



CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF KIRURUMA River Catchments:
 The Role of Land tenure Issues in the Conservation of Kiruruma River Catchments
 Kabale District Uganda

Problem Statement

Land tenure has never been addressed in the history of conservation in Kiruruma catchments and generally Kabale District. The catchments combine local and cross border issues as a shared water resource between Uganda and Rwanda especially on Kiruruma South river.

This study is aimed at the assessment of the role of land tenure issues in the conservation of the catchments with regard to the land access and use conditions, and property rights distribution.

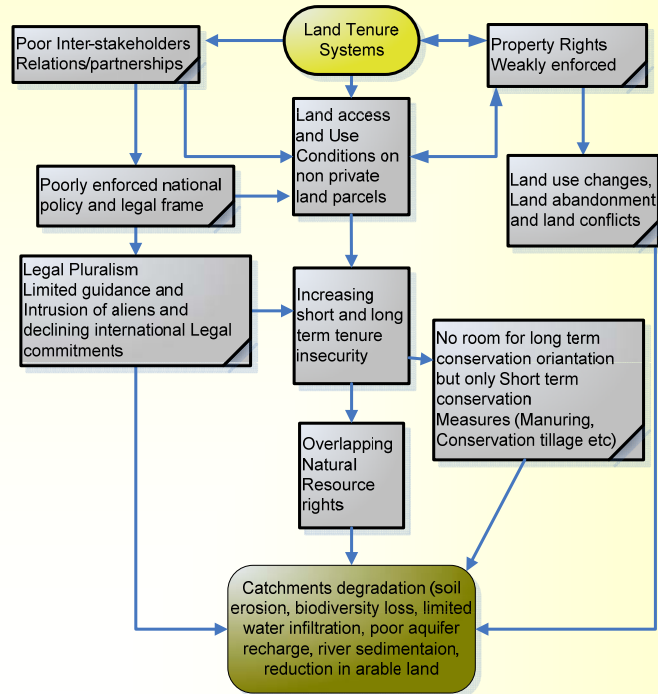
Research Objectives

1. To identify the effects of land access and use conditions on soil and water conservation;
2. To identify the influence of property rights distribution on conservation;
3. To establish the role of legal and policy awareness on land use decisions and
4. To identify the role of stakeholder networks and partnerships on conservation.

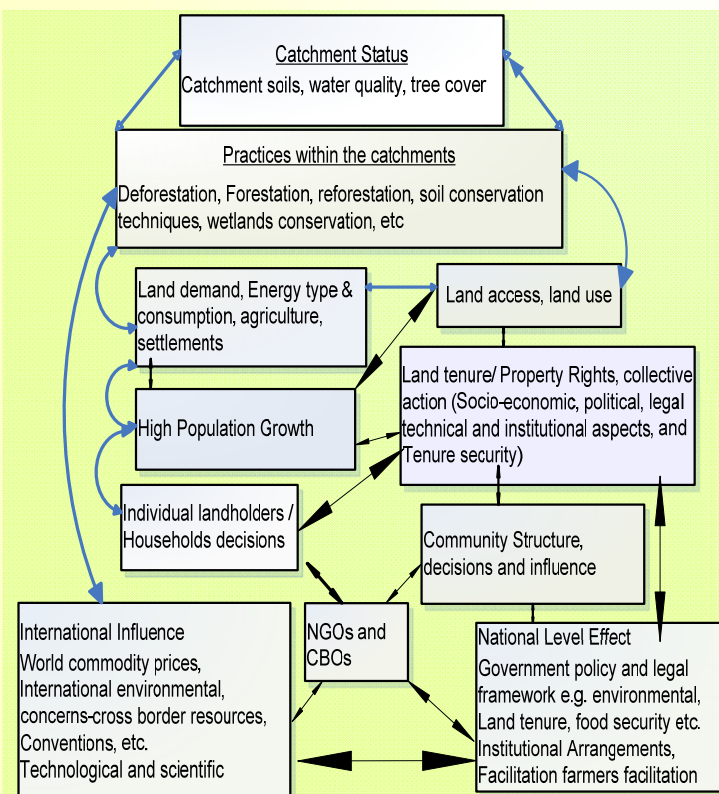
Research Methodology

The research is based on quantitative and qualitative analysis of data obtained from households and communities. Formal and informal interviews were used to collect data with questionnaires and interview schedules.

Key Findings



Study Theoretical Model



The catchments sources, sinks, flows and filters have been modified without any control and property rights influenced land use changes. Shifting to Eucalyptus tree planting is the major form of land use change degrading the catchments and affecting the property rights systems.

Some Key Recommendations

Catchments scale conservation approach	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
Stakeholders identification and interests assessment	_____	_____	_____
Identification and assessment of controversial issues facing conservation programs	_____	_____	_____
Problem and situation analysis	_____	_____	_____
Formulation of an integrated catchments conservation committee	_____	_____	_____
Sensitisation, awareness campaigns and training	_____	_____	_____
Direct state involvement and co-ordination among cross border authorities on shared water resources	_____	_____	_____