

**DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE THROUGH
THE CREATION OF DISTRICTS; AND IT'S COST
IMPLECATIONS.**

AN OUTLINE OF A PROPOSED STUDY

BY:

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STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF CREATING MANY DISTRICTS AND THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE.

A. Background to the Study

Before colonial days there was no Uganda as we know it today. Many areas that make up Uganda today were administered through kingships and chiefdoms. It is these kingdoms and chiefdoms that were brought together to form the current Uganda. Alliances were made with the traditional rulers of the colonized areas to administer through their already established local structures to deliver services to the people. This was known as indirect rule. This was the beginning of local governance reforms in Uganda.

The kingdoms and chiefdoms were well recognized and these formed regional and district administrations. After independence, the growth of the population, administration changing hands, several political and local governance reforms have taken place.

45 years down the road, Uganda has 78 district local governments and 13 urban municipalities.

B. Rational.

The issue of eradication of ignorance disease and poverty has been on the agenda of Uganda since independence. It may take different forms but substance remains the same; How do you make people access basic services in the field of health, education, extension services or delivery of services in order to pull them out of poverty.

This study focuses on one of the latest approaches to service delivery. The creation of many districts in the last seven years or so.

The study will focus on where many Districts have been created, and find out the actual impact against the background of the stated reasons.

We shall also compare with how similar services were delivered when Districts were relatively large.

We shall also look at other possible alternative ways in which service delivery could have been done short of creating new Districts.

C. Purpose.

The purpose of the study is to find out what has been achieved against the background and the stated reason and objectives of establishing new Districts. Some of the reasons for the creation of Districts were:

1. Bringing the service closer to the people, such as health, education, administration.
2. Creation of jobs at district level.
3. Infrastructure such as headquarter structures, District hospitals, tarmac roads, water, electricity and telephone services.
4. Access to government education scholarships especially Public Universities. (How has this been achieved and how has it affected standards of education).
5. Popular demands by the communities concerned.
6. Use of local language/culture for ease of communication.

Other reasons given are:-

1. Easy to supervise projects.
2. Easier to maintain security.
3. More resources direct to the people.

D. The study should analyse:

- a) What studies were carried out before the Districts were created according to the procedure established by the prevailing laws:
 - i) number of Districts at independence
 - ii) number of Districts created in 1974
 - iii) number of Districts created between 1986-2000. Look at the Prof Mamdani report.
 - iv) Number of Districts created since 2000.
- b) How the implementation has been carried out like: Selection of the Headquarters, construction of the Headquarters for administration and staff, the budgeting process.
- c) Staff recruitment, how broad transparent and effective it's been.

E. Critically look at the following:-

1. Bringing Service Delivery Nearer to the People: A Case Study About Uganda.
2. Is the creation of new districts the way to go in taking services nearer to the people?
3. Democratization, Decentralization and the Price Uganda is Paying
4. Good Governance and Public Expenditure
5. Is creation of new districts in Uganda a prerequisite for improved service delivery?
6. What has been achieved on each stated objective and if not, why? What has been achieved against the promises and high expectations?
7. Analyse whether the same resource could have been better used to achieve the same objective especially in the areas of:
 - Health delivery
 - Education
 - Infrastructure
 - Raising house hold income and standards of living
8. Find out the impact of many Districts on the policy of decentralization.
9. Look deeply at the increased cost of public administration and its implications, if any.

F. Recommendations

Out of the research make appropriate recommendations to Government and other stakeholders.

G. Conclusions.

H. Methodology (Out line of the approach)

1. Meeting with senior staff of relevant ministries. Local Government, Finance, Public service.
2. Review literature, relevant laws, statutory instruments, policy instruments.
3. Consult other stake holders NGO's, Donors.
4. Write inception report.
5. Field trips: a) Visit selected Districts
 - b) Old ones
 - c) Those created before 2001 but after 1970.
 - d) Those recently created.

I. Propose Districts for study visits.

Central.

- Kiboga
- Mityana
- Nakasongola
- Kayunga
- Mukono
- Lyandonde/ Sembabule

Eastern.

- Mayuge
- Jinja
- Budadiri
- Amuria
- Kapchorwa
- Bukwa
- Budaka

Northern.

- Oyam
- Dokoro

- Kitgum
- Pader
- Nebbi
- Yumbe

Western.

- Isingiro
- Mbarara
- Bushenyi
- Kanungu
- Kyenjojo
- Bulisa
- Msindi

J. Write

1. Final draft.
2. Report.

N.B A panel team will be put together from our list of experts. This will depend on the agreed areas of study and the resources envelop available.