

Land Conflicts and their implications on social stability in Amuru district, northern Uganda

Expedito Nuwategeka

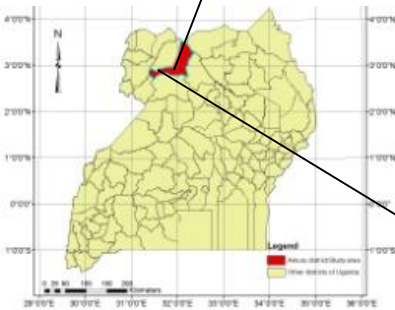
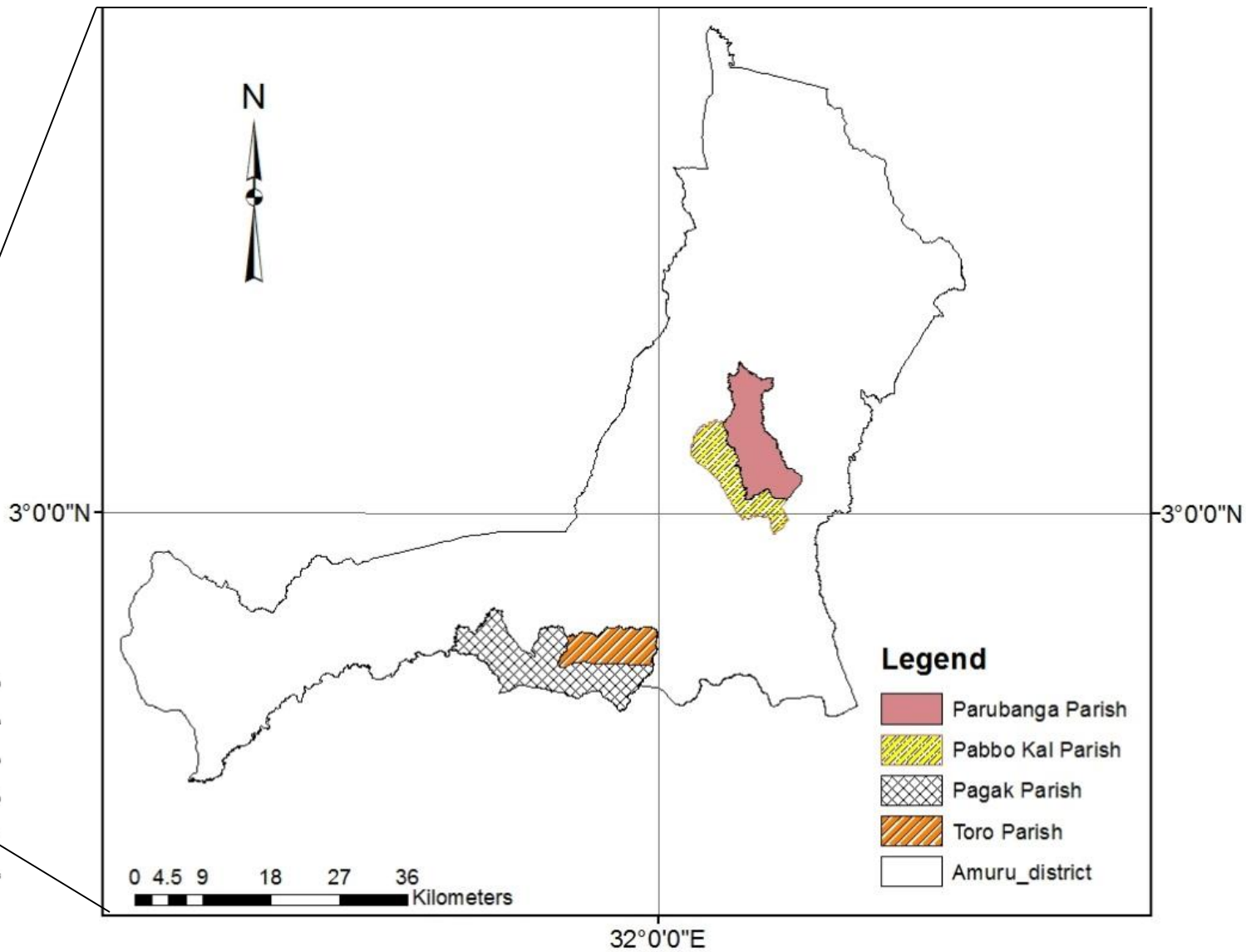
*Gulu University, Faculty of Education and Humanities, Geography Department,
P.O.Box 166, Gulu. Email: nuwaexp@yahoo.com, nuwategeka@gmail.com*

Objectives of the study

1. Establish the causes of land conflicts
2. Establish the mechanisms employed to resolve the land conflicts
3. Assess the implications of land conflicts on social stability

Methodology: Study area

- Amuru district is located in northern Uganda to the west of Gulu district, east of Adjumani, north of Nwoya and south west of Lamwo districts
- The district also borders South Sudan at its northern boundary
- Located between $31^{\circ}4'3''\text{E}$ to $32^{\circ}3'4''\text{E}$ and $2^{\circ}7'8''\text{N}$ to $3^{\circ}6'3''\text{N}$
- Small scale low input subsistence agriculture is the main economic activity
- The district was home to 21 IDP camps, housing 46,856 people (OCHA, 2007), and 12 settlement sites (ungazetted camps)



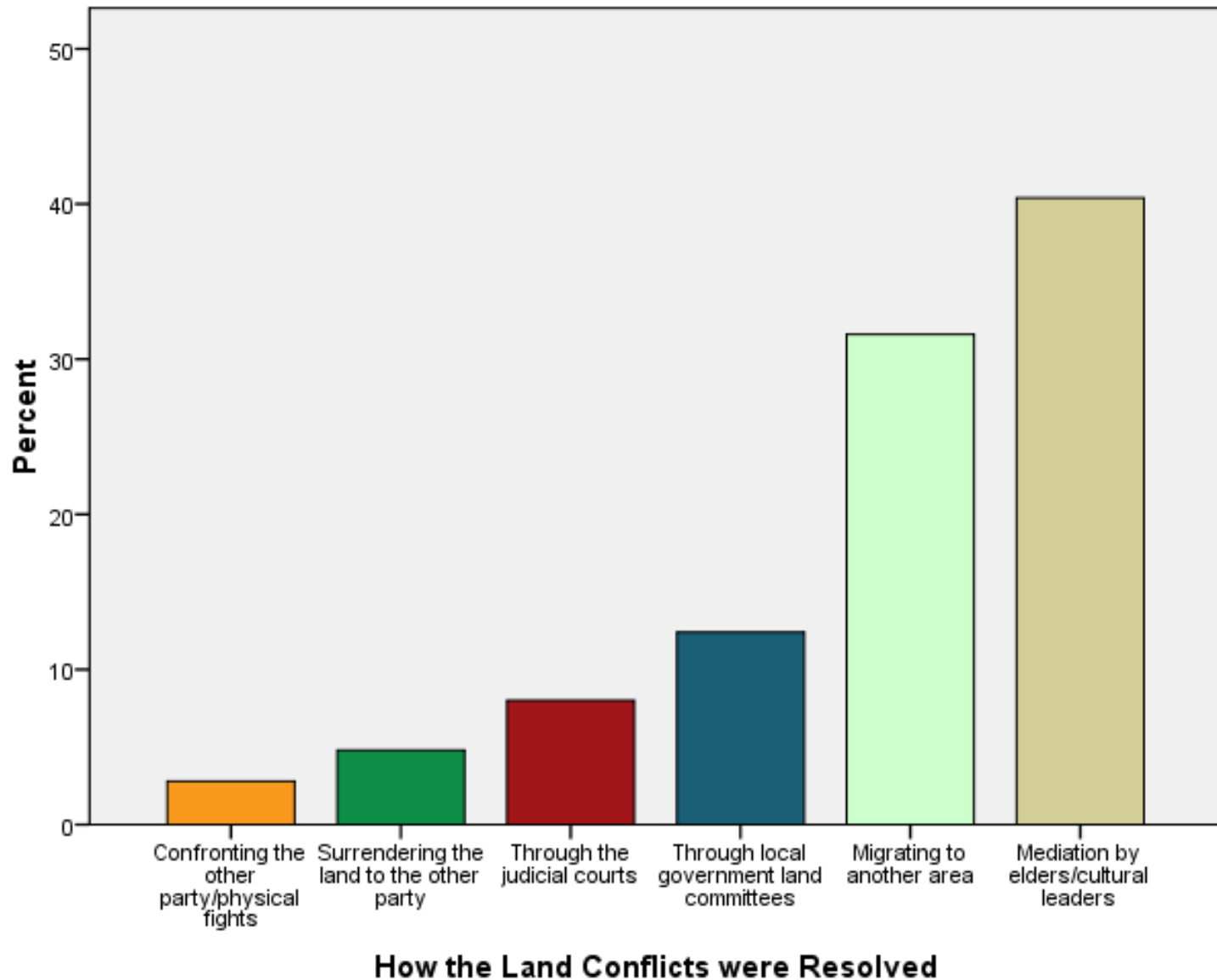
Data collection methods and tools

- Interviews using a questionnaire-306 respondents (members of the general public) systematically randomly selected.
- Key informant interviews (35 interviewees) including Local Council I and III Chairpersons and traditional leaders.
- Focus group discussions (4 FGDs) in four parishes

Findings

Causes of land conflicts	Sub County				Total	
	Amuru		Pabbo		Frequency	Percent
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%		
Rapid population growth	98	56	77	44	175	69.7
Unclear boundaries of the land parcels	90	60	61	40	151	60.4
Loss of agricultural land productivity	67	49.6	70	50.4	135	54
Land speculation	67	82	15	18	82	32.9
Unclear inheritance	43	67	21	33	64	25.6
The problem of late returnees	20	46.5	23	53.4	43	17.2

Mechanisms to resolve the land conflicts



Potential for social instability

- Violent attacks, sometimes leading to fatalities
- Destruction of property like houses, crops and livestock
- Forced migration/re-location to other areas
- Land evictions and homelessness
- Loss of livelihoods
- Food insecurity

THANK YOU