

**POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY
IN UGANDA: A CASE STUDY OF OGUR SUB-
COUNTY, LIRA DISTRICT**

**BY
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CERTIFICATION

I the undersigned certify that I have read and hereby recommend for acceptance by Kampala International University, Institute of open and Distance Learning a research report entitled political instability and food security in Uganda in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Bachelor of Education- Special Needs Education of Kampala International University.



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DECLARATION

I **KIBAATE JOYCE** do declare that this dissertation is my own work and that it has not been presented and will not be presented to any other university for a similar award.

Signed: 

Date: 25/08/09

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ABSTRACT

Although various attempts were being made by government and Non-governmental organization to stop political instability in order to improve on food security in Northern Uganda, ensuring enough food for the people still remained the biggest challenge posed by political instability. There was a total breakdown of the agricultural production infrastructure in the war-affected areas. The people had resorted to surviving on food handouts from international relief agencies. This had greatly compromised the people's assurance of food.

The main objective of the study was to examine the impact of political instability on food security and its interceding consequences in rural areas, more especially among households affected by political instability.

To address the above issue 70 respondents were investigated. These included 30 men and 40 women who were used for the purpose of the study. The research employed both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis. The choice of both qualitative methods was dependent on the nature of the research that required the use of both simple random sampling techniques and purposive sampling methods of data collection respectively. The methods were used to get the magnitude of research problem. Quantitative and qualitative methods established the extent to which political instability affected food security.

The study findings showed that political instability has had a negative impact on food security in Uganda, especially in Ogur Sub-county where there was strong evidence of food insecurity. The sustainability of the people's livelihood was in question if no urgent remedial actions were taken. The affected households were not only faced with insecurity but also malnutrition had compromised the economic growth and development in the area.

The study's main recommendation was that the government of Uganda should declare politically disturbed areas emergency zones as had been recommended by the parliament and the international community. For long, insecurity has not only destroyed food security framework within communities as reflected in Ogur but the entire social development infrastructure. May be, the government should also start picking up the bill of feeding these people in the camps as a way of forcing it to look for a speedy end to the civil strife.

But on the whole, the situation in the war ravaged Northern Uganda needs a new approach. It was evident that the government and international community efforts were yielding poor fruits. Rebels had continued to wreck havoc on civilian population and the region had become to stand still in terms of development. The study recommended that new non-military solutions to the crisis be pursued, even if it meant dining on the same table with the invaders who were not supporting economic diversity and development in the northern part of Uganda.

Table of contents	Page
Certification	ii
Declaration and copyright	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
List of tables	x
List of maps and figures	xi
Abbreviations	xii

CHAPTER ONE

1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Background	2
1.3	Background to the problem	4
1.4	Statement of the problem	5
1.5	Hypothesis	5
1.6	Research question	5
1.7	Purpose of the study	5
1.8	Objectives of the study	5
1.8.1	General Objectives	6
1.8.2	Specific Objectives	6
1.9	Significance of the study	6
1.10	Definition of key terms	7

CHAPTER TWO - LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0	Introduction	9
2.1	Causes of food scarcity	9
2.1.1	Political Instability	9
2.1.2	Food security	12
2.2	Causes of food insecurity	15
2.3.	Improving food security	16
2.3.1	Modern Techniques	16
2.3.2	Storage	16

2.3.3	Food Processing and Preparation	....	...	...	...	...	...	16
2.3.4	Household Size and Composition	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
2.3.5	Wild Food Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
2.3.6	Diversification	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
2.4	NGOS and Food Security	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
2.4.1	Funding	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
2.4.2	Technology and Research	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
2.4.3	Training and Sensitization...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
2.4.4	Environmental Protection	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
2.4.5	Marketing and Distribution	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
2.4.6	The Development of infrastructure	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

CHAPTER THREE - METHODOLOGY

3.0	Introduction	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
3.1	Scope of the study	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
3.2	Area of the study	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
3.3	Procedure	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
3.4	Methods of data collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
3.4.1	Primary Methods	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
3.4.2	Secondary Methods	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
3.4	Data analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
3.5.1	Qualitative Data Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
3.5.2	Quantitative Data Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
3.6	STUDY LIMITATIONS	...	...	...	...	...	...	29

CHAPTER FOUR – DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

4.0	Introduction	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
4.1	General introductions	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
4.1.1	Sex of the respondents	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
4.1.2	Age of respondents	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
4.1.3	Marital status of respondents	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
4.1.4	Level of education	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
4.1.5	Occupation of the respondents	...	...	...	...	...	...	33

4.2	Political Instability and food security	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
4.2.1	Direct impact	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
4.2.2	Effects of insecurity on food security	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
4.3	Ensuring food security	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
4.3.1	Land size	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
4.3.2	Farm Tools / implements	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
4.3.3	Agricultural Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
4.3.4	Collection / Gathering Wild Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
4.3.5	Food Storage	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
4.3.6	Selling Assets	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
4.3.7	Selling Labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
4.3.8	Support from NGOs	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
4.4	Challenges of households	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
4.4.1	Division of labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
4.4.2	Land ownership and use	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
4.4.3	Drought	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
4.4.4	Cattle rusting	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
4.4.5	Poverty	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
4.5	Challenges faced by government	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
4.5.1	Inadequate funding	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
4.5.2	Poor infrastructure	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
4.5.3	Poor government policy	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
4.5.4	Security	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
4.5.5	Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
4.5.6	Conclusion	...	...	...	...	...	...	56

CHAPTER FIVE – RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH.

5.0	Introduction	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
5.1	Recommendations	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
5.1.1	Researcher's Views	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
5.2.2	Community's views	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
5.3	Areas for further research	...	...	...	...	...	...	63

APPENDICES

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1.1 Total Population of Ogur sub County.	26
Table 4.1 Sex of Respondents.	30
Table 4.2 Ages of Respondents.	31
Table 4.3 Marital status of respondents.	32
Table 4.4 Education of respondents.	32
Table 4.5 Occupation of respondents.	33
Table 4.6 Land use.	36
Table 4.7 Child Headed Households.	38
Table 4.8 Produce bought by NPTC.	39
Table 4.9 Land size.	42
Table 4.10 Age and land size.	43
Table 4.11 Farm Tools / Implements.	44
Table 4.12 Agricultural Education.	44
Table 4.13 Collecting / Gathering Wild Food.	45
Table 4.14 Age and Collecting / Gathering Wild Food.	46
Table 4.15 Food storage methods.	47
Table 4.16 Selling Assets.	48
Table 4.17 Selling Labour.	49
Table 4.18 Support from NGOs.	50
Table 4.19 Community Activities in the area.	51

LIST OF MAPS AND FIGURES

Map 1: Map of Uganda; showing Location of Lira District	...	...	23
Map 2: Map of Lira District; Location of Ogur sub – county	...	...	24
Map 3: A sketch Map of Ogur sub- County	...	...	25
Figure 1: Household Economic Activities.	...	...	35
Figure 2: Shift from Agriculture to other Economic Activities.	...	...	39
Figure 3: Livestock in Affected Households.	...	...	41

ABBREVIATIONS

IDP: Internally Displaced Persons.

IDPC'S: Internally Displaced People's Camps.

NGO: Non Governmental Organisation.

LC: Local Council.

UN: United Nations.

LRA: Lords Resistance Army.

GNP: Gross National Product.

GDP: Gross Domestic Product.

FGD: Focused Group Discussion.

WDR: World Development Report.

WB: World Bank.

SP: Samaritan's Purse

NPTC: Nile Produce Trading Company.

NEMA: National Environment Authority.

NFA: National Forestry Authority.

CHAPTER ONE

POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Africa has suffered political instability for a long time and this has in turn greatly handicapped her development. This political instability has largely been manifested during the post-independence period. In the last four decades Uganda has experienced a number of political upheavals. Uganda's experience of political instability dates back to 1960's soon after the attainment of independence.

In the Western region the Rwenzururu guerrilla struggle began to unfold immediately after independence. The mid 1960's saw Uganda go through a political crisis when Obote overrun the Presidential / Kabaka's palace and later overthrew his own government. In the 1980's Luwero flared up into war led by Museveni. And since Museveni took the reigns of power Northern Uganda has not seen peace for two decades. Rampaging rebel armies and government forces in pursuit of rebel have caused untold damage to the people and the entire social economic infrastructure. Untold damage has been done to all production mechanisms including that of food.

According to the World Vision Report (1996), as a result of rebel activities such as massive killing, looting, burning homes and granaries and abduction, many people have fled their homes.

This has led to the displacement of more than 3000,000 people some of whom live in protected villages and areas in town, on streets and in displaced people's camps. This has greatly impacted on food security since the displaced households cannot produce food due to lack of land in camps. Productive household heads who have the potential to produce

food have been killed and their granaries burnt by rebels. People can no longer go back in their villages to cultivate food because of the fear of losing their lives. This has made the people vulnerable to food insecurity, malnutrition and premature death among the people in those areas.

1.1 Background to the Study.

Since independence, mainly in the 1960's civilian governments have been replaced by the military in many African states. In some instances one wing of the military has subsequently displaced another: as in Nigeria in July 1966, 1975 and 1983 and Ghana 1987 and 1979. Several other states have experienced serious coup attempts including Gabon in 1964, Angola in 1974 and Kenya in 1962.

Political upheavals and civil strife have deep roots in the legacy of colonialism have characterized Uganda's post-independence history. This state of affairs has further been compounded by divisive and sectarian political practices of the early political parties and their leadership. The military has characterized Ugandan politics since 1966 when Obote backed by the military abrogated the 1962 independence constitution and dictated his own and ruled until he was overthrown by his own army commander Idi Amin in 1971. In 1979, Amin was expelled in response to the military threat to Tanzania's sovereignty posed by Amin's expansionist ambition.

Later, Ugandan political groups that felt that they had been cheated in the 1981 elections and that the 1980 election result was fraudulent took up arms and waged a guerrilla war against Obote's UPC government. They were encouraged by the brutality displayed by the army during the war. Despite having defeated Obote troops and the Lutwa military Junta in 1986, up to date civil war in the North and Northeast is being carried out by groups excluded from politics led by Ota, Lakwena and Joseph Kony. This has largely intensified as a result of local support to rebel groups.

The opposition and total animosity to the NRM government in the North can be gauged by the recent national elections in which the NRM lost heavily to the opposition parties.

The civil war in Northern Uganda increased when a new battalion was stationed in Lira consisting of soldiers who had fought in Luwero during the civil war. Throughout this period of instability most people witnessed massive killing, destruction plus war victims of looting kidnapping and deliberate maiming in form of retaliation by these soldiers. The use of scorch to earth methods by the army led to the displacement of many. People were herded into IDPCs, where they have lived for more than twenty years. Homesteads became overgrown with wild plants and houses collapsed. In a nutshell, life came to a stand still as the peoples' productive capacities got eroded each day that passed. So, for more than two decades, northern Uganda has been at a stand still (Heike 1998). The north faces a serious development problem that needs to be addressed urgently. More so, the question of providing food to the people so as to keep them alive.

1.2 Background to the problem.

The people in Ogur sub-county have been affected by political instability and are now vulnerable to food insecurity. The affected households' ability to acquire food has greatly been affected by hindrance of participating in agricultural production and also the rebels looted only main survival economic activity that they got to purchase some of the household assets and also making them vulnerable to poverty since they cannot attain a minimum standard of living like food hence absolute poverty.

The people in Ogur sub-county and Uganda as whole are the most productive group but political instability has depleted the manpower in households, communities and the economy in general. This has become one of the biggest threat to development and maintenance of human

resource since the heads of households and community leaders are being killed by these rebels, leaving behind a high number of orphans who needed food, education, medication and yet, they were not directly involved in the production process. These children were also abducted by the rebels and recruited into the rebel army.

According to NICEF and World Vision (1998: 10), the current number of abducted children and youth are estimated at 4,000 – 6,000 ranging from 10 to 20 years of age. Human Right Watch (1997) reports that it is hard to know how many children the rebels have abducted. The report estimates suggest that 3,000 – 5,000 children have escaped from captivity during the years following 1995. UNICEF estimates that an equal number of children remain in captivity and unknown and numbers are dead.

Uganda has predominantly an agro-economy, which employs over 80% of the population. In addition, 90% of these practice agriculture as a livelihood and mainly for home consumption known as subsistence. There has been a decline in agricultural production due to the current rebel activity in Ogur sub-county. The insecurity has led to the low level of food production. People have been forced to leave their houses and are now in IDPCs. They feared to go back to their homes to cultivate food crops because of fear of losing their lives. The rebels harvested the food that they had already cultivated. This led to a shortage and scarcity of food resulting into both adult and child malnourishment and many were dying.

However, food production had greatly declined to the extent that some parts like Ogur were depending on food aid given by NGOs because they were unable to produce food for their survival due to political instability in the area. The population in the region was now entirely dependent on food aid. This state of affairs posed a serious threat to the development aspirations and objective of the people.

1.2 Statement of the problem.

Although various attempts were being made by government and non-governmental organization to stop political instability so as to improve food security, ensuring enough food for the people still remained the biggest challenge posed by political instability. There was a total breakdown of the agricultural production infrastructure in the war-affected areas. The people have resorted to surviving on food handouts from international relief agencies. This had greatly compromised the people's assurance of food. Photographs 1 and 2 shows the extent of malnutrition in the IDP camps.

1. 4 Hypothesis

Food security in Ogur sub-county has been greatly compromised by political instability.

to

1.5 Research Questions.

- The following questions were asked to fulfill the objectives of the study.
- To what extent is political instability affecting food security?
- What are the causes of food insecurity in the sub-county?
- How are the households themselves helping in combating food insecurity?
- What constraints are being faced by stakeholders in supporting the affected households?
- What are the measures being put in place to reduce food security?

1.6 Purpose of the Study.

The study was carried out to examine the relationship between political instability and food security.

1.7 Objectives of the Study.

The study was being guided by the following objectives.

Photograph 1: Showing a Malnourished child in the camp.+



Photograph 2: Children struggling for food



1.7.1 General Objectives.

The general objective was to examine the impact of political instability on food availability for the people of Ogur sub-county.

1.7.2 Specific Objectives.

- To establish the impact of political instability on food security.
- To examine the major causes of political instability and its impact on food production mechanisms.
- To identify the strategies being used by households themselves in ensuring food security.
- To examine the challenges being faced by households and stake holders in ensuring food security.
- To identify solutions to the challenges being faced.

1.8 Significance of the Study.

- The study will be significant to the following categories of people.
- It will show policy makers the causes of food insecurity in Ogur sub-county.
- It will guide the NGOs on areas to direct their resources in their effort to combat food insecurity.
- It will guide the NGOs on areas to direct their resources in their effort to combat food insecurity.
- It will emphasize to the government the need for food security.
- It will show the household members the need to co-operate with the various stakeholders to combat food insecurity.
- It will help academicians to update their literature and encourage further research.

Above all, it is an academic exercise that, if done well, will lead the researcher to attain a degree in development studies.

1.9 Definition of key concepts:

Food security: Means the availability and access to adequate food on a daily basis at the national, village and family level. Even in years of bad harvest.

Hunger: This refers to a state of not having enough food to eat. It is the lack of food or the desire for food. The hungry are those who feel the desire for food but do not have access to it.

Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs):

Is a non-profit making indigenous or international legal organization independent of governments that are engaged in relief services and advocacy.

Poverty:

This refers to both the outright deprivation and destitution – the lack of food to avoid malnutrition; of adequate healthcare to avoid preventable diseases and of adequate shelter to avoid freezing. It also involves the psychological problems resulting from extreme degree of unequal distribution of natural resources.

Food security:

This refers to the adequate supply of food at household level, national or both. In other words the supply of food does not meet the requirements as assessed on the basis of both proteins and calories.

World Bank defines food security as lack of access to enough food.

Household:

UN (1973) defines household as an institution based on arrangements made by persons, individuals or groups following together.

Mburugu (1986), defined it as being made up of either single persons who make provisions for living without assistance or multi-persons who are related or unrelated or both.

War can be defined as “a wrestling match on a large scale organized violence between politically defined groups. War actually is an act or a state of fighting between nations or groups within nations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter views several literatures on political instability and food security. It has further placed the research in context. It goes further to give relevant literature on the causes of food insecurity, measures to ensure and improve food security and the role of NGO's as a prominent body identified in promoting and ensuring food security.

2.1 Causes of food scarcity:

Food scarcity leading to food insecurity is caused by a number of factors. But the major contribution is done by conditions of political instability, which in most cases lead to break downs in agricultural production mechanisms.

Political Instability

De-Waal (1990) believed that the effect of war or conflict had been to restrict or disrupt people's means of subsistence and their ability to cope with situations. This in turn raised people's vulnerability. Military strategies used in guerrilla wars such as the one in northern Uganda was applied in such a way that rebels were denied access to food supplies, health care services and mobility. In the case of Uganda, the government responded by herding the civilian population into camps. De-Waal believed that this was a short sighted move because ultimately this militarism led to a breakdown of food production and supply systems.

However, De Waal failed to recognize that even if war does not break out, high military spending, which was characterized by developing countries, would also disable people from producing enough food. Most African families were characterized by existence of large families. In addition polygamy was common in rural households. This was supported by

Rannie (1992) when he asserted that "the household food requirement was simple but sometimes overlooked due to the fact that other things remained equal, a family with fewer children would have an easier time feeding itself than a family with more children".

In the "Roots of Instability", Karugire (1996) traced the chequered political history of Uganda from the attainment of independence in 1962, to the coup of Okello in 1985. He argued that disunity on ethnic and religious grounds and administrative isolation of Uganda's components parts during the colonial period were the basic, foundation upon which instability was built.

According to Downing (1989:86), Civil war and local traditional disputes over resources can lead to regional instabilities in markets or results in destruction of crops and infrastructure.

Such conflicts could drastically affect the food available for households within that region. In addition wars caused influx of refugees into local areas thereby taxing the resources that were locally available.

The Parliamentary Report on the War in Northern Uganda Seasonal Committee on Defense and Internal Affairs identified several factors as being responsible for prolonged insurgency in the North. Among them the Committee identified, under estimation of rebellion, external support or rebel group by foreign governments, mutual suspicion and forced recruitment through abduction by the rebels. The committee pointed out that the insurgency had resulted into high cost for the government, high financial cost, and human rights abuse and government popularity in the affected region. However, after making its findings and observations on fundamental issues that were raised, the committee recommended that the insurgency in the North be fought militarily until when the insurgents are overpowered.

This paper did not agree with the committee's position of fighting war to the end. The paper zeroes down to dialogue as the most cost-effective way of bringing the human rights violations to a speedy end.

Sengendo (1994) pointed out that political instability had affected the adults, children and the old whose life was considered to be in danger and had to flee to safer places. That under these conditions they required protection of their lives and poverty. He further argued that the responsibility of the displaced refugees lied with the government. It was evident that government was putting effort to stop the increasing number of refugees by trying to maintain peace and tranquility in all corners of the country. In his observation many causes of food insecurity and displacement have been precipitated by political factors. He recommended the use of political skills in negotiations and other means of resolving conflict must be preferred to using coercive means.

However, in this paper, Sengendo (1994) down played the effect of the ultimatum government had given hardly three months before his paper, on the peace process which the government was pursuing. This study considered government's effort in the peace process vis-à-vis the ultimatum.

Due to political instability the problem of IDPs was not new globally and in Africa. Bond (1986) and Bonnets (1998) noted that between 1982-1993, the number of the refugee's worldwide doubled from 8 million to more than 20 million. Many of these had been displaced within their own countries. According to the World Disaster Report (1996), Bennet, et al (1995) and Human Rights Watch (1997), in most cases these people had been forced to flee situations of war or civil strife and it was estimated that between 1990 and the year 2000 there would be over 100 million separate incidences in internal displacement (Martin 1994, Human Rights Report 1995 and Watkins 1995).

The World Disaster Report (1996) also reveals that the number of IDPs has increased exponentially. In 1990 there was an estimated 22 million IDPs by 1994 their number had grown to 26 million. The report further projected that if the current rate of increase continue by the year 2000 there would be about 40 million internally displaced persons world wide due to political instability.

Food Security:

Eating food is a right rather than a privilege for every individual in the world over. This made food production very important both to those who just buy and those who physically grow the crops on their own farms in order to make sure that every human being eats enough food. Food production had been a priority right from the household level. Food security at household levels was achieved when every member of the household has access to sufficient food for a health and productive life. This entailed food availability, accessibility and utilization. Therefore, the continued vulnerability of agriculture to political instability poses a threat to food security at household level, national and international levels. Research has shown that one of every two persons in Africa was food insecure. As Haddad (1997:14) states "every third person in Sub-Saharan Africa is food insecure".

The World Bank (1989:1083) broadly defined food security as the accessibility by all the people at all times to enough food for an active healthy life. At household level, it referred to food security as the ability of households to obtain enough food for all household members. However, it noted that the availability of food depended on several factors such as own food production, income, exchange of food and social relations. Jan (1982:86) cited other sources that contributed to food availability which included presence of food outside the Agricultural system itself namely wild plants (roots, fruits) and leaves animals and fish from natural waters.

Swift et al (1989:86) identify social capital as the ability of household members to activate community support mechanisms which make one secure food after harvest and able to assist neighbours as a measure to support one another. These claims add to and encompass social, political, friendship and kinship ties, which one may easily translate into command over food.

Food security was a phenomenon that had stirred interest among organizations and the governments at the national and international scene. Unlike most other conspicuous phenomena food security was a latent and gradual occurrence that affects the entire humanity old and young alike. For us to be able to comprehend food security there was needed to contrast it with the converse food insecurity, which meant absence of inadequacy of dietary intake on a daily basis for healthy normal life. The victims of food insecurity suffered acute cases of food deficiency diseases such as kwashiorkor, goiter, general body weakness and feeling of malaise, malaria and hunger if not famine. What then was food security?

At the extreme food insecurity greatly decelerated and hampers over all development by causing hunger or famine related diseases. Although food insecurity could be such a big havoc, the world has all the available resources to overcome the challenges of food insecurity and hence achieved and promoted food security (World Hunger Project 1985:91). This further made the phenomenon too intriguing.

While parts of the world the More Developed countries (MDCs) lived in affluence and had wasteful consumption patterns, others lived in dire poverty, wondering where their next meal would come from. How then had such a predominant agricultural economy with 7% labour force engaged in agricultural sector (90% for Lira District) District Environmental Profile Lira District (1997) come to face food crisis? What are the

manifestations of food crisis in Uganda and Lira in particular? What steps were being taken at international, regional, sub-regional, national levels to solve such crisis? For the crisis, though at the sub-national scale, it drew attention at a global level. What was more was that the crisis could be prevented from occurring through increases alertness, vigilance and hard work given the right resources and political will.

At the regional level, efforts have been made towards food security attainment and promotion. The African Priority Programmes for Economic Recovery 1986:1990 had its immediate priorities on food and agriculture sector. The regional Food Plan for Africa also provided a platform for articulating food security issues. In the national budget for Uganda, agriculture was allocated a large share but more could be allocated if military expenditure was minimized. The 1996 Uganda National Plan of Action for Nutrition (UNPAN) in line with the 1992 International Conference on Nutrition (ICN) held in Rome pledged to eliminate famine and famine-related deaths, starvation and wide spread chronic deficiency diseases by the end of the last decade. Countries were to reduce sustainability starvation and wide spread chronic hunger and under nutrition, especially among children. The Uganda government had also given the leeway for relief operations in the country and when the need arose, large scale commercial inputs were undertaken as it was the case in 1980. The challenge to promote food security in Uganda and more so Lira District seems to require more specific approach to the district itself since its problems as reflected in the background to the study was to the district only.

Auximite et al, (1994) asserts that in a sense, the group whose logic was based on "No other food sources other than subsistence production" was a more extreme form of food insecure group. This group often included low income female-headed households, widows and families suddenly

abandoned by a primary wage earner. This group is usually a low-income earner and food insecure household.

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (1989) said, "Food production must expand twice if Africa was to cope with new mouths to be fed and slowly overcome malnutrition. The keys to food security would be to develop and apply new technology as well as to increase production". The problem with the report or recommendations was that it failed to recognize that the level of technological development in Africa had not only been hampered by poverty – people were so poor that they could buy and maintain some of their technologies.

Maxwell (1992) argued that as individual household and community food security had been studied in more detail, new linkages had become apparent between their ways. People managed their lives. These food ideas had contributed to new framework for thinking about food security with emphasis of supporting the livelihood security of the vulnerable household and people.

Sen (1981) in his argument on food insecurity brought in the concept of "entitlement". He argued that people go hungry not necessarily because they lost entitlement that was to say ability to acquire food through legal means available in society which included food obtained through household production by trade and exchange or by purchasing food with wages earned from wage labour. He argued that famine had occurred or wars had disrupted their lives. This was when specific section of the population had experienced a drastic reduction in their entitlement to food.

2.2 CAUSES OF FOOD INSECURITY

According to the District State of Environment Report 1997, the specific causes of food insecurity in the district seemed to be refugee presence, internal displacements due to political insecurity, crop diseases, inadequate extension services, lack of organized market for produce, low

productivity due to natural factors and poor technologies, market accessibility, land shortages in densely populated areas and the land fragmentation and tenure systems. A reversal of these factors would lead to food security attainment and promotion in the district. It would also cater for the unemployment problem arising out of several post harvest losses (Senghor 1989:379). Not much focus is put on the impact and strain the war in the north has put on the food production and distribution chains.

2.3 IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY

Modern Techniques

According to field survey taken in 18 districts by EPAU (1992:62), there appeared to be lack of agricultural inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers and pesticides as well as poor production techniques which resulted into poor yield and consequently affected availability of food with the resultant low yields, information needs to be obtained on how households avail themselves with food.

Storage

Storage was one of the major ways in which household ensure adequate food supply for their members to last them up to the next planting season. Different communities used different storage systems. Proctor (1994:136) defined two types of traditional village storage methods in Africa namely; temporary and long term storage methods. According to proctor (1994:136) the temporary storage methods are quite often associated with a drying of crops and aerial storage methods where maize cobs, sorghum, or millet particles were tied in bundles which were suspended from tree branches, posts.

Food Processing and Preparation

Food processing according of Obote (1995:38) referred to the treatment and preservation of food for example polishing rice, grinding maize,

squeezing and refining cooking oil, boiling, salting and sun drying. Enaku (1995:89) held the view that food processing was important for household food availability in that it reduced wastage of produce especially from agricultural sector. Obote (1995:40) encouraged food processing such as potatoes, cassava are piled, cut into slices and then sun dried and for grains like millet, sorghum, they are threshed, winnowed, purified in the mortar using a pestle, sun dried and then stored or sold. The war had completely eroded these food storage methods. People are at high risk if they stored any food.

Household Size and Composition

In many societies household size and composition was not static but changed household biological life cycle. According to Morris (1988) in Maxwell and Frankenberger (1989:130) adjustment of household size and composition was recurrent food availability problems. During prolonged economic crisis the trend was towards smaller consumption units. (Chamber 1989). In Maxwell and Frak-Ceds (1989:30), the smaller the household size/composition could be one of the strategies to ensure food availability.

Wild Food Collection

De Waal (1988) in World Development Report 1988 noted that of the African case, where studies confirm that risks to food security are frequently anticipated at household level and strategies are carefully planned to cope with them for example De Waal in his study of famine in 1984 in Dafur for Sudan found out that once it became evident that harvest failure was imminent, people knew that they had to make resources cover a full twelve to fifteen months. A common strategy was to collect food bury/store together with grain stocks near the households and then go off in search of seasonally available wage employment return to store grain. This study was to seek to establish to what extent the

people loiter in camps in order to be able to collect / gather wild foods to supplement the food donations.

Diversification

Besides cultivation according to Cutter (1986) in World Development Report (1988 vol. 16:1104) another measure by which households could avoid food security was mainly through availability of milk and meat. Assets played a role in household efforts to avoid food to its meaning according to Chamber (1989). In Maxwell and Frankenburger (1989:133) such assets would involve both productive and non-productive assets.

However, there was need to look beyond all these food coping mechanisms and examine the impact of political instability on food production and availability. The people of Ogur Sub-county could not be fed by the government and donors all the time. Twenty years ago, it would be an insult to any family to beg for food. The least they could do was to work for food.

2.4 NGOS AND FOOD SECURITY

The Role of NGOs towards promoting and ensuring food security was expected to be seen in the themes of technology and research, funding, training and sensitization, environmental protection, infrastructure development, marketing and distribution and provision of food aid in emergency situation.

Funding

NGOs would provide funding for various activities that needed much cash for food shortages, subsistence agricultural packages such as tools, seeds either as soft loans or as starter kits to the families (Gtantz 1978:352). The NGOs would also contract extension workers to help in advising and guiding farmers or even train them, providing funding for exchange visits for both farmers and the project staff. NGOs would also.

take lumpy capital developments such as the construction of modern demonstration. But under the current situation, the best they could do was to deliver food to the camps.

Technology and Research

In the field of technology and research, NGOs were expected to develop low cost appropriate technologies, provide high yielding seed varieties, quick yielding varieties, help develop better varieties, fertilizers and irrigation facilities (Mohiudd 1991:140). This study could have tried to ascertain the extent to which this could be done in Lira District but under what conditions.

Training and Sensitization

In order to attain and ensure food security there would be need for training and sensitization of indigenous personnel and household in the area of the management of food enterprises embracing import distribution, food storage, marketing and production (Senghor 1989:389). The farmers would need to build up a comprehensive and usable picture of their soil, water, plant resources and knowledge of local climates. This study showed that it had not been possible in the last twenty years and might not be possible as long as people live in IDP camps.

Environmental Protection

NGOs would be expected to indulge in openly protecting the environment through means like tree planting, it would also encourage farmers to use farming practice that conserved the environment such measures include crop rotation, use of manure, intercropping. Once the people moved into the IDP camps environmental protection became null and void. There had been total destruction of the environment in places where these camps were established.

Marketing and Distribution

Marketing and distribution places an immense burden on the farmer. It would require up to date information on market location and characteristics and ruling prices of products of interest to the farmer. It would also call for packaging and transportation, building up distribution networks and outlets the construction and maintenance of storage facilities and resources for financing the stocks and overheads of marketing systems as well as considerable managerial capabilities. Such burden was too immense for indigenous farmers in Lira District to bear. Government efforts to market through co-operatives had not been very successful, especially for food items. But what was there to market? Agricultural production was almost at a stand still. There was a total breakdown of the social and economic infrastructure in the region.

The Development of Infrastructure.

The Development of infrastructure leads to food security attainment in Lira District. Most food in Lira District was produced in rural areas, which had poor accessibility, storage facilities. It was dangerous to venture out onto roads in the area. The rural areas have nothing to deliver to the urban centres except an influx of refugees onto the town streets at night. NGOs used to help in developing roads, provide or construct storage facilities, such as village or granaries and provide preservation and storage facilities that can avoid wastage of produce. They were now handicapped. The best they could do was to deliver or help in the distribution of food and relief items to the IDPs (Venooy, 1994).

This situation called for an investigative insight into the problem of political instability, especially in as far as food availability was concerned. People live on food and anything that disturbed or disorganized their food production capacity posed a grave danger to the community. The war in Northern Uganda had left people of the region food beggars. For how long were people going to remain in that situation? This study should

have been able to look into the extent of the problem and come out with recommendations on how to handle the problem.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter deals with research methodology. It specifically describes the sources of data, area of study, sample design and selection, methods of data collection, data analysis and the limitation of the study.

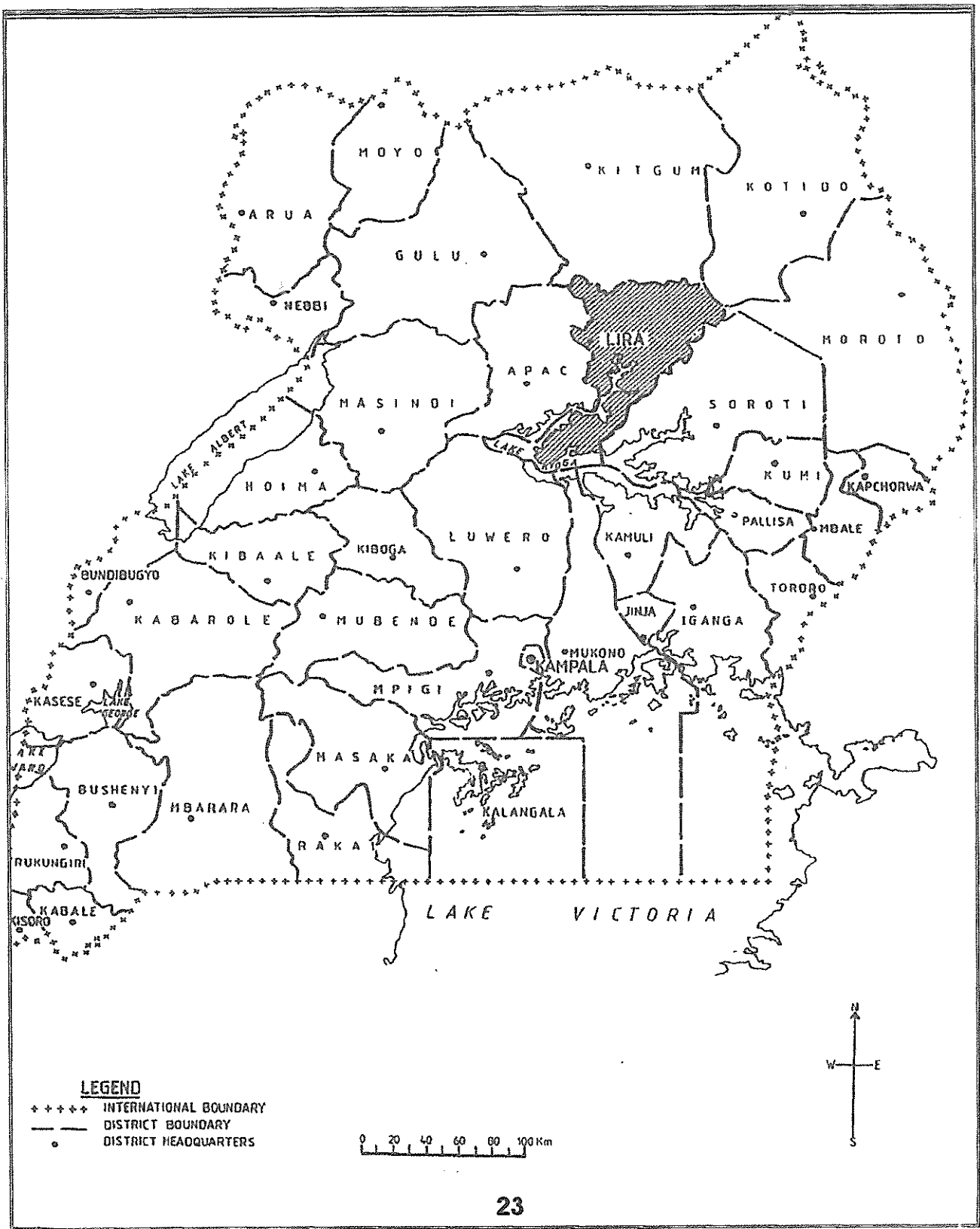
3.1 Scope of the study

The study was conducted in Lira Municipality, and specifically in Ogur Sub-county. The study confined itself on the relationship between political instability and food security. The most affected people with political instability were sampled to show the total number of people who are food insecure due to political instability. Map 1 shows the location of Lira District in Uganda.

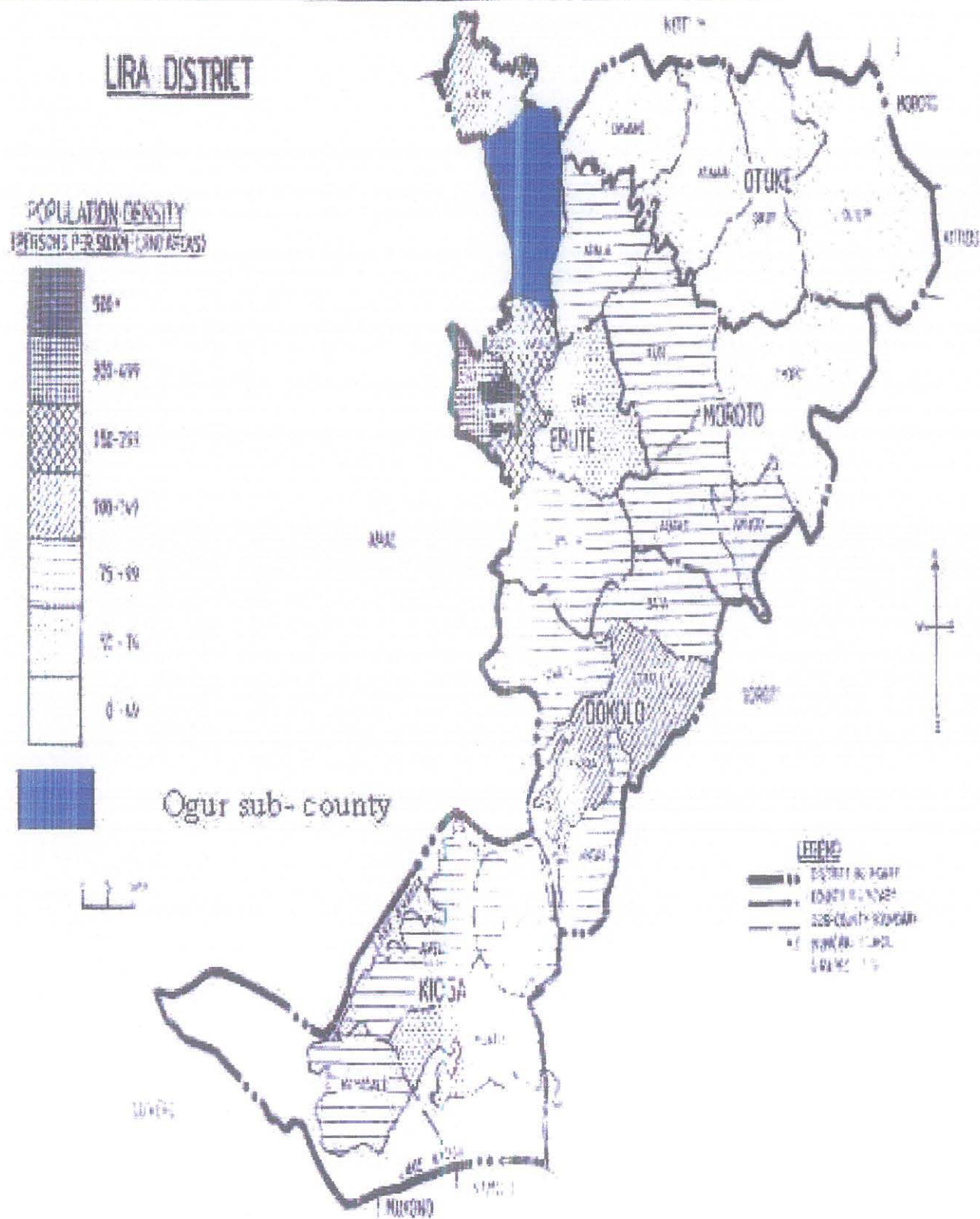
3.2 Area and Population of the study

Ogur Sub-county where the study was carried out is one of the sub-counties in Erute County. It is located 21km north of Lira town. It is bordered by Aromo on the North West, Apala on the East, Adekokwok on the South, Kitgum District on the West. Map 2 is Lira District showing the administrative units. Map 3 is a sketch of the area of study.

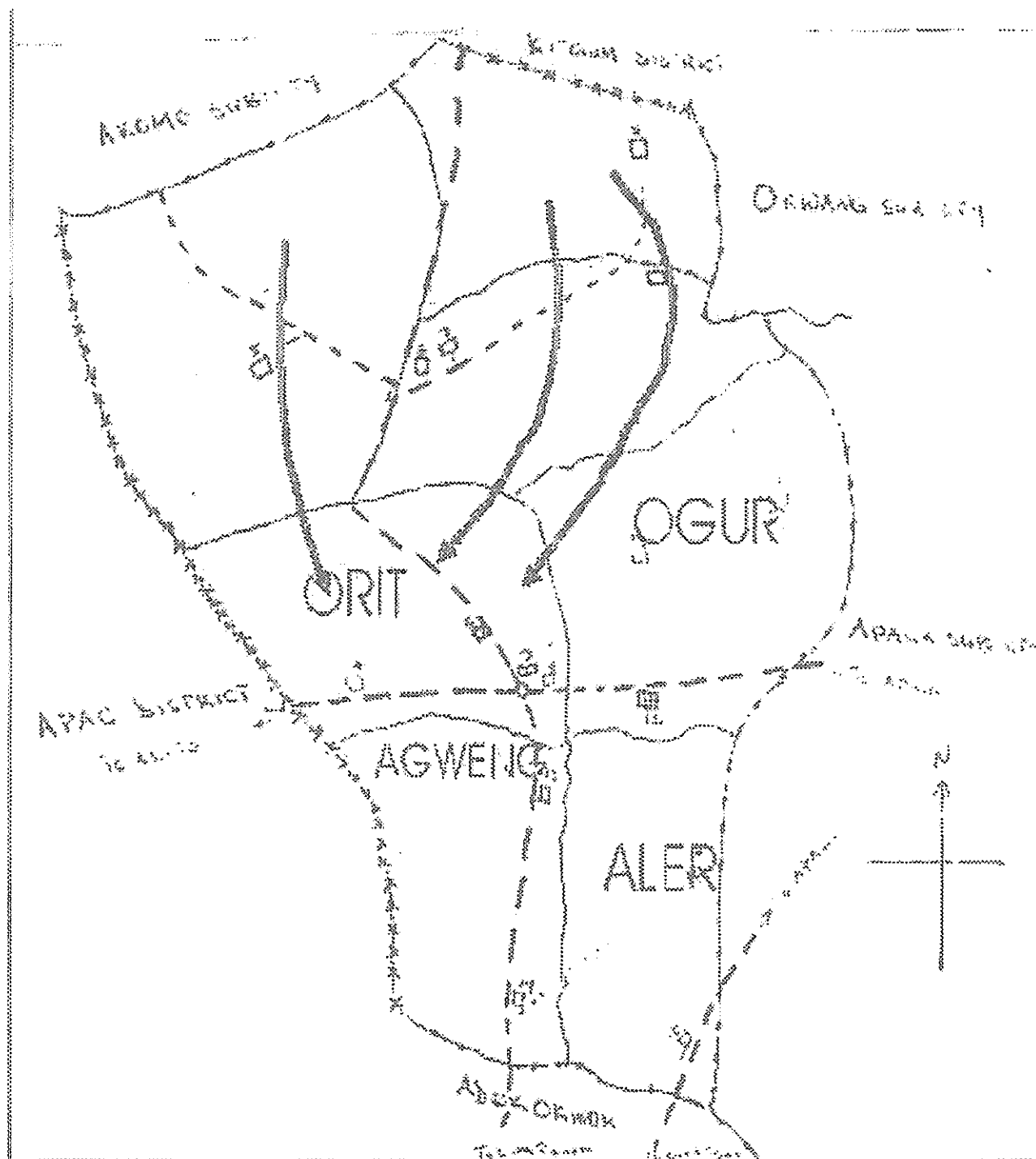
MAP 1: UGANDA SHOWING LOCATION OF LIRA DISTRICT



IAP 2: LIRA DISTRICT SHOWING OGUR SUBCOUNTY



MAP 3: SKETCH MAP OF OGUR SUBCOUNTY



Demographically Ogur Sub-county has an average population of 100-149 persons per sq. km. According to the 2002 Population and Housing Census District Profile Report, the sub-county has a total population of 30,404. The breakdown per parish is shown in the Table 1.1 below.

The population in Ogur Sub-county by Sex and parish

Parish	Male	Female	Total
Akano	2718	2753	5471
Akangi	1948	1960	3909
Angolocom	2196	2348	4509
Abala	1767	1839	3606
Orit	1839	2018	3857
Apoka	2046	2090	4136
Ogur	2388	2494	4881

Source: National Housing and Population Census District Profile Report 2002

Ogur Sub-county has 7 parishes and 123 villages. The main crops grown in the area include millet, peas, sorghum, beans, cassava, cotton and groundnuts; livestock include cattle, goats, sheep, and poultry. The administrative sub-county has 7 parish chiefs, 2 accounts assistants, 7 police constables, 1 veterinary officer, 1 assistant agricultural officer, 1 community development officer and 1 entomologist.

3.3 PROCEDURE

A preliminary visit was made to the study area to be sure that the problem being focused on was actually prevalent. This greatly helped in the conceptualization of the research problem. It also enhanced the researcher's knowledge of the study area and filled in the gap between political instability and food insecurity in the sub-county. The researcher got an introductory letter (appendix 1) from the Faculty of Arts Kampala International University and presented to the chief administrative officers, Ogur Sub-county local government and agriculture extension offices in the sub-county. These introduced the researcher to the local farmers in the

respective areas with the assistance of the local representatives appointed programmes were made where necessary with respondents and interviews were carried out.

2.4 METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Primary and secondary data collection methods were used during the study. Primary data was got from the field while secondary data was gathered from books and other literature on the subject.

2.4.1 Primary Methods

(a) Interview Method

An interview was conducted with the local people. Many of these could not read and write and thus required a personal interview. A total of 70 people were interviewed. These people were those living both within the IDP camps and those who commute to the camp every evening seeking protection for the night. 35 of these were illiterate and had to undergo a personal interview using questionnaires attached in Appendix 2. 25 camp residents who could read and write were also interviewed using the same questionnaires. 35 households living in the villages were also interviewed using the same questionnaire. 5 field monitors from Samaritans Purse International and the District Agricultural Officer were also interviewed using the questionnaire in Appendix 3. These people together with the camp 2 leaders and 2 local council executive members made up the focused group discussion and key informants.

The study analysed food productivity in the context of political instability in Ogur Sub-county, Lira District. One parish in the sub-county was purposely selected using multi-stage sampling and villages were randomly selected. A sampling frame consisting of food insecure households was constructed in the selected parishes. This was done with the help of local government authorities.

Specific areas, which were examined during the study, included the state of family gardens, animal/poultry husbandry and households assets. Household heads were required to respond on individual basis and others were grouped since most of the households are now in camps because of political instability.

(b) Observation.

An observation checklist was to observe the incident of food insecurity in households, the conditions of people at household level, crops abandoned in the garden due to insecurity was used.

(c) Photography

Photographs of abandoned fields and households were taken. Photography was a very important and crucial data collection method because it captured true pictures and images of the situation.

3.4.1 Secondary Methods

The researcher used various publications related to political instability and food security especially documentary review from Lira District, books and journals plus the internet. The district agricultural office was visited for data. The Lira Resource Centre and Public Library were also frequently used.

3.5 DATA ANALYSIS

Both qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis were used in order to analyse and interpret data. The findings were edited before leaving the respondents for accuracy and uniformity.

3.5.1 Qualitative Data Analysis

The Analysis was carried out in three stages before, during and after the study. Before data collection tentative theories were identified in relation to how political instability has caused food insecurity. The code

categories for tentative themes were confirmed and others were formulated during which data was developed.

3.5.2 Quantitative Data Analysis

Data collected was edited, coded and tabulated and statistically manipulated so as to interpret, conclude and make recommendations. It also made it easy for some data to be transformed into tables, graphs and charts were drawn for easy presentation. Editing was done both in the field and outside. Then completed questionnaires used were checked to ensure accuracy and correction of errors.

3.6 STUDY LIMITATIONS

The researcher encountered a number of hardships and challenges during the research. These included financial constraints to meet the transport, feeding costs, typing, binding and photocopying. The respondents were not willing to avail the researcher with data due to psychological reasons of mistaking the researcher for a spy. Some respondents were not available, as they were busy looking for means of survival. So getting them together for a focused group discussion was hard. Some respondents were not comfortable to discuss their illiteracy rates status since most of them were not able to respond to interviews and most importantly insecurity in the area scared the researcher because of fear of being abducted or killed by the rebels in the area of study.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA REPRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the findings, interpretations and discussions. The ultimate goal of this chapter is to examine the impact of political instability on food security in Ogur Sub-county as a case study. Findings have been discussed under four major themes: The impact of political instability on food security, identifying strategies being used by households themselves in ensuring food security, examining the challenges being faced by households and shareholders in securing food security and identifying the solutions to the challenges being faced.

4.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The study used a sample of seventy respondents. It first established the general demographic characteristic of the sample.

4.1.1 Sex of the Respondents

The sample population included males and females. However, females headed some of the households interviews. In most cases either the males had joined the rebels or been abducted by the rebels if not murdered.

Table 4.1: Sex of the respondents.

HOUSEHOLE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Male	30	42.8
Female	40	57.2
Total	70	

Table 4.1 shows that more females than males were interviewed because they head most of the households. It appears political instability has affected men on a higher rate than females. This could be as a result of the mobility of men in search for food. The study established that people

aged 15-45 years are the most affected. Yet, this is the most productive age group followed by children below 18 years and yet they are dependent.

Table 4.2: Ages of Respondents

Frequency	Number	Percentage
0-18 years	10	14.3
18-46 years	15	21.4
Above 46 years	45	64.3
Total	70	100

Source: Field

Table 4.2 shows 14.3% who were actually meant to be dependent but had become household heads as a result of the war. Only 21.4 % of the households consisted of productive age groups. This was small in number. The majority 64.3% were elderly people of 46 years plus. Many of the youthful household heads were wither absent in search of food and other economic activities, dead or had been abducted by the rebels. This represents the loss of household labour. There was an old woman who had lost all her 3 children and 4 others had been abducted. She lived in the camp and only depended on food aid from World Food Programme which was not even enough and yet with her age she was now a dependant. This was an indicator of under or loss of production once productive household head dies in a household or a home.

4.1.3 Marital Status of Respondents

When one was married, society expected him or her to carry out more responsibilities, which included the availability of food in the household. It was important to establish how was the married and single respondents to the coping strategies outlined in chapter 3. The study identified the marital status of respondents as shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Marital Status of Respondents

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	52	74.3
Single	9	12.8
widowed	9	12.8

Source: Field findings N=70

According to the table, 74.3% of respondents were married while 12.8% were single and another 12.8% widowed. And their groups should not be neglected since they also contribute to food security. The study established that the single and widowed groups were more vulnerable to food insecurity.

4.1.4 Level of Education

The study also looked at the relationship between education standards of respondents and strategies of availing food at the households. This was because when a man extended his ultimate force and raised the level of his skills, then he could make the best use of other productive factors.

Table 4.4: Education of Respondents.

Level	Frequency	Percentage
None	11	15.4
P1-P.4	28	40
P.5-P7	15	21.5
S1-S.4	10	14.3
S.5-S.6	2	2.8
Tertiary	4	5.7

Table 4.4 indicated that majority of the respondent's attained formal education with 61.5% at primary level, 17.1% at secondary level and 5.7% at tertiary level. 15.7% of the respondents however did not have any formal education.

The levels of education noted was to explain why it was easy for rebel activity to take root. Besides being unable to critically analyze political situations, many youth and even adult males ran to the bushes and joined rebel forces for future promises of employment. In many instances the idea of holding a gun added a sense of authority to a rather powerless and economically disempowered group. In some villages some people were actually murdered by their counterparts because of having excelled over them at school.

4.1.5 Occupation of the Respondent.

The occupation of respondents was studied in the area so as to find their work schedules. This was because occupation could also be as a strategy used to access food or labour to increase productivity and later availability of food. It could also be those employed on non-agricultural occupation that reduces production as shown in table 4.5.

Table 4.5: Occupation of Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Peasant farmer	50	71.5
Civil servant	6	8.5
Traders	6	8.5
craftsmen	4	5.7
Others	4	5.7

Source: Field Findings N=70

As evident in table 4.5, 71.5% of the respondents are peasant farmers, 8.5% are civil servants, and 8.5% traders, 5.7 craftsmen and also 5.6% are engaged in other activities. However, the majority of the people in this area are subsistent farmers who were expected to contribute much of their labour in production and ensuring availability of food in their households.

This is the peasant population which was rudely awakened by the sound of gun fire all around them. The people became both rebel and

government troops hostages. All their production potential was usurped by these new forces. All respondents reported their helplessness against these forces. So when the government troops herded them into camps, it was the last straw that broke their production capability and potential. On the other hand, the rebels were maiming, abducting and murdering them whenever they found them in their gardens.

4.2 Political instability and food security

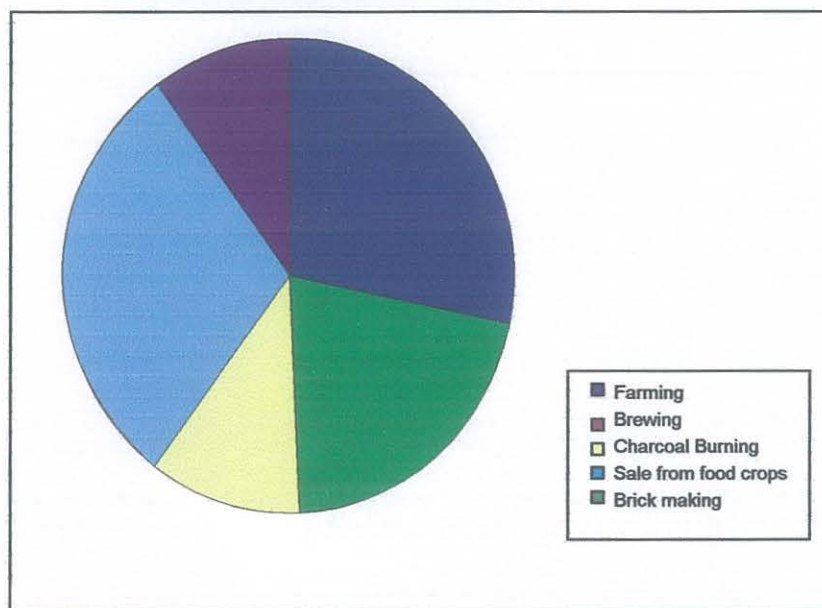
By political instability the study referred to the instability caused as a result of the war situation that has created a lot of instability. The study found out that political instability had both direct and indirect impacts on food security in Ogur sub-county.

4.2.1 Direct Impact

Research found out there massive displacement of labour to other areas of Ogur Sub-county, especially agricultural labour with vast land for cultivation left behind in fear of being abducted or being killed by rebels to confined areas like camps. This was shown by emergency of 4 camps in Ogur Sub-county; they include Orit, Ogur, Agweng and Aler camps located nearer to Lira town as seen on map 3. This showed the location of the camps. The camps were located away from areas prone to insecurity. So many people were totally displaced and not any where near their farms or gardens.

There was also movement away of people to other non-productive economic activities in the camps, trading centres or even far away to Lira town. The economic activities in the camps included small business like charcoal burning, pottery, sales from crops, food aid, brewing, sales from livestock and others shown by figure 1.

Figure 1: Household Economic Activities



Source: Field

Only 28.5% of households in Ogur Sub-county are engaged in farming as an activity. 71.5% of them in other non-direct farm production activity. Movement of people to other economic activities was shown by the declining tax collection or assessment figures from the sub-county. This was because of decline or no meaningful agricultural activity that was the major source of income for tax. The figure declined from 60% in 2003 to 14.2 in 2005. This showed the highest level of impact of political instability in the area.

Physical destruction of food crops was also another highlighted effect of political instability. In some circumstances delicate foods like groundnuts, simsim or millet that was ready for harvest was abandoned to go to waste as shown in photograph 3 taken from Wingweng showing abandoned peas in the garden.

And at times people were killed during harvest time. One respondent called Apolo Mary had this to say;

"I narrowly escaped death. The rebels just canned me and left

But my husband was killed in my presence and my two children Abducted. I cannot go back to the garden. I would rather die in the camp”.

This narrative is from a respondent who had gone back to the village to harvest their crop. Many people in the camps had similar experiences to tell.

Many times rebels raided villages in search of food and able-bodied persons to be recruited into their army. Many times houses, food, stores/granaries containing food harvested were burnt. As a result people had stopped putting food crops in their houses or granaries. They stored food away from where they lived rendering it vulnerable to theft.

There was direct reduction of labour force as a function of death by killing, abduction and some people were still missing. Many people were killed since the insecurity started. Photograph 4 shows a home with graves where 5 productive members of the family were killed on the same day; 17th October 2005 by rebels. This meant that productive labour had been reduced in that particular home hence no production and people.

There had been a reduction of available land under cultivation because the population running away from the villages. This was because there were zones which had been declared insecure and therefore could not be inhabited. These zones were also shown on Map 3 of Ogur. They were those areas under constant rebel attack. According to the participatory Rural Appraisal Research Data 2004 the land utilization capacity was low, out of 350 households surveyed in Ogur Sub-county land utilization stood at 23% as illustrated in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Land Use

No of Households Surveyed	Total land holding	Land cultivated	Average holding	% Average Cultivated
350	2,729	802	5	23%

PHOTOGRAPH 3: **Showing Abandoned peas in the garden**



Photograph 4: Showing graves of family members killed by rebels



4.2.2 Effects of Instability on Food Security

Research also found out that insecurity affected people in the process of providing food security, and following issues were highlighted.

There were serious uncertainties in the mind of local people including the various stakeholders such as the government workers and NGOs. People were not sure of what would happen in the next moment. Out of 96% of the population that had left their villages for safety 15.2% were not even staying in nearby camps. They had left for good to other places like Lira town and areas of Apac like Loro, Minakulu. A man from Angolocom had this to say;

*"We are not sure of tomorrow, we can plant our crops but
Who knows, either they are destroyed, burnt or looted by
Rebels. It is better to stay and die of hunger than being
Killed in the garden because of digging"*

There was also the role of government and civil servants. This was especially crucial in agricultural work. This was manifested in the movement of "jagos" office from sub-county headquarters to Lira town in junior quarters and yet the farmers used to get information about production of cash crops like cotton including simsim, beans from there. So the office used to act as a link between farmers and marketing boards. As a result there was lack of inputs as no extension workers were willing to support farmers or farmer groups due to insecurity. Many Agro-non-governmental organizations like Food for the Hungry that were mainly for providing inputs left. Even "Odokomit", which had ginneries in Ogur has closed them.

There is an issue of HIV/AIDs, which is a combination of issues and a function of cramping people in camps, forcing them to look for easy ways of getting money. According to the police, 3% out of 19% cases of prostitution and child sex are from Ogur and according to the District Health Statistics 4% of those in Ogur camps are infected by HIV/AIDS.

This was mainly due to prostitution and mainly from soldiers guarding the camps. Many women had been forced to exchange sex favours with soldiers for food.

Diseases like AIDS have a debilitating effect on the local population. Once people get sick their ability to carry out productive work was greatly hampered. In many cases a lot of man hours were wasted looking after sick family members. To crown all this, the infection had largely claimed the young men and women who are the productive members of the community. There was also deliberate shift away from agriculture to other fast paying economic activities. These were small scale activities for example sales from labour, brewing, charcoal burning, pottery, even where some people stick to growing the traditional food crops, much of this was sold either to get money or as of avoiding the problem of burning and looting by the rebels. This was what Figure 1 brings out. As a result there was a new mind set as people feel it safer to look for money in other ways including being house girls and house boys who were even exploited by low pay. All the above were illustrated in the figure 2.

There was also increase in child-headed households as a result of death of bread winners in the family, especially in the camps due to abduction, killings by rebels and other associated problems.

This had left children who were dependants and could not produce food for themselves as shown in table 4.7.

Table 4.7: Child –Headed Households

Camps	Child headed households	
	Frequency	Percentage
Orit	4	5.7
Ogur	3	4.2
Agweng	7	10

Sorghum	21	40
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Source: File records NPTC

Since NPTC offers an attractive rate to farmers for example in 2003 a kilogram of beans was at 800/= it made farmers to sell the entire produce, leaving nothing for family food needs. This had greatly contributed to food insecurity in the area.

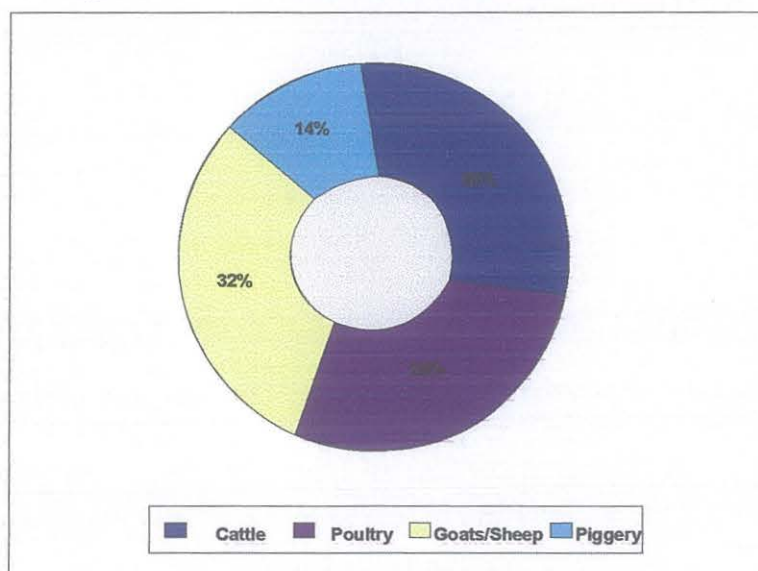
Cattle rustling had also contributed to food insecurity in Ogur Sub-county. Here animals like cattle, goats, sheep, piggery and sometimes poultry were taken by the Karamojong raiders. In addition the Karamojong also have been killing people in this area, especially if a person was killed. But also after raiding they did not have specific routes to take but go through peoples gardens destroying crops and soil. And people who used to depend on these live stock as their main source of food became food insecure.

64.3% of the households visited indicated that cattle used to be their second source of food which was at 75% before the Karamojong warriors came in but later declined to 17%. Piggery declined tremendously from 60% to 8.5%. The rebels made it a point that once a pig was got a household then it was equivalent to death of two people in that household. Poultry declined from 50% to 15.7% and goat/sheep also declined from 45% to 16% as they got looted by the Karamojong worriers. This reduction in livestock showed a tremendous shortage in available food to households and hence food insecurity. Figure 3 illustrates the livestock composition in the area.

Drought was also another aspect raised affecting food security. One of the farmers said, last year; 2005, rains failed from March to May and then in September again which was unusual. Hence most crops were destroyed by drought. Crops like millet, maize, and sorghum dried in the gardens and now people lack what to eat. So the long-term effects of war and drought had a devastating effect of food supplies. According to WDR

(1993:IE3), "Every African Nation suffering from war also suffered from drought".

Figure 3: Livestock in Affected Households



Source:Field findings

Since war resulted in environmental degradation, it was obvious that when there is fighting low or no priorities were given to activities such as tree planting terracing, sound agricultural practices that would conserve the soil. *"War rules out the care of the environment"* as observed by the World Bank (YEAR). This had often resulted into widespread famine due to breakdown in food production and distribution systems.

4.2.2 Post Harvest Loss.

"Loss of food during and after harvest due to late harvest improper drying transport, storage, processing, and practices have seriously reduced the amount of food available to the population". Over 6.7% interviewed farmers experienced post harvest losses, which they attributed to the insecurity since people have had the fear of being killed by rebel. When harvesting, drying, transporting and storing the crops and at times they run for good and leave the crops in the garden without harvesting.

4.3 ENSURING FOOD SECURITY

4.3.1 Land Size

The land size in this was identified as one of the strategies households used to cultivate food for their members. The major issue here was how land owners were used as a strategy for availing food to members of a household.

Table 4.9 Land Size

Acres	Frequency	Percentage
1+	04	5.7
0.5 – 0.9	16	22.8
0.1 – 0.5	10	14.3
Less 0.1	40	57.1

Generally people own very small pieces of land to carry out crops production in the area. As seen from Table 4.9, 57.15% of the correspondents own less than 0.1 acres of land. This meant that even when there was no instability, production was greatly hampered by land availability. Many of these people own small pieces of land in many places leading to land fragmentation. They had to divide their labour between working and walking long distances to get to the land.

Since the majority of the people in this area living in the camps and some of them use the small pieces of land around the camps while there were those who still sneaked into the villages to cultivate on small pieces of land because of fear of cultivating more crops which would otherwise be destroyed by rebels. On the whole, the claim to land ownership had been nullified by the war. When people go into the villages, they just settle where it was safe to farm. After all, many of the housing structures which people used to lay claim to land ownership had been destroyed.

Table 4.10: Age and Land Size.

Age of respondents	Land size	
	<1.0	>1.0
17 – 26	12%	1%
27 – 36	13%	6%
37 – 46	6%	10%
47 – 56	7%	9%
57 – 66	1%	8%
67 – 76	-	5%

Source: Field Findings N = 70

As can be seen in the Table 4.10, the older one becomes the more land one acquires in this case both in camps and villages. 25% of those who own less than 1 acre of land were quite young (17 – 36 years of age). This was mainly because they were heading the households themselves and had no power to bargain for land but all the same they were using the small piece of land they own to produce enough food for their household.

4.3.2 Farm Tools/Implements

The implements and tools were also identified as one of the strategies households were using to contribute to food availability in the household. This was special if they were readily available and sufficient enough to carry out production for the household.

According to Table 4.11 it has been observed that the main farm tool/implement used in the area was the hand hoe. 95.7% of respondents indicated that they used hand hoe for cultivation. This showed that the majority of people used a laborious tool for production. Although it was being used as a means to make them survive, there was a limitation on what was produced. There appeared to be a small group of 4.3% who used pangas and slashers for production to ensure household food availability. However, ox-ploughs and tractors were not being used. This was because the Karamojong warriors had raided all the animals and LRA

rebels so the majority used hand hoes to ensure food security in the household. This in turn greatly affected their out put.

Table 4.11: Farm Tool/Implements Used.

Tools / Implements	Frequency	Percentage
Hand hoe	68	95.7%
Pangas / Slashers	3	4.3%
Ox plough	-	-
Tractors	-	-

Source: Field Findings N=70

4.3.3 Agricultural Education

Agricultural Education for farmers was an important strategy for household increased production, which later leads to food availability, especially when farmers get informed, trained and exposed to latest production. For example, early planting for optimum use in the area. This was being done by the sub-county chief office which provided radio programmes to educate farmers, agricultural extension visits.

All these were no longer possible. The camp people had no land to cultivate. Most of their personal properties like radios were looted by the rebel. Besides that extension workers could not risk their lives to reach those farmers who had remained in the villages. Besides those who lived in the villages were night commuters. They spent their nights in towns or trading centres to avoid rebel attacks. Table 4.12 shows the declining frequency of agricultural education.

Table 4. 12: Agricultural Education.

Source	Frequency	Percentage
Agricultural extension visits	10	14.3
Radio programmes	10	14.3
None	50	71.4

Source : Field Findings N = 70

According to Table 4.12 it was observed that agricultural information and radio programmes was still very thin in the area although it was controlling to household food availability. However, 71.4% of the respondents still have no source of agricultural extension. This was mainly because many other stakeholders who could facilitate the information had fare of going to such places due to rebel attacks.

4.3.4 Collecting / Gathering Wild Food

This was a direct way of living food in the area for most households to their members. Wild food such as animals like antelopes, cane rats, field rats etc, vegetables which sprouted after the dry season like "Akeyo", "Abuga" were very important food sources during food shortage period. The limitation of this strategy was that they became available all at once and disappeared within a short period of time. It acted as a short-term strategy but very important to the camp residents who grew nothing as shown in Table 4.13. This was why some camp residents had been killed by the rebels when they go out of camps looking for food.

Table 4.14: Collecting/Gathering Wild Food.

Source	Frequency	Percentage
Collect / gather wild food	60	85.7
Do not collect / gather food	10	14.3

Table 4.13 indicates that 85.7% of the respondents' collect/gather wild food. This probably meant that wild food provided an important dietary supplement to most households in the area and it was an important measure of providing food in critical situations of food shortage. But this also indicated a very big jump backwards. That Ugandans in the 21st Century were hunters and later raised a big question mark on our development aspirations and objectives.

Table 4.14 Age and Collecting/Gathering Wild Food

Age of respondents	Collect / gather wild food	
	Frequency	Percentage
17 - 26	21	30
27 - 36	17	24.3
37 - 46	13	18.5
47 - 56	9	12.8
57 - 66	6	8.5
67 - 76	4	5.7

Source: Field Findings N=70

According to the Table 4.14, it was observed that more of the younger respondents collected/gathered wild foods than the old. This strategy was employed by the young to provide food for the household. These were people who should have been be in fields working and developing new production technologies.

4.3.5 Food Storage.

This was another important strategy identified in the area that most households used to ensure constant availability of food to their members. Food storage in this case referred to the practices of keeping foodstuffs in a permanent place to cater for future use. In this area the study identified a number of storage methods used by households to ensure foodstuffs. The use of storage methods baskets was common in the area. It was made exclusively from plant materials which were woven in a round form. It was normally smeared with cow dung to prevent any leakage, especially when storing any grain like millet or simsim. They were either reserved in one corner of their houses for storage or hang the foodstuffs up on the roof of their houses. The major methods of food storage were shown in Table 4.15.

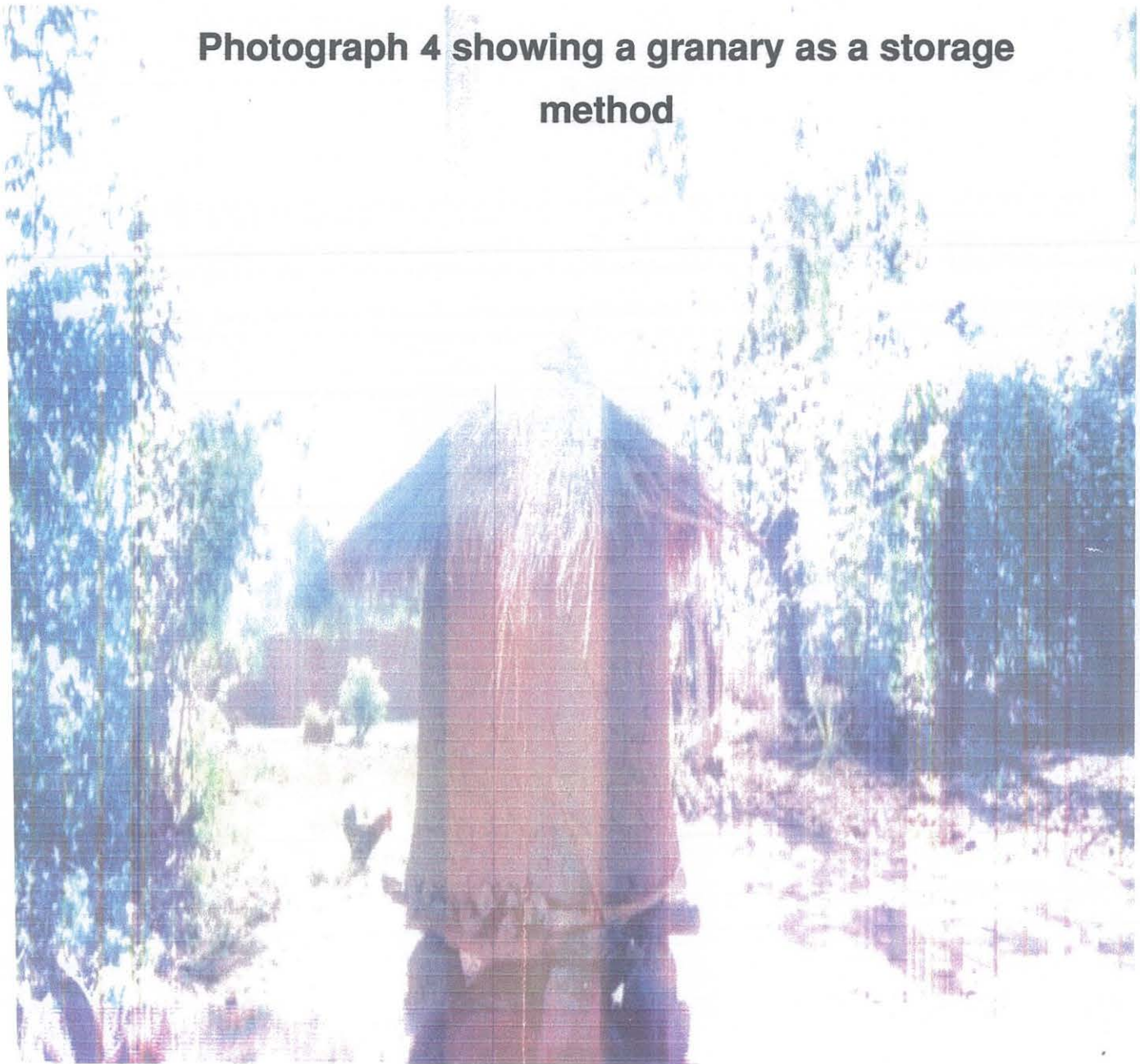
Table 4.15: Food Storage Methods.

Storage methods	Frequency	Percentage
Granaries	06	8.5
Baskets	09	12.8
Pots	15	21.5
House	40	57.2

Source: Field Findings N = 70

Another storage method found in the area included pots which are mainly used for storing grains such as cowpeas and processed (dried vegetables). The other storage method used was granary as shown in the Photograph 4.

Photograph 4 showing a granary as a storage method



It was mainly used to store grains like maize, millet and sorghum over long periods. The more granaries the household had the more secure the household was in terms of food availability. All these methods would work well if there was food to store, but there was no food to store. A household could only store food at the risk of being attacked by the rebels or gangs of robbers/thieves. Once the rebels found food, the granaries could be burnt. So, the households preferred using other storage methods. But it was definitely dangerous for any household to be known as having food stocks. The safest method was for households to move around with their food distributed among household members. This was why 57.2% of storage was in households. But it was done secretly.

4.3.6 Selling Assets

This was one of the strategies identified in the area that households used to avail food to their members today. This was providing to be a serious problem as it tends to impoverish the already hard hit communities in terms facilities. This had mainly occurred when food resources are at their lowest. Most household heads sold their property so as to avail food to their members. Table 4.16 showed the frequency at which households sold the properties for food.

Table 4.16: Selling Assets.

	Frequency	Percentage
Collect / gather wild food	40	57.2
Do not collect / gather food	30	42.8

Source: Field Findings N=70

According to Table 4.16, 57.2% of the surveyed population sold their personal property in order to avail food to their household members. Since most of the respondents were poor, many of them ended up selling their personal property such as bicycles, clothes, saucepans. However selling of assets was only a short-term measure of trying to avail food to

members of the household. As a matter of fact it was a very dangerous trend for the community's development.

4.3.7 Selling Labour

This was identified as one of the strategies that some households used to avail food to their members. The study identified some respondents who often sold their labour to households with food surplus in the area. They were remunerated either in kind (food) or cash depending on the agreement. But finding work was almost impossible.

Table 4.17 Selling Labour.

	Frequency	Percentage
Sell Labour	10	14.3
Do not sell labour	60	85.7

Source: Field Findings N=70

Table 4.17 indicated that only 14.3% of the respondents sold their labour in order to avail food members of their households and the majority of those who sold there are young. This was because they were able to work for long hours unlike the old. 85.7% did not sell, not because they did not want. In the area, most households were affected by war and did not have food and cash to pay hired labour. The best they could do was to sit around and waited for food handouts.

4.3.7 Support from NGO's

Many households in this area have been identified as vulnerable and given support from NGO's and other donors in form of food, salt, clothes and other items. Each household is supplied with 4.5 kg of cereals 1.5 kg of beans 33.3 litre of cooking oil and 1.5 kg of CBs per month as shown in photograph 5. This only saves them from absolute food insecurity nut still leaves them vulnerable.

Table 4.18: Support from NGO's

	Frequency	Percentage
Don't receive support	09	1212.8
Receive support	61	87.2

In this area 87.2% of respondents receive food support from NGO's operating in the area like World Food Programme and World Vision and Samaritans International Relief. However, this is a short-term strategy of availing food to the household as the food given is often not sufficient and lasts for only 1 to 2 weeks.

Photograph 5 showing food distribution in IDP camps



Apart from food gathering, hunting, small scale cultivate and waiting for food handouts, many respondents in the area also engage in other activities that bring a flow of income to the family to supplement their demands. The little income is usually used to supplement the food need of the household.

Table 4.19: Community Activities in the Area.

Activity	Frequency	Percentage
Brewing	30	42.8
Trading	20	28.6
Handcraft	10	14.3
Brick making	10	14.3

Source: Field Findings N=70

The major activity carried out (42.8%), especially in the camps is brewing of alcohol. The drinking of alcohol is not a pass time in the camps. Many household heads, especially the men have sought solace in alcohol. Apart from leaving most of the work to women, it has led to a lot of violence in the camps. Many women have been attacked, raped or even been murdered by drunken men and soldiers.

Men have also turned to petty trading in an effort deal with food shortages. 28.6% of the respondents indicated they were traders. The money they get from such traders is used to meet their responsibilities at household level including purchasing of food. But when the women were asked whether this money actually found its way in to the household, their answer was negative. Most men got the money but used it to buy drinks, clothing for themselves or even buying prostitutes or marrying other women.

14.3% of the respondents engage in hand craft activity. It is an important source of income to those who make and sell papyrus-sleeping mats, baskets and other curved articles. 14.3% of respondents engage in brick making as a source of much need financial support. It is mainly done by

men in working groups and share profits among them-selves and the money is probably used to purchase food for their households.

4.4 CHALLENGES IN HOUSEHOLDS

The research found out that there are numerous challenges faced by households. But other stake holders such as the government, the army, civil society and NGOs must come out to help the people cope with these challenges.

4.4.1 Division of Labour.

It is important to understand how households organize labour available to them in order to carryout production activities like land clearing, planting crops, weeding, harvesting, processing and doing household chores. In most activities households rely on family labour and tasks are normally carried out along gender and age lines. But the study found out that most these activities are left to women alone including household chores like cooking, fetching water and firewood, looking after the children and the work of men is to sell the produce. Many times the proceeds of the sale may be used to buy alcohol or given to a comfort woman or mistress. A woman in Orit camp had this to say;

"I have to work hard for my children to stay alive. As for their father I have given up. He spends time drinking and comes home only to fight and sell food items".

Division of labour is a big challenge, which is facing the households because it is only women carrying out productive activities.

4.4.2 Land Ownership and Use

Decision on how the land is used and owned is also a big challenge and yet land is a very important factor of production, which the focus group discussion dealt with. Men make decisions on land ownership and use of land and yet they are not directly concerned with food provision, they are likely to make errors and this could delay the production process. Say, if

decisions were delayed at the time of land clearing, sowing could delay and another issue raised was what cash crops and raised more money for drinking alcohol which reduces the amount of food crops to be grown. Women who have the task to provide food for the household mainly face this challenge. This greatly compromised the status of food availability in households.

4.4.3 Drought

More than 50% of the interviewed farmers expressed their opinion that food insecurity is partly due to severe prolonged drought and recurring drought, which is sometimes experienced in the area. They cited drought which occurred in June last year up to March this year 2006 which led to destruction of crops and affected planted crops like maize, cassava and groundnuts among others. Weather fluctuations which in turn resulted into seasonal fluctuations in precipitation caused a lot of havoc in food availability. These findings tally with the World Bank in World Development report (1993:780) observation that;

***“Chronic food insecurity for poor people is often made
Worse by seasonal fluctuation in rain availability”.***

The findings of research confirmed this.

4.4.4 Cattle rustling

Cattle rustling is also a challenge to food security as identified by 60% of the respondents, they said looting is still continuing up to date and yet some people depend on the livestock as a source of food. Cattle rustlers also engage in activities like brutal killings, destruction of people's crops in the gardens hence reduction of labour due to killings, food shortage and all these become obstacles to food.

4.4.5 Poverty

Poverty in the area has been identified as a challenge to food security in households. Many households can not the basic needs of life like food,

shelter, clothing and other facilities like schools, health, water, very poor sanitation and yet these services is life to them. In addition, the war activities have led to low or no participation in economic activities like trade, agricultural production as a result, there is no income, mainly to meet the basic needs of life especially food and household utensils. This has exposed the households to hunger, which is one of the major continuums of poverty and vulnerability.

4.5 CHALLENGES FACED BY GOVERNMENT

While the household takes the blunt of the tussle, the government, apart from providing security also faces serious challenges both at the national and local level.

4.5.1 Inadequate Funding

The challenge of inadequate funds was revealed by NGOs operating in the area like sp, religious leaders, civil societies who have a hand in helping to deliver items to the people especially in the camps. During the focus group discussions, a staff from S.P said they depend on funds and food aid from other nations or donors. Sometimes their activities come to a stand still since they have to wait for these funds and food aid. The government of Uganda apart from providing security, it has no money to put into the provision of food to these people. Nevertheless, the cost of security is putting a lot of strain on the nation's financial resources. Many development programmes have been suspended as a result of the escalating defense bill. At one time, all government ministries had to under go a 30% deduction on their budgets to finance the war.

4.5.2 Poor Infrastructure

The FGD also pointed out that government and NGOs operating in the area lack good infrastructures, especially poor road networks in the area which makes it very difficult to transport food aid and other items which are sent to benefit the people in the camps. The army also finds it difficult

to move its rather bulky arsenal along the poor road infrastructure. Many a time, rebels have used this as an advantage to attack isolated camps and army units. And by time reinforcements arrive, the enemy would be far away. Even the transport facilities used by volunteers are not enough. This makes it very difficult to carry out their work.

4.5.3 Poor Government Policy

Poor government policy was identified, especially by NGO's and people in the camps. They emphasize that the government has left the work of supporting war victims only to NGO's. a local council in the camp had this to say:

“The government wants us to die and it seems it is Supporting the war. If not they would have come to help And left the NGO's only to supplement”. This is a challenge faced by both the NGO's and households, which need to be addressed to ensure food security”.

4.5.4 Security

This too was also identified to be a challenge facing stakeholders especially NGO's operating in the areas who suffer from rebel attacks and ambush. A field monitor from SP said they are even spending much funds to train their volunteers on rebel ambushes and yet these funds could be used to buy food items for the people in the camps. Many times, their work has come to a standstill due to security concerns. For example, in October and September 2005 when their worker were ambushed and 6 injured their activities were not only rudely interrupted but they virtually stopped working for almost a month.

4.5.5 Population Growth

Population growth is another challenge facing stakeholders especially in the camps. This is because counting is done after every one year and there is always constant increase in population. This is mainly attributed to

practices like adultery, polygamy, low level of education low sensitization, in the camps which is threat to food security. But definitely, despite the high mortality rates in the camps, the fertility rates and birth rates have also increased. The people in the camps do nothing all day but wait for food. In many cases they end up sex escapes that have resulted in the increasing number of children. But the overcrowding has also led to increased level of immorality.

4.6 Conclusion

The study findings showed that political instability has had a negative impact on food security in Uganda, especially in Ogur Sub-county where there was strong evidence of food insecurity. The sustainability of the people's livelihood was in question if no urgent remedial actions we to be taken. The affected households were not only faced with insecurity but also malnutrition coupled with high levels. The breakdown of the social economic infrastructure was posing a big threat to the survival of man in the region. Therefore, political instability has been compromised by the economic growth and development in the area.

CHAPTER FIVE

4.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with recommendation derived from conclusion based on the finding of the study in the fourth chapter. The recommendations were based on a thorough analysis of the findings and finally give suggestions for further research.

4.1 Recommendations

A number of recommendations and observation were put across from two points of view. The first point of view was that of the researcher and the second was that of the community in which the study was conducted.

5.1.2 Researcher's Views

The researcher recommended the following steps towards investigating the impact of the political instability on food security.

The government of Uganda should declare politically disturbed areas emergency zones as had been recommended by the parliament and the International Community. For long, insecurity had not destroyed food security framework within communities as reflected in Ogur but the entire social development infrastructure. May be, the government should also start picking up the bill of feeding these people in the camps as a way of forcing it to look for a speedy end to the civil strife. There was no reason why Uganda, an agricultural country endowed with good climate was experiencing increased food shortages with people living on food handout from the international community.

Households with abilities to produce food should be encouraged to grow higher yield cereal crops such as maize, soybeans and millet to meet the current nutrition level for malnourished children, especially in affected

households. This would also present a shift from traditional foods to fast growing foods in order to meet the demands of the starving population.

Communities should be sensitized on the importance of food storage and local government should ensure each households has sufficient and compliant food storage facilities to ensure household food storage periods after harvest.

Encourage the adaptation of multi-sectoral approach that would require a careful analysis of the various interactions. This could include: integration of various major development themes such as agriculture, sensitization of issues of political insecurity, education, access to clean water, addressing cultural issues and many others depending on community needs. This would ensure balancing of all sectors relevant for rejuvenation of food security hence investigating the impact of political instability

People should combine efforts to provide the affected households with food assistance to ensure continuity of life, especially those living in the internally displaced person's camps. This would ensure that vulnerable children have access to this basic right – it would also help to address the malnutrition levels evident among the children. In addition, food assistance, especially nutritious food should also be extended to malnourished pregnant mothers who are starving and dying due to hunger increasing the maternal death in the affected households.

The government and other stake holders should also move to facilitate a national food security survey which will identify the most affected 'hotspots' at risk. This survey could be used as a springboard for development of programs relevant to the conceptual work frame.

Efforts by the government, Non-governmental organization and the entire International community should come up and get measures of stopping

political instability. This would give the affected people an opportunity to move from camps back to their villages and cultivate food crops hence access availability of food and improved standard of living among the people. The government should also consider the integration of food security and nutrition into the mainstream political instability programming.

Encourage community social groups; self help groups and voluntary labour among others. Community support through sharing from community plots could be important to households who have moved from their villages for safety in urban areas and what happens to households that are unable to contribute their share of labour due to malnutrition and other hunger related diseases remains unknown.

To this effect we should recommend, ways of addressing both the root causes of political instability and their symptoms both at individual community national and international levels.

Good governance coupled with mass civil education and full participation in a fully democratic political life is part of the answer to political instability and in times of insecurity assisting war victims should not only be taken as the work of charity organizations but as a state obligation. The state should therefore respond to the needs of the people engaged in such emergencies and try as much as it can.

Preventing and resolving insecurity must be based on individual attitude and ensuring access to resources for all regardless of political, ethnic, religious and racial identities. Preventive diplomacies, in the face or presence of armed attacks, emphasis should be shifted to peace keeping and peace enforcement as the immediate way to end political insecurity. This may involve 'a minimum' use of force until the enemy is defeated. After which, a fresh look at non-violence, both as a technique and philosophy is needed.

Response by the international community to political instability caused emergencies should therefore ensure two linkages; Humanitarian assistance should be integrated with the efforts for the reconstruction of long term sustainable development, planning and delivery of humanitarian aid such as food and health services. It should encourage all parties and should enhance dispute settlement process and development of democratic institutions.

Joining rebel groups continues to be treated as a livelihood alternative by impoverished youths. This suggest that non-military strategies such as poverty alleviation and prioritizing regional equalization be strengthen to prevent mew groups from joining rebel activities.

The use of modern agricultural techniques in the area was quite low,so it would be beneficial if farmers were taught how to apply or practice these techniques to achieve high crops. If such techniques were to be adopted, production would lead to food availability at household level.

Agricultural information coverage is very thin in the area. There should be increased extension services and in service programmes like film shows, posters, mass mobilization with the help of local council personnel. The farmers need to be made aware of the current techniques involved in production so as to realize increase in productivity. This should lead to food availability in the household.

In effort to increase income generating activities in the area for the benefit of people as regards availability of food in households, the agriculture extension services should stimulate several activities in the area such as bee keeping, poultry, vegetable gardening.

5.2.2 Community's Views

During the Focus Group Discussion (FGD), it was identified that the challenges faced by households and stakeholders could be solved by households and other stakeholders such as government and NGOs.

The question of division of labour can be addressed by sensitizing the local people making them know the disadvantages of gender –biased division of labour in households as regards food security. It was further suggested by the NGO's dealing with food Aid like World Food and S-P that other NGOs like CCF dealing with gender issues should extend their services in the area. This will help to solve the problem of division of labour in households, which is a challenge to food security.

On the issue of land ownership and utilization, the local leaders suggested that government should come in and extend the implementation of women's rights to land ownership. This should penetrate deep down in the villages and the public should be sensitized about these rights. They should be made aware that violation of these rights is against the law. This will address the challenge of decision-making and ownership of land by women, which is causing food insecurity.

About cattle rustling, the local leaders, NGO's and other stakeholders suggested that the government should not only disarm Karamojong worries but also look for measure of stopping them from encroaching into Lango land since it was identified that cattle rustling is also a function of food insecurity.

The challenge of poverty could be overcome through government effort to stop insecurity in the area. The further emphasized that even if government and NGOs tries other means of eradicating poverty such as giving loans, it would still not work because it needs a conducive environment for the productive use of the loans and this could only by attainment if security in the area is good. This would allow participation in

economic activities such as agriculture, trade among others which would help the area. This would help the local people to generate income to meet their basic needs hence solving the problem of poverty.

For inadequate funds, the government of Uganda and service providers should look for alternative means of running refugee programmes by ways of raising funds within Uganda. **SP/WFP** Staff stated that the government should divert the funds, which are being used for acquisition of arms to help them address the needs of people especially in the camps and lobbying funds from other international organizations.

Since rebels still attacks, local councils in these camps suggested that the government should deploy more soldiers, especially around camps and in villages so that they can participate in some economic activities. This is because soldiers are very few around the camps and yet the residents need security in villages during daytime to enable them cultivate their crops. Also **IDP** camps should be allocated, near town areas which are somehow secured.

It was also identified that the government should put in place better services like schools, health centre, water and sanitation, especially in these camps because the facilities are not available and lack of these facilities like health, water. And poor sanitation has led to increase in mortality rates in the camps reducing labour, which would participate in economic activities to ensure food security.

The NGOs further identified that the government should improve the infrastructure, especially roads in the area to access these camps since the roads are very poor and this limits easy transportation of food to the camps. They also emphasized the deployment of crack troops along the routes to protect humanitarian relief convoys and civilians from constant attacks by the LRA rebels.

The government should also come up with an immediate way of rescuing people in the IDP camps out of population pressure by establishing health facilities in the camps which could facilitate training, guiding, counseling, teaching the people the bad effects of high population growth rates. This could also reduce the increase of HIV/AIDS in the camps, which is a threat to food security.

The government, religious leaders, international organizations, and other stakeholders are also called upon to find ways of ending the war. It was suggested that the government of Uganda should be committed towards negotiating peace with LRA leader other than using force. They also emphasized on prayers and promoting good relationship with the neighbouring countries like Sudan, Congo among others. This will help to solve political instability to ensure food security.

In order to solve the challenge of drought in the area, NGOs related with environmental protection should also operate in the area since there is no environmental related NGO operating in the area. Because of insecurity, the people cannot participate fully in agriculture hence they resort to activities like charcoal burning, which destroys the environment and this in turn affects food security. Other organisations like NEMA, UFA, are also called upon to help rescue the situation.

The government should also work hand in hand with the NGOs operating in the area because it was found that the government has left the burden to the NGOs alone. Yet these NGOS come from outside countries. In the FGD it was stated that government has not at any one time taken food aid, and other material assistance to these camps but it is only the NGOs trying to help. So government added effort would at least improve the status of people in the camps.

5.3 AREAS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH.

The following issues should provide a starting point for further research in Ogur sub-county.

- How political instability has affected population growth
- The relationship between education, health and political instability.
- Immediate actions that can be taken by the government and other stakeholders to bring to an end political instability.

But on the whole, the situation in the war ravaged northern Uganda needs a new approach. It is evident that the government and international community efforts are yielding poor fruits. Rebels have continued to wreck havoc on civilian population and the region has come to stand still in terms of development. The study recommends that new non-military solutions to the crisis be pursued, even if it means dining on the same table with the people who are not supportive in terms of diversity in development for the Northern part of Uganda.

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APPENDIX II

HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS QUESTIONNAIRE FOR HOUSEHOLDS LIVING IN IDP CAMPS AND VILLAGES

This study seeks to establish the relationship between political instability and food security. The study is mainly academic but I shall be grateful if you answered the questions in this questionnaire truthfully.

Section 1: Respondents information

- 1.1 Name of the household head
- 1.2 Sex a) Male. B) Female
- 1.3 Level of education

Never been to school
Primary drop out of school
Completed primary education
Completed secondary education
Others specify

- 1.4 Age of the household head.

- 1.5 Marital status

Single	Widowed
Married	Others
Divorced / separated	

- 1.6 Original home place
- Give village, parish, Sub County, and district if it is different from where you are staying currently.

SECTION 2 HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

- 2.0 What is the usual size of your family?

- 2.1 Are there some members not leaving with you? ✓

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes how many? And where are they?

5. Evangelization (Spreading good news of God)
6. Others specify

2.2 Are you a native (born) of this place?

Yes ☐ No ☐

2.3 In no, why are you here?

1. Trade (Small business)
2. Land for cultivation
3. Land for livestock
Political instability (displaced as a result of war)
5. Evangelization (Spreading good news of God)
6. Others specify

2.4 How long have you stayed in this camp/village?

Less than one month
2-4 months
5-6 months
Over 6 months

SECTION 3: FOOD SOURCES AND TYPES

For questions 3.1 – 3.3, use the option in the table provided

1. Own crops	6. Livestock	12. Stealing
2. Labour for food	7. Hunting	13. Others specify
3. Food Aid	8. Gathering	
4. Gifts	9. Fishing	
5. Sales and household	10. Borrowing	
Non-food items	11. Begging	

3.1 What is your major source of food?

.....

3.2 What is your second major source of food?

3.3 Apart from the 2 sources above, do you have any other source(s) of food?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes specify.

3.4 Has there been any one time in the recent days when this household went without food to eat? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, how many times. And during such a time what did you do?

.....

3.5 What type(s) of food do members of your family normally depend on?

Cerals	Beef
Legumes	Fish
Tubers	Others (Specify)

3.6 Do you have any food shortage?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, may you allow me to see?

How long do you think the availability of food in stock can feed your family?

Less than 1 week	2-3 weeks
One week	One month

SECTION 4: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Do you have access to land for farming?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, how did you acquire the land?

Free hold	Rent
Customary	Others, specify
leasehold	

In the case for renting, what is the term for renting?

.....

Did you cultivate any crops this year?

.....

Which crops did you grow?

Crops	Measurement (Basins)
Legumes	
Cereals	
Fruits	
Tubers	
Others, specify	

Before you came to this camp, what was the usual size of your farm?

What used to be your total crop production for each of the crops mentioned above?

What used to be your major source of food?

By comparison is life here better than when you were displayed?

Do you have any major source of income? Specify.

Is it different from what used to be your major source of income?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes, How?

How do you spend this money?

SECTION 5: INCOME GENERATION

5.1 What is your major source of income?

5.2 What is your second major source of income (money)?

5.3 Is there any other source of income that you rely on (apart from the two above use options)?

1. Small business (Charcoal, wood, pots)
2. Sales from crops
3. Sales from livestock
4. Sales from food aid
5. Labour
6. Loan
7. Others, specify
8. Nil

How do you spend income above, apportion on items below in terms of percentage?

Items	Percentage
Food	
Household utensils	
Transport	
Entertainment	
Recreation	
Education	
Others, specify	

SECTION 6: ATROCITIES SUFFERED BY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

Has any member of your household suffered any kind of atrocity from LRA rebels or governing troops?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, what atrocity?

Rape.
Killing
Cutting of body parts
Slavery
Abduction
Looting and plundering
Burning of settlements / property
Others, specify

What have been the effect of the atrocity suffered in the above on your family?

Deep wounds and swollen legs
Family breakdown
Mental illness
STDs infection

Poverty and hunger
Reduced labour
Others, specify

APPENDIX III

KEY INFORMANTS' INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Targeted respondent: **SAMARITAN'S PURSE**

International relief (S.P)

Section A: General information

1. Name:..... Age:..... Sex:.....
2. Level of Education:.....
3. Marital Status:.....
4. Position in S.P:.....

Section B:

1. When did S.P start working in Ogur Sub-county?
.....
2. How many depend on your food Aid in Ogur Sub-county?
Adult male:..... Adult Female:.....
Adult youth (boys):..... Adult youth (girls):.....
Children:.....
3. Why do you think are the major causes of people's food situation?
.....
4. Why did you decide to intensify S.P activities in Lira District rather than other areas like Apac District?
.....
5. What was the level of food production at the time when you started your activities in Ogur Sub-County?
.....
6. How do you assess the level of food production situation since you came here?
.....

7. You are concerned with food distribution, what is the method of distribution?.....
8. What quantity of foodstuff do you distribute?
9. What types of foodstuff do you distribute?
10. Do you think the quantity given is enough to sustain the dependants?
.....
11. Other than war which has been in the area, in your opinion, what are the other causes of food shortage in Ogur sub-county?
.....
12. How can these causes be addressed to improve upon food shortage?
.....
13. What, in your opinion, are the direct and indirect effects of insecurity on food situation in Ogur Sub-county?
a) Direct.....
b) Indirect.....

APPENDIX IV
KEY INFORMANTS' INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

TARGETED RESPONDENTS: LOCAL COUNCIL COMMITTEES IN IDPS

SECTION A: PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Name:..... Age:..... Sex:.....
2. Village:.....Parish:.....Sub-county:.....
3. Level of Education:.....Parish:.....

SECTION B: TO ASSESS FOOD SECURITY SITUATION IN OGUR SUB-COUNTY.

1. What are the major crops grown in the this area when there is no insecurity?
2. How has government contributed to food production in these areas in normal circumstances (before the insecurity)?
.....
3. How has this changed?
4. What crops are being grown now as a result of insecurity?
.....
5. What is the general level of food production in Ogur Sub-county?
.....
6. In your opinion what have contributed to this level of production?
.....
7. What would you suggest to be done to improve the current level of food Production?
8. Do you think the food production for this season is enough to move People to the next season?

9. If not what other strategy(s) do you think can be used to obtained enough food to sustain Households in Ogur sub-county to the next season?
10. How do you think insecurity has contributed towards the level of food Production in Ogur Sub-county?
.....

SECTION B: POLITICAL INSTABILITY

1. Has this area registered any incidence of political instability in the last 6 months?
2. If yes, how many times and who is doing the attack(s)?
.....
3. At times of the local attack(s)? What do the local people do?
.....
4. In times of political instability is production possible?
If yes, how?
5. What has been the level of production in the last five (5) years?
.....
Give some examples where possible.
.....
6. If war or insecurity were to end tomorrow, what, in your opinion would be done to (a) increase food production?
(b) Ensure community food security?!
7. What would the role of government be to ensure (a) (b) above?
.....

APPENDIX V
FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS GUIDELINES

1. What has been the effects of insecurity of food production in your area?
2. Outside food aid, how has the community been getting food items for survival?
3. What challenges are being faced by households in ensuring food security in Ogur Sub-county?
4. How can the challenges in 3 above be solved?