



REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE

Case Study of Kivulu, Kampala
Urban Ecological Planning Project





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List of Abbreviations

KCC – Kampala City Council

LGDP – Local Government Development Programme

PDC – Parish Development Committee

LC – Local Council

UMEME – Local electricity Distribution Company

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Preface

This work is a culmination of a field study that was conducted in Kivulu, a poor settlement in Kampala with the main intention of devising practical strategies to improve the welfare of its residents. Kivulu's poor community is visibly among the most affected. Most often branded as an illegal settlement, its needs have almost been overlooked whenever city improvement programs are initiated.

This systematic exclusion of such settlements in the allocation of social services and other resources has left Kivulu in a very vulnerable position. The settlement is further threatened by the growth and expansion of economic activity from the city centre. From this viewpoint, it is clear that the livelihoods of the residents in this community are in serious jeopardy.

This study therefore purposely set out to help the people of Kivulu to improve their livelihoods using the available local resources. Involving this community in taking action to improve their lives will go a long way in helping to improve their capacity to absorb and cope with whatever shocks that are likely to affect them. In addition to empowering them through a community-based project, it our hope that whatever visible results that will be achieved shall inspire other com-

munities in their quest for achieving a better life.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the valuable contributions made by the community of Kivulu, its leaders, staff from the Architecture and Geography departments at Makerere University, and Kampala City Council. Without their assistance, we would not have been able to meet our goals. In addition, we express our sincere gratitude to Hans Skotte and Apollo Makumbi for the guidance they rendered us during the study.



Executive Summary

The rate of urbanisation in many African countries has gradually outstripped the capacity of most municipal authorities to effectively and efficiently address the issues arising from this situation. The subsequent emergence and proliferation of informal settlements in cities such as Kampala is a symptom that signals the existence of serious flaws in Kampala's urban system. The underlying causes of this unfortunate trend of events requires Kampala City Council, as the lead agency, the affected communities and other stakeholders alike to re-examine and rethink the various approaches that have been adopted in the past to address the city's problems.

With an impending city-scale plan preparation exercise in the pipeline, there has arisen the urgent need to take into account the needs of people in places like Kivulu. Many plans and programs have been devised in the past to address the many problems facing Kampala. Unfortunately, the goals and objectives of many if not all these plans have clearly not been achieved. The city as a whole is still plagued by a number of problems, which continue to have a negative impact on the livelihoods of its communities.

This study was carried out with the main goal of attempting to engender alternative approaches which

can meet the needs of communities primarily living in informal settlements like Kivulu. Using a logical framework planning approach, a preliminary survey was carried out to help establish the key issues that needed to be addressed. The field observations and interviews that were made during the survey helped to set the stage for brainstorming sessions, culminating in the preparation of a project brief.

Mapping Kivulu's economic, social, environmental and political components was instrumental in supporting the identification and definition of key problems. Key characteristics that were mapped included housing, employment, services (health, education and utilities), and population structure. In addition to these, the surveys helped to reveal existing external and internal linkages to the area, types and levels of vulnerability, and institutional potentials and constraints. Through discussion and brainstorming sessions, all issues arising from the field observations and interviews were analysed. Adopting a livelihoods analysis approach, the identified problems were prioritised, according to cause and effect. After critically analysing the key issues, it was unanimously agreed that given the available resources, it was logical to tackle the issue of solid waste management. The interventions

that were identified to address this problem appeared more likely to achieve visible and tangible results within the shortest possible time. In addition, the resources that are required to solve this problem are relatively within the reach of the community.

A lower level community based action of this nature has the potential to be translated into city-wide programs that can help to improve the lives of similarly marginalised communities and the city as a whole. Through the implementation of a well organised framework of interventions, it is hoped that this project will have a positive impact on Kampala's social, economic and environmental facets. It might not be the one time solution that will solve all of Kampala's problems, but it should make a difference in the short and long run.

Introduction

The government of Uganda, in partnership with UNEP is preparing to carry out a new city wide master plan, primarily to deal with the pressing environmental, social, economic and political challenges facing the city.

A number of planning attempts have been to direct the nature of development in Kampala. The first plans for Kampala were prepared in 1912, 1920, 1930, 1951 and then 1972. The most recent one, which was prepared in 1994, was intended to stimulate and guide physical development of the city, with objectives that ranged from social, environmental, institutional and financial, demographic, infrastructural and administrative issues. However, very little was achieved. It eventually expired in 2004, although an extension was made, due to the lack of funding to commission the preparation of a new plan.

As the government and city authorities contemplate taking action to develop a new plan for Kampala, the city continues to grow at rapid rate. With no genuine basis to direct new developments, the authorities are clearly incapacitated to handle Kampala's growing list challenges. The city continues to expand at an alarming rate. With an estimated population of about 60% living in slums, the prospects are gloom. Inadequate housing, traffic congestion, land conflicts, unemployment,

gross environmental degradation leading to seasonal flooding, inadequate and poorly maintained infrastructure are just a few of the major problems affecting the city.

Interventions to rein in the runaway growth of the city are more than urgently required, at both the micro and macro levels. It is at the micro level that this project will try to devise constructive ways that can be scaled up to create the starting points for planning action. If successful, the project will be integrated into the wider framework of strategic actions geared towards addressing some of the major challenges facing the city.

It is important to stress that illusions of a quick fix to these problems should be dispelled. The magnitude of problems facing Kampala will require an immense effort, resources and commitment to deal with satisfactorily. As long as the authorities remain realistic, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Though important, the potential successes of a small project like this one for Kivulu should not be misused as a cure for the city's ills. Rather, it is the experiences that can be accrued through its implementation that provide the key to improving the welfare of the city's 1.2 million inhabitants.

Trends in urban development

Today the largest and fastest-growing cities are in so-called developing countries of Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Currently about half of the world's population is urbanised, and this is expected to increase to 80-90% in the future (Cunningham and Saigo, 1990). Of the urbanised population, an estimated two thirds are living in informal settlements. And according to Bjønnes (1991), the proportion of the urban population living in such substandard informal and marginal settlements is already high and increasing.

Major cities especially in the global south are struggling to deal with the numerous challenges like poverty, inadequate housing, environmental degradation, increasing crime, traffic congestion, pollution, unemployment, drug abuse, and more importantly, homelessness, are growing (Cunningham & Saigo, 1990).

In the same process, the growth of slums, characterised by overcrowding, informal housing, inadequate access to safe water and sanitation, and insecurity of tenure is occurring at an alarming rate (Davis, 2006). In addition, these problems as faced by urban authorities are being compounded by an increas-

ing rate of urban sprawl. The meagre resources of cities in Africa and Asia are being stretched way beyond their limits by the unchecked expansion of urban areas into surrounding non-urban areas.

According to Cunningham and Saigo (1990), this has occurred largely as a result of rapid growth of the cities, due to socially inequitable economic policies.

Problems associated with illegal settlements

As earlier pointed out, the failure of most urban authorities in developing countries to deal with the various problems resulting from rapid urbanisation, has led to the increase of illegal developments. Among the key problems facing these illegal developments is the issue of waste management. Vast quantities of solid waste are produced as a result of packaging and consumption patterns, with very little landfill space available for disposal.

The problems that poor waste management cause can be well illustrated by Virgo (2004). According to his article, in March of 2007, schoolchildren in 13 towns near Naples were told to stay at home after mayors said that tones of rubbish lying about in the streets presented too great a health hazard for them. In some towns in the Caserta and

Aversa areas of Campania, southern Italy, rubbish had not been collected for 10 days, and residents began setting fire to piles of trash in protest.

A major public health crisis was set in motion primarily due to the fact that piles of garbage were accumulating throughout its streets and suburbs. As the mounds got higher and higher, the smell of rotting garbage became intense. Rats and other vectors found food and sustenance.

Poor solid waste management is largely responsible for the emergence of number problems ranging from pathological to psychological health problems. Regardless of the waste related hazards brought about due to poor management, most times the issues are easily overlooked as minor problems. Chaz (2003), in his article draws from historical perceptions, “. . . back in the 1840s in Great Britain, the Chadwick Commission issued a report showing the relationship between a bad environment and disease. The report was pioneering, but it took another two decades, with discoveries by Louis Pasteur and subsequent bacteriologists, before we understood how festering trash caused disease.”

The health problems arising from poor solid waste management affect all social groups. However,

they become more severe on children. Concerns about safety and hygiene (falls, burns, infestation, and garbage) especially if children are present, engender considerable anxiety and worry (Wells and Evans, 2003).

In relation to this, unplanned disposal sites are taking so much space which could have been exploited for useful social services like children's recreational areas.

The way forward

The challenges posed by waste management as briefly highlighted above cannot be addressed unless a thorough understanding, evaluation and assessment of the critical elements is made. The failure of previous upgrading attempts as a means of addressing problems such as waste management in illegal settlements can be attributed to the lack of a better understanding of urban development processes. Only when the relationship between human and environmental processes is clearly understood can positive results be achieved. The growing awareness of this is partly responsible for the paradigm shift in planning as exhibited in recent decades.

There has occurred a realisation that new and more responsive planning methods are needed to address ur-

ban problems of cities especially in Africa and Asia. This has led to the emergence of planning methods that are less normative, less standardised in their procedures, less dependent on comprehensiveness (Hamdi & Goethert 1997).

The conventional approach of master planning that had been adopted by most countries during the 1960s and 1970s has slowly given way to action planning, an alternative approach to dealing with urban issues. As set out by Koenigsberger, this approach consists of “a series of action plans controlled by a set of performance standards and forming part of a guiding concept for the whole urban region”.

The rising need to understand and synchronize human actions with the environment requires the adoption of ecological planning principles in dealing with urban related problems. According to Freidmann and Hudson (1974), establishing connections between ideology, knowledge and organised future action is main task that planners are confronted with to ensure the implementation of local actions that have tangible and locally-appreciated results.

In addition to the need for adopting new planning approaches, Bjonnes & Corneil (1998) support the call for new attitudes, collective decision making, more and better re-

search, a people’s lobby, and differently educated professionals

As noted by Misra (1999), the realisation of the need to adopt more meaningful and holistic approaches through ecological planning to solve some of the major problems facing urban environments, is just the beginning. More research and documentation needs to be done on critical aspects like indigenous value systems of communities. If this is done, it will enable planners to facilitate local communities to generate their own solutions to local problems.

He further concedes that action planning as a tool in the intervention process must be effectively integrated into urban planning practice.

It should be emphasised that the acknowledgement of the need for significant changes in terms of approach to address problems of marginalised settlements in developing countries alone is not enough.

Dodds (1999) calls for adaptive and holistic approaches, where consultation, teamwork, and humility are employed in the face of complexity. This would highlight the need for robust indicators to inform planning and community action. All this is achieved through sustainable development, with emphasis on the links between different sorts

of systems.

Poverty is another important issue that requires critical examination within the framework of these new planning approaches. The multi-dimensional aspects of poverty as highlighted by Jayaratne (2007) have a powerful impact especially on the lives of communities in marginalised settlements. Because of its complexity, it has to be clearly understood before any meaningful attempts can be made to deal with the problems of cities in the developing world. This was stressed by Sen, (), who concluded that, “understanding poverty and deprivation in terms of lives people can actually lead and the freedoms they do actually have”. He rightly pointed out that enhancing human capabilities had the potential to increase productivity and earning power. Empowerment of communities in urban centre from this perspective provides the means for achieving sustainable positive change.

While understanding poverty is critical in shaping new planning approaches, social capital as an integral aspect of intervention policies cannot be overlooked. Groottaert, (1998) defines social capital as the internal social and cultural coherence of society, the norms and values that govern interactions among people and the institutions in which they are embedded. Social capital is the glue that holds soci-

eties together and without which there can be no economic growth or human well-being. It is very clear from the outset that without integrating this component into the decision-making framework, it would be almost impossible to achieve any meaningful results in planning. He reinforces his argument by highlighting a case in Italy, where a study conducted by researchers revealed that the economic success of the northern part of the country was partly due to the higher density of voluntary associations among people. In contrast, the low frequency of such associations in the southern part showed that the area’s economy was not as successful as that of the northern part.

Conclusion

The realities of urban development have never been more pronounced than they are today. According to Tibaijuka (2007), “...as far back as the 1970s, urban specialists and demographers were predicting the explosive growth of cities. But we have continued to base our national economic plans and our international assistance programmes on several false assumptions, assumptions that continue to this day to ignore some very basic facts and what is actually happening on the ground. The first assumption is that by investing in rural development we can arrest or slow down rural-urban migration.

Not only has this not happened, ... The second assumption was that slums and the informal economy which they are part of would be absorbed by the formal economy over time, and that what is needed is to provide the enabling space and policy framework for the private sector to thrive. This assumption has only turned out to be partly true. In most of the least developed countries the informal economy is the real economy. In sub-Saharan Africa, which is witnessing the most rapid urban growth, the informal economy accounts for up to 70% of domestic output and 8 out of every 10 jobs created”.

The reflections made by Tibaijuka in the above statement illustrate

the magnitude of the task ahead. Unless these new and more realistic approaches to planning are adopted to try and address urban related issues like slum development, the future of many hangs in the balance. No one approach can by itself adequately address the whole spectrum of emerging urban issues. However, it is realistic to point out that urban ecological planning holds the key to improving the welfare of more than two thirds of the world’s population living in Informal settlements.

The initiation and implementation of the solid waste management project at a micro level in Kivulu has the potential to play a valuable role in transforming cities such as Kampala on a larger scale.

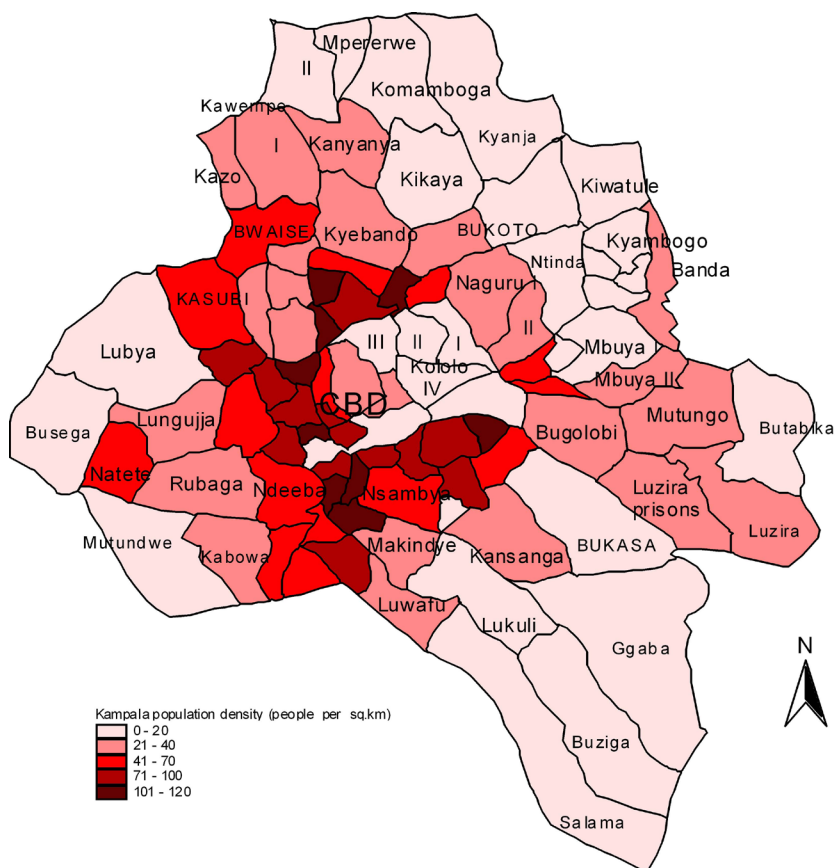
Project Case-study

Kampala City - Kivulu Settlement

Kampala, the capital and prime urban centre in Uganda is no exception to the trend of rapid urbanisation, witnessed in the last decade. With an estimated resident population of 1,200,000, and a day time population of 2,300,000 million inhabitants and growth rate of 5.6% (UBOS, 2002), there is an urgent need to devise means of effectively deal with the resultant problems. The rate at which the city's population is growing has almost outstripped Kampala City Coun-

cil's capacity to cater for its basic needs. The proliferation of illegal settlements (commonly referred to as slums) in Kampala is ample evidence of a system whose capacity is stretched beyond its limits.

Kivulu, one of the numerous slum settlements in the heart of the city was identified as a key area where planning intervention could be adopted to try and address some of the most pressing problems facing the city. These interventions should provide the basis for positively transforming other areas on a city-wide scale through a scaling up process.



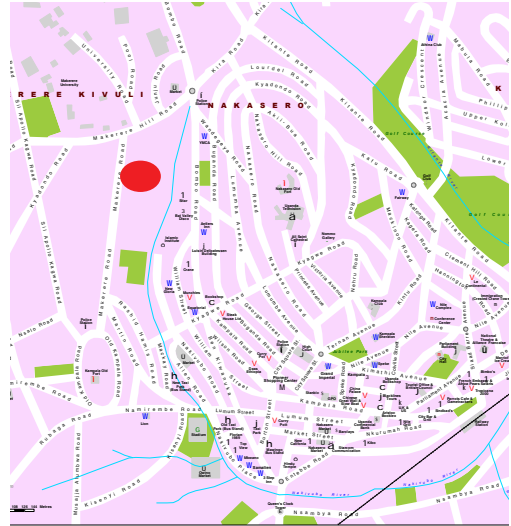
Location

The area under study is located in Kagugube Parish, which lies within the Central Division of Kampala City. Altogether, Kagugube Parish consists of seven zones, which form the lowest units of administration in the decentralised government set-up. Out of these seven zones, the basis of our study will primarily focus on the three zones of Kivulu I, Kivulu II and Industrial zone. These three zones are bound by Makerere Hill Road to the west, and a section of the Nakivubo Channel in the western direction.

The area can be described as generally sloping in a western direction, towards the Nakivubo Channel drain. It is characterised by the existence of a large informal settlement, or what is commonly known as a slum. This slum is no different from any other around Kampala. It is home to many unfortunate individuals and families from villages in rural areas as far as Northern Uganda. The influx of these people into the city is mainly attributed to the fact that most of them are searching for better opportunities and social services.

However, due to their inability to afford decent housing, they end up in places such as Kivulu, an area that is grossly depressed environmentally. The settlement is highly congested with all forms of shanty

houses, garbage littered dirt roads, numerous open drains teeming with foul smelling waste (faecal and solid waste), inadequate health facilities, and precariously standing latrines at every turn.



Background

According to information acquired from the area's local council administrators and some older community members, most of the land in Kivulu was originally owned by a number of landlords who started selling it off piecemeal to other individuals over time. Most of the original landlords died, and therefore their rights to their land were passed on to their children. In turn, they continued to sell it off, further leading to fragmentation. Surprisingly, a very large percentage of the people living in this area do not own the land on which they are living. Because of this, many of them cannot undertake permanent developments on the land they are living. This can be evidenced by the existence of semi-permanent and temporary structures in the area. Matters are further complicated by the fact that the continuous expansion of the city has fuelled a growing demand for land located in prime areas such as Kivulu. This demand has subsequently led to an increase in the value of land. Motivated by the potential profits to be made, many landlords are systematically selling off their land, forcing the squatters to move elsewhere.

Currently, very few of the legitimate landowners live in the area. Many are living away from the area as absentee landlords. Wherever they are, they retain the ultimate rights

to the land in question. Before the enactment of the Land Act (1998), these absentee landlords had the power to remove any unauthorised squatters without compensating them. With the Land Act coming into force, the law transferred limited rights to squatters such as those in Kivulu. All squatters who can prove to have been on the land in circumstances such as these for more than 10 years before the enactment of the 1995 Constitution are regarded as Bonafide Occupants. Such occupants are entitled to compensation in the event of eviction from the property in question.

Although this law has come in to address the plight of these people, their position is not helped by the fact that they cannot determine the amount of compensation they are entitled to. They find themselves at the mercy of the landlords, who determine the amount of compensation. If they fail to accept what is offered, they are bound to lose out completely.

According to interviews conducted in the area, it was relatively easy in the past for people to move into Kivulu. However, the persistent increases in rents are forcing many to move elsewhere. The population size has drastically reduced in the past few years. While some land-

lords have used direct approaches of compensating residents in order to reclaim their land, this trend points to the emergence of the use of subtle or indirect approaches by other landowners to reclaim their land. It comes as no surprise that many of them are hiking the prices of their properties, possibly with the belief that they will force these poor people off their land to attract more profitable activities. Ultimately, many residents will be overtaken by the pace of events, eventually being forced to move elsewhere.

The complexities of the land question, as shown above, poses the greatest challenge to address in this context. Though there are a host of other equally important issues that need to be tackled, one cannot fail to recognise that this is the most pressing issue at hand.

Historical Development

Information acquired from preliminary surveys revealed that the settlement was originally created by groups of Kenyan and Tanzanian labourers, of Jaluo and Baziba ethnic descent respectively. They had been employed to work mainly as porters and casual labourers in the construction of the Uganda Railway during the colonial period. After the completion of the railway, many decided to stay in Kampala due to a number of reasons. Because they

did not have the means to access affordable housing facilities, they moved to Kivulu where they put up structures to meet their shelter needs.

The settlement was to expand very rapidly later on as more underprivileged groups of people migrated into Kampala. As a way of earning a living, the residents involved themselves in a number of activities. These mainly included the making and selling of local brews and prostitution. The Jaluo were the ones who were largely involved in brewing illicit drinks such as Kwete and Kibuku, while the Baziba are known to have been involved in the latter. Consequently, the settlement became a well known attraction for related pleasures in the surrounding areas. The bars operating in the area were kept open day and night, characterised by the constantly blaring music from jukeboxes. The nature of the lifestyles that the residents adopted earned the place a notorious reputation, and eventually its name. Kivulu is a Luganda word which is used to refer to a mixture of entertainment.

The settlement grew considerably during the 1960s. However, things dramatically changed when Idi Amin came to power in 1972. Due to the breakdown in political relations amongst the three East African countries in the subsequent years, President Idi Amin expelled most

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Kenyan and Tanzanian nationals in Uganda. Because the original settlers in Kivulu were of Kenyan and Tanzanian descent, most of them were forced to go back to their respective home countries.

To some extent, this event triggered some kind of invasion and succession on a small scale. The void left behind by the departing Jalu and Baziba was systematically occupied by other local ethnic groups. This trend of events led to the emergence of a new community, very different from the first one in relation to its social fabric and economy.

This new community formed some loose social groupings, largely based on ethnic origin. As more people moved into Kivulu, the place took on a more cosmopolitan face. The

area developed their own unique lifestyles, largely influenced by the environment they were living in.

This unique blend of all sorts of entertainment earned the area quite a reputation.

Despite the changes in the social fabric, the general living conditions have gradually deteriorated over the last 10 years, due to an ever increasing influx of rural-urban migrants into the area. Today, Kivulu faces numerous challenges, which mainly result from the lack of access to land, amongst others.



Analysis & interpretation of findings

Livelihoods in Kivulu

Livelihoods can be defined as the means by which people create employment opportunities to support their households with the basic needs of life and therefore a given standard of living. The ability of any community to sustain itself is largely influenced by their level of participation in the decision making process through institutional frameworks, and related activities and actions. Unfortunately, due to a number of factors in the social, economic and political fabric of communities, not all groups in Kivulu are represented as it should be. Consequently, the exclusion of some groups in this process has led to the existing types and levels vulnerability in Kivulu. In addition to this, the livelihoods of residents in Kivulu are also influenced by the capacities of existing institutions to meet the community's needs. An assessment of the institutional potentials and constraints of the community provided the means to understanding the dynamics of key issues and assisted in formulating appropriate interventions for improving the people's welfare.

The importance of entitlements to capital or social assets cannot be overlooked in this regard. Capital

assets can be defined as all tangible property, whose value is sometimes measurable in monetary terms. However, in most cases such property cannot be easily converted into cash. Assets enable a community to acquire sustenance. It was identified that the community living in Kivulu has its own assets, which have enabled it to survive.

The physical, natural, social, human and financial assets that the community has access to have and continue to impact on their livelihood.

The relationships arising from these three facets are what define livelihoods in any community. What remains to be seen in this particular context is whether these factors will be able to sustain this community. The continued growth and expansion of the city is exerting pressure on the settlement. Land necessary for expansion of the city is becoming increasingly scarce. This has resulted city developers to scramble for any readily available land. Proximity of Kivulu to the city centre has made it a prime target for city developers. Large commercial buildings are slowly invading the settlement. Many residents have been forcefully evicted from the land. For those who are still there, the future looks very uncertain indeed.

From this perspective, it is clear that the current livelihood setup of

Kivulu is not sustainable. The increasing external shocks, stresses and pressures are undermining the ability of the settlement to meet the needs of its population.

However, in spite of the harsh reality revealed by developments on the ground, the resident community in Kivulu has evolved a variety of resourceful and innovative ways to survive. Field observations and interviews showed that most residents of the area are actively engaged in self-employed activities (employment creation and opportunities for households to create their own jobs). Most residents of Kivulu are mainly involved in small-scale businesses to help sustain themselves and their families. Economic activities range from small scale retailing to service provision. These activities are largely established along the streets within the neighbourhood. These route ways consequently form the spine along which most economic activities are based. The myriad of economic activities in Kivulu has dictated the existence of shop-keepers, charcoal sellers, cooks, market vendors, mechanics, hair-dressers, hawkers, dry-cleaners (dobbi), scrap collectors, bartenders and local brewers.

The Economic Climate of Kivulu

In its current state, Kivulu does not have the most attractive business

climate. However, its strategic location in the city center makes it a prime area for future investment. The high levels of unemployment in the area show that currently, Kivulu lacks the capacity to meet the employment requirements of its population. Because of the narrow formal sector in Kampala, the employment opportunities are very few. While the private sector has come in to fill this void, it is the informal sector which has and continues to provide the means by which residents in Kivulu earn a livelihood. In Kivulu, the informal sector is very vibrant, composed of goods retailing to minimal service provision. This has helped to keep some form of social stability. Though this sector is helping many in Kivulu to earn a living, it is facing numerous challenges, which urgently need to be addressed. First and foremost, it lacks recognition from the local authorities, who have continuously harassed and unfairly taxed all those involved. Because of the marginalization of this sector, there are no frameworks in place to regulate and facilitate all those involved. There is some hope though. Slowly but surely, CBOs and NGOs are recognizing the need to encourage, support and legitimize this sector. If it is given the support it needs, it has the potential to drastically improve the welfare of residents in Kivulu.

Level of Competition

Competition plays a significant role in shaping livelihoods especially in an urban setting. Kivulu greatly lacks economic assets that would make it more competitive economically. This is probably one of the reasons as to why its residents struggle to earn a living. Its strategic location in the city center is its strongest advantage. The rate at which land values have increased has forced property developers to look elsewhere. Because of its location, developers are slowly buying off portions of land in Kivulu. Already many people have been evicted forcefully by landlords who have sold their land to city developers. This trend of events threatens to destroy the community's livelihood.



If this threat is dealt with satisfactorily, the community can use their innovativeness and creativity to use the location factor to their advantage. Because of the location, the area can attract a huge market within the city. The community around Makerere University offers a ready market for Kivulu. Given the right skills training, the residents in Kivulu can improve their livelihoods by tapping into this market within its reach.

Human Resource & Skills

The existing human resources and skills in Kivulu are an important factor in determining the livelihood of its residents. The innovativeness and ingenuity that this resource exhibits in the face of adversity cannot be overlooked. Men, women and youth are working in very tough conditions to earn themselves a living. If these people are given assistance through the formal short-term and long term training, they are more than capable of improving their own welfare. Training them has the potential of alleviating some of their problems, and creating a much needed stock of skilled labor. Creating channels for access to quality training opportunities that are closely aligned with the emerging urban economy, this approach would go a long way in solving some of Kivulu's key problems.

Societal Assets

Physical Assets

Common Market:

Within Kivulu area is a marketplace where a number of activities take place. Though the primary activity that takes place here is trade, the market also functions as an important interaction point for the community. The lack of a designated communal meeting area such as a community centre has made this an important area for galvanising the cohesion of the area.

Buildings:

According to Angel, a resident in Kivulu, «There are no real homes here. There are just houses». The above statement speaks volumes about the importance the people attach to their shanty hovels. Re-

gardless of the fact that more than 85% of the structures in the area are made of substandard materials, they still qualify to be categorised as physical capital. There are quite a number of residents who own the structures in which they live. As bonafide land occupants who invested some resources to construct these structures, they are entitled to some form of compensation in the event of being evicted by the legitimate landlords. For as long as a monetary value can be attached to these structures, one cannot overlook the fact that they are physical assets to these people.

Physical infrastructure:

Assets that were identified under this group of resources include the drainage and sewerage system, water supply, power, roads, schools, religious and health facilities.



Drainage & Sewerage System:

Though Kivulu has a very poor and inadequate drainage and sewerage system, the existing facilities are important to maintain some kind of acceptable living environment for these people. The community leadership has tried to put into place a system of drains to ensure that waste water from the households is channelled safely away. KCC has been involved in promoting sanitation through the construction of latrines in the area. A lot needs to be done to improve the number and quality of such facilities to enhance the welfare of Kivulu residents.

Water supply:

There are a few stand water pipes and springs where residents acquire water for domestic and commercial use. When tap water is available, residents pay between 100 to 200 Ugshs for a 20 litre jerry can. For those who cannot afford the tap water, they can opt to acquire their water supply from the springs along the Nakivubo channel. It should be noted that the available sources are not adequate and evenly distributed in the area.

Power:

Since the area is located very close to the city centre, it is within the reach of the national power grid. There are several power lines in the area which ensures that some people can access and use electricity for domestic purposes.

Roads:

The area is serviced by four roads and other footways, making it relatively accessible. Since these roads promote accessibility and movement, they serve an important function of promoting social interaction within Kivulu and between Kivulu's residents and adjacent settlements in Kagugube Parish.

Schools, Churches and Health Facilities:

There are 4 schools within our area of study. These schools are an important asset in promoting literacy in Kivulu. There are also 3 churches and a health facility run by the SDA. These existing institutions serve to meet the health and spiritual needs of the residents, in addition to promoting social welfare. The religious institutions play a very important role in galvanising relations among people in areas such as Kivulu.

Natural Assets

The only recognisable asset of this nature is land. For the few who own land in Kivulu, this is a very valuable form of capital. Unfortunately, the majority of the people living in Kivulu do not own land, and therefore cannot use it to improve their welfare. The expansion of the city away from the centre is forcing land in areas such as Kivulu to appreciate. It's the legitimate land owners who are gaining from this development. They are systematically forc-

ing out the residents and selling it off to investors. Landowners such as one called Veronica (60 years), who own a lot of land in Kivulu, therefore stand to gain more in the long run. The proximity of this land to the city has made it very attractive to potential developers and investor alike.

Human Assets:

Working skills:

The daily struggle to survive in the harsh conditions of the slum has forced many people to devise creative ways of earning a living. Many are involved in petty trade such as hawking, steel works, retailing, laundry, and catering. A good number are literate because they have acquired some degree of formal education. A large number are still unemployed though. The presence of a fairly literate labour force shows that the area has a great potential in terms of human capital.

Social Assets

Community Leadership:

When the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government came to power in the mid-1980s, it tried to promote a policy of community participation in the decision-making process. To this day, the same government has tried to put into place a local administrative structure which involves the grass-roots communities in mak-

ing decisions that affect them on a daily basis. This policy is reflected by the fact that areas like Kivulu have working local council committees, which try to address some of the problems of the community. Though the members serving on these committees do not receive any formal kind of remuneration, they work voluntarily within their limited means to solve some of the problems of the people. They try to arbitrate in local and domestic disputes, advance the interests of the people to higher authorities and also act as important entry points for external organs such as NGOs and CBOs.

The people look up to these leaders, even though many times they find themselves in positions whereby they lack the capacity and resources to alleviate most of the problems their electorate face. The job that these leaders do cannot be underestimated because it is highly probable that such areas would drown in chaos if there was no established leadership to facilitate social order. CBOs

Community based organisations such as Action for Slum Health and Development (ASHD) have made an effort to aid residents of the area in many ways. ASHD is mainly funded by Concern International, an Irish NGO. Through projects conceived by ASHD, some piece meal improvements have been made to

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the drainage system and water supply. A number of toilets were also rehabilitated by them. In addition to this, this organ has tried to help promote the welfare of disadvantaged children in the area by offering them scholastic materials, fees, blankets, mattresses and a host of other useful items.

Local Associations:

There aren't many local associations operating in Kivulu. However, some of the women living in the area have tried to form loose associations to devise ways of improving the quality of their lives. Though they are the most productive in the area in contrast to the men, they are at a great disadvantage because they lack the resources to develop their skills. Many are widows trying to support large families as best as they can. Others who are married used to be the victims of domestic violence.

In forming associations among themselves, they have been able to raise resources to invest in their businesses to support their families. This has been achieved through the introduction of cash rounds where women in a group raise a sum of money and give it to a fellow member. The one who is given the money can then use it to invest in some activity. The round goes on weekly for each woman so as to give opportunity for all to raise capital for small businesses. This approach has had

its problems though...

This form of local association has greatly helped to unite and strengthen relationships amongst the women in Kivulu.

Financial Assets

Small businesses:

Many of people in Kivulu own small retail shops and kiosks from which their livelihood depends. Others own single room tenements which they rent out to tenants to earn a living. The meagre monetary resources that these people invest and acquire from whatever activity or business they involve themselves in represents a significant form of financial capital. Other businesses that involve sizeable amounts of financial capital include catering and making of local beer.



Activities: Vulnerability, Actions at various levels & Participation

In establishing the practicalities involved in the decision-making process, it was revealed that while there were a number of arising issues, a few stood out conspicuously. While the Local Council committee takes the lead in making decisions and deciding on what course of action to follow, the first question that always arises is about who is to benefit from such actions. Because everyone is trying to look out for their own interests, most are only concerned about knowing who is to benefit, let alone holding the authority accountable. The foremost concern of most residents is always how each is to benefit, and if not, why someone instead of them.

This preoccupation with who benefits from community decisions and actions revealed the existence of vulnerability issues. Vulnerability is defined by the ability a person or group has to cope with crisis. Jayaratne (2007) defines vulnerability as the possibility of suffering and a decline in a community's capacity to care for its members. He further contends that this decline is brought by shocks against which protection is either costly or not possible.

The levels of inequality in many community structures inevitably

give rise to social exclusion. Evidently, research carried out in Kivulu revealed nothing new in this respect. While some groups benefit from the decisions taken by the community, others are unfairly left out. Because of this, there exists groups within Kivulu whose lack of participation in the decision making process has rendered them unable to cope with shocks and uncertainties of the environment.

Particular groups such as the women, youth, children, sick and the old are more likely to be excluded from participating in the decision making process, access to resources and services and high rates of morbidity. The lack of social security for these groups has made them more susceptible to being negatively affected by current and future uncertainties.

Types and levels of vulnerability:

In order to point out the most affected groups and the most affecting occurrences the direct affecting of groups have been analyzed. It is underlined that we are aware of severe indirect effects of accidents happening over time, but that we have chosen to look into the urgent, immediate influence of different levels of vulnerability.

“Social indicators inform about difficulties for one group or another (women, minority ethnic groups)

to be involved in programmes, or to have taken advantage of loan schemes or enterprise development. This kind of assessment may lead to alternative programmes directed specifically at the excluded groups – such as the Grameen Bank’s strategy of targeting loans to women – or to a reformulation of programmes. Access to schools, clinics or new housing are good indicators of discrimination, territorial demarcations a sign of control and so on”, Hamdi ()

Women:

Women make up a large proportion of the population in Kivulu. Many of them are single parents while others are widows. Because of a higher life expectancy, they tend to live longer than the men as elsewhere. Due to a number of reasons, the burdens of supporting and meeting household needs largely fall on them. In spite of this, they are excluded from making more far reaching decisions regarding the community. This is in part due to the highly paternalistic society in which they live. They are involved in small-scale business like catering, retailing, vending and cleaning. The harsh conditions in which these women live have forced them to do almost anything just to make ends meet. This position has made them susceptible to all sorts of negative pressures, thus becoming vulnerable.

In a society such as this, the pres-

ence of man in a woman’s life helps to protect the woman from losing her assets. This factor is very important when determining the level of vulnerability. In Kivulu, just like any other typical African societies, women who lack the influence of men in their lives are not respected by the community as a whole. According to interviews carried out in the area, young unmarried women are not seen as being relevant to the community. Women are often easily taken advantage of, especially if they own property or businesses. As landlords, they are subjected to delays in payment of rent by tenants. For those operating small businesses, they lose a lot of income due to clients who take goods or services on credit. These clients take long to pay up or sometimes fail to meet their obligations altogether.

A woman’s level of vulnerability changes throughout her life with time her life, as her relationship to men differs. When married most women have to struggle with an internal kind of vulnerability emanating from her relationship with the husband. They are susceptible to domestic abuse and other family-in-law related problems. When widowed, most women are subjected to harassment from their in-laws, who are known for dispossessing her of her husband’s belongings. In the most extreme cases, some women end up being totally disenfranchised by their in-laws. Without

a husband, the external pressures then set in, subjecting her to a whole new lot of societal prejudices.

The most vulnerable among the women in Kivulu are the widows, single mothers and prostitutes. Lacking respect from the community, they have very limited rights in the community.

However, the recent movement towards women emancipation and empowerment is slowly changing the urban landscape, especially in areas such as these. Women have been encouraged to take charge of their affairs and to demand for equal opportunity in society. This trend of events is in force in places like Kivulu. The women have



formed small groups with the main aim of saving their revenue to improve their welfare. What remains to be seen is whether society in places like Kivulu is ready to accord women the full rights they are entitled to in a situation where there is immense competition for fast diminishing resources.

Children:

This is another significantly vulnerable group that was identified in Kivulu. The abject poverty in which the population in Kivulu is in has exposed them greatly to all kinds of health and social problems. The high birth rate is partly responsible for the high numbers of children in this place. Most families have between 2-4 children, living in single room tenements which make them overcrowded.

On average, the majority of children in Kivulu fall within the 4-6 year age bracket. This implies that many are supposed to be in school. Unfortunately, because most of their parents are unable to afford to meet their educational needs, they spend their time playing in the streets. Many end up starting school later than they should.

Because their families cannot get them into school, some children are made to work to help supplement their parents' incomes. Child labour takes so many forms in these harsh conditions.

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Children in Kivulu face serious health risks because of the nature of their environment. The absence of play lots or a play ground is having a negative impact on their lives. Without a gazetted play area, children will use any available space to meet their recreational needs. It therefore came as no surprise when many were observed playing in the dirty streets, trenches and garbage heaps. The unhygienic condition of where they choose to play from exposes them to the possibility of contracting diseases such as malaria, dysentery, cholera, diarrhoea and a host of other health problems. Unlike the adults, they are more likely to fall sick largely in due to this reason. Their vulnerability level increases in case where they are being looked after by very young parents, who are ignorant in such matters.



Non-residents:

Many of the businesses in Kivulu are run by people who do not live there. These people come from other notably poor settlements such as Kasubi and Bwaise who rent properties to set up small business. These businesses play a very important part in their livelihoods. They are not affected by the poor environmental quality of Kivulu as the residents. Their presence is largely determined by the existence of a market for their goods and services. According to interviews carried out, some of them used to live in Kivulu earlier on. When they moved, the social networks they had developed influenced them to continue operating their small businesses in Kivulu. Proximity to the city centre, the existence of old friends, customers and more importantly, tribes mates, have combined to attract them to this neighbourhood. The performance of their small businesses heavily relies on reputation and relationships with the community. Some travel as many as 8km from Kampala's suburbs to Kivulu every day. Their movements are largely dependant on public transport means (mini-buses), while others walk all the way to Kivulu.

Youth:

This category consists of all those individuals between the ages of 16 and 28. Most youth in Kivulu do not want to identify with the place. They harbour dreams of attaining

the ability to afford living in places far better than Kivulu. They are clearly not happy living here, and therefore lack a sense of belonging or attachment. These youth more than often spend much of their time in the numerous entertainment shacks and bars, rather than in school. The crime-rate among them is high, especially among the males. This group is considered vulnerable because they are susceptible to being taken advantage of by older members of the community. In extreme cases, they have been easily coerced into armed rebellion against the current government. Despite the fact that they are the future of the country, they continue to be excluded from the decision-making process.

The Old:

As the average life expectancy in Kivulu (and Uganda in general, i.e 47 yrs) is quite low, there are not that many old people in Kivulu. The group of people over 60 years is small, and most of these are women. Most old people return to their villages when they feel can no longer work to earn a living. The few who live in Kivulu and are not capable of working largely rely on their grandchildren and children to survive. They would play a very influential role in shaping the community but they are also excluded from the decision-making process in the community.

Unemployed:

Kivulu has a high rate of unemployed individuals. Most of these are men because they are never to willing to do anything to earn an income. Their future is always uncertain. Because they have a lot of time on them, they indulge themselves in bad habits like drinking. These people don't have access to defined sources of income, hence often lack motivation. Most of them survive by doing menial jobs around the city. The informal social networks that they have within the community also help to sustain them.

Men:

The number of men in Kivulu is comparatively low. While some are single, others are married with families to take care of. Unfortunately,



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those who have families tend to abscond from their responsibilities. This group is not as vulnerable as the others. Men, being high in social rank in African societies are less vulnerable in contrast with less privileged social groups like the women or youth. However, they are just as vulnerable and susceptible to the health hazards that come with living in poor environmental surroundings.

The Sick:

People who are afflicted by diseases like HIV, TB, cholera, malaria and diarrhea fall in this group. The community in Kivulu is more than likely to have a high rate of morbidity. Because of the lack of resources, these people cannot afford medical care or services. They therefore end up having to grapple with the burden of disease, which greatly lowers their productivity, quality and standard of life. The terminally ill with afflictions like HIV/AIDS are still stigmatized by society, while others end up as community outcasts. Because they cannot work, they have to depend on their friends and relatives for support. This makes them vulnerable to all forms of prejudice.

Landless:

80% of the inhabitants in Kivulu are landless. These inhabitants are classified as squatters. According to the Land Act of 1998, such persons do not have rights to the land

unless they have evidence to show that they have lived on it for more than 20 years. Because of the uncertainty surrounding land tenure in Kivulu, many residents are not motivated to make any permanent improvements or meaningful changes to their lots. Doing this is not realistic from any perspective. All improvements which are made to properties are temporary in nature. This is the reason why 90% of the structures in Kivulu are either semi-permanent or temporary. These people are living under a lot of uncertainty, especially due to the fact that commercial property developers are steadily moving into the settlement. The landlords are systematically selling off their land to the highest bidders to develop the land. The residents find themselves at the mercy of the landlords in the wake of all this.

There were a number of empty lots in Kivulu, where squatters had been forcefully evicted by landlords. The residents are not compensated according to the value of their property. The landlords determine the amount of compensation and then pay them off. For those who refuse to vacate the land, they are forcefully evicted. Some interventions are urgently needed to protect this group from the property market forces that threaten to destroy their livelihood.

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NATURE OF PROBLEM	AFFECTED GROUPS									
	W	M	Y	O	C	S	LS	U	E	
1-Lack of cheap and reliable health facilities	X X	X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X	X	NOT
2-Poor Solid Waste Management	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	X	
3 - Accute Water Problems	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X	
4-Lack of Power	X X	X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X	
5-Inadequate Sanitary Facilities	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	
6-High Crime	X X	X	X	X X	X	X X	X X	X	X X	
7-Lack of Land Rights	X X X	X X X	X X X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X X	X X	
8-Unemployment	X X	X X X	X X X	X	X	X	X X X	X X X	X X	
9-Unwanted Pregnancies	X X X	NOT	X X X	X X	X	X	X	X	NOT	
10-Poor Drainage	X X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	
11-Threat of Fires	X X	X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X X	X	X X	
12-Uncontrolled Entertainment Shanties	X	X	X X X	X	X X X	X	X	X X	X	
TOTAL	25	18	26	21	25	25	25	22	16	

W – Women,
Y – Youth,
C – Children,
LS – Landless
E - Non-residents

M – Men,
O – the Old
S – the Sick
U – Unemployed

XXX - Most Affected
XX – Affected
X - Least Affected
NOT - Not Affected

Matrix 1: degree of impact of identified problems on key groups in Kivulu

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Consequently, various levels of vulnerability were derived from analysing the extent to which each one of the identified problems affected the different groups.

Vulnerability Range:

15.20	Level III
20.25	Level II
26+	Level I

Level I

Groups that fall within this classification are relatively the most vulnerable, if one takes into consideration the effects that these problems have on their wellbeing.

Level II

Groups that fall in this level are relatively less vulnerable than the

first level, though the impacts of the problems they face have a significant effect on their welfare. They include the women, children, old, landless, unemployed and sick.

Level III

The third category consists of those groups whose vulnerability is lower than that of the first two. These groups are not so much affected by most of the problems that were identified in Kivulu. It includes the men and non-residents.



Institutional Capacity, Potentials & Constraints

According to Colding and Folke (2000), institutions may be defined as the humanly devised norms and rules that shape human interaction and societal evolution.

Greif, (2006), in his work contends that the quality of the institutional foundations of the economy and the polity is paramount in determining a society's welfare. Good institutions encourage production by fostering saving, investment in human and physical capital, and development and adoption of useful knowledge. From this perspective, it becomes oblivious that no society can meet the needs of its members without the existence of well structured institutions. A critical analysis of the implications of this definition reveals that institutions have the potential to shape the future of any one community in all aspects.

Institutions can be formal and informal. Formal institutions refer to rules that human beings devise, such as political and judicial rules, economic rules, contracts, common laws, bylaws, and constitutions. They are the result of the increasing organizational complexity of society, correlated to the increasing specialization and division of labour," Colding and Folke, (2000). Most of these rules are written down, and administered by special-

ly mandated organs. 'The term "informal institution" has been used to characterize aspects of traditional culture, personal networks, clientelism, corruption, clan and mafia organizations, civil society, and a wide variety of legislative, judicial, and bureaucratic norms.' 1

Informal institutions are generated based on culture matters, ethnic/moral rules, taboo systems, social norms and/or conventions of society. They are most commonly developed on a community level, sometimes in the household or neighbourhood level also. In this type of institution the old tradition of oral law is widespread and together with it comes of course the lack of legality in the process.

In Kivulu, the most active lower level organs entrusted to enforce these rules include the LCI. The LC I is the basic administrative unit in the country's political set-up. The decentralization of government to such lower units was primarily meant to ensure that the views of the grassroots communities would be channeled to higher levels for consideration. However, it was observed that these units have not made the desired impact on the lives of the residents. Due to a host of constraints, they continue to make very little impact on the local community in this area.

It was established that the formal

institutions are playing a greater role in directing the affairs of the community. Being a multi-ethnic community has greatly limited the role of informal institutions. Social networks exist among the different ethnic groups in Kivulu, though they are not strong enough to make a significant impact on the community as a whole. Informal institutions, if active and in place, can play an important role in providing the necessary checks and balances for the formal institutions. The actions of formal institutions are never questioned or accounted for if there are no strong communal institutions. It is reasonable to conclude that the resulting problems of corruption and the abuse of power in public institutions find their roots here. The mixture of cultural, religious and social value systems has limited the contribution of informal institutions. The more active formal institutions have made significant gains in trying to promote the welfare of the residents.

The Decision-making Process in Kivulu

The LC committee is charged with the duty of handling and conducting the social, economic environmental and security affairs of the whole community. It is the duty of the LC chairman and members of his/her committee to identify key problems facing the community, and then determine how to

deal with them. Disputes between or among residents are treated as minor and are normally handled by a committee tribunal of at least 5 members. Besides these extraordinary meetings that are convened to solve these minor problems, the committee also meets once a month to deliberate on outstanding issues in Kivulu. In addition, the different LC I committees in the parish meet every after 2 months to discuss issues related to the whole parish.

However, there are other problems that cannot be handled by the LC I. If the problems that are facing the community are beyond the capacity of the local administration, they are prioritized and forwarded in record to LC 2, the second tier in the administrative set-up. If this committee cannot solve the problem, it puts it to the Parish Development Committee (PDC) to consider and determine whether the highest authority, LC 5 (in this case KCC), should intervene. The PDC is composed of a representative from each LC 1 in the area, and another from parish level (LC 2).

Prioritizing & Addressing Community Needs

Community problems that cannot be addressed by the LC 1 and LC 2 units are forwarded to the PDC for consideration. When the PDC meets, it discusses the problems that have been raised and then

discusses them. This discussion is meant to determine the extent or magnitude of each problem, the how and when to solve it, and other issues such as resource implications. When consensus is reached on which problems to solve first, the committee prepares a document regarding key areas that require urgent intervention. After preparing this draft, it forwards it KCC, the highest authority in the city, for further consideration.

The authorities in KCC are responsible for determining which of the key issues raised by the PDC can be addressed given the available resources. It sends a specialist team of technicians to the area to make some ground surveys. The purpose of these surveys is to ascertain the magnitude of a problem at LC 1 level and therefore advise on a possible course of action. Their field assessment of the problem on the ground helps to determine whether some form of intervention is necessary. If the problem warrants some kind of intervention, the town clerk (KCC) mobilizes funds through the Local Government Development Program (LGDP). He/she then authorizes a team of professionals from KCC to proceed with setting out and implementing a course of action to solve the problem.

The PDC is responsible for supervising and monitoring the actions of the technical team sent by KCC

to solve an area's problem. LC 1 committees are never really involved in the prioritization of key problems at the highest level (LC 5 / KCC). Subsequently, they cannot influence decisions to determine the amount of resources required to solve a problem.

The exclusion of LC 1 committees in this important stage has had a detrimental effect on capacity of KCC to meet the needs of residents in areas like Kivulu. The technical teams that are assembled to help solve a community problem tend to exaggerate budgets meant to address key problem. Because of the unrealistically high budgets made by these teams, it takes long to mobilize the required financial resources. The chairman of Kivulu claimed that many problems that the community faces require just a fraction of the resources that are normally budgeted by the technical teams. If the budget set by the technical teams is beyond what KCC can afford at the time, plans to address the problem in question are put on hold indefinitely. Many problems raised by the LC 1 of Kivulu have failed to be addressed by KCC because of this. While some problems have not been addressed partly due to the above, for those that some effort was made to address them, the quality of output is always questionable. Notably, KCC carried out the construction of pit-latrines under the Kampala Urban

Sanitation Improvement Program (KUSIP) in Kivulu. Field visits to these 'new' units revealed that the quality of the final product did not match the large sums of money that KCC claimed to have spent on the project. 60% of the funds allocated for such projects end up being misappropriated through intentionally overstated budgets. The footprint left behind by institutionalized corruption was unmistakable.

These same technical teams employ their own labor to implement community projects. In doing this, they deny the many unemployed resident youth opportunities to earn wages for their survival and acquire skills. The general lack of involvement of community members in implementation of these projects cannot ensure long term maintenance and sustainability. This is one of the reasons as to why most community projects initiated by KCC in Kampala have relatively short life spans. Because the local communities are not well integrated in the decision-making and program implementation process, they are not obliged to maintain or sustain resultant projects. Over time, the community has developed a general feeling of apathy because of being excluded in this manner.

This trend of events can be further exemplified by the total failure of the latest projects. In 2006, the community, through its LC 1, re-

solved that KCC should introduce street lights in Kivulu to help address rising security concerns. The LC 1 forwarded this proposal to LC 2, then through PDC, and finally to KCC. After much deliberation in KCC, the project was given the nod and the town clerk mobilized the necessary resources. A team of engineers was assembled and given the mandate to oversee implementation of the street lighting project. Without involving the community, a street lighting grid was set up along the major road through Kivulu. The new street lighting line became operational a few months after. However, one year down the road and the line is no longer functioning. As the case is with similar projects, KCC is notorious for implementing projects (originally initiated by local communities) and failing to include the project beneficiaries in the implementation process.

Because of this, no clear guidelines are set to address the operational practicalities of the project in the long run. Thus, many projects have failed to adequately meet the needs of local communities in places like Kivulu.

Unless PDCs are well integrated into the decision-making process of KCC, the communities at the lower levels in places like Kivulu will continue struggling to acquire social services.

According to the LC1 chairman, although the PDC has tried to hold KCC accountable, their efforts have always come to naught. The lack of transparency in terms of resource allocation for community projects has greatly eroded the people's trust in the local administrative units as well. They feel that their leaders are not doing enough to represent their interests. Community meetings have therefore become a ritual affair, which end without any substantive output.

When pressed to explain the possible causes of all these bottlenecks, especially corruption, the chairman, with a lot of disappointment, simply said, "This is Uganda..."

Religious institutions were noted to be very active in Kivulu. The Seventh Day Adventist Church set up a health centre to offer basic health services to Kivulu's community. Being within walk able distance, the health centre has helped to meet the health needs of the residents. However, its work is curtailed by the lack of adequate funding. Other active religious institutions have helped to educate the underprivileged children in Kivulu. They offer them tuition fees in addition to a range of scholastic materials. Workshops and seminars have been arranged by other churches, primarily with the intention of imparting various skills to the youth. 2 trainees were enrolled from each

of the LC 1 zones (including Kivulu) in Kagugube Parish. These trainees acquired skills in areas like catering, reproductive health and avoiding risky behavior. After the workshops, the trainees returned to their respective communities to pass on their experiences. The first workshop was carried out in 1999 and a second in 2006. Residents who were interviewed in the survey concurred that though the workshops had not been done more regularly, they made an impact on the lives of the beneficiaries.

Institutional Constraints

The institutions in Kivulu face numerous constraints. These range from inadequate capacity, low motivation, inadequate resources, to isolation from the top and bottom levels of society.

Lack of adequate institutional capacity

When interviews were held with some of the LC staff in Kivulu, they revealed that most of them lack confidence in various aspects of their work. Their level of literacy is very low, and consequently do not have adequate capacity to effectively manage the affairs of the community. They rarely receive any form of training to equip them with managerial and administrative skills. The lack of competent managers is a serious constraint which has had

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an especially negative effect on the performance of the formal institutions.

Resource Constraints

Institutions in Kivulu are also constrained by the lack of direct access to resources. The highest units of administration at LC III and LC V are the only ones which can access resources for development purposes. Added to the fact that the LC I staff do not get paid salaries, these institutions cannot initiate, develop and implement development projects in their respective areas.

Isolation and disconnection from the community

The apparent lack of tangible results from institutions has consequently isolated and disconnected them from the community. Most respondents felt that the local institutions in Kivulu had no connection with the residents. Most of these local leaders were holding administrative posts mainly for prestige and not to serve the community. They have been known to care less about the welfare of the community. They were accused of looking out for their own selfish interests.

Lack of strong relationships between and amongst the different institutions

In addition to the above, the ab-

sence of strong relationships between and amongst the institutions in Kivulu has constrained their activities. Interviews with the CBOs, religious institutions and the LC I staff showed that there are no strong relationships between them. Without these relationships, it becomes extremely difficult to synchronise project implementation and avoid replication or misuse of scarce resources. There was no concrete evidence to show any form of cooperation between the institutions on the ground.

Lack of motivation and support from the community

The increasing apathy of the community in Kivulu has reduced the support that institutions require to operate optimally. Because the institutions lack the total support of the community, this has led to erosion of their motivation. The success of institutional effort in improving the welfare of Kivulu requires support from the community. The subsequent lack of it has rendered the institutions almost irrelevant.

Inadequate institutional frameworks

Although much has been done by the current regime to decentralise service delivery in Uganda, the institutional framework that was developed to achieve this is muddled with so many overlaps and unclear

provisions. Unless these are resolved, formal and informal institutions are bound to fail in their quest to meet the needs the community in Kivulu.

Institutional Potentials

Though the institutions in Kivulu face many constraints, they have the potential to bring positive change to the area.

Innovativeness and creativity

Even in the face of adversity, institutions in Kivulu showed that they could draw on their innovativeness and creativity to try and improve the community's welfare. Institutions had adopted a number of strategies to co-opt community members into the decision making process. Their resilience has ensured that some projects were successfully implemented though not well maintained. Projects initiated by the LC I had life spans which were limited to the duration in which a leader was in power. After the leaders who initiated the projects were voted out of office, the projects collapsed not long afterwards.

Community good will

Another potential that institutions have is that of good will from the community. Even though the community had lost its faith and trust in their institutions, many expressed a willingness to get involved in deciding the future of the community.

The fact that community members were still willing to listen to their leaders illustrated a positive attitude. If the performance of the existing institutions can be improved, the presence of such community good will help to transform Kivulu altogether.

Community Perceptions about the role of Planning

When community members were confronted about their perceptions of planning, a whole range of interesting responses were elicited. All the respondents who were approached to acquire information about the above were not conversant with the concept to begin with. A lot of time had to be invested in trying to translating the concept's ideas into the local language for greater clarity. It was believed that explaining the concept of planning would clear the air of related issues. Elaborating more on the planning concept helped to elicit some responses that shed light on the issues facing the community. However, deeper enquiries into the concept only turned interviews into scholastic quizzes for the interviewees. Although it was not easy, discussions around the role of planning in the development of the community provoked respondents to give their views in response to questions like:

- What is going to be done (actions)?
- Who is going to do it (actors)?
- How big is it going to be (scale & extent)?
- How is it to be done (process)?

According to Mzee Mayanja, the idea of planning or development in general was a question of who was

doing it. To him, the whole concept revolved around the actors, specifically the local leaders. He felt that planning had more to do with leadership than anything else. Consequently, it's in such positions that ideas whether small or big, are conceived and implemented. He lamented about how the current leadership had become tainted by corruption. He even showed us a point on the road along which his house is located, where a culvert should have been constructed. On top of other problems, Mzee Mayanja insisted that the incompetence of the leadership (local and national) had made the implementation of small projects such as the culvert a tall order.

Sara Nasande, another resident working in the community market, gave a different view about how she perceived planning. Her response symbolised the expectations of many poor residents in Kivulu. She was more interested to know how the concept would impact on her livelihood. When the question was put to her, she replied with another of her own; would the planning of Kivulu lead to the demolition or retention of the market? Her question revealed her perception of planning as some strategy always adopted to address the problem of shanty structures or illegal settlements. The concern she showed about the future of the market, her source of income and ultimately, liveli-

hood, was a genuine indicator as to where her conceptions of planning lay. She was asked whether she had witnessed some planning interventions being implemented in the area. The answer did not come as a surprise. She said that she had not witnessed any planning interventions being implemented in the area. When given a better explanation of the concept, she concluded that planning should focus more on improving their livelihood.

For Emmanuel Kizito, a 28 year-old resident of Kivulu, planning or development interventions were about unfulfilled promises. He testified as to having been a witness to many land evictions in the area as the basis of his perceptions. According to observations and interviews with other community members, large parts of land had been cleared and were lying idle. The squatters who occupied this cleared land were forcefully evicted by landlords who had sold off their land to city developers. Kizito's perception of planning had been shaped by events such as these. It therefore came as no surprise when he concluded that the invasion and succession dynamics affecting Kivulu where symptoms of planning force in action.

Another interpretation of the role of planning was given by Esther Makango. To her as a resident, planning and development was synony-

mous with building big structures and shops in place of settlements like Kivulu. Unlike most of her fellow residents, she had a more positive view of planning. She believed that new developments that come with planning action were capable of creating job opportunities and raising living standards. Asked about the quality of physical infrastructure that was in place, she insisted that the necessary facilities were in place.

Like Sara, Nicholas Kajumba responded to the question of planning perceptions with his own question. 'The concept, you are asking me, is it just a new development from scratch or about making small changes?' He seemed to be more informed than the others from the ensuing interview. Given a better understanding of the concept, Kajumba categorically stated that the implementation of infrastructure (roads, schools, healthcare) should be considered first when setting planning goals for Kivulu.

The interviews that were carried out helped to shed some light on how the community perceives the concept of planning. It came as no surprise that the views they had were different. However, when all were confronted about their role in planning, their response was negative. They attributed it to the lack of motivation. Meetings are regularly called by the local leaders to make

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development plans for the area. Unfortunately, many residents do not turn up because they view it as a waste of time. The area chairman said that it is always difficult for him to call these meetings because the people only attend if there is something new on the agenda. They feel they have better things to do with their time than sit around and make discussions which eventually come to naught.

From the preceding interviews, the concept of planning greatly needs to be publicised to enlighten the masses about its importance. As of

now, it remains a concept for only the elite academia and educated masses. The country-wide scale of immunisation and HIV prevention campaigns provide an exemplary means to addressing key social problems. Unless similar awareness campaigns are made in planning, interventions based on its basic principles will not achieve much. The people can only be expected to actively involve themselves in something whose importance they can understand. Coupled with a result-oriented though not a means-to-an-end approach, planning has the potential to make a positive impact on Kivulu.

Linkages of the area

Internal Linkages

The internal linkages in Kivulu are dominated by the existence of social networks, which have played a valuable role in preserving cultural values. Social networks are relationships that are built among people of similar cultural (tribal) values. Kivulu, like many other illegal settlements in Kampala, has a high concentration of tribal groups from all over the country. From such cultural diversity, differences in cultural values, traditions, and behaviour emerge to influence the formation of territorial groupings. While it was identified that they were not very distinctly divided by physical boundaries, information gathered from respondents showed that individuals from a specific tribe largely associated with peers of the same tribal background. The Batoro, Bakiga and other tribes from the western part of the country habitually socialised with fellow western tribes. The same was evident amongst tribes from the Eastern, Northern and Central parts of the country. Businesses thrive on these relationships. Bars, which are the focal points and key beneficiaries, are known for selling beer taken by clientele from particular tribes. The small shops are no exception, though. Individuals seek out shops operated by their fellow tribes-mates, where they buy their

foodstuffs and other household items. This ploy is used to ensure that one can easily acquire goods or even services on credit.

New entrants into the settlement find it difficult to establish themselves in the settlement. However, this process becomes relatively easy when the newcomers make contact with social groups they can associate with in terms of language and culture. These tribal linkages ensure that new entrants into Kivulu do not fail to get housing, or employment of some kind. The groups have an attitude of taking care of their own no matter the cost. A tenement of 5 will take an additional 3 new entrants into Kivulu until they find their own places to stay.

Though not as strong as the above, family ties also play an important role in defining linkages within Kivulu. Families also provide an entry point for new settlers. Many individuals interviewed in the area attributed their ease of entry into Kivulu because of family ties. While the cultural ties make the greatest overall impact, these family ties have nevertheless made a telling contribution in defining internal linkages within Kivulu.

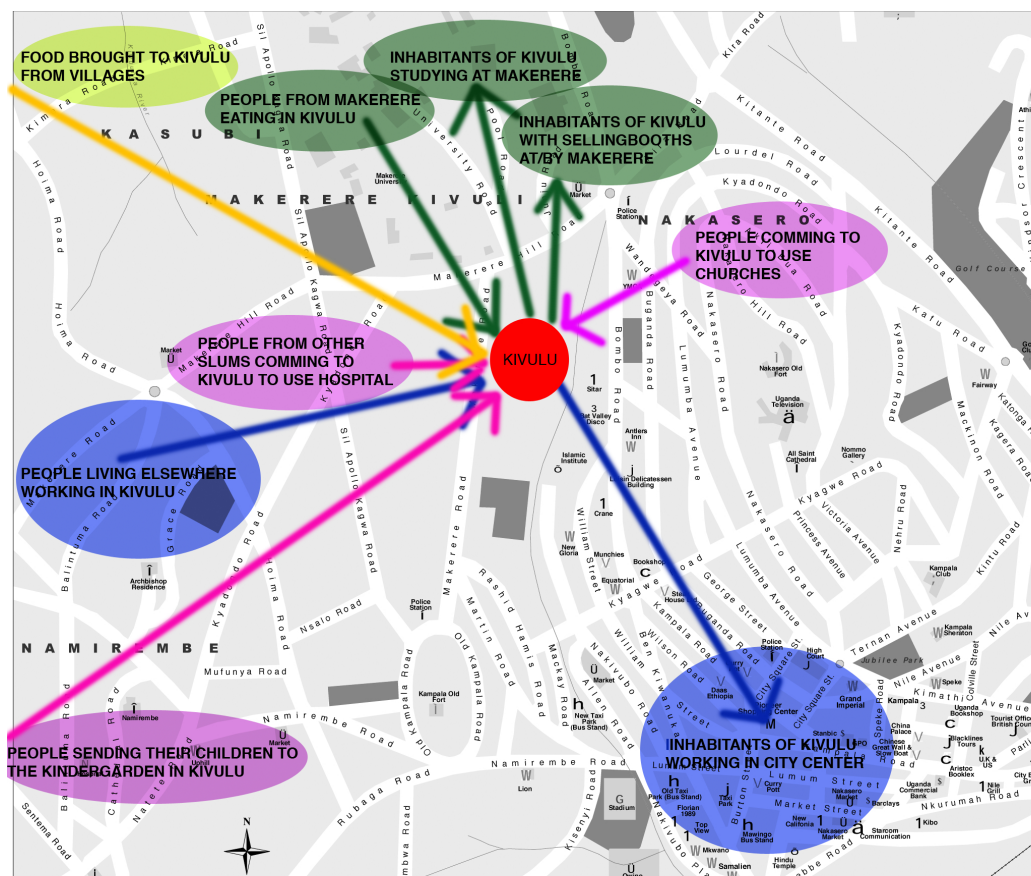
Economic linkages within Kivulu need to not be overlooked. Within Kivulu exist a variety of small retail businesses. The supply of goods and services between and among

Project Case-study

them has built valuable links. Some residents operate businesses which primarily supply other businesses with materials. Charcoal sellers and food vendors provided a very good example of such linkages. The market partly owes its existence to them. Restaurants buy their food and charcoal from the vendors. The bearing that these linkages have on people's livelihoods cannot be underestimated. Survival in Kivulu is partly built along these internal linkages. The social, cultural, and economic linkages in the community has further helped Kivulu to acquire some loose form of social cohesion.

External Linkages

Worthy of note are the external linkages that Kivulu has to its surrounding community. It was established that socially, there were a number of residents outside Kivulu who frequented the place during the day. These people came from as far as Katanga, Bwaiise, and Kasubi. Most of them were unemployed males, who came to seek the company of fellow tribes-mates. They would spend their days in Kivulu drinking, and gossiping about issues like politics. Some were married with families to support while others were single. Some residents



in Kivulu attributed the area's problems to this group. They accused it of being partly responsible for haphazardly disposing of solid waste in their settlement.

Another group of non-residents was identified to have strong connections to Kivulu. This included some small scale retailers. Many small businesses in Kivulu were owned by non-residents. These people live in other settlements, but ply their trade here. Most had been around for more than 5 years. Their impact, though subtle, is very important from the livelihood context. They are an indispensable support for the economy of Kivulu.

Some landlords have built or converted their properties into hotels in Kivulu. These hostels house a considerable number of students from Makerere University. They have had both a social and economic impact on Kivulu. They mix almost freely with the residents, and also acquire some services from them. Many obtain their meals from the market, thereby supporting the business operating there. However, their presence has also had a negative impact. More solid waste is generated by these hostels and dumped irresponsibly in Kivulu. A few privileged youth from Kivulu have also been able to acquire a university education at Makerere. All these groups play a key role in



determining the resultant linkages between Kivulu and its neighbouring community.

While the impact that non-residents of Kivulu have on the area is significant, the impact of residents from Kivulu on other areas is also significant. While some residents earn their living within Kivulu, others find their means of sustenance away from the settlement. Interviews revealed that some residents operate small businesses outside Kivulu. A good number of them operate small kiosks in Makerere University while others are involved in vending activities in suburbs like Wandegeya, Bwaiise, Mulago and Kamwokya.

The linkages that exist between the rural and urban areas are very strong in Kivulu. These linkages play a key role in influencing livelihoods. Very

little or almost no information has been acquired regarding the effect of these linkages. Families in Kivulu are well connected to their rural roots. This realisation came to the fore when some respondents admitted that they acquire their food supplies from the rural areas. Because they are poor, they never earn enough to cater for basic like food, shelter or clothing. As a means of cutting down on their expenditure, some households acquire their food from home villages in the rural areas. It should be noted that this phenomenon is not limited to the urban poor in Kampala. Even affluent and middle income households are known to acquire a considerable amount of their food supplies from the villages. The implications of these strong linkages are very wide. A great deal of research needs to be done to understand these rural-urban linkages.

Situation & Key Issues

This section of the report contains the results of the analyses that were made of key problems identified during the reconnaissance surveys. In addition, it lays out the various criteria that were adopted to develop a project geared towards addressing the most critical problem facing the community in Kivulu. The project elements are also clearly elaborated, to set the foundation for improving the welfare of the community.

Major Problems Affecting Residents of Kivulu

Through discussions with the community leadership (LC I), interviews with residents and field observations, a number of issues emerged. In order to better understand and comprehend their magnitude and extent, the key issues were classified accordingly. This approach helped to prioritise and therefore determine which problems needed urgent attention. Narrowing the problems down to a few would then assist in choosing an area of intervention.

The areas where planning interventions were most required in Kivulu were:

Environmental Issues:

- Poor solid waste management
- Threat of fires

Infrastructural Issues:

- Lack of cheap and reliable health facilities
- Acute water shortages
- Lack of power
- Poor drainage
- Inadequate sanitary facilities

Economic Issues:

- High crime rates
- Lack of rights to land
- Unemployment

Social Issues:

- Early pregnancies
- Uncontrolled Entertainment-Shanties

It is clearly evident that the nature of problems affecting communities such as the one in Kivulu cannot possibly be solved using the conventional survey-diagnose-plan approach. In Uganda, this kind of problem-solving approach has not yielded expected results in similar communities. It is more than oblivious that a different approach is required to bring about positive and lasting change to improve the lives of these people.

An objective analysis of each issue followed this stage. This analysis helped to narrow down the above set of issues to formulate a project brief. Doable projects had to be identified- those that could be started sooner rather than later – and then analysed in terms of their resource demands.

Situation & Key Issues

Problem	Possible Cause	Possible Effect
poor solid waste management	Irregular servicing of area by KCC collection trucks Irresponsible residents & outsiders	Overflowing skips Aesthetic & olfactory issues
Threat of fires	Poor housing materials	Loss of property
Lack of cheap & reliable health facilities	Lack of funds from KCC	High rates of mortality & morbidity
Acute water shortages	High cost of water	Poor hygiene standards
Lack of power	High cost of power	Insecurity in neighbourhood
Poor drainage	Lack of funds	Poor hygiene standards High rates of morbidity
Inadequate sanitary facilities	Lack of funds Land is not readily available	Poor hygiene standards
High crime rates	Poverty Unemployment	Mistrust within community Insecurity
Lack of rights to land	Lack of funds to buy land	Temporary structures Uncertainties about future
Unemployment	Poor economic performance Lack of skills & training	Drug addiction High rates of crime Apathy & low levels of motivation
Early pregnancies	Illiteracy Rape	High rates of school drop-outs
Uncontrolled entertainment shanties	Inadequate regulatory system	Juvenile delinquency Loss of productive time

Table 1: identified problems, their possible causes & effects

1. Prioritization & Objective Analysis of Problems

The analysis phase of the project started with an objective assessment of the results of interviews conducted in Kivulu. The purpose of this was to validate the authenticity and accuracy of information acquired from the various respondents. Having compiled and verified the list of issues that community members felt were most pressing, we proceeded to weigh the impact of each problem. Because the information was acquired mainly through semi-structured interviews, the process of identifying key intervention areas was arguably very challenging. The complexities surrounding each one of these problems made it all the more difficult to pin down their causes and the extent of their effects. It should therefore be noted that some basic assumptions had to be considered to make an assertive choice as to which interventions would best meet the set goals and objectives.

Using the vulnerability level matrix, an assessment was made of the relative impacts each problem had on various community groups. This comparative analysis of the identified problems helped to isolate key areas where immediate interventions would have an arguably greater impact on improving community welfare.



Situation & Key Issues

NATURE OF PROBLEM	AFFECTED GROUPS									
	W	M	Y	O	C	S	LS	U	E	WP
Lack of cheap and reliable health facilities	X X	X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X	NOT	14
Poor Solid Waste Management	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	X	18
Accute Water Problems	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X	18
Lack of Power	X X	X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X	16
Inadequate Sanitary Facilities	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	19
High Crime	X X	X	X	X X	X	X X	X X	X	X X	14
Lack of Land Rights	X X X	X X X	X X X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X X	X X	22
Unemployment	X X	X X X	X X X	X	X	X	X X X	X X X	X X	19
Unwanted Pregnancies	X X X	NOT	X X X	X X	X	X	X	X	NOT	12
Poor Drainage	X X	X	X X	X X	X X X	X X X	X X	X X	X X	19
Threat of Fires	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	18
Uncontrolled Entertainment Shanties	X	X	X X X	X	X X X	X	X	X X	X	14

W – Women, M – Men, Y-Youth, O – the Old, C – Children, S – the Sick,
LS – Landless ,U – Unemployed, E - Non-residents

XXX - Most Affected, XX – Affected, X - Least Affected, NOT - Not Affected

Table 2: the impact of the identified problems on key groups in Kivulu

Situation & Key Issues

The table was used to quantify the relative impacts of the various problems on particular community groups. The first column contains the list of the problems identified as the most critical by the community. While the middle column represents the list of affected community groups in the community, the third and last column (shaded) constitutes the relative weight that each problem exerts on the community as a whole. Using the three-level vulnerability classification, it was possible to determine the impact of each problem on women, children or men as shown above. Evidently, while problems like the lack of rights to land scored highly when

the total weights were collated in the last column. The obvious reason for this was because almost all the groups in the community were deemed to be highly affected. The men, women, youth, landless and unemployed, who make up the majority, were currently more affected. A problem like that of the uncontrolled entertainment shanties scored low because its perceived impact was largely felt by only two groups.

Consequently, a rank table was developed to clearly show how the identified problems were prioritised.

Rank	Issues arising from field surveys	Score
1	Lack of land rights	22
2	Unemployment	19
2	Poor drainage	19
2	Inadequate sanitary facilities	19
3	Acute water shortages	18
3	Poor solid waste management	18
3	Threat of fires	18
4	Lack of power	16
5	Lack of cheap & reliable health facilities	14
5	Uncontrolled Entertainment Shanties	14
6	Unwanted pregnancies	12

Table 3: the rank of problems facing the Kivulu's community

Situation & Key Issues

The ranking shows the importance of the most critical problems faced by the community in Kivulu. High on the list are problems like the lack of rights to land, unemployment, poor drainage, and poor human waste management. The second group of problems with a lower score (and therefore of lower importance than the first) includes acute water shortages, poor solid waste management, and threat of fires. The last group depicts that group of problems whose impact is restricted to a few sections of the community. While this matrix helped to weigh the importance of some problems in relation to others, it should be noted that this matrix was developed strictly for purposes of problem prioritisation, and eventually to aid in deciding on which alternative interventions to adopt.

The importance of this stage of the fieldwork was crucial since it laid the foundation for selecting the most suitable intervention area. This selection helped to draw greater focus to a few particular problems, with the aim of choosing the most appropriate project in this context.

2. Asset/Impact Analysis

After prioritizing the problems in the previous stage, the list was narrowed down to four key areas of possible intervention. Through group discussions, it was agreed that in addition to reviewing the information obtained from the respondents, an asset/impact matrix was required to narrow down the list of problems to four.

From this matrix, the potential impacts of the problems, as weighed against the community's resource base to address them, were analyzed. The matrix is the result of discussions which were carried out to categorize the highlighted problems according to their potential impact on the community, and the possible amount of resources required to solve each.

		Degree of Impact on Community	
		Low	High
Limits of Community Assets	Without	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat of fires • High crime rates • Lack of cheap and reliable health facility • Lack of Electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of land rights • Unemployment
	Within	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontrolled entertainment shanties • Unwanted Pregnancies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor drainage • Inadequate sanitary facilities • Acute water shortages • Poor solid waste management

Limits of Community Assets:

Considers the extent to which the community's assets and resources can adequately support interventions to address a problem in question.

Degree of Impact on Community:

Considers the weight of the problems as objective assertions of the residents' perceptions.

Table 4: impact of the problems as weighed against the community's ability to address them accordingly

Planning interventions always have to take into consideration a number of issues before courses of action can be adopted. This stage of problem analysis was developed to support this process. As shown in the matrix, that group of problems whose overall resource demands were beyond the reach of the community was set in the upper two quadrants. It was realized by the team that to successfully address these problems, appropriate interventions demanded high infrastructure investment and concrete national urban policy backup. These could not be guaranteed, especially from an action planning perspective where more emphasis is placed on achieving results within the shortest possible time. This group was further subdivided into two. Possible interventions that could be adopted to address this subset of problems lacked the potential to make significant positive impacts on the whole community. Problems with a relatively lower impact potential were set in the upper left quadrant, while those with a relatively higher impact potential were set in the upper right quadrant.

For instance, the fire threat could be addressed in part by enforcing building and fire standards to lower the risk of fires, and improving accessibility in the area to allow fire-fighting vehicles access the area in times of emergencies. It is a well-known fact that enforcing of build-

ing codes in an informal settlement would not have a visible impact on the resident community's welfare. It is therefore not the most ideal issue to address from the onset in a place like Kivulu. The potential results it can yield lack the ability to have a profound impact on the community. First and foremost, enforcement of such standards may become counterproductive. Interventions of this nature are always likely to create feelings of resentment among beneficiary communities. While many would not perceive these measures in a positive way, others might oppose them openly because such interventions would greatly interfere with and destabilize their livelihood. Adopting such interventions at the onset would only self-defeat the good intentions of those trying to help. Another shortcoming of taking on such a project is that it would require a high degree of commitment from higher authorities, and investment resources to enforce policy or improve area connectivity. The lack of an operational urbanization policy, numerous inefficiencies and resource constraints that plague KCC do not provide a favorable basis for such interventions.

The second group of problems whose overall resource demands were within the limits of the community was set in the lower two quadrants. To successfully address these problems, the resource demands of

Situation & Key Issues

these interventions were deemed to be relatively lower. Within this group, problems were further subdivided as in the first case. Problems whose interventions required relatively lower amounts of investment (within the resource limits of the community), and which had the potential to make some positive impacts on the community were set in the lower left quadrant. In the lower right quadrant, those problems whose interventions required lower amounts of investment, and which had the potential to make significantly higher impacts on the community were set in the lower right hand quadrant.

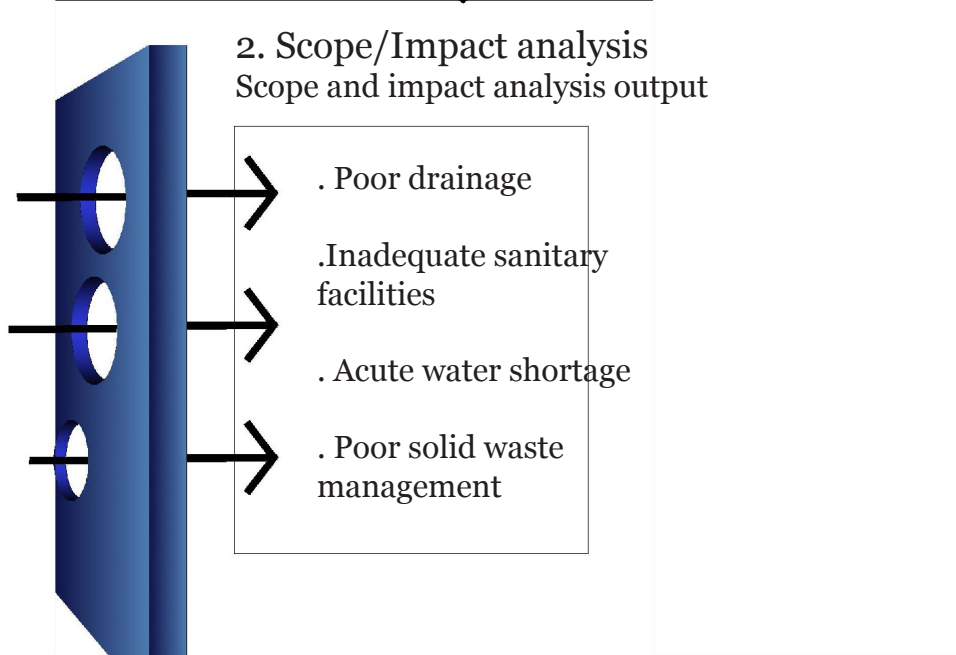
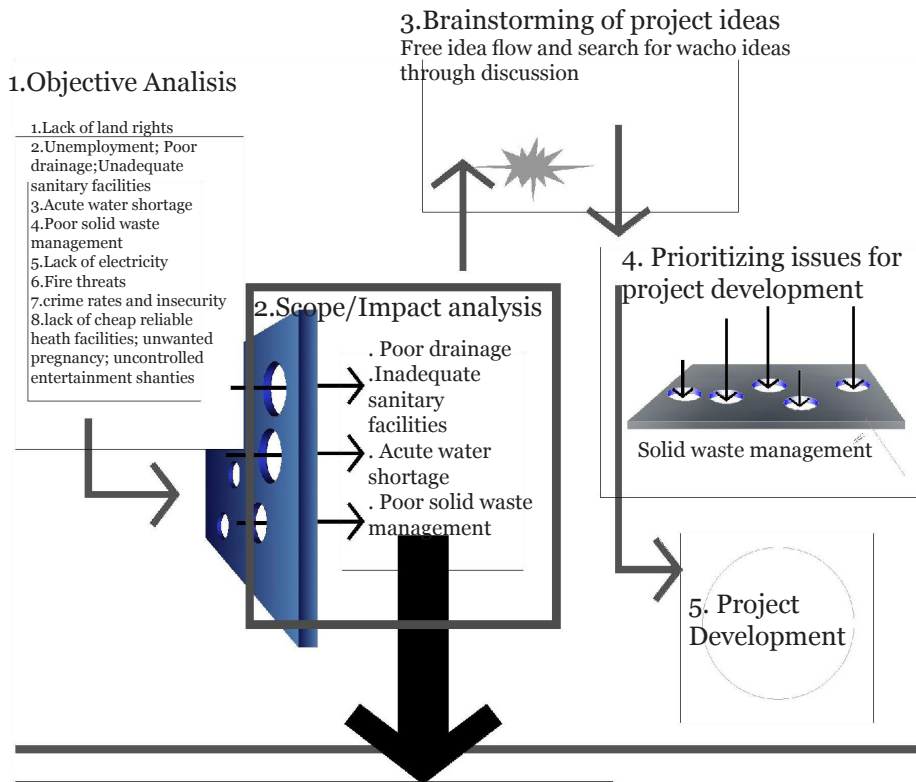
This scope analysis matrix helped to filter and narrow the list of problems down to the four that appeared in the lower right quadrant.

- Poor drainage
- Inadequate sanitary facilities
- Acute water shortages
- Poor solid waste management

It was from this stage that a critical assessment was made of the four along the following premises:

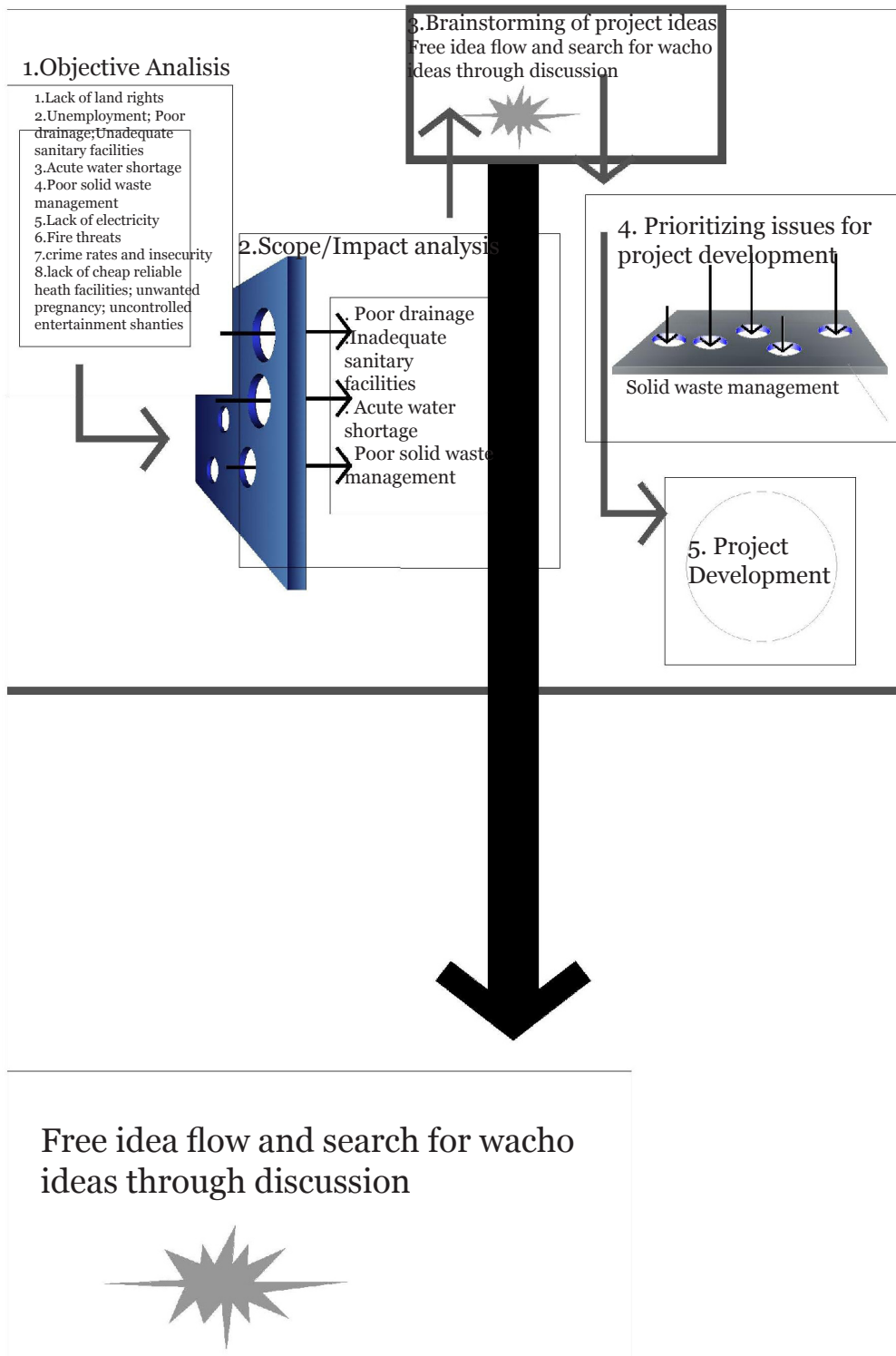
- What interventions could be adopted to achieve results within the shortest possible time?
- What problem interventions were needed to make a tangible impact on the community?
- What resources could the community mobilize within their limits to implement the adopted interventions and strategies?
- How could the existing community frameworks be exploited to address the problem for a recognisable impact?

Situation & Key Issues



Diagrammatic representation showing Scope/Impact Analysis

Situation & Key Issues



Diagrammatic representation showing brainstorming of project ideas

3. Project Selection

To choose one key area of intervention from among the four, a series of brainstorming sessions were carried out by the team. A deeper examination was made of the possible practicalities that would arise in the event of developing a project brief for any of the four problems.

The choice of determining which area could be realistically handled was based a number of factors. To begin with, the team developed a list of criteria against which each area of intervention would be scrutinised. The list of criteria was divided into explicit and implicit factors. The first four explicit factors were adopted as the main determinants of choosing a project that could be realistically attempted. They were limited to four, so as to ease the decision-making process. The second list of implicit factors was used primarily to widen scope of examination of the chosen project.

Criteria that was developed and adopted to determine which area would be dealt with:

- Level of community involvement
- Time frame of implementation
- Feasibility
- Sustainability

The final project choice was also weighed against the following im-

PLICIT factors:

- Contribute the most
- Community acceptability
- Knowledge as outsiders
- Degree of success
- Potential influence on other projects
- Capacity of institutions

Level of community involvement

The second criterion that was used to choose an area for intervention tried to examine the degree to which the project would foster community involvement. Involving various sections of the community in Kivulu was perceived as being crucial in building community cohesion and relationships. Building such relationships would provide the ideal springboard for promoting greater and meaningful public participation in decision making. Although most of the potential interventions possessed the potential to achieve this, it was acknowledged that some interventions depended more than others on this aspect. This in turn would help to guide actions that could bring about positive change within Kivulu.

Time frame of implementation

The time frame envisaged for implementation of a project need not be too lengthy. According to rough estimates, the time frames required for implementing projects to ad-

Situation & Key Issues

project was chosen on the premise that it would be more easily accepted by the community. Comparisons were made of the possible adjustments that the community would have to make to accommodate interventions to solve a particular problem. Consequently, the project whose interventions would cause minimum disruption to the community was adopted.

Knowledge as outsiders

The time within which community surveys could be carried out in Kivulu was limited. The two months that were allotted for carrying out field surveys and developing a project brief were insufficient for the team to acquire and build a reasonable understanding of the complex issues facing Kivulu. Because of this, members of the team felt they were better positioned to try and address that problem which they could contribute and relate to the most in terms of ideas. The team had to be realistic as to which intervention could be implemented within the shortest possible time. The complexities surrounding issues like water shortages, human waste disposal and drainage had the potential to delay the implementation of intervention strategies as opposed to that of solid waste management.

Degree of success

The likelihood of problem solving interventions to succeed had an

impact on the choice of project selection. The urgent need to achieve positive results played a crucial role in determining which project to adopt. The final project was chosen on the premise that its potential success would help to build cohesion within the community. It would also help to build trust on the part of the community in the decision-making process.

Potential influence on other projects

This was another critical factor which played a key role in determining which project to adopt. If successful, the chosen project needed to have the potential to influence the initiation of other projects to improve the welfare of the community.

Capacity of institutions

Consideration was also given to assessing the capacity of existing community institutions to implement the project. Projects always depend on how well organised a community is to succeed. Projects that rely heavily on this factor are more than likely to fail if the institutions are found wanting. On the other hand, a project that relies less on institutions and more on communal effort has higher chances of succeeding if the existing institutions lack full capacity to monitor, manage and maintain it.

dress problems related to drainage, water and human waste disposal were either too long or very unpredictable. This meant that expected results could not be realised within the shortest time. The community had grown weary of receiving research teams which had carried out studies and failed to implement what they promised. With this in mind, the team chose to tackle the problem of poor solid waste management because its interventions could be implemented within a relatively shorter time period to produce much needed results for the community to see.

Feasibility

A simple assessment of the cost implications of the alternative projects helped to evaluate the effectiveness of each one. This assessment was instrumental in weighing the potential benefits of the alternative projects, against cost estimates. It also helped to identify which projects would ensure higher levels of efficiency in terms of resource utilisation. This approach played a significant role in determining which project to adopt.

Sustainability

One of the main concerns that arose during group discussions was that of sustainability. Results of preliminary field surveys revealed that it had become extremely difficult to maintain projects that were initiated to improve the welfare of

Kivulu's community. Many projects had been initiated and implemented by KCC to meet the needs of this community. According to the residents, KCC and most other NGOs had introduced projects to address some of the major problems facing the community. However, these organs pulled out along the way, and the projects collapsed. From this perspective, the team was of the view that a project brief would only be developed to address a problem where maintenance and sustainability, by the community itself, could be guaranteed. To achieve this, interventions that had the potential to involve every section of the community were favoured over those which largely required external input.

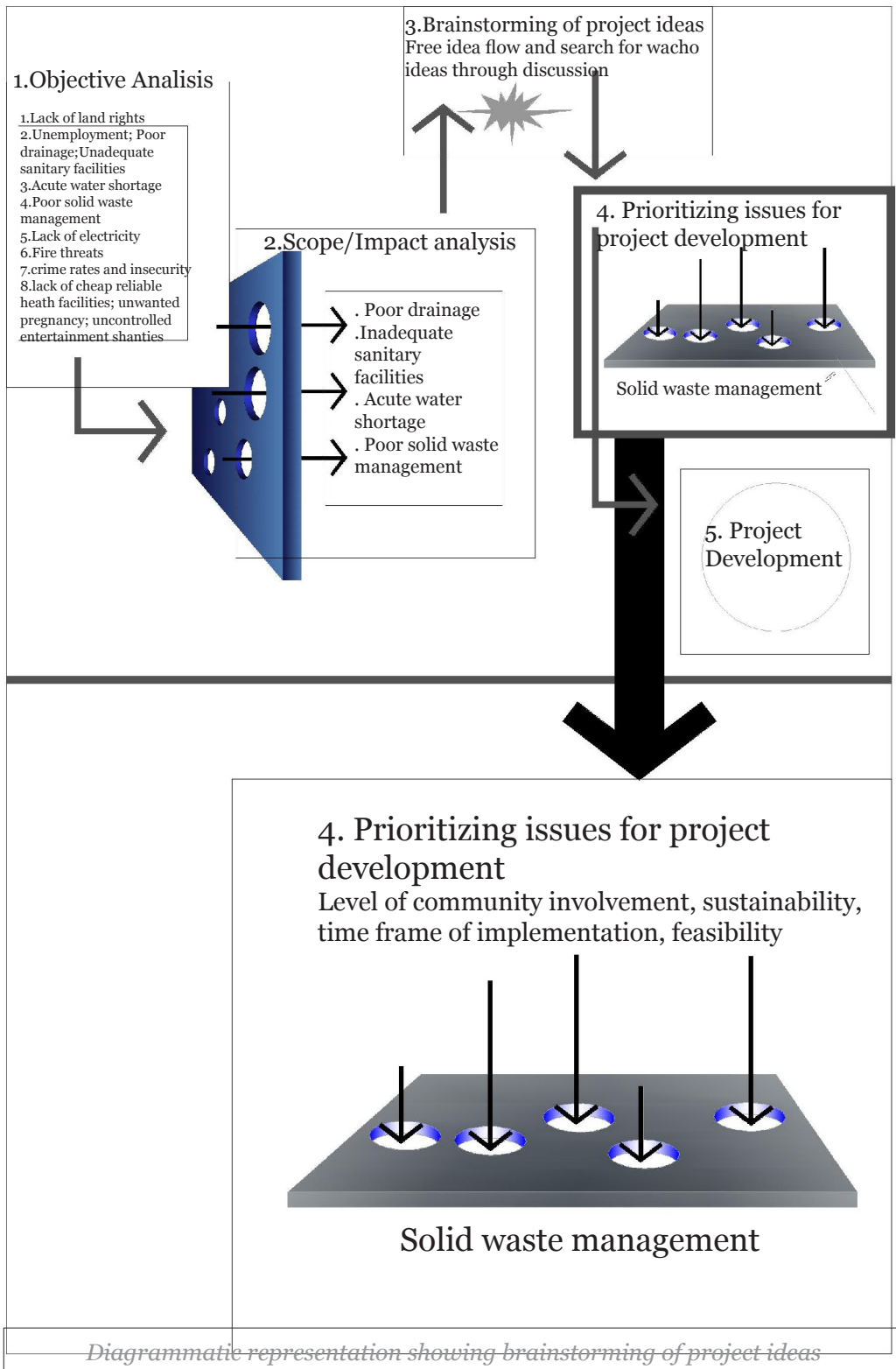
Contribute the most

The process of making a final choice of which problem to tackle had to take into consideration which interventions would best contribute to bring about positive change in the shortest time possible. While all the possible interventions had the potential to bring about this change, not all could guarantee results in the shortest possible time. The decision to try and address one of the four problems was also influenced by this factor.

Community acceptability

A project has to be easily accepted by the community if it is to succeed. From this perspective, the final

Situation & Key Issues



Situation & Key Issues

Criteria for weighing possible interventions of each problem	Critical issues to consider for possible interventions			
	sanitation	water	solid waste	drainage
Level of community involvement	2	1	4	2
Time frame of implementation	2	1	4	3
Feasibility	3	2	5	4
Sustainability	3	2	3	2
Total	10	6	16	11

- 1- Unsatisfactory returns
- 2- Satisfactory returns
- 3- Acceptable level of returns
- 4- Good level of returns
- 5- Highly satisfactory level of returns

Table 7: how the four explicit criteria were used to weigh project alternatives

The matrix shows how the main list of explicit criteria was used to determine which project was most appropriate given the available resources and time. Apart from talking into account the available resources and time, the process was also highly influenced by the need to bring about positive change within the area as soon as possible.

determining factors. Eventually, the total score of each possible project was obtained. The project with the highest score was chosen because it exhibited the greater potential to help meet the most urgent needs of the community.

According to the matrix, the four possible areas of intervention were primarily weighed to gauge their potential to fulfil the main goals of the study. Through team discussions, scores for each area of intervention were recorded against the

Situation & Key Issues

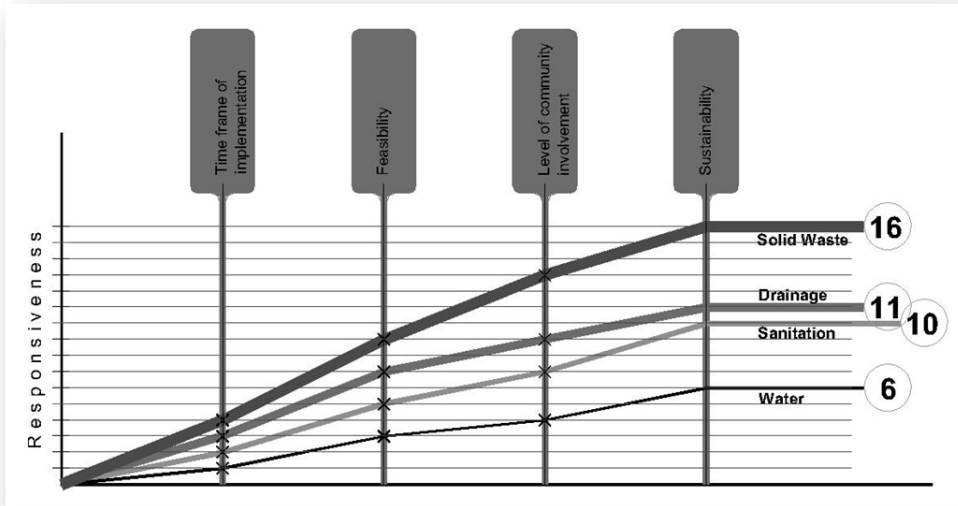


Illustration of responsiveness

Situation & Key Issues



Project Practicalities

Solid Waste Management

The final project that was chosen was closely related to some of the key principles of urban ecological planning. It was designed based on its ability to achieve the set goal, encourage local participation, rapport and partnership. In addition, it was based on local knowledge and skills, developed as a starting point of intervention rather than an end state with the potential to realise visible tangible outputs.

The project was assembled by first setting out the main goal, objectives and strategies. These would provide the yardstick for evaluating and assessing the overall performance of the project after implementation

Goal:

- Reduction of the amount of garbage in Kivulu

Objectives:

- Changing the attitudes & perceptions of the community about handling, managing and disposing of garbage.
- Promoting the adoption of waste reducing, recycling, and reuse techniques.

- Planning for the provision of more disposal sites in Kivulu.

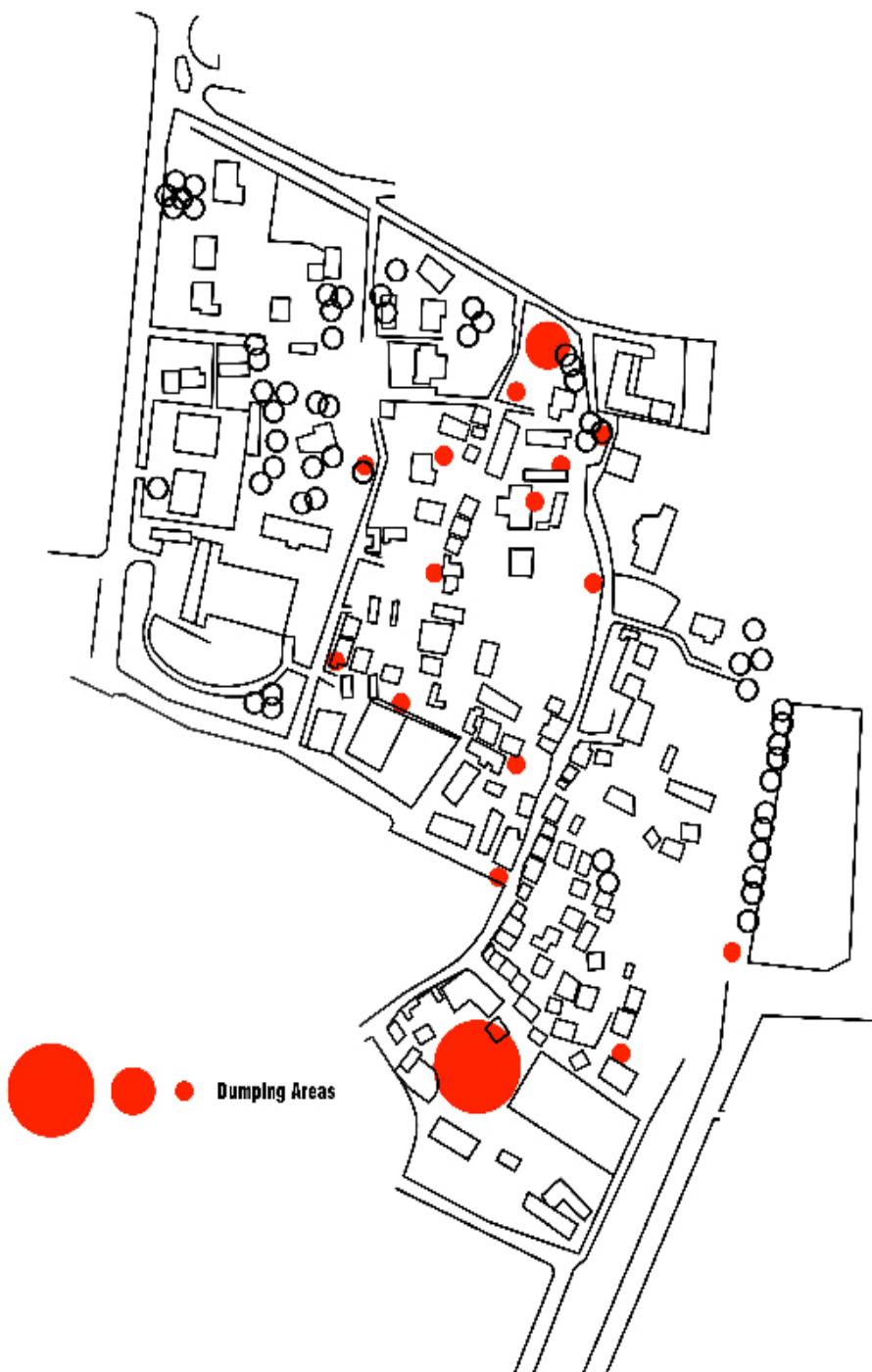
Strategies:

- Awareness Campaigns
- Training
- Imposing of fines
- Creation of a waste separation station
- Payment for waste collection
- Introduction of individual waste storage containers
- Introduction of central scavenger and rodent-proof waste collection points
- Location of sites as near as possible to roads to ease transportation
- Containers should have a relatively high storage capacity

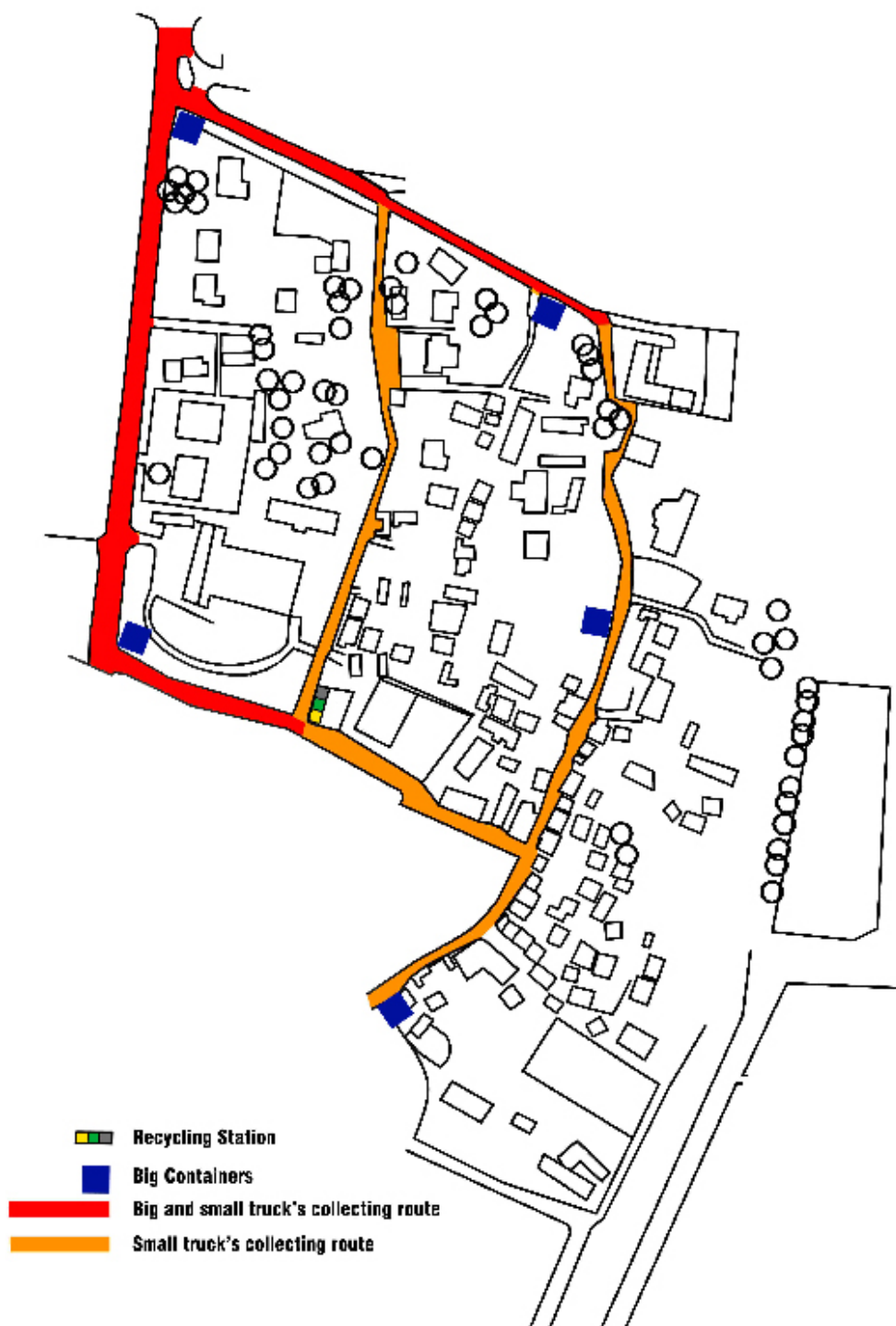
Situation & Key Issues

Goal	Objectives	Strategy	Activity
Reduction of the amount of garbage in Kivulu	Transforming attitudes and perceptions	Awareness Campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers & posters-preparation, production & distribution • music, dance & drama presentations • documentary and video presentations of success stories • introduction of community festivals
		Community Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstration workshops & lectures • fieldtrips
		Imposing of fines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • define responsibilities per area • set rules & regulations
	Reduce, Recycle, Reuse	Creation of a waste separation centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • buying separate containers for waste & sitting them appropriately • employ some people to operate the site
		Payment for waste collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting the practicalities of who pays, how much they get paid & what criteria is used to choose who is to be paid • collection points should be tightly guarded or designed in such a way to restrict unauthorized removal
		Introduction of individual waste storage containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution of well designed and appropriate storage containers
	Plan for more disposal sites	Introduction of central scavenger and rodent-proof waste collection points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of proposal maps for centralized waste collection
		Location of sites as near as possible to roads to ease transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of routing proposal for collection of solid waste
		Containers should have a relatively high storage capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and installation of high capacity and appropriate storage containers

Table 8: proposed project, its main goal, objectives, strategies and activities



Current situation of dumping areas



Proposal for new dumping areas



proposals for disposal sites

Situation & Key Issues



Situation & Key Issues

Inputs

The implementation and realisation of any project has to take into consideration practicalities needed to achieve the goal.

External Inputs:

- Design and printing of posters, flyers & other forms of educational material

Conducting educational & awareness campaigns

- Limited funding
- Design & provision of garbage containers (individual & communal)

Community Inputs:

- Mobilizing the residents to carry out communal self-policing
- Attendance of educational & awareness campaigns
- Financial contributions (individual & communal)

Outputs

Forecasts of outputs and potential outcomes had to be made in order to prepare the project.

- Significant reduction of the amount of garbage & rubbish in

Kivulu

- Lower incidences of disease, i.e. better health, reduced burden on family expenditure on medical care

- Improved living environment
- Attraction of market for small businesses especially students from Makerere University and other areas

Empowering of community to be more proactive in solving its own problems

It is hoped that all the strategies that have been put forward to address this particular issue will help to involve as many members and sections of the community, thereby laying a good foundation to induce actions geared to address the other challenges faced by the community.

Situation & Key Issues

	Activity	Time Frame
1	Preparation of site plan	Week 01
2	Resource mobilization, presenting proposals to institutions	Weeks 02, 03
3	Making arrangements with KCC and private firms	Week 04
4	Designing and ordering of large communal storage containers and individual containers	Weeks 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10
5	Installation of communal storage containers	Week 10
6	Installation of individual containers	Week 10
7	Defining the fines and rewards	Week 11
8	Recruiting personnel to run the project	Week 12
9	Preparation, printing and distribution of flyers	Week 13, 14
10	Setting up recycling station	Week 15
11	Running training workshops	Week 15
12	Starting to reward individuals and households	Week 16
13	Commencement of project experimental period	Weeks 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 21, 22, 23, 24
14	Monitoring of project performance	Weeks 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 21, 22, 23, 24
15	Appraisal of project	Week 25
16	Project evaluation	Week 26
17	Project redefinition and adjustments	Week 27
18	Imposition of fines	Week 28

Table 12: time frame for implementation of project activities

Key Assumptions

Successful implementation of the project will hinge on the fulfilment of certain assumptions. These assumptions were clearly set out within the implementation framework of the three main objectives.

Objective:

Transforming attitudes & perceptions

Assumptions:

- That the basic problem of environmental cleanness and its sequential havocs are caused by lack of public knowledge on the issue
- That a direct input to boost public knowledge on the problem area will produce a significant output
- That initiating a shift in the mindset of the society will consequently help to ameliorate the human impacts on the physical environment
- That local institutions will realise the need to play a catalytic role in mobilizing the community to initiate positive change
- That these fines will act as a

practical means of enforcing community initiatives in the absence of enforcing authority

Objective:

Reduce, Recycle, Reuse

Assumptions:

- That the practices of reduce, recycle, and reuse will result in a cleaner environment with more efficient resource usage
- That KCC, local CBOs and NGOs will play a crucial role in acquiring collection containers and provide operational funding for waste collection
- That the community will offer/identify appropriate sites for location of collection skips
- That the added incentive of paying households for garbage collection will result in greater vigilance towards the maintenance of a clean environment
- That containers provided to individual households will be designed in such a way that they discourage alternative uses
- That there will be minimal flaws in the administrative and technical set-up of the project to ensure uninterrupted waste rou-

Situation & Key Issues

tine

- That collection containers will have adequate storage capacities to prevent the overflow of garbage

Objective:

Plan for more disposal sites

Assumptions:

- That the community will offer/identify appropriate sites for location of collection skips

Possible constraints & limitations to project implementation

Community projects of this nature are known to experience constraints and limitations of varying degrees at particular times during their span. Similarly, great effort was invested in identifying potential constraints and limitations that were likely to face this project after implementation. Recognition of this fact was instrumental in ensuring that internal checks were instituted to minimise the negative effects these factors would have on the project.

- It is anticipated that the implementation of the project was likely to be constrained by:
- Over-reliance on the KCC collection trucks which might not

ensure efficiency in the timely removal and transportation of collected waste

- Funding shortages that might limit implementation of some financially based proposals
- Inability of sections within the targeted community to understand and appreciate the importance of sound waste management proposals
- Lack of accessible and usable land for implementing some proposals
- Inadequate skilled labour to implement some of the proposals

Possible problems that are likely to arise after project implementation

Similarly, it is more than likely that after implementation, the project will be affected by:

- Sustainability issues
- Financial support
- Enforcement problems
- Future uncertainties

Minimisation strategies of project constraints and related problems

The constraints and other problems which the project is likely to experience both in implementation

and during its lifecycle can be minimised through

- Emphasis on full community involvement & participation in the decision-making process
- Promoting self-sustenance of the project & limiting external funding
- Promoting community awareness and self-policing

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

It is imperative that periodic monitoring and evaluation be carried out on an annual basis by the community leadership in conjunction with local CBOs, NGOs and KCC. The purpose of this is twofold: first and foremost, it will assist the community to gauge the overall performance of the project in relation to the originally set goals. Secondly, it will help to identify areas where improvements might be required, or where new strategies need to be set and implemented altogether. The relative simplicity of the set project framework ensures that all this can be achieved in a flexible manner.

Continuous assessments of this nature are required to check whether positive change is actually occurring within the community. Regular feedback from the community about their views regarding the

project will also play a crucial part in this evaluation process. The forces of the urbanisation in Kampala are rapidly dynamic. Consequently, depending on its overall performance, the project will need to be re-evaluated and redefined in a cyclic manner. After 3 years, a whole new set of goals, objectives and strategies will need to be developed to ensure that the project maintains relevance in the long run.

Scaling-up

If successful, the project has the potential to be translated into city wide strategies for the improvement of other marginal areas within Kampala's boundaries. Solid waste management is undeniably one of the city's most pressing concerns. If handled competently, the adoption of community project improvement strategies like this one into a wider city intervention strategy will invariably bring about incremental changes that can transform the livelihoods of many.



Source: Aliani, (1996)

Diagrammatic representation of project scaling up

Conclusion

Going by the present trends, the stark reality is that the settlement of Kivulu might not be spared by the immense forces pressing from almost all sides. The settlement is apparently under siege from commercial developments spilling over from the city core. Already, some developments have slowly but surely crept into the settlement. These systematic invasions of the settlement are largely responsible for the dwindling population. Many have been evicted forcefully by landlords, and the future of those still living in the settlement is uncertain. Unless fate intervenes to halt this trend, the settlement is likely to be succeeded by growing commercial activity from the city centre. This trend, as a result of land scarcity, rising land values and a host of other economic forces seem to have conspired to destroy the livelihoods of the people in this community. The irony of it all is that if a community project like this one is successful, it will undoubtedly accelerate the possibility of eviction of the resident population and therefore removal of the settlement.

In spite of all this, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The implementation of this project will help to empower this community and probably, give it a voice to fight for their rights. People will always rise to protect that which they have worked so hard to build. It is here that the ultimate key to the survival of this community lies.



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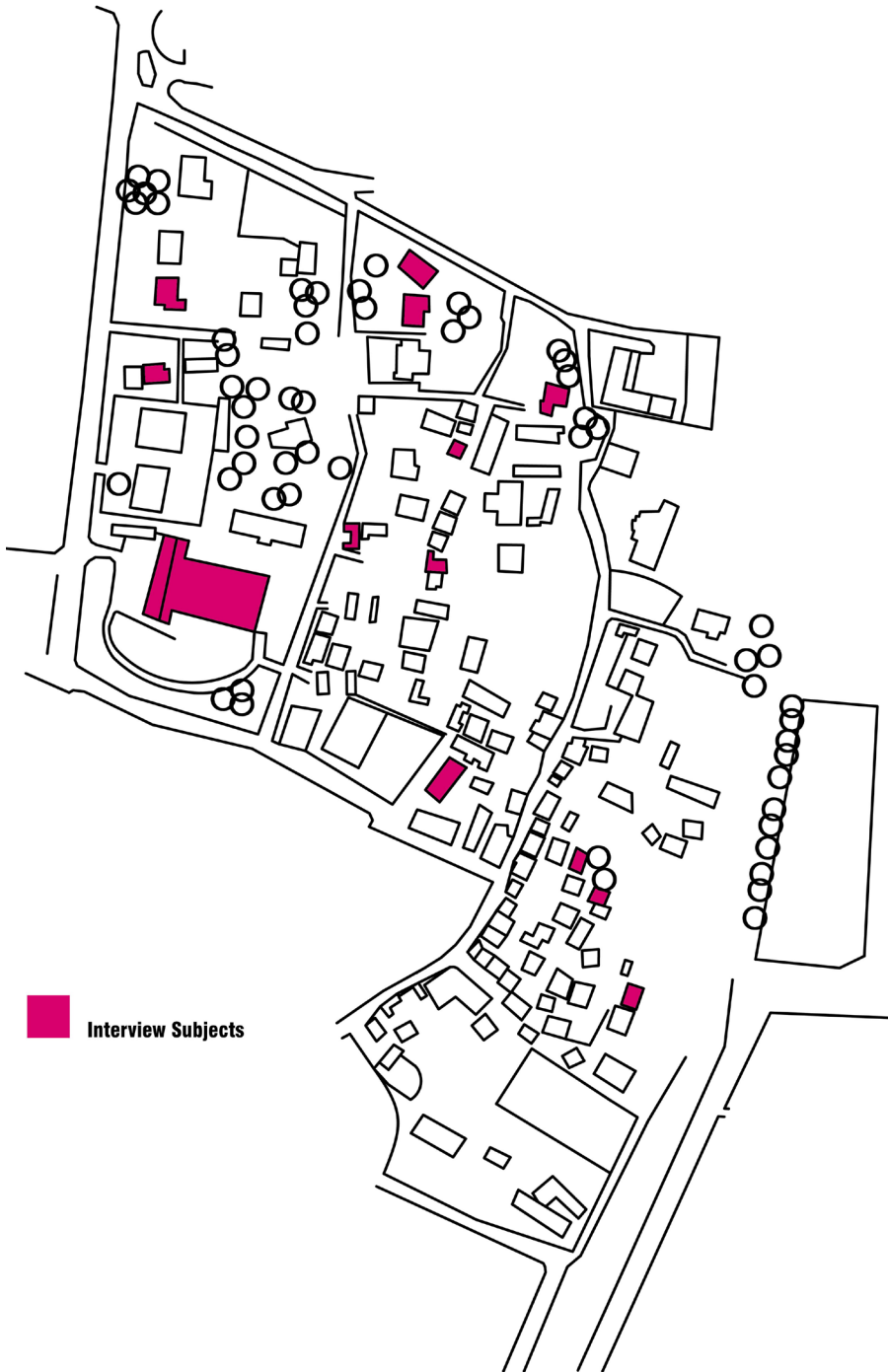
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Appendices

Interviews



Map showing sites for interviews

Date: 19.09.07, 001

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga

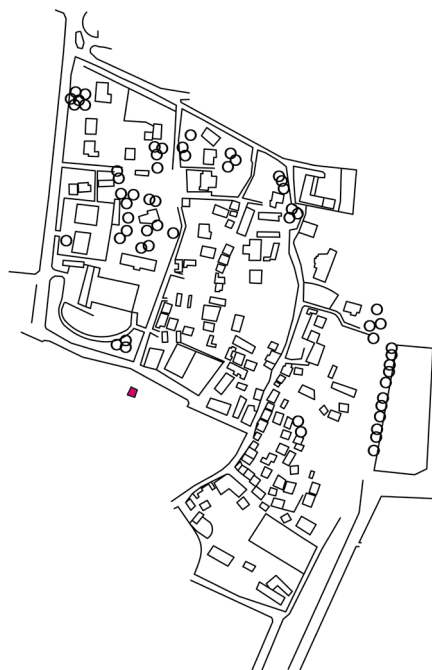
Place: Kivulu, somewhere behind
the office of the chairman of Kivulu
II.

Person: Mzee Thereza



Work: She owns and runs a bar in
the area from which she earns a liv-
ing to support her family. She also
owns a cow which helps her to sup-
plement her income from the bar.

Living: She has been living in the
area since she was 7 years old. For
this reason, she is considered as a
Mutaka, since she has been living in
the area for more than 20 years or
so. She supports several grand chil-
dren, coz her own children grew up
and left. She doesn't own any land
in the area, although she owns the
house in which she is currently liv-
ing in.



Problems: Poor solid waste man-
agement, poor drainage, inad-
equate sanitary facilities (latrines)

Date: 19.09.07, 002

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Muky. Nampeera

Work: She works as a cook, and owns a small restaurant where she offers her service to customers within the area. She use the income she earns from the business to support her family. She is about 45 years old.

Living: Because her husband is sick, she is the one who takes care of the family using the meagre earnings she gets from her small cooking business. She also has several children whom she supports in her household. She has been living in the area for more than 15 years, and she rents the house in which she is living in.

How can she be helped?

She was of the view that if given some capital, she would like to buy much needed utensils such as plates, cups and cutlery to use in her business. If all goes well, she would also consider trying out some other business opportunities to earn enough money to support her family.



Problems: Poor solid waste management, poor drainage, inadequate sanitary facilities (latrines), high crime rates

Date: 19.09.07, 003

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Muky. Kirungi Rose

Family: 7



Work: She is currently doesn't have any gainful form of employment. She makes snacks which she sells and distributes to the small shops in the area every morning. She uses the little money she gets to take care of her family.

Living: She has lived in the area for 2 years now, with her sister, mother and 5 children. Altogether, she is the head of a household of 7. She is currently pursuing a short course in tailoring, with the support of a friend. She hopes that when she finishes the course, she will be able to start up her own tailoring business to better support her family. She rents a single room at about 30,000 Ugshs in which the family lives. Their block currently has no toilet, coz the old one got filled up and the landlord is still constructing a new one for them. They are forced to use facilities of neighbours.

How can she be helped?

She was of the view that if given start-up capital in form of a sewing

machine, she will be able to set up a tailoring business to support her family.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, poor drainage, inadequate sanitary facilities (latrines), unemployment

Date: 19.09.07, 004

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Mw. Kasaija Patrick



Work: He works as a dobbi. He does laundry for other people living in the area as a way of earning a living. He rents a single room at about 30,000 Ugshs in which he lives. The block of tenements in which he lives currently has no toilet, coz the old one got filled up and the landlord is still constructing a new one for them. He is forced to use facilities of neighbours.

How can he be helped? He said that he encounters many problems in his line of work, but assistance in form capital such as durable ironing machines and washing containers would help to improve his business. This would go quite some way in helping to boost his income altogether.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, poor drainage, inadequate sanitary facilities (latrines)

Date: 21.09.07, 005

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga, Filipa

Place: Kivulu

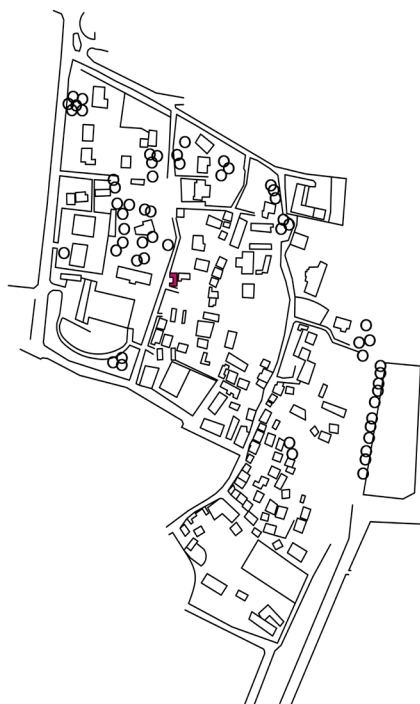
Person: Mzee Mayanja

Family: 5



Work: He used to be a garage mechanic but has no job now. He is unemployed.

Living: He has been living in the house for 25 years. He owns the structure but not the land. His house is in the road reserve. A quite good structure is under construction just behind his humble dwelling. In front of the house across the road, we have seen a pile of rubbish. He gets the food mainly from the village. We saw a poultry house in front his house.



How can he be helped? He was a local leader long ago and thinks he can contribute positively in consultation the administration but no more playing that role since it seems that they do not care about his advice. He says that schools are closing since the Indians claiming back the land. The local church is contributing a lot in helping children attend schools.

Problems: Poor solid waste management. He said that most of the rubbish is coming from the outsiders and damped just across his place. The residents could not control the problem since they are not well organized.

Date: 21.09.07, 006

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet, Ganga, Filipa

Place: Kivulu

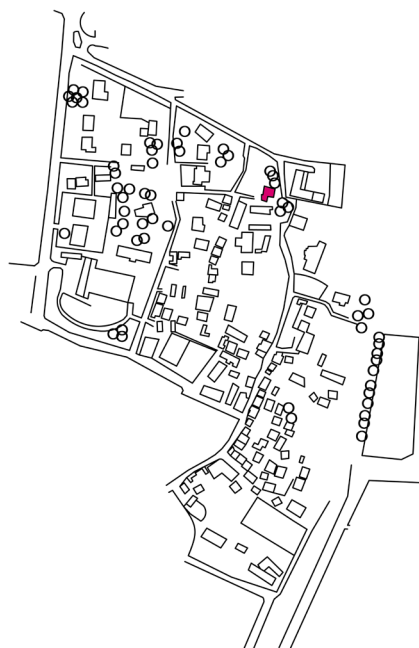
Person: Muky. Ndagire

Family: 4



Work: She owns a property which she rents out to 6 tenants. She also does some small scale urban agriculture on the NHCC land in the valley next to the flats.

Living: She has lived in the area for 20 years. She owns the structure in which she lives with her grandchildren. One of grandchildren that we interviewed no longer attends school due to lack of money for school fees. He helps her out with the garden work to help the household earn a living. The boy told us that the grandmother owns the structure in which they live but not the land. The house is divided into 7 individual units, from which she sublets to other residents.



How can she be helped?

It was not possible to determine what kind of assistance this family required since we were talking to the grandchild of the household head.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, inadequate sanitary facilities

Observation: Nearby this structure is a place where solid waste is stored by some residents and collected by KCC trucks. The place is a very filthy area, characterised by odours of decomposing waste and a swarm of flies that is attracted to the garbage. The residents said that the waste is not collected regularly, so it poses serious health problems to those in the vicinity.

Date: 21.09.07, 007

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga, Filipa

Place: Kivulu

Person: Muky. Anna Nanfuula

Family: 3

Work: She makes local beer (malwa) from millet for consumption in the area. She also keeps some rabbits as a way of supplementing her income to support her household.

Living: She moved from eastern Uganda about 25 years ago with her husband to Kampala, primarily in search of a better life. Her husband died leaving her to support their 2 grandchildren. She is renting a single room, for which she pays about 30,000 Ugshs per month. The house has no power, so they use locally made small kerosene lamps for lighting and charcoal/wood for cooking. The reason why most of the residents in the area don't use power is because of the prohibitively high prices which they cannot afford. One of her grandchildren collects old steel parts around the city and sells them to steel recyclers in Kampala.

How can she be helped?

She was not sure as to what kind of assistance she would need to improve on her welfare.



Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, inadequate sanitary facilities.

Observation: The structure in which she was living was relatively good, in contrast to most houses in Kivulu. It overlooks a large open area which, according to residents, was cleared of the original structures by the landlord.

Date: 21.09.07, 008

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga, Filipa

Place: Kivulu

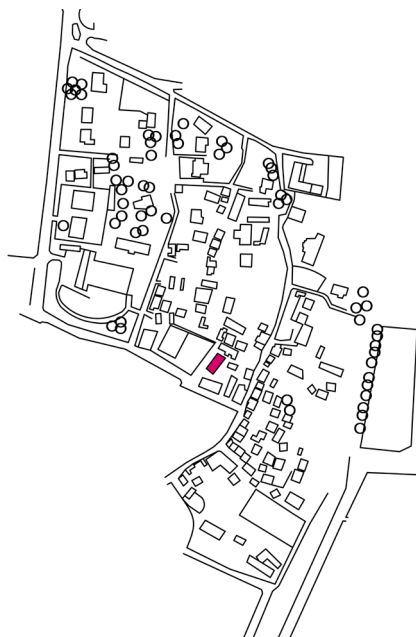
Person: Sarah and Nightingale

Family: 3

Work: These 2 young ladies were interviewed from the market. They do not live in Kivulu. They come from Kasubi, where they live. They only come to the market because they own some stalls in which they operate a restaurant and a shop. They have been working in this area for the last 6 years with their mother. They are renting two rooms, in which they operate a restaurant for shs and a shop, each for 50,000 Ugshs. The restaurant usually receives about 300 customers on a daily basis. Their restaurant operates from morning till midnight. The shop is only open during the day.

How can they be helped?

The respondents said that they can be helped especially areas such as the provision of adequate water and frequent removal of garbage from the market. This would go a long way in helping to improve on the health standards of the market in Kivulu.



Problems: Poor solid waste management, unreliable water supply, inadequate sanitary facilities.
Observation: The market in which they work is relatively clean, though there are problems with the management of garbage and rubbish. The food is prepared and cooked out in the open, which poses some serious health risks.

Date: 25.09.07, 012

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet, Ganga

Place: Kivulu

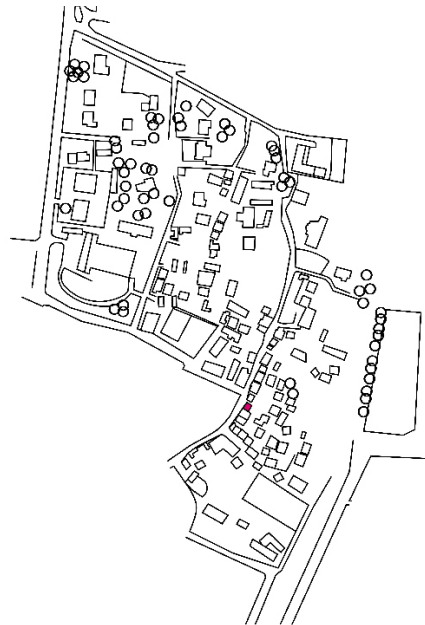
Person: Muky. Nabulime Betty

Family: 3



Work: She works as a charcoal seller in the area with her mother. Her husband works away from Kivulu, and is the head of the household. She only supplements her husband's earnings with her little income from selling charcoal to residents especially those working as cooks in the market.

Living: She is 22 years old, and was born in Kivulu. She is literate, since she studied as far as Senior 4. She and her husband have one child, and are renting a single room. They pay 40,000 Ugshs for the room, including power. They actually use the power for lighting and cooking.



How can he be helped?

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, inadequate sanitary facilities.

Observation: The area in which Betty resides is relatively clean, in contrast to most other areas we had been through. It is probably due to the fact that she lives along a major route way so it is essential for them to keep it as clean as possible.

Date: 25.09.07, 013

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet,
Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Muky. Rose

Family: 6



Work: She operates a small kiosk next to the drainage channel on the lower side of the settlement. She sells snacks, soft drinks, beer, cigarettes and other miscellaneous items in her small kiosk. Her clientele is largely composed of mechanics who work in the area nearby. She rents the kiosk from someone else at about 20,000 Ugshs.

Living: She only moved into the area about 2 years ago. She has 3 children, 2 of whom are in the village. She lives with her sister who also has 3 children. They are living in a rented two-roomed unit, part of which is used as a restaurant by the sister.

How can he be helped?

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, inadequate sanitary facilities.

Date: 070925

Interviewed: Ronny 21

Interviewer: Filipa & Agnete

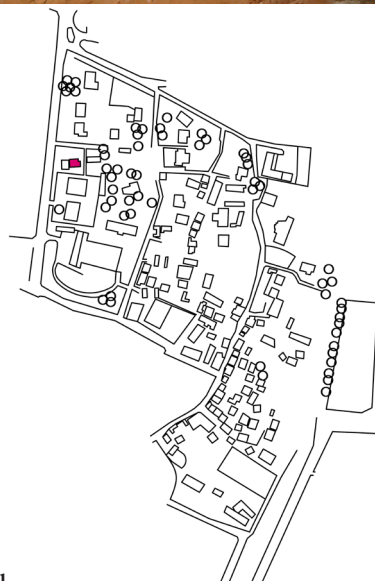
Place: Outside his house in Makerere Road

Person: Ronny is wearing a pair of blue sports pants and a t-shirt. He speaks English but is not too fond of being interviewed. Ronny was born in Kivulu and has lived here ever since. Ronny's parents died in 2000. He now lives with his brother (19 years).

Work: Ronny wants to become a music-producer. He now attends the 1st year of college and go to school every day. He plays the keyboard, but he does not own it himself, so he has to practice elsewhere. Sundays he plays in church and this gives him some income. When his parents died Ronny and his brother inherited their three houses in Kivulu, and they now gets most of their income from renting out the other two besides the one they live in themselves.

Living:

Ronny and his brother own three houses in Kivulu, but only the buildings, no land. Ronny both cleans and cooks for himself, and he likes it very much. Ronny likes to live in Kivulu «because this is where I grew up». He thinks it is calm and quiet place and he likes the fact that they have a school. He would like to live here for the rest of his life. «I feel good when I am in



Kivulu».

Ronny takes active part in the Kivulu Community. He attends the monthly meetings that the Chairmen hold. Here they discuss about for instance drainage and insecurity problems. He thinks that things are improving and are more stabile nowadays.

Problems:

Lack of water is a problem for Ronny. He is also afraid for thieves. He has had some things stolen from him, but not from inside the house. Kitchen stuff that was lying outside was taken. He thinks that the security should be better, maybe with security-guards.

Date: 25.09.07, 013

Person: Irene, 58 years

Interviewer: Agnete and Filipa

Place: New Makerere Hill Kindergarten

Family: 6

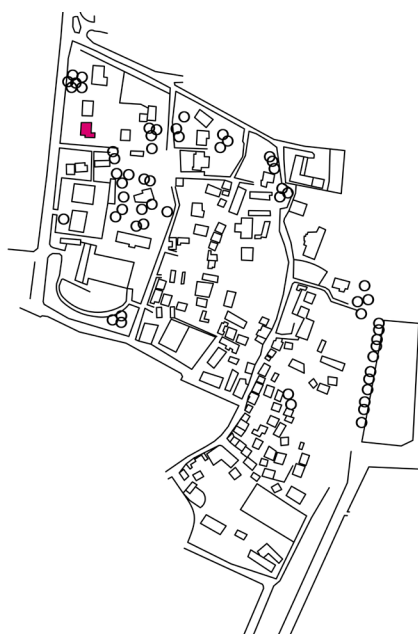


Work: She is a teacher and the admistress for the kindergarten. Irene has been working there for the last 20 years. Before this, she was working in different schools. And she got a diploma in teaching.

The kindergarten opened around 1977. It is a private institution with 50 students that study there for 2 or 3 years. Just few of the students live in Kivulu, and these ones are being helped by compassion organizations to pay the term fees. It costs 150000 per term.

Living: She doesn't live in Kivulu.

Problems: Although Irene is not living in Kivulu, she complains that people from the neighborhood are often bad and rude. She says that most of them are very poor, and living in not very hygienic conditions. One of the worst problems in her opinion is unemployment. "Some people don't work; they just spend the whole day drinking"



Date: 070924

Interviewed: Nuneva Muyohto, around 80

Interviewer: Filipa & Agnete

Place: Outside her house in Kivulu

Person: Nuneva is blind. She is the grandmother of our translator, Tony, and she does not speak any English. She is wearing a traditional dress, and is clean.



Family: Nuneva got married when she was 14 and she got 11 children, of whom 2 are dead. Her husband died in 1970, she was then about 40 years old. Now she lives with her grandchildren and grand-grandchildren. She and the oldest granddaughter cooks and cleans for the rest. They are 6 altogether in her house. Her children live elsewhere

Work:

Nuneva has always been a housewife, but in earlier years she was selling drinks from her house. Her children now have jobs and bring her things and money so that she can survive.

Living:

Nuneva moved to Kivulu in 1963. She came here to work for her children who lived and worked here. She likes it here, and does not want to move. She thinks that the livelihood in Kivulu has improved very much during the years, for instance the building structures and education of children.



Problems:

There are some problems with water and electricity, but that goes for the whole of Uganda.

Nuneva would like to eat better food and milk if she could, but she is not starving. She does not feel that she has enough money, and would like to buy more milk, sugar and good food, like matooke and beef.

Date: 24.09.07, 009

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet, Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Mw. Ngonzi Silver

Family: 6



Work: He is a roadside trader, mainly dealing in fresh foodstuffs such as cowpeas, beans and a variety of fruits depending on the season. He purchases the foodstuffs from local farmers who deliver their produce for sale in Nakasero market in Kampala. He uses the little income that he earns from his trade to cater for the needs of his family.

Living: He moved to Kivulu about 10 years ago from Western Uganda. He is 39 years old and has 4 children to support, including his wife. He rents a single room of about 20,000 Ugshs. The tenements in which he is living with his family have no power, so they use charcoal/wood for cooking and candles and local kerosene lamps for lighting at night. The residents in this area acquire their water from a stand pipe nearby, at a cost of about 100 Ugshs per 20 litre jerry can. His children are currently not attending school due to the lack of funds for fees. He is HIV+, and this puts a heavy burden on the household's income. Fortu-



nately, he registered at Mulago Referral Hospital where he goes to receive free ARVs.

How can he be helped?

Because of his poor health, he felt that one of the ways in which he could be assisted was by acquiring a bicycle to help ease transport to target markets. He said that because he doesn't have any means

of transport, he is forced to walk to places like Wandegeya where he sells his goods. This overexertion greatly weakens his already fragile health.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, lack of power, inadequate sanitary facilities, high crime rates.

Observation: The area in which he is currently living in is one of the worst. It is characterised by many filthy drains filled with rubbish and even faeces. It has a very offensive odour, mainly from the decomposing matter in the drains and the unhygienic toilets. We found this man lying down on a rugged mat in front of this house. It was evident that he was trying to save his energy for the upcoming exertions of travelling to Wandegeya in the evening to sell his goods. He appears to have lost a lot of weight, even though he is on ARVs. The wife happened to be nearby, preparing their lunch. Their house was made of mud and wattle, with a gaping hole just away from the main entrance probably acting as some form of ventilation. The condition in which this family is in is quite dire to say the least.

Date: 070925

Interviewed: Rosettie Kibudde, 60 years

Interviewer: Filipa & Agnete

Place: Seventh Day Adventist Church & Medical Centre, Makerere Road

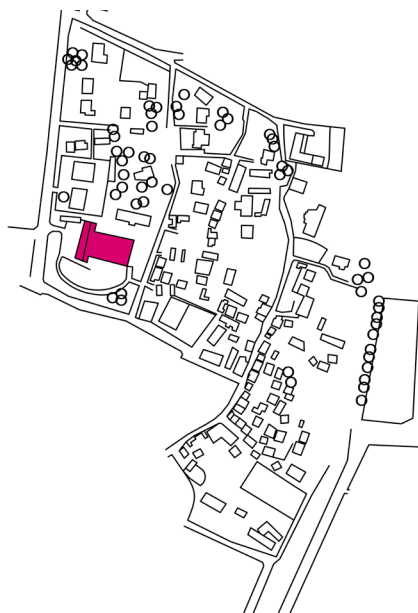


Person: Rosettie is wearing a nurse dress and glasses and has her hair tightly made. She speaks good English. She does not live in Kivulu herself, but she knows the place through her job.

Work: Rosettie is an educated nurse and got her first job in 1966 at Mulago Hospital. In 1987 she moved to Kenya and worked there for 9 years. When Seventh Day Adventist Medical Centre opened in 1995 she started working here, and she is now in charge of the unit. The medical centre also includes a dental clinic, laboratory and a birth clinic. They teach family planning and mothers who comes here how to care for their babies. It is a 24-hours open clinic.

Rosettie emphasise the work with HIV, and tells that a councillor comes 3 times a week. They have an outreach programs toward Kivulu, where they go out and teach people to look after themselves. If the centre has money at the time they sometimes supply people with commodities. To decide who gets the money they have meetings with ASHD and the chairman to pick people.

«We go to them» Rosettie says. Be-



cause their help is not constant, they can't ask people to come to the centre to get money. They have to go out and find them. The centre is being sponsored by the church, but the amount depends on how much people give. «It is not enough», she laughs. Even in good times it is never enough to help all the needing. The centre has a charity service for Kivulu. They sell cheap medicine or give it out for free. «But

they don't know that we can give them free treatment before they come. We give it as a surprise».

The center is struggling to make it around. Sometimes it gets some help from City Council for their outreach programs. They also sometimes get free medicine from Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau UPMB. «There are ups and downs», she says about the development of the clinic.

In 1999 the clinic started a workshop with 2 people from each of the 7 villages. They were taught about hygiene so that they would return to their villages and teach the others. After the first workshop Action for Slum, Health and Development (ASHD) was started in Kivulu, and they are now working together. The second workshop was held in 2006. There are no plans on further workshops before more money is raised.

ASHD has requested to get more counsellors trained to help the community of Kivulu. The cooperation between the medical centre and community of Kivulu is ok. When the Seventh Day Adventist Church & Medical Centre has money they contact the ASHD who again contacts the chairman.

The Seventh Day Adventist Church & Medical Centre owns the land that the medical center is built on.

Living:

The most common diseases nowadays in Kivulu is Malaria, sexual transmitted diseases, Typhoid, and in periods also Cholera infections. The conditions have improved after the centre

started. People have learned about hygiene and sanitation, and that they prepare food in the right places and boil the water. They also teach them to only eat hot food, how to clean their house and how to use the latrine. 3 people go around together on the outreach programs, and they cover 7 villages like Kivulu.

The living conditions in Kivulu are not sufficient. Rosettie shakes her head. «It's not good at all». There are families sleeping under paper roofs, full of dust. People cannot leave the place either, because they need the closeness to the city that do not require money spent on transportation.

Problems:

Rosettie thinks that money is the biggest problem in Kivulu. «Most of them are very poor». At the clinic they know that even if they treat people, not all of them have money to pay. Most of the children that go to school in Kivulu get their fee paid by donations from different churches. The clinic also gives them mattresses and school-tuition if they have money at the time.

Rosettie thinks that money should be spent on giving people places to sell their products, and she thinks there should be improved conditions for tailoring.

Date: 070924

Interviewed: John, about 40

Interviewer: Filipa & Agnete

Place: at his business in the street from
Makerere Road to Bativa Hotel

Person: John is wearing a white shirt
and blue pants. He is nicely dressed
and clean. He speaks English.

John was born in Kivulu and has lived
here until 7 years ago when he moved
to a different area with his family, be-
cause of cheaper rent. He is now getting
used to live elsewhere than in Kivulu.
«I was feeling lost», he said, about the
time when they moved from the place
where he was born to the new one.

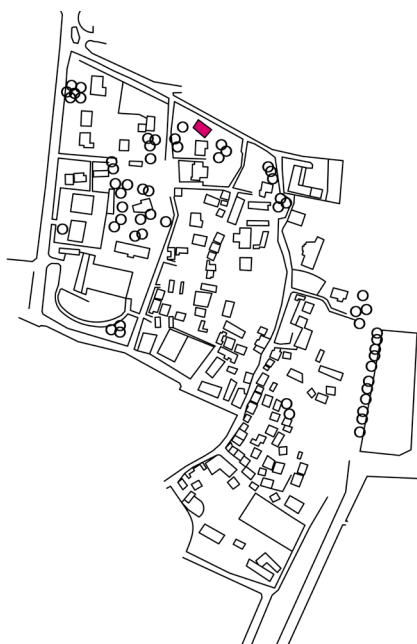
Family:

John has a wife, who is not working,
and three girls of 16, 9 and 2 years of
age. The last girl wasn't planned. The
older girls are studying.

Work:

John has worked in Kivulu since he
got his diploma in electronic repair.
Most of his customers are from here,
and he has known them for a long
time. This is why he still keeps his
business in Kivulu, even after he
moved. His business is doing well
right now, his hours of work a day
depends on how many customers he
gets.

John is not the only one with his
profession in Kivulu. He started his
business with some others, but when



it grew they split up and now work
alone.

Living:

John is renting his place from an old
woman (about 60) called Vero. Her
name is probably Veronica. She owns
a lot of land in Kivulu, and she also
lives in one of the larger buildings

here. John is always scared about the day when the landlord decides to kick him out. His rent is 50 000 shilling per month.

The people that rent here have a common toilet. It is clean enough, his business is situated in the «nice» part of Kivulu.

His business does not produce a lot of garbage, so he does not use the garbage-truck that passes twice a week, in theory. Sometimes people stay almost one week without their garbage being collected. Whenever he has some waste, he just throws it out on the street.

John buys his food from some people cooking between Bativa Hotel and the Church that is being built behind it. A girl comes by during the interview to collect his plate from today.

Problems:

John is constantly afraid of thieves and that someone will brake in to his house. He thinks the security in Kivulu is bad. Luckily he hasn't been robbed yet, but he keeps his door locked with big padlocks and brings his most valuable things home at night.

John doesn't think that anything could be done about the insecurity in the area.

His other concern is that the changes in urban development are increasing. He is afraid that he might be kicked out any day. «Yes, I should be afraid», he says, but smiles politely.

Date: 070924

Person: Fiona, 14 years old.

Interviewer: Filipa & Aggi

Place: at the house of the woman for whom she works

Person: Fiona is wearing a black skirt and a black t-shirt. With her is the little girl that she is taking care of.

She kneels down when she meets us, and finds us a t-shirt to sit on so that we do not get dirty.

Fiona speaks some English, but is more comfortable using the translator.

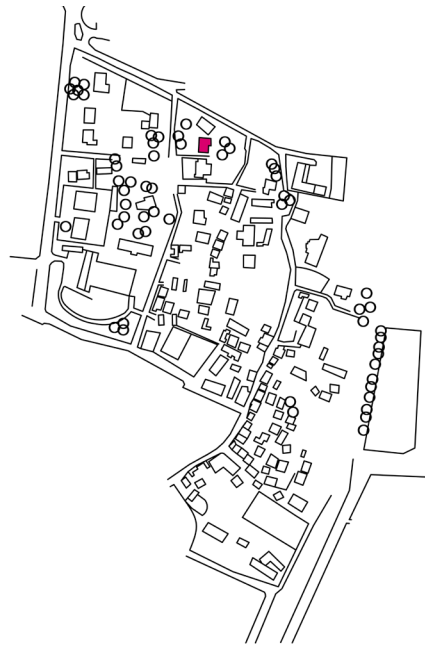
Family:

Fiona lives with her mother in Kivulu. Her mother is suffering from Syphilis and stays at home most of the time, except when she sells bananas and doughnuts by the road.

Her father is Kenyan and has a scrap-business.

Her mother has 8 children and her father has 12, but Fiona is the only one they have together. 4 of her brothers are living in Kenya in addition to many other relatives. They have a lot of problems, so they are trying to get them to Uganda.

Fiona has lived in Kivulu since she was born and 3 of her brothers also live here. She lives alone with her mother, «I left him» she answers on question of where her father is.



Work:

Fiona failed her exams some time ago so she has to take the sixth grade over again. However she cannot afford her tuition right now, so she is working until October, and will start again then.

Fiona is working for a woman in Kivulu. She takes care of her 2 year

old daughter, cleans the house and do other stuff. Fiona doesn't like her job, and would rather do something else. She is underpaid, and feels exploited, as she is only paid 2000 shillings per week.

Fiona wants to become a teacher «because I think I can do the job»

Living:

Fiona pays her mothers rent which is 30 000 shilling per month. They share a toilet with several other families.

Problems:

What Fiona doesn't like about Kivulu is that young girls get pregnant early. She knows a lot of girls who sleeps already with men, and the sister of the girls she is taking care of is only 12 and has already slept with several. «I've never tried it», she says. She stays away from men, and wants to finish school first.

Fiona does not know much about Family Planning, but knows there are pills to take to avoid pregnancy and about condoms.

«Of course I know about condoms». She thinks that the problem could be solved by separate schools for girls and boys.

The water supply is another issue. Water has to be picked up 400 meters from her house.

Fiona thinks that the «movies» is causing troubles for the children, because it keeps kids from school, and it also shows underage children «blue

movies». People with this kind of business don't care about the moral issues...they just want the ticket money.

Date: 24.09.07, 010

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet, Ganga

Place: Kivulu

Person: Muky. Regina Birungi

Family: 4

Work: Regina sells fresh foodstuffs on the roadsides in Wandegeya mostly. Sometimes when foodstuffs such as passion fruits are in season, she travels as far as Kasese district to acquire her weekly stock. She uses the income that she acquires from her trade to provide for the basic necessities of her family.

Living: She has lived in Kivulu for the last 20 years. She came from Kabarole district, looking for better opportunities for herself and her family. She rents a single room at a cost of 30,000 Ugshs, in which she looks after her 3 children. 2 of her children are no longer in school, because of various reasons. One of them, a boy, stopped in P.7, and was sent by the mother to Juba, Southern Sudan, to engage in some business there. After every 3 months, he returns to Kampala to purchase stock for his business and then returns to Sudan. Another son stopped in Senior 4, but because he could not proceed to the next level because the mother did not have the resources to cater for his education. He is unemployed. Her last born child, a girl, is the only one in school for now. She is in P.6. When she young, she lost three of her fingers on her left hand due



to an accident at school. It is quite difficult for Regina to look after her in such a challenging environment because of her disability.

How can she be helped?

Regina told us that she would really appreciate assistance in form of capital of about 4 M Ugshs. She thinks it would go a long way in helping her to boost her business and therefore en-

able her to improve her welfare.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, lack of power, inadequate sanitary facilities, high crime rates.

Observation: Regina's area is very congested, with a narrow corridor separating her unit from the one in front. The house itself is very unfit for human habitation. Just like many other house in this area, it is made of mud and wattle, with very old and rusty iron sheets acting as the roof. It has no windows but only a door. The room is always extremely hot during the day as we experienced when we went in. The surrounding environs are in a similarly appalling condition, with criss-crossing filthy drains all over the place.

Date: 24.09.07, 011

Interviewer: Kasaija, Netsanet, Ganga

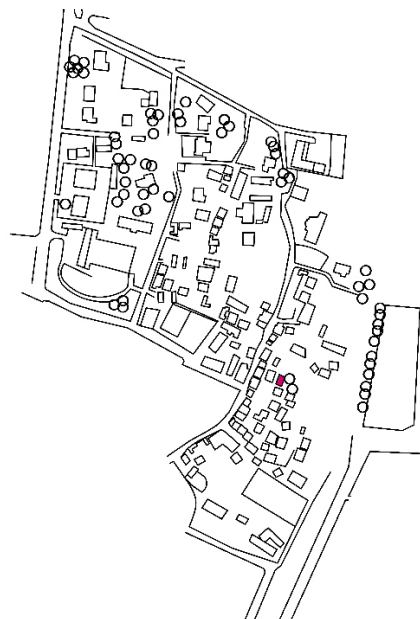
Place: Kivulu

Person: Mw. Wejuli Bernard

Family: 3



Work: He works as a roadside trader in Wandegeya. He sells second hand shoes as a way of earning a living. He rents the veranda where he plies his trade for about 20,000 Ugshs. He travels to Owino market every once a month to buy the shoes which he sells in Wandegeya in the evenings. This is his only form of income. He told us that according to his budget, he spends about 5,000 Ugshs on feeding his family every day, and he also tries to save about 30,000 Ugshs per month on his meagre income.



Living: He was born in Busia, eastern Uganda. He only went as far as P.7 in his studies. His father had 10 children, including him. They were raised in the village, although later he brought them to town with him to Kivulu. His father owned a large swath of land in Kivulu, which he eventually sold off without their knowledge as children. Actually, the land was sold to a pastor, who moved to the area 6 years ago and put up a church. Because the father left them landless, the pastor allowed them to stay in the house their father had left behind on the said property. Bernard now lives there with some other

siblings and his own family. He is one of the lucky few in this area who don't pay rent for the housing they live in. He has a wife and 2 children whom he is supporting. He volunteers as the youth pastor in the same church headed by the pastor who bought their father's land. He is directly involved in a number of activities for the youth aimed at improving their welfare and keeping other youth from common vices such as crime and prostitution.

How can he be helped?

Bernard said that he greatly needs assistance in form of extra working capital of about 3 M Ugshs to boost his business. He is also thinking that if he can raise more money, he will identify other areas of opportunity which he can try to exploit to improve on the general welfare of his family and other siblings who are still in school.

Problems: Poor solid waste management, acute water shortages, lack of power, inadequate sanitary facilities, high crime rates, prostitution.

Observation: The area in which Bernard resides is unhygienic, and filthy. However, they try as much as possible to clean the drains to ensure that garbage and rubbish do not collect and cause problems to them.

Date: 070925

Interviewed: Angel, 24

Interviewer: Filipa & Agnete

Place: Inside the shop where she works

Person: Angel is quite timid, and answers questions shortly. She speaks English. When we arrive she is cleaning the floor, so she does not want to take our hands because she feels dirty. Angel was born in Kivulu and lived her for 8 years. She moved because of family problems.

Family: Angel is not married but she has a son (6 years). She lives with him and her nephews in a different village.

Work:

Angel has a diploma in storekeeping, and would like to go on with her career.

Right now she works for a family friend who owns a shop in the road down to Bativa Hotel.

He owns a container in which he has his store, but rent the land for 60,000 Ugshs per month.

Living:

Angel would rather not live in Kivulu. «There are no real homes here. There are just houses».

She does not attend any community meetings here or involve herself in any other ways.





Agnete Syrtveit

13th Sept. 2007

Today we entered Kivulu. The neighbourhood outside the Bativa, a squatter right next to Makerere. This place is cleaner than wetlands. At least it seems like it. We enter the place at the same time, the whole group, like a flock of sheep. Chairman is here. -Hello Chairman.

He is big and quite scary and only pays attention to Hans, so I don't get much out of him.

The chairman-street is wide and people walk further away from us than in wetlands. Far away is good sometimes. Later it gets narrower. Still, the place is nice and clearer and far drier than the place we saw Tuesday. Still the same stank of garbage rules the area.

Music is filling my ears from at least three different directions.

Ballades of love and suffering mixes with the metallic sound from the workshops and handcrafts. Like stump. Steel band. I like it. A car passes us in the street; hence the streets are suited for and meant for vehicles. Trespassers welcome. The car is white, and I keep wondering why they keep so many white cars in this country. The color of the constant dust makes this illogical, at least to me, but then again the car-washing-industry seem to be the biggest business there is, so maybe the white cars serves the

purpose of making the economy go round.

The houses here are nicer than in wetlands. They are made of soil and sticks. The biggest building is the church. Of course, during all times the church has had the best of everything. In Kivulu it is an old barn, in green, corrugated sheet metal.

There is more activity or productive activity so to speak, than in the areas we've visited. More functional business. Its all about survival of the fittest. People don't like to have their photo taken here. Not at all. This feels uncomfortable, especially when no is the answer to a, in my opinion, very polite question of permission that should result in a positive answer.

A little girl is clinging on to Pranita, one of our colleagues. The kids are more trusting here. Not as shy and distanced. Maybe they meet more mzungus in their everyday life, maybe their parenting is different. Maybe it's just accidental. They pull our arms, follow us for longer time, and take up more space.

I give money to a little girl. She's been hanging around us the whole day. Cute little creature, but a bit too energetic. Kind of like Vips, the Fraggles. Receiving the money she gets even more excited and dances along us until she disappears and we don't see her again. It seems like giving kids candy or money is the way to keep them away, ironi-

cally.

A marked in the middle is abounding with veggies. People are calling mzungu and I wave at them. They chair. A guy comes over and looks over my shoulder to see what I write in my book. I let him watch. If he happens to know Norwegian so be it.

The woman is preparing lunch in big pots. Huge pots. The food is boiling and bubbling and leaves a foam along the sides of the pot, which makes it look like a witch-pot from children's television and, in my opinion, both fascinating and quite disgusting. The women run small cubicles where they serve their clients. Well. I understand that it works somehow like a restaurant, but that you also can spend the night if you really want to, although I am not able to figure out where the bed is...

I thought it would be interesting to try the food. Not today, though. When ducking under a string of laundry I get a bit of a pant in my eye. Yuck. Don't feel ready for personal contact yet, everything seems dirty and full of bacteria and diseases. In a little house some men are drinking from a pot with long straws. A man asks if I want to taste, and I refuse. The man insists, shouting "Taste! Taste!" I simply left without a word.

The men are surprisingly clinging. I am a big, pink object that looks good in black. Nice, let's go home now.

17th Sept

We're back, wandering through Kivulu, but avoid taking photos. Things are still strange, but not extraordinary anymore, and we do not get distracted by the several mzungu-approaches as before.

Outside the chairman's office I buy a chapati. A fascinating piece of handcraft, he pulls the dough around on a red-hot hot-plate.

Photos? No problem.

The pay off is more mine than his – the best chapati ever, served in a plastic bag, warm as hell, but tasty and very fulfilling.

Chairman takes us to a social house of some kind. Green plastic stairs in a ring makes room for a conversation about our goal and UN Habitat.

On the gate hangs a poster about Straight Talk- groups. Apollo explains that these are gatherings for youth where they talk about things concerning their bodies. Sex, aids, condoms etc. They have a column in the newspaper too. Every day. To bring to light the AIDS-issues and issues concerning other sexual transmitted diseases.

Ganga Yadav & Netsanet Sorri David & Goliath

Kivulu is a home for multitude of marginalized poor on the verge of being devoured by the mammoth-scaled city development taking place all around it. The indication of the struggle becomes clear especially on the Makerere Hill- Side road boundary. On the contrary, the opposite corner of the site seems less affected by such developments. The land-price, which lames the poor to stay where they used to live, is giving a comparative advantage for developers who want to push through their investment plans. This is a war front of the urban poor to stay or to leave. Urban Poverty at its worst

The area looks robbed of its important merits if one goes through the list desirable environmental assets. Kivulu is in a deep physical, economical and social deterioration. Sewerage system and toilet provision seem fancy items rather than necessity. The basic need of mankind is challenged. In short, gainful employment doesn't exist much. Taverns and video shops host the young. It is the women who are shouldered the task of winning bread and keeping the roof up. The common asset of most urban poor societies, social institution, is weak in Kivulu. Except during some calamities, the societal organization is not discernible.

Social Cohesion

I see churches here and there. If you visit the place on Sundays, you hear people listening to the Good News and humming heavenly songs. God comes every Sunday to Kivulu. The question is how we can urge Him to stay all the week days. Communion is spontaneous here. If only we could tap this wealth one of the many possible cohesive force of this society.

Will-power and survival

Ngonza Silver is getting weak to work and support his family though he is taking the retro-viral medication for free. However, he is not staying at home in despair. He goes every morning to the market buy things he would retail later. The vendors at the market places are epitomes of these strong survival resolutions. The informal sector which is striving from this basic reality can be engineered into gainful and sustainable livelihood. Livelihood in turn improves basic needs like food. I wonder what the word sanitation sounds for the hungry stomach.

Filipa Alfaro

I am aware that I learned quite a lot since I arrived in Kampala, mainly I believe, as a result of the work we have been doing in Kivulu. I have been learning not simply in the planning or architectural point of view, but also in the human one.

Kivulu it's a place that we got to know after visiting a couple of slums in really bad conditions, so since the beginning I have felt a certain kind of optimism when thinking towards the future of the area.

Comparing with the slums we saw before like Kamwokya or Bwaiise, it has much less problems, and much more potential. It looks to me that one of the reasons is that inside the community people are working with the same goal, improving their place and their living conditions.

Here the streets are much cleaner, I notice for the first time some garbage bags outside the houses and the amount of washed clothes hanging along the narrow streets are nice to see and smell.

It is also pleasant to recognize that the market place is famous for its good food.

There's always a big circulation of people coming from outside the neighbourhood to have lunch there, in general students living in the hostels nearby or studying at Makerere.

One of the first things calling my attention was the lack of privacy that this people live in. In my culture, no one wants to live so close to their neighbours, not even to their family.

In where I come from, people are too used to have the right to their own individual space, and for me the idea of five to eight people living together in the same room twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week looks unbearable and I know that I wouldn't be able to handle it for too long.

An incredible amount of children play in the streets with homemade toys, like cars made out of metal strings, footballs made out of banana leaves or bicycle tires that they spin while running next to them and without letting them fall. All of this makes me of course remember the stories that my grandmother used to tell me about her childhood and how they were so happy and creative without needing all the stuff we have nowadays. Feels like I'm falling into a cliché... but the truth is that contemporary societies are accustomed to having much more than they actually need.

The people from Kivulu, can manage to survive, run their lives, raise their children and be joyful, with much less than what we (people coming from wealthier countries) would stand. Of course that there are a couple of terrible issues that are not acceptable for any human

observe everything like if we are seeing it for the first time.

The first thing that I realised is that in Kivulu, everything is revealed and nothing is hidden.

For example, all around the restaurants in the area, the employees cook, throw the garbage away, wash the dishes and serve the food to their clients in the exact same place.

I try to relocate the image back to a European restaurant...and I don't think that anyone would like to observe the employees while they're doing the dishes...

Then, something that I never thought about before comes across my mind:

Civilization brings together with it, the need for privacy and independence.

I keep looking for examples that can defeat this conclusion...however without success... Why is it like this?

I hope that by the end of the stay in Uganda I will be able to answer more of my interrogations. In the mean while I believe that Kivulu can be a better place to live in, and I trust that the project we are involved in will in some way help providing an improvement in these people lives.

Kampala, 12 October 2007
Filipa Alfaro

Kasaija Peter

The first day we went into Kivulu did not reveal anything new for me. I have lived in Kampala for much of my life. Because of this, all that I saw was not new to me. Living in Kampala one is bound to get more than accustomed to places like Kivulu. The only difference this time was that I actually spent more than an hour there. My only vivid experiences were acquired on those few occasions when I was taking a taxi back home from town. My curiosity had never really got the better of me to consider taking a walk through this settlement. I had seen similar and probably far worse conditions on study tours through other slums within Kampala. From that perspective, I could say that Kivulu is more than well off in contrast to other slums in Kampala.

As we entered the settlement, curious residents stood in their doorways wondering what our group was doing there. Their curiosity was probably more directed towards our European and Asian colleagues, who clearly stood out. While the adults stood at safe distances, murmuring a few greetings and exchanging curious glances, little children crowded around us, trying to get a touch and feel of the Mzungus. It was quite sight. We walked along, taking in as much as we could. As we continued, I tried

to make some observations about the place.

While nothing was really new, one thing has always struck me about similar places I had been to. In spite of the visibly poor conditions, people still find ways of making a livelihood. Looking at it critically, one realises that it's more than just survival that drives these people. While you as an outsider might pity them, they live their lives as if there are no cares in the world. The resilience these people show, in the face of abject poverty, confounds even the sharpest mind. Through all the commotion, we were eventually able to make our way to the LC I chairman's place. We met the chairman, and he took us around for a tour of his area. From my observation, this settlement is better of than others in Kampala. Being located on a hill, it is not so much affected by flooding as other slums. However, the area has very poor sanitary facilities, the drainage system is clogged by garbage and debris, and faecal matter. The housing densities are so high that narrow alleyways act as circulation routes. Most of them lack windows, and therefore have very poor ventilation. Numerous heaps of garbage characterise the narrow streets of Kivulu. The host of problems plaguing the place leaves one wondering just how live just goes on for these people. Nobody seems to care much about

these problems. They seem to have accepted their portion of misery, each one just going about their business.

As we leave the place later on, I take one long look back, with only one thing on my mind: can we really make a difference in light of all these problems facing the area. Maybe, or maybe not. My doubts linger, even though I try to shake them off.





