

**INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN RELOCATION
PROGRAMME BUDUDA DISTRICT STUDY REPORT**



COMBRA
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Acronyms / Abbreviations

COMBRA – Community Based Rehabilitation Alliance

CDO – Community Development Officer

DPO – Disabled Peoples Organization

DCDO- District Community Development officer

FGD – Focus Group Discussion

NGO – Non Government Organization

NUDIPU –National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda

PWDs – Persons with Disabilities

OPM - Office of the Prime Minister

MGLSD- Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

Section one

1.0 Introduction

The National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU) is an indigenous NGO of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) that brings together all categories of disabilities including the physically, sensory and mentally impaired people. NUDIPU exists to create a unified voice of PWDs in order to advocate for equalization of opportunities, involvement and participation in policy influence, planning and implementation of disability programmes in close cooperation with Government, NGOs and the public. The main purpose is to influence the provision of services in favour of PWDs in Uganda. Currently, the members of NUDIPU are district Unions, and Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs) that represents each category of disability across the country. At its inception, NUDIPU started with 17 DPOs and 36 district branches which have expanded to 19 while District Unions are now 112. Since 1987, NUDIPU has increased the visibility of issues of PWDs at National and International levels through advocacy, lobbying and capacity building of persons with disability. As a result, NUDIPU has registered several achievements including; successful advocacy of disability friendly laws and policies. Among these include: Disability Act 2006, Disability Policy, mobilization of PWDs to form cross disability coalitions of District Unions and Sub county Associations who are members of NUDIPU, and five members of Parliament representing PWDs.

1.1 The Vision, Mission and Objectives of NUDIPU.

In order to realize all the above activities, the following Vision, Mission and Objectives guide the organization.

NUDIPU's Vision is,

'Dignity for every person with disability'

NUDIPU's Mission is,

'To advocate for the rights of PWDs in a unified voice for improved livelihoods'

1.2 The following are NUDIPU's Strategic Objectives:

- To strengthen the socio-economic empowerment of PWDs in their communities
- To advocate for operationalization of PWDs centered existing disability frameworks for the benefit of disabled persons.
- To establish and strengthen Networking & Partnership building with stakeholders.
- To establish NUDIPU's knowledge management & utilization system
- To develop and strengthen NUDIPU's capacity to deliver on its mandate

1.3 Rationale

Since its inception, NUDIPU has developed and implemented several projects aimed at uplifting the quality of life for persons with disabilities in Uganda. Unfortunately in the area of disaster risk management in relation to needs of persons with disabilities, not much has been done to identify and plan appropriate interventions that are required to address disability aspects when it comes to relocation interventions as a result of landslides.

At the national level, there are friendly and conducive Acts and Policies with regard to Disability inclusiveness in Disaster preparedness and management. However needs and concerns of persons with disabilities are silent when it comes to relocation. It is against this back ground that NUDIPU decided to undertake a study to establish how relocation programmes take into account needs of persons with disability in Bududa district so that findings can be used to develop comprehensive strategies for interventions

1.4 Definition of terms

Landslides: are defined as the movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope due to gravity. The materials may move by falling, toppling, sliding, spreading, or flowing. *USGS National Landslide Information Center (2018)*

Relocation: also known as moving, is the process of one or more individuals leaving one dwelling and settling to another. A move can be to a nearby location within the same neighborhood, a much farther location in a different city, or sometimes a different country. It usually includes packing up all belongings, transferring to the new home, and unpacking, as well as administrative or bureaucratic tasks, such as changing registration data, change of insurance, services etc. *Wikipedia (2018)*

Inclusion: Is that giving equal access, opportunities and getting rid of discrimination and intolerance (removal of barriers). It affects all aspects of public life.. It is seen as a universal human right and aims to brace all people irrespective of race, gender or Disability. *Inclusion UK (2018)*

1.5 Objectives of the Study

- To establish needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households regarding the relocation programme in Bududa district.
- To assess how needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households are being addressed by the relocation programme
- To establish how inclusion of PWD's needs and concerns in the design and implementation of the relocation programme can be enhanced.



Section Two

2.0 Methodology

The methodology employed in the study was largely participatory, but since it involved PWDs and other community members a deliberate effort was made to capture views /needs of persons with disabilities using other qualitative methods.

2.1 Participatory approaches

The whole process involved 28 respondents and the main approaches carried out in this study were participatory learning in action:

Focus Group Discussions

2 focus group discussions were carried out comprising of 9 and 7 members respectively. The first group discussion was held in Bukalasi Subcounty with 9 respondents while the second was done in Bulucheke subcounty and comprised of 7 Respondents.

Interviews

15 respondents were subjected to in- depth interviews, this enriched the data collection because deep analysis prevailed. It was mainly applied to the technocrats of the District.

2.2 Study area

The study covered two sub counties namely Bulakasi and Bulucheke in Bududa district respectively. These were selected based on existing information which showed were most hit by landslides in 2010 and 2018 respectively. They were the most affected sub counties in all dimensions of life

2.3 Population

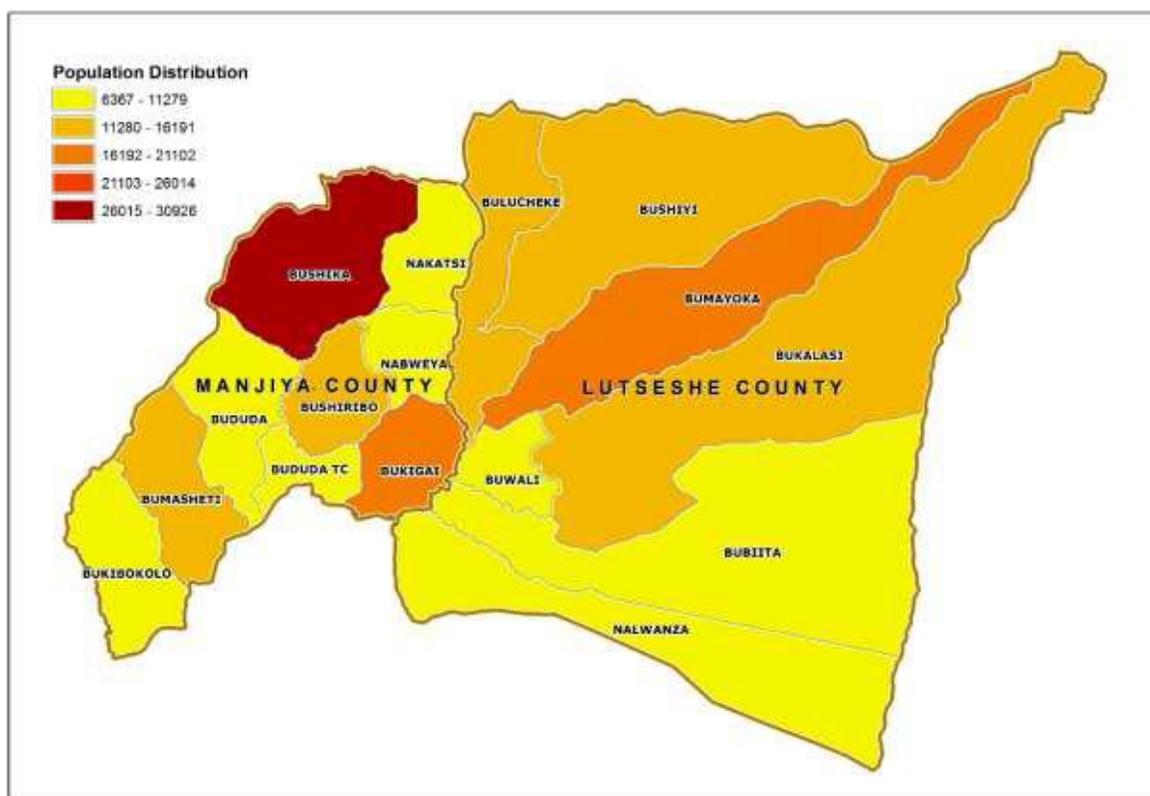
The population of the assessment was male and female with disabilities, carers of pwds, local leaders, political leaders, government technocrats, PWD representatives, disabled peoples organizations (DPOs), and NGOs' service providers. Respondents sampled were adult's aged 18-50years. Also purposive sampling was employed to identify participants in the District through their fellow participants who guided the researchers.

2.4 Study Sample

The sample for the study was purposively and conveniently sampled from the two sub counties. The respondents were as in table 1 below:

Table 1 : Categories of Respondents

Level	Type of respondents
District	CAO, District senior planner, DCDO, PEM Officer, Secretary for Community Based Services, clinical officer
Subcounty	CDO, PWDS, VHTs, Councilor for PWDs, Village chairperson, Subcounty chief



2.5 Data Collection Methods

Three methods of data collection were employed namely in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and document analysis. Instruments were as in appendices attached.

The instruments were developed by the research team through brainstorming among team members based on the objectives of the study. The instruments were further subjected to scrutiny and discussion with NUDIPU administration. Data was collected over 12 days from 11th -22nd December 2018.

In-depth interviews with government, Sub county authorities and representatives of persons with disabilities were conducted 2 research team members.

Focus group discussions with PWDs and careers were conducted in Lugishu with support of a Translator. Services sign language interpreters were employed to facilitate communication with deaf respondents in some instances. Visits to communities in Bukalasi and some homes were carried out by team members to get more facts on ground. Another Visit was done to the Bulukeche Health IV to get more information on health services for persons with disabilities. Interviews and observation were recorded in note books

2.6 Data Analysis

Data was analyzed qualitatively and subjected to thematic analysis. It was recorded, transcribed and interpreted. The data analysis started immediately its collection was over. Triangulation of results was done by various methods that included reviewing, manual computation and comparison of the available secondary data.

2.7 Ethical consideration

The purpose of the study, data collection procedures and participants' role in the process were explained. They were assured of confidentiality and anonymity.

2.8 Limitations of the Study

The study plan was to administer questionnaires with some respondents (PWDs). This however was not possible due to resources constraints in terms of time and finances, the terrain and heavy down pour coupled by the scattered hard to reach homes.

The time spent in the field was limited as community members were also involved in the relocation preparatory meetings organized by office of the Prime Minister (OPM)

Language barrier – services of translators were employed during in-depth interview and Focus Group Discussions with participants who were not fluent with English language. Although the translation enabled interaction, it turned be time consuming.

Overlapping programmes affected data collection

OPM engaged both the district leadership and the local population in the relocation preparatory meetings. This affected some respondents' participation in the study.

Section Three

3.0 District Profile

Bududa District is located in the Eastern region of Uganda, bordering the republic of Kenya in the East, Sironko District in the North, Mbale District in the west and Manafwa in the south. According to the Bududa District Development Plan 2015-2020, the district has 15 rural sub counties and one urban council. Population stands at 210,173 of which 106,519 are male and 103,654 female (UBOS, 2014). 98% of the populations live in rural areas while the rest are urban dwellers as shown in table 2 below.

Table 2: District population

Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-9yrs	36,689	35,192	71,881
10-19yrs	30,781	30,183	60,964
20-39yrs	22,885	24,134	47,019
40-59yrs	10,907	9,696	20,603
60yrs and above	4,558	5,148	9,706
Total	105,820	104,353	210,173

3.2 Disability Population of Bududa District

According to the National Population and Housing census 2014, the District has a total of 27,813 persons with disabilities.

However there seems to be a discrepancy in compilation of disability statistics by UBOS which further disaggregates the prevalence of persons with disabilities in the district as totalling 46,899 which represents 22.3% of the total population, Details are in table 1 below.

Table 3: Disability Population

Person with Disability	Number	Percentage
Persons aged 2 years and above with a disability	27,813	14.2
Persons aged 2 years and above with a hearing disability	8,228	4.2
Persons aged 2 years and above with a seeing disability	13,591	6.9
Persons aged 2 years and above with a walking disability	10,470	5.3
Persons aged 2 years and above with a remembering disability	13,717	7.0
Persons aged 2 years and above with multiple disabilities	9,752	36.9
Children aged 2-17 years with a disability	8,180	7.4
Youth aged 18-30 years with a disability	4,410	10.5
Older persons aged 60 years and above with a disability	6,083	63.0

Source: UBOS National Census Report 2014

It is further observed that UBOS seemed to have captured the common impairments leaving out the neglected categories such as Epilepsy, Albinism, Little people and Leprosy. However it should be noted that disability data at district level is scanty which partly has affected planning relocation interventions for pwds.

3.3 Landslides in Bududa

Bududa is the landslide hotspot for Uganda where 507 people have been killed by landslides since 1800 – 2014. Due to the topography of the district which is characterized by volcanic hills and mountain ranges, Bududa has suffered from a number of landslides and mudslides but key to mention are those of 2010, 2012 and 2018. They led to displacement of people, loss of life and property, destruction of infrastructure and that of 2018 which resulted into the closure of 5 primary schools. In the district, apart from 3 sub counties and one urban council which are at low risk, the rest of the sub counties are at very high risk where relocation of people from such areas is the long lasting solution to the problem.

3.4 Relocation

In Bududa, resettlement was applied as a long term risk reduction solution. It involved resettlement of people away from high risk areas . Resettlement of affected persons from Bududa was implemented by the Government of Uganda. Affected communities were relocated to Kiryandongo district, in western Uganda majorly because of the availability of vast lands . This also included the displaced persons who were temporarily taking refuge in Internally Displaced Peoples (IDP) camps at Bulucheke subCounty headquarters in Bududa district. However, despite the availability of vast land, It is important to appreciate the significant contextual backgrounds and differences between these two districts; socially, culturally and economically . Communities in Bududa are used to settling in the highlands as compared to those in Kiryandongo who are used to settling in low lands.

Currently, after years of implementing the policy on resettlement of people in Bududa, this policy has not yielded the required outputs. Many Bududa community members still continue to settle in highrisk areas rezoned for non settlement and many previously relocated to Kiryandongo have returned to the same affected landslide stricken area .This poses the question: why has the resettlement policy failed in this vulnerable community?

One of the reasons for the failure of this policy could be the ineffective consultation of the affected communities prior to the implementation of the policy.

Section Four

4.0 Presentation and Discussion of Findings

In this section the findings of the study are presented and discussed in accordance with the study objectives. The specific objectives of the study were:

- To establish needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households regarding the relocation programme in Bududa district.
- To assess how needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households are being addressed by the relocation programme
- To establish how inclusion of PWD's needs and concerns in the design and implementation of the relocation programme can be enhanced.

In a bid to reduce duplication crosscutting matters and findings that found to be similar were presented and discussed concurrently. Both verbal and tabular forms of presentations were employed.

4.1 Establishment of needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households regarding the relocation programme in Bududa district.

Lack of representation and involvement of Disability leadership in the relocation programmes

One of the objectives of the study was to establish needs and concerns of persons with Disabilities regarding relocation programme in Bududa District. The study established that the leadership of the district does not involve representatives of persons with disabilities in matters concerning their needs while planning and implementing relocation interventions. The leadership of PWDs is totally located out despite the fact that the Disability community too was equally affected by landslides just like other people in this region. This implies that even the Office of the Prime ministers' (OPM) is likely to miss out on critical needs for PWDs because no one feeds them with actual facts hence being excluded in at planning phase of relocation programmes

'During meetings organized by the Office of the Prime Minister, PWD leadership is not involved, we are not invited thus concerns of PWDs are not taken into account'. (PWD Leader, in-depth interview, Bududa town)

Preparedness Assistance for PWDs with severe impairments.

While the majority of respondents indicated are able to take care of themselves during relocation, there is a small section that needs to be assisted. Those with multiple disabilities within the households cannot manage unless when totally supported. Given the terrain of Bududa District, movement and communication to those located in the mountainous areas is hard. Therefore PWDs resident in the hilly areas are most times forgotten hence not catered for

in the relocation frame work unless assistance is extended to support them make it to areas of relocation.

Lack of Appliances

A key finding from the study was that persons with disabilities lack access to assistive devices. This affects their ability to reach relatives while consulting on the upcoming relocation plans. It becomes more challenging when it comes to persons with visual impairments who lack guides and white canes. They totally become dependent on rumors of other community members when it comes to getting information regarding relocation. Sometimes this has led them to get false information which makes them to delay in decision making because they can reach meeting venues where the District and OPM officials organize the relocation meetings. PWDs who participated in the study singled out devices particularly wheelchairs, Tricycles, crutches as important because during this time a lot of movement takes place to various locations. Additionally white canes for the blind were also pointed out as critical to aid persons with visual impairment.

“Mobility is going to be a problem in Bulambuli because the land is water logged those crawling will have to move in the mud.” (PWD Leader, in-depth interview)

Discrimination during relief distribution

As a short term measure to address emergency needs of those affected by land slides in Bududa, the OPM and other humanitarian organizations provide some relief to the victims. PWDs are part of the receipts of such relief supplies which include food, blankets, cups, basins, soap and other basic items. These items are distributed at defined points were selected by the District leadership. The study revealed that during the time of receiving relief materials, no special consideration is given to persons with disabilities despite their vulnerability, especially the physically challenged, blind and those with learning disabilities. Those with energy are the ones who are able to get relief, the weak ones are pushed from the queue and sometimes end up missing the items given out .

‘PWDs are sometimes discriminated during Distribution of relief because sometimes it becomes survival for the fittest; they cannot fight with able bodied persons’ (Woman with Physical impairment, FGD,Bukalsi)

Lack of adequate information on relocation

It turned out from the study that people's needs and concerns especially PWDs regarding relocation were mainly related to not having adequate information and clarity about the pending relocation programme for PWDs. This situation has led to emergence of fears and uncertainties regarding the pending relocation programme which if not addressed are likely to undermine the relocation programme.

It emerged that persons with disabilities held several fears and anxiety regarding the relocation programme. While many of the fears originated from inadequacy of information resulting from limited involvement of affected persons with disability and stakeholders in Bukalasi and Bulucheke sub counties in relocation programme by the Office of the Prime Minister, others were blamed on some area politicians who would lose votes in pending elections. The fears and anxiety relate to the persons with disability not being certain of the design of the relocation programme including its schedules and timing to Mbulambuli. They worry over losing their land in Bududa

Though during the previous relocation of people from Bududa district to Kiryandongo district in 2010 there was no data/information about PWDs among the victims, it is clear that the relocated households accessed land in Kiryandongo but also had a right to retain ownership of their land in Bududa.

Over the years, many of those relocated persons are reported to move to and from Bududa and Kiryandongo to visit relatives and engage in farming and trade. This time round it was not yet clear whether the relocated people including PWDs would also be accorded this concession. By the time of data collection there were rumours circulating in the community that for the Bulambuli relocation programme, once a household is relocated, it would be required to give up ownership of the land and house in Bududa to government for forestation. To many people this was disturbing as it meant losing touch with their ancestral land and social networks and not having a fallback position. Persons with disability expressed concern over availability and nature of land earmarked for relocation in Bududa including the accessibility in relation to their disability. Some respondents claimed that the land for relocation was not suitable for settlement since it had several encumbrances including having multiple claimants and being waterlogged therefore prone to flooding. Secondly the land was thought to be marshy and infertile, therefore unsuitable for agriculture.

"I feel it is unfair, we should be allowed to keep our land here. What if one fails to manage life in Bulambuli; where does one go?" (Woman with disability during a FGD, Bukalasi).

"We are used to our place, how are they going to look after our grave yards? Are we going to be compensated or not? All this is not clear to us!" (Local leader, FGD, Bududa)



Accessible and friendly houses in Bulambuli (Relocation Area)

The construction of the potential houses to be occupied on the one acre of land for the victims of landslides did not take any consideration of Disability accessibility needs. PWDs were uncertain on the nature of houses being constructed and getting land titles in the new area of relocation.

“We have heard from people and on radio and even read in newspapers that the land in Bulambuli is being claimed by several people. One plot is claimed by the Sabiny, the other two by some other people. Yet OPM claims to have bought the land... we have also heard that a third of the land is okay for construction but the rest is water logged”. (PWD councilor, during in depth interview, Bukalasi)

Due to resource limitation the study did not to ascertain these allegations about disability friendly suitability of the proposed area for relocation of persons with disability.

Lack of clarity on relocation schedules

Respondents especially PWDs reported that they did not have adequate information about the relocation schedules. Although many respondents had an idea that relocation would be undertaken in Bunambutye Sub County in Bulambuli district, PWDs did not know when the exercise would commence and how it would progress. Persons with disability reported not being clear of the schedules and other arrangements for the relocation.

It was established that in 2016 the Office of the Prime Minister under took a registration exercise of households that were at risk of hazards by landslides in Bududa. Unfortunately, the exercise did not put issues of persons with

disability in consideration as more vulnerable victims. Still by the time of this study it was not clear to persons with disability the criteria that will be used in selection those to be relocated in Bulambuli or for singling out the beneficiaries of the relocation programme.

Livelihoods of PWDs

It was reported by PWDs that their livelihoods have been negatively affected by landslides. Currently they are dependent on relief supplies and have no alternatives but to speculate what is likely to come. Lack of timely and clear information has impacted negatively livelihood of persons with disability and if not addressed will have adverse effects in the medium and long term. They are not engaged in any activities geared towards rebuilding their lives.

PWDs were concerned that Bududa has rains almost throughout the year. It also has fertile soils that favour growing of matooke, beans, vegetables and coffee throughout the year. They were worried that soils in Bulambuli are not suitable for growing these crops. Instead the soils may only sustain the growing of maize, beans, cassava, sun flower and rice which the people are not used to. Some respondents had this to say:

“Here our soil is very fertile and you can grow anything. I cannot imagine feeding on cassava and posho on a daily basis”!! (Counsellor for disability, during in-depth interview, Bududa)

“My main source of income is business in matooke and onions. That is what I know. I am not sure how I would survive in Bulambuli” (PWD, FGD, Bulucheke)

Lack of Psycho social support

It was evident that Persons with disability in the subcounties of Bukalasi and Bulucheke sustained and continue to experience emotional and physical distress. Having experienced several landslides and their dire effects, they hold bad memories. They have not received fulfilling psychosocial support that ties to handle their emotional disturbances. This is a danger to their lives because it may trigger a mental health concern. Some feel that changing places could help heal these nasty recollections. One respondent looked visibly shaking during the focus group discussion due to psychological trauma.

“I am willing to be relocated. That day I was visiting my sister. I was in the house. My sister was outside the house. She saw the water coming and called out loudly to me. Hurry, come out. I ran out of the house and a few moments later, the house was swept away ... [respondent begins to cry]. That is how I survived. Since then I cannot sleep, I get hallucination’ [continues to cry]. (Said a woman with disabilities, during FGD, Bulucheke Sub County)

Another respondent, a gentle man with disability who survived the recent landslides but in the process lost one leg struggled to communicate:

“It is by God’s grace that I am alive. It happened so fast. I do not remember. I cannot wait to die here..... I wish I could leave even today”
(PWD, during a Home visit in Bududa)

Many of the needs and concerns that arose for community are universal and affect persons with disabilities and their families as well. However given the nature and severity of impairment and vulnerability of persons with disabilities, they have certain unique needs. The study therefore identified some specific needs of persons with disabilities regarding relocation and to assess their inclusion in the relocation programme.

Views regarding needs of persons with disabilities were sought from persons with disabilities themselves, family members, councilors for people with disabilities at district and sub county level, government technocrats and community leaders through in-depth interviews and focus group discussion. Several needs emerged as reflected in table 4 below.

Table 4: *Specific needs of PWDs and their families*

Theme	Sub theme	Supporting data
Access to rehabilitation support	1. Access to drugs	<i>“...the child has improved a lot. Iam happy. I wonder whether we will be able to get the epilepsy drugs there in Bulambuli”.</i> (Parent, FGD, Bududa)
	2. Support from NGOs/CBOs	<i>“David was recently measured by UDEWO. He was promised clutches. Now if we leave shall we get this support?”</i> (Parent, FGD, Bududa) <i>“Many of our persons with disabilities benefit from outreach service by CURE and Bududa hospital. Shall we continue accessing...”</i> (PWD leader, FGD, Bududa)
	3. Access to specialized services	<i>“.. Many people have been traumatized by the disaster situations. Some have been getting support from NGOs here. I wonder what will happen to these people in Bunambutye”.</i> (Local leader, during in-depth interview, Bududa)
Uncertainty over children’s education	1. Availability of schools with SNE	<i>“The district has embarked on opening special needs units to give a chance to these children to also get some education. I am not so sure that the project has factored this in....”</i> (Technocrat, during in-depth interview, Bududa)
	2. Challenges	<i>“Some of our children will be candidates next year. The</i>

	related to changing school 3. School fees	<i>relocation is likely to disorganize them since they may have to change schools.” (Parent, FGD, Bududa) ‘Namboka is used to teacher Sarah. She is the one who understands her, I fear that when we change schools she may even refuse to go.(Parent, FGD, Bududa) “One of my children is disabled. She is being sponsored by BRAC here. How is it going to be for her”. (Parent, FGD, Bududa)</i>
Separation anxiety	1. Fear from separation from families and relatives 2. Loss of Support systems 3. Cultural attachments	<i>“Like for my child. He has abnormal behaviour. When he gets lost, people bring him back. Now when we go to a new place, I fear that he will get lost” (Parent, FGD, Bududa)</i>
Livelihood	1. Unsure of income	How will I support the family and educate my children?
	2. Unsure of livelihood support from NGO/CBO	Salvation Army support livelihood. Will the support continue?

Conclusion

From the above discussion, it is evident that needs of persons with disabilities ranging from Lack of representation and involvement of Disability leadership to inadequate information on relocation are major concerns that personnel and units involved in delivery of relocation programmes need to careful think about. There is great need for bottom up approach when managing relocation interventions.

4.2 Assessment of how needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and their households are being addressed by the relocation programme

Response to needs and concerns of Persons with disability regarding relocation is the collective responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister. In the FGD with key informants it was realized that issues of disability are not featuring at any level of planning and implementation of relocation programmes

Planning relocation by the Office of the Prime Minister

During the in depth interview with the DCAO, it was established that the office of the Department of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees had conducted some awareness raising meetings targeting the district leadership and technocrats, area members of parliament, other politicians and community leaders about the planned relocations. It was learnt however, that OPM engagement with the district is minimal and Disability leadership does not feature as expected. Additionally community meetings are rare, not widely publicized and are usually conducted at sub county headquarters making it difficult for people with disability to get involved and participate in such meetings due to lack of invitation and mobility challenges. As a result issues concerning persons with disability have not been adequately addressed including the relocation programme.

Dissemination of information by District Disaster Committee

As required by law, Bududa district has a functional District Disaster Committee. It is chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer and includes other members namely District Planner, heads of department of Community Based Services, Health, Production, Finance and Natural resources. However the disability leadership is not represented on this committee. This therefore clearly shows that matters concerning relocation for PWDs are not given attention in this committee while as the rest of the other victims are represented

“When the district fraternity requested me for the PWD representation on the District Disaster Committee, the PWD nominated a possible representative for appointment. My mandate does not allow me to make appointments to committee membership, am considering in nominate PWD member to the committee said the DCAO the committee chair person”.

By virtue of their membership to the disaster committee, government technocrats get some information about relocation. They reported that they disseminate this information on relocation to persons with disability as they go around to all community members during their day to day work. However this sharing of information method does not reach all categories of persons with disabilities notably those with hearing impairment.

The work of the committee was reported to be constrained by lack of finance, magnitude of need that arises from disaster and often not having adequate information about relocation. The challenges are even worse for Sub county Disaster Management Committees. In summary OPM tries to take into account needs of PWDs in the relocation programme. However PWD representatives are not included nor consulted in both planning and implementation of relocation.

Participation of Area Members of Parliament

Area politicians more especially the members of parliament were reported to be active in following up issues of relocation in Bulambuli district. The study did not get opportunity to interact with any of the area members of parliament. However it was established that the area parliamentarians organized a visit for community leaders to Bunambutye Sub County, Bulambuli district to enable them to physically assess the situation and inform their people accordingly. The parliamentarians were also reported to be active in raising awareness about relocation through community meetings and radio talk shows.

‘During the in-depth interview with the Sub county chief of Bulucheke Sub County, he said “The relocation programme is generally frustrated by local politicians in fear of losing votes’

Overall efforts made to address persons with disability concerns are minimal, inadequate and ineffective. PWDs continue to live with uncertainty and speculation of the relocation. Misinformation is common. Much of the information about relocation is not disseminated to the grassroots. It is monopolized by the Office of the Prime Minister technocrats at different levels.

Community engagement and meetings

The study team was informed that the district leadership at all levels has tried to organize consultative meetings which are held at schools and churches in and in Bududa town where views of community members are shared with both District officials, where OPM during these meetings and shares the government stand on the planned relocation strategy. It is interesting to report that even at these meetings disability concerns are neither discussed nor made part of the agenda. PWDs despite their vulnerability and unique needs are treated like other members of the community.

Conclusion

The study strongly noted there are no clear cut mechanisms in place to fully cater for needs of PWDs. They(PWDs) seem left out in the exercise and it is others (OPM) who decide their destiny without their involvement in design and plan for delivery of relocation activities.

4.3 Establish how inclusion of PWD's needs and concerns in the design and implementation of the relocation programme can be enhanced.

Consultation and involvement of PWDs in OPM engagements

It was established that no efforts have been made by the Office of the Prime Minister to identify and access additional/unique needs and concerns of persons with disabilities' and their families regarding relocation during the 2016 registration exercise of those at risk. Statistics was only disaggregated by sex without mention of disability concerns. Decisions about the relocation programme were solely and centrally made by the Office of the Prime Minister without active involvement and participation of stakeholders in disability including individual people with disabilities, their families and councilors of people with disabilities, Disabled People's Organizations, Non-governmental organizations, Disability Councils and the Community Based Services department, the local government line department for disability. This omission directly contravenes Article ... of the Local Government Act ... of the Disability Council Act, Article of the Equal Opportunities Act and that call for inclusive programming and interventions. The consequence of this oversight is that disability concerns are not at all addressed in the relocation plans and designs.

"I think that the registration exercise of those to be relocated was conducted with the assumption that society is homogenous... OPM ought to have known that society is diverse and that disaster affects people and communities differently. They should have requested for our opinion".
(Disability activist, during in-depth Interview, Bududa)

Since specific needs of people with disabilities regarding relocation were not solicited during the registration exercise of people at risk of landslides by the Office of the Prime Minister, the relocation programme interventions are general without any deliberate interventions that target to address people with disabilities' needs or their concerns. This oversight is expected to compound the vulnerability of people with disabilities and their families during and after the relocation exercise.

Improve involvement of stakeholders in relocation planning

The study sought to establish the possible reasons for the inadequate involvement of persons with disabilities and other stakeholders in design and implementation of the relocation programme. Three major factors namely unfavorable relocation programme design, infant disability movement and lack of appreciation of disability as a development issue.

a) The programme design

The relocation programme design was reported to be a hindrance to participation of stakeholders. The Office of the Prime Minister employs a top-down approach to develop and execute the relocation programme. It was learnt that all major decisions pertaining to the programme were reached without active involvement of affected people and other stakeholders at district and lower levels. More so there are very limited avenues save for a few meetings for stakeholders especially those to be relocated to air their concerns. Persons with disabilities reported that they are often unable to attend meetings because they miss out on notices for meetings and are often not mobilized. They fail to reach venues for meetings (usually the sub county offices) due to accessibility challenges in terms of long distance to be covered, lack of transport fare, challenging hilly terrain and lack of assistive devices.

“I do not know what to expect, I will do whatever they tell me to do. I am only waiting to be taken...” (PWD, Focus Group Discussion, Bukalasi)

“Even today, they came in (OPM) and told us that they wanted to raise community awareness tomorrow about the relocation programme, and then they proceed to communities to validate data the day after. We told them that this cannot be possible since we needed time to mobilize the people. They insisted that the exercise had to take place because they (OPM) had set tight timelines. What do you do?” (Government technocrat, In-depth Interview, Bududa).

“Many people with disabilities live in the hills; they do not get information about what is going on. Sometimes they get information too late or they fail to come down especially when it has rained. I am lucky that I reside near the Chairman so I get to ask and get information. Others do not get information”. (PWD, FGD, Bulucheke Sub County)

Infant disability movement

It emerged that disability inclusion is undermined by underdeveloped capacity of the disability movement in Bududa to advance disability concerns. This is attributed to the fact that the movement is still in infancy and majority of the councilors are illiterate which affects their ability to understand most government policies and frameworks. Inability by Councilors representing persons with disabilities at sub county and lower levels to articulate needs and concerns of people with disabilities featured as another challenge. Many Councilors lack understanding of disability issues and rights, they lack confidence, fail to put issues across to persuade and to influence impact on local councils. This partly explains why they are not involved in the relocation activities.

Overall the disability movement in the district was reported to be under developed in terms of structure, organization, funding and awareness of disability inclusion issues. The movement failed to recognize the need to single

out special needs and concerns of people with disabilities and to seek to advocate and lobby for their inclusion in the relocation programming. The problem was helped by intervention and support from some mother DPOs at the national level.

“My experience during annual local government planning and budgeting sessions is that some disability issues are brought out by the Community Based Services department and L.C V Councilors for disability. They talk about disability grants... At sub-county level, disability does not feature. So I feel that even if there was opportunity to influence OPM, nothing much would come out”. (Government technocrat, In-depth interview, Bududa).

“We as Councilor sometimes fail to speak out and advocate for what is ours. We need to be help here...”(PWD Councillor, FGD, Bulucheke)

Council for Disability: is struggling with organisation and funding and has not yet appreciated its role of monitoring mainstream programmes for inclusion of people with disability and their unique concerns. *Who are the representatives? How often does the council meet? What is the source of funding?*

Main streaming disability in district activities

The district more specifically the department of Community Based services has not filtered out specific concerns of interest groups regarding relocation from the general concerns. In the absence of these the department has not been able to impact the District Disaster Risk Committee and OPM regarding disability and people with disabilities.

Community members, service providers and government technocrats have not appreciated disability as a unique issue that calls for prioritization and strategic interventions. Disability does not come out in community meetings; concentration is on general issues that affect the majority.

Budget support for district disaster and relocation interventions

The District lacks a budget to support disaster and relocation management at district level: In 2016, the district developed a Disaster Management plan; however this plan did not attract any funding. Funding for Disaster Management continues to be the monopoly of the Office of the Prime Minister. Thus, the district continues to have a weak capacity for mitigating and timely and adequately responding to disaster. It was learnt that the 2016 District Disaster Management plan was being updated.

“As a district we have no budget for disaster. The grants we receive from government are conditional, targeted for particular activities, they cannot be diverted. The alternative would be to finance some disaster activities using locally generated revenue, but you will realize the local revenue is so meager. In an attempt to cope, the district has decided to treat disaster as a cross cutting

issue. We require every department to factor in their annual budgets a small amount of money in case of disaster. Sub counties are expected to do the same. This is what we use rely on to buy fuel to enable us to respond to disaster. By the time Office of the Prime Minister and other actors come in, we would have done something".(Senior government technocrat, during in-depth Interview, Bududa)

Conclusion

Based on the above discussion, it will be imperative to empower the leadership of PWDs in the district so that they are able to put across their needs during implementation of relocation programmes. The District and the OPM need to mainstream disability matters in their operations to create inclusion.

Section 5

5.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 General conclusion

The general impression of the study showed that persons with disabilities needs and concerns are not recognized when it comes to planning, designing and implementations of relocation interventions. They lack representation and a voice at both the District Disaster management committee and the OPM which is the National agency mandated to coordinate relief services. Given such a situation, pwds are left in a helpless situation because there is absolutely no mechanism that addresses their needs thus leaving them more vulnerable in the relocation interventions.

This situation presented in the study gives NUDIPU and the District leadership a challenge to establish a comprehensive strategy of addressing relocation needs of persons with disabilities at national and district levels.

5.2 Recommendations

1. There is need for preparedness assistance for persons with multiple disabilities because they are more vulnerable. Emergency management and disability services provider organizations need to work together in a coordinated fashion to be able to meet the specific relocation needs of persons with multiple disabilities.

2. There is need to sensitize communities in Bududa about rights of PWDs. The communities should consider PWDs as persons who have rights to basic necessities of life. It was note that during relief distribution some PWDs miss out due to discrimination from other community members

3. It was noted with great concern that while the OPM is the national coordinating government agency for Disasters and relocation management in Uganda. It lacks a unit or personnel in charge of managing or advising on Disability related matters. Therefore for improved disability responsiveness in regard to addressing concerns and needs of PWDs during relocations, requires disability desk to be established at OPM to take care of disability matters.

4. The study discovered that despite having a disaster management committee at both District and subcounty levels, Persons with Disabilities are not represented on either of the committees. Therefore efforts should be geared towards having persons with Disabilities represented so that concerns and needs of pwds are fully taken into account during planning, and delivering of both relief and relocation progrmmes.

5. The construction units of UPDF and Uganda Police that were awarded the right to construct houses in Bunambutye- Bulambuli District, need to be sensitized on disability aspects notably accessibility and latrine adaptations to make them user friendly
6. Mainstreaming Disability aspects in Relocation and Relief Programmes of the Office of the Prime Minister. It was observed that sometimes the personnel assigned these tasks don't take into consideration the unique needs of persons with disabilities especially those with visual, mental and hearing difficulties
7. PWDs and other community member's especially those from poor households should be sensitized on promotion of personal hygiene practices to reduce infection
8. Relocation frame work guide used by OPM to manage relocation frames should be revised to include concerns and needs of persons with Disabilities
9. The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, which is the lead Government agency on Disability and Rehabilitation, should organize sensitization forums on managing Disasters and relocation of PWDs. It is lacking yet CDOs have a critical role to play in the programme.
10. The study revealed that there is no documented data on Disability and persons with Disabilities. It greatly affects the planning and lobbying for inclusion of needs of persons with disabilities at both OPM and district levels. Therefore there is need for NUDIPU to support the district to put in place data collection mechanism on disability to facilitate future projects / Programmes
11. The Social and economic livelihoods of PWDs in Bulukeche and Bukalasi sub counties were diversely affected by the land slides. Most of their banana and coffee plantations, Live stoke and birds were swept away which left them to lie on relief supplies which are not sustainable. Therefore, NUDIPU should lobby for economic support for PWDs in the relocated areas so as to make them productive
12. It was established that the Bududa District Disability council and union were newly established at both subcounty and District levels. They lack exposure to matters related to the National Disaster and refugee policy and guidelines. Which makes it difficult for them to lobby for inclusion of concerns and needs of PWDs at District level in the relocation programmes
13. There should be a drive to sensitize PWDs through their leadership at District, Subcounty and Parrish levels about landslide early warning signs to prepare them for early evacuation especially for those with hearing, visual and mental disabilities.

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www.inclusion.me.uk

Annex i. Instruments

Observation check list

Study on inclusion of Persons with Disability (PWDs) in relocation programs

Aspect	Comment
1. Visible signs of disability (loss of body parts, swollen parts, contractures/ deformities)	
2. Evidence of assistive devices(state of device) and rehabilitation (ability of the PWD to manage on their own or with minimal support	
3. Attitude (Self)	
4. Attitude (Family and community)	
5. Participation (Evidence of what PWD can engage in or can do)	
6. Accessibility for those with mobility challenges	
8. Mobility orientation for the visually impaired	
9. Communication for persons with Hearing Difficulties	

Structured Interview Guide

Research Study on inclusion of Persons with Disability (PWDs) in Bududa district in relocation program

I amconducting a study on inclusion of Persons with disabilities in relocation programs. Being a person with Disability in Bukalasa and Bulucheke sub counties of Bududa District, as a group, you have been identified to participate in this study. All information shared will remain confidential.

Needs of Persons with Disabilities for effective inclusion in the Relocation programs.

- i. Availability of data on PWDs
- ii. Services available
- iii. Services accessed by PWD
- iv. Barriers to access

Establishing access of Persons with Disabilities to Relocation programs

- i. What is the criteria of relocation?
- ii. Relocation processes
- iii. Awareness level of PWDs about disaster prevention and management committees
- iv. Perceived factors preventing inclusion of PWDs in relocation and evacuation programs
- v) Are PWDs represented on the Disaster and Risk Management committees?

How relocation programs affect lives of persons with Disabilities.

- i. What challenges are faced by persons with disabilities during relocation programs?
- ii. What happens to PWDs in the relocated areas?
- iii. What happens to PWDs who resist relocation?

In - depth Interview Guide

About the committee:

I amconducting a study on inclusion of Persons with disabilities in relocation programs. Being a person with Disability in Bukalasa and Bulucheke sub counties of Bududa District, you have been identified to participate in this study. All information shared will remain confidential.

Please indicate if you accept to participate.....

What is the composition and representations of the disaster committee?

What is the Mandate/Role of the committee in Relocation programme?

What are the current Relocation Programme in terms of geographical coverage and Interventions?

What is the experience of the recent Disasters in the Area in terms of magnitude and Scope?

What are the preparedness activities that include beneficiaries?

What are the effects of relocation on People, Infrastructure, Livestock,

What are the unique effects of relocation on PWDs and their families?

What are the most pressing needs/ challenges to PWDs before, during, and After Disasters (Probe for Age, Gender, Disability) in coping and support systems?

Design and implementation of the program,

How are PWDs included in the Design and Implementation of Relocation intervention in the Planning and Implementation?

How is data on PWDs, recorded and reported?

What are PWDs involved in the, Planning, Monitoring and evaluating the relocation programme?

What factors do affect Participation/ inclusion of PWDs?

Interventions

What strategies are in place for addressing relocation programmes?

What are the challenges faced by PWDs in relocation programme?

What suggestions for enhancing inclusion of PWDs' in relocation programme

Annex iii : List of key respondents

List of PWDs involved in FGD in BukalasiSubcounty

No	Names	Sex	Age	Position	Category
1	Ms. Seela Emily	F	25	PWD	Mobility
2	Watuwa Solomon	M	47	PWD Councilor	Mobility
3	Wanyera Robert	M	15	PWD	Physical
4	Nandutu Kate	F	36	Parent of CWD	Visual
5	Kitoyi Francis	M	18	PWD	Epilepsy
6	Nafuna Mary	F	32	Parent	Learning
7	KhanzaRebbeca	F	55	PWD	Deaf

Annex iv : List of PWDs involved in FGD in BuluchekeSubcounty

No	Names	Sex	Age	Position	Category
1	Masaba Tom	M	33	PWD	Physical
2	Mukwasi Fred	M	40	PWD	Partially Blind
3	Gidudu Richard	M	28	PWD	Physical
4	Ali Wepukulu	M	50	PWD	Hearing
5	Nandutu Kate	F	36	Parent of CWD	Visual
6	Kitoyi Francis	M	18	PWD	Epilepsy

Annex v: List of Key technocrats

No	Names	Position	Contact
1	Nalsabua Samson	DCAO/PAS	0774697903
2	NanduduEvalyn	Senior planner	
3	NamonoMarrion	DEM Officer	0785280279
4	Musaba Moses	CDO – CBSD	0778257354
5	MononoAnnet	Secretary CBS	0782318349
6	NasasaNasanael	V/C Person	0774492159
7	Namboka Rose	CDO	0782235100
8	Kuloba Peter	VHT	0774317643
9	Watuwa Solomon	Councilor Disability	0774814237