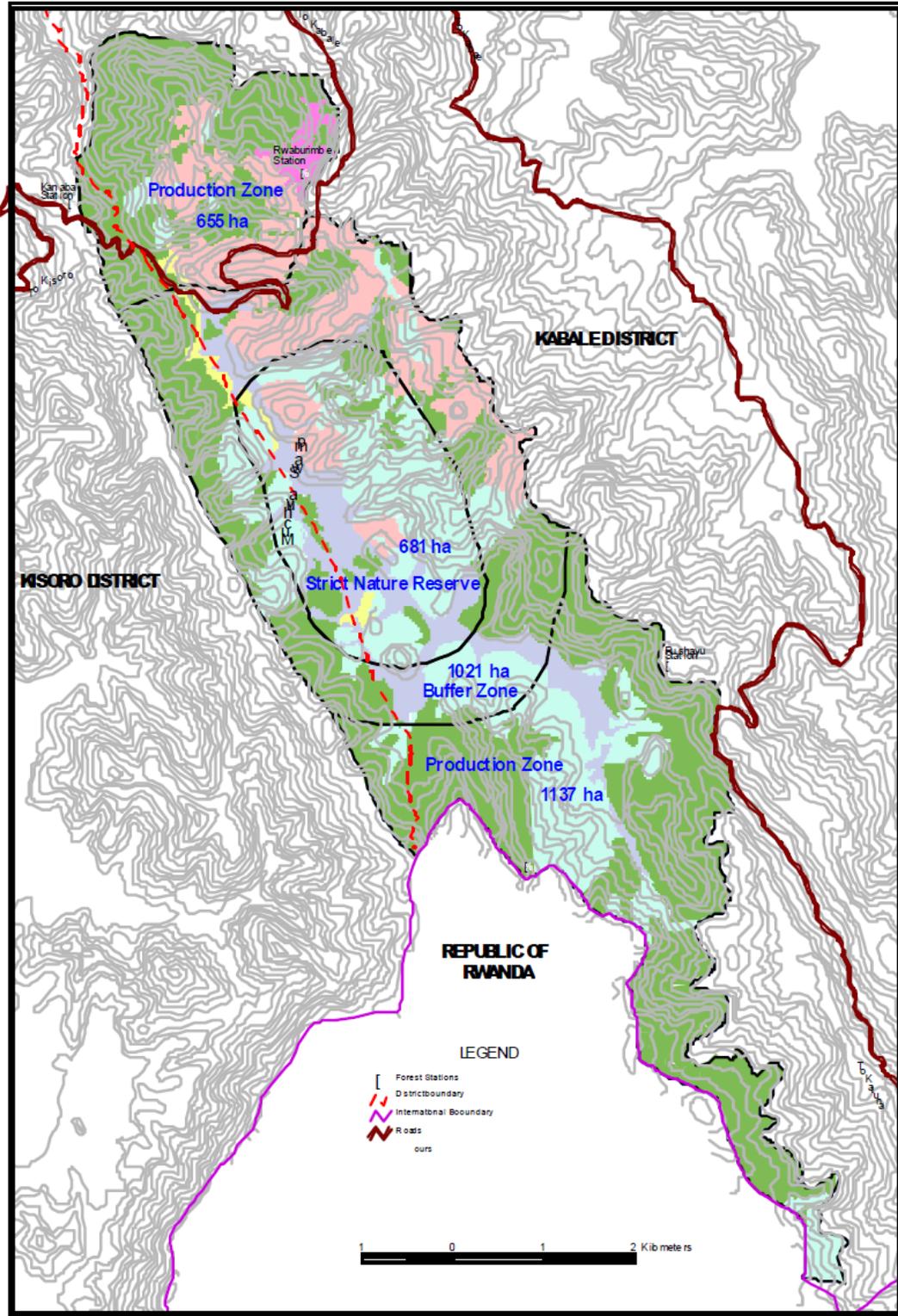
Bwindi Impenetrable NP

KEY

Roads
- 0
- All Weather, Loose Surface
- Dry Weather, Loose Surface
- Motorable Track
- Footpath
- Patrol / Research Trail
- Public Footpath in Park
- Tourist Trail
- Defunct Trail
- Boundary
- Small rivers
- Seasonal rivers
- Big rivers
- Wilderness zone
- Resource use zone
- Tourism zone

5   0   5   10   Kilometers

Mgahinga Gorilla NP

MGNP MANAGEMENT ZONES

Legend:
- Small rivers
- Admin zone
- Tourism trails
- Contours
- Wilderness zone
- Tourism zone

Roads
- All Weather, Loose Surface
- Dry Weather, Loose Surface
- Motorable Track
- Resource use zone
- Garama cave

1 0 1 2 Kilometers

Semuliki NP