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TITLE OF THESIS: **NGOS AND BATWA SETTLEMENTS IN KABALE DISTRICT: A
CASE STUDY OF BUFUNDI, BUTANDA AND MUKO SUB -
COUNTIES.**
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ABSTRACT

In Uganda, the Batwa were traditionally forest dwellers who survived by hunting and gathering in forests. However, due to increased economic activity in the region, there has been increased demand for forest products. This has led to increased destruction of the forest biodiversity which in turn, has led to the call for conservation of the forests. As a result of the implementation of the conservation of the forest biodiversity policy, all Batwa were evicted from the forests by 1992. They were however, not compensated. Neither were they resettled, and this situation worsened their livelihood for it meant that Batwa were at the mercy of well wishers; hence the emergence of NGOs. Many of these NGOs have since carried out different activities aimed at improving the livelihood of the Batwa. This research therefore, was aimed at evaluating the role of four NGOs in uplifting the livelihood of the Batwa in Southwestern Uganda. The study was specifically carried out in Bufundi, Butanda and Muko Sub – counties in Kabale Districts. These sub – counties border Enchuya forest from where some Batwa were evicted. The study was carried out with the hope that it would benefit different stakeholders involved with the Batwa and scholars interested in future studies. The research findings are based on information gathered from key respondents, by use of interview guides and questionnaires. Responses from the Batwa were acquired through focus group discussions. The study did not however, concentrate on the socio – demographic characteristics of the population because it is very small. Data was categorized into themes which were presented in tables and percentages were used interpreting the data. The findings of the research identify the activities of the four organizations, their approaches, the challenges which they encounter and chart a way forward. The major conclusions were that the Batwa are still backward and there was lack of collaboration both within the NGOs and with government leadership. The major recommendation of this research is that these organizations should start working together and in cooperation with government to uplift the livelihood of the Batwa.