

The Role Of Local Council (Lc1) System In Food Distribution During Covid-19 Lock Down In Uganda

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Abstract

Uganda constitutes of 135 districts with 60, 800 villages under a local council structure that are expected to perform beyond locals' expectations amidst inadequate resources. By law the Local Council (LC1) village committees headed by the Chairperson are expected to maintain law, order and improve on the security of the village. The main objective of this study was to understand the role of village councils (I), the significance of Local Council I, their role in food distribution during Covid-19 lock-down and challenges. The secondary approach with the use of electronic databases, reference harvesting, grey literature and discourse analysis. Results indicated that the relief distribution exercise was supported by the local council structure at the local level in and the system supported the central government to ensure that the items reach the deserving population through guiding the taskforce and identifying the needy population.

Key Words: Local Council (LC1), Role of LCI, the Significance of LC I, Food distribution during Covid-19 and Challenges.

Introduction

Local Councils in Uganda are the lowest political- administrative units at the level of a village. Before 1986 local councils (LC) were referred to as Resistance Councils (RC) and the change in the nomenclature from RCs to LCs took place in 1995 following the promulgation of the new Constitution and was operationalized by the 1997 Local Government Act. They were extended across the country and RC-V was the political head of the district while the representative of the Central Government and was called the Central Government Representative (CGR). Therefore districts were headed by RC-V and representative was evident at the subsequent lower levels at the village. RCs were elected at village, parish, Sub County and district levels and employed by NRA fighters during the guerilla war in unconventional places for administrative work, rally support and supplied rebellious battalions. Since 2001 the country was being governed under a de facto single party system called "Movement System" (Kaaya, 2013b, Kaaya, 2013a, Mugaju

and Oloka-Onyango, 2000). In 2005 a referendum opened up multi-party system of governance by 2006 Forum for Democratic Change challenged the legality of Local Councils in Uganda since the last voting took place 2001. In 2018 the voting of new Local council chairpersons took place (Nassaka, 2017) since the existing laws i.e., Local Government Act 1997 and National Youth and Women Council Act 1993 were enacted statutes because the then Legislature was not elected through universal adult suffrage before multi-party dispensation which may not be applicable to multi-party democracy of the times. It is 17 years since the country last conducted the same elections in 2001 before the existence of multi-party democracy.

Uganda constitutes of 135 districts with 60, 800 villages under a local council structure that is expected to perform beyond locals' expectations amidst inadequate resources. The system has delegated a lot of responsibilities with no motivation an act leads them to believe that they are not appreciated by government yet work tirelessly to uplift the standards of their local communities (Sekanjako, 2018). LCs are long gone due to the broken promises since 1986, when National Resistance Movement (NRM) came to power the RCs had a lot of hope which deceased.

In the face of Covid-19 pandemic that swept the world and didn't spare Ugandans, the president ordered a directive for Ugandans to stay home, sanitize, wash your hands, maintain a social distance and stay safe. The government of Uganda broadcasted measures to distribute relief food items to troubled and vulnerable population mainly in the towns since those in the country sides are able to grow food and provide for their families although they have complained that the food will not reach them, government through its legislature have enforced plans to distribute seedlings to each house hold to enable them plant their own food since its planting season. The recent poverty indicators show that Ugandans in town side are better than their counter parts in country side thus government defended its position claiming that the food relief is not a "poverty alleviation programme" rather intended to save lives of the jobless to feed their families (Draku, 2020, AFP, 2020, Kazibwe, 2020). Poverty is not an emergency since it has been available for the last 35 years of president Museveni's regime hence the public should not mix poverty alleviation programs and relief (Kazibwe, 2020) and poverty will be solved by Operation Wealth Creation (OWC). Two districts i.e., Kampala and Wakiso were given food items to enable them manage the lock-down until the country is ready to ease to enable them go back to work.

The main objective of this study is to understand the role of local council I, the significance of Local Council I, their role in food distribution during Covid-19 lock-down and challenges.

Problem Statement

Local councils (LCs) formerly known as resistance councils (RCs) played a key role in the campaign against Obote II regime during the guerrilla war. While the Local Government Act identifies their three main roles, quite often they perform a mouthful of functions without pay which amounts to total sacrifice since residents turn to them on all issues of their lives including family related violence, witness sale of land, supervise and monitor government programs (Akena, 2020). Sub- counties are supposed to remit 25% to village level to support the supervision of government programs which is never remitted. This coupled with an official salary of 120,000 Ugx per year translates into 10,000 Ugx per month. This is attached to no material support like stationary to facilitate the smooth operations of the office has turned it into a corrupted institution. The officers endure to make ends meet through charging 10% on land transactions for recommendation and introductory letters (Kamp and Kiranda, 2010). There is lack of motivation due to poor pay and failure to expedite the bill to increase payment of local council leaders which has resulted into inefficiency in service delivery and this has collapsed coordination between the lower and the upper administrative units (Kaaya, 2013b, Kaaya, 2013a). This led to deterioration of service delivery at local council levels but preceding to 1996 elections and multi-party dispensation LC system was highly dependable, needed, supportive and admirable however today they have become a disgrace to the nation. Under the LC system bribery is the order of the day, they no longer mobilize people for community services hence need for a fundamental change (Anywar, 2008). The village Councils were disorganized during the process of food distribution since they lacked the list of all residences in their villages, they failed to identify the neediest residents, many missed food and the entire process became political.

Literature Review

The system undertaking that was announced in Uganda after NRM captured power in 1986 was grounded on the ideologies of involvement on democracy and a main feature of the arrangement

was the formation of Resistance Councils (RCs) at village level in the country. RCs were given new name Local Councils in 1997, and currently addressed as local councils (LCs) as part of a five-tier system that originates at the local community level (LCI) and advances from parish, sub-county, county and ends at the district level (LC V). All Ugandans were universally announced as NRM members and party actions were focused to severe confinements that banned representatives' consultations (delegates' conference) and the supporting candidates for elections (Barya 2000, Carbone 2003). Until multiparty dispensation in 2005 that led to 2006 elections, all voted legislatures and councilors in the LCs and the nationwide assembly that made up of a total of 945,351 seats were nominated and voted on individual merit (Barya, 2000, Makara et al., 2009, Makara et al., 2007).

Subsequently after 1986, there has been different strategies for citizen's involvement and deliberation in community policy-making i.e., active contribution and engagement of community populace in local elections at numerous levels, from LCI to LC5 and in the nationwide elections. Uganda today has a total number of 945,351 elected seats countrywide. The challenge was that LC elections that took place in 2018 were political delayed to enable NRM ruling party benefit from using them as NRM party functionaries. Secondly NRM party was afraid that if elections are conducted the LC structure will be marred by opposition politicians who later not royal to the NRM party and their ideology (Mushemeza, 2007).

The role of RCs throughout the revolutionary war was to create a secure foundation and weed out other previous regimes in the villages before the NRM took over power. Furthermore, the on-going efforts to create RCs at every level from up to the district diverted devotion and commitment of RCs as well as reduced their relevancy. The new RCs system need enough time for locals to conceptualize their structure and relevancy beyond the distribution of basic items in the late 80s. In the late 80s the NRC empowered the RCs with authority "to identify local glitches and find explanations." Throughout times of deficiencies of basic needs, such as salt, soap, maize flour, match boxes, paraffin, and sugar in 1986, the RCs efficiently distributed the items to the local people and they became distribution centers. The locals were encouraged to lineup and receive commodities for daily use. As time went by the RCs were not motivated by NRM in carrying out their duties hence became unwilling to dedicate a lot of their time in the

management local affairs. Additionally, the chief's position continued to be vague in the entire structure of RCs from the local to the District level. The hierarchy of who reports to whom and when became challenging since the chiefs kept reporting to the ministry although they didn't know how much powers they possessed in the new arrangement which next course of action to take when the RCs refused to follow the next course of action.

Since NRM considered LCs party of movement system, it was proposed to be paid a salary since they were already twisted in favor of NRM in most parts of the country and that was assumed to be the last level of use of government resources and elected representatives for party benefits and protect power from the grass root. This explains that before multiparty dispensation between 1986-2004 there existed epitome of power from bottom to top (Kamp and Kiranda, 2010).

NRM made it very difficult for the multiparty system to enter the villages and mobilize the electorates, for example LCs work closely with police and police is partisan. Multiparty systems died at the LC level and the majority chairpersons protected interests of NRM until recently when they got disappointment with empty promises from the government that has been in power for 34 years. LCI chairperson currently holds a managerial position to serve the villagers unlike the case before when they lived in their comfort zones since they knew that no elections particularly under the single party system (Mugaju and Oloka-Onyango, 2000). The control of the LC1 arrangement led to total demise of "grass root local democracy."

Opposition was denied democracy for 18 years because the RC and LC system couldn't allow them mobile at the grassroot level hence the demise of multiparty system in Uganda. Parties were allowed to have headquarters in Kampala but denied space at the local level for a long period of time and citizens got used to the status quo of having NRM LCI chairpersons and this explains the poor performance of multiparty system in the just concluded (LCI) elections in 2018. This was evident that majority of the Local leaders at the grass root are from the ruling party (NRM). If multiparty system (opposition parties) is interested in presenting credible alternative, there is need to lobby for support at the local level to clean up the misses and present the wins to the local populace (Tangri and Mwenda, 2010, Carbone, 2003).

Localism Theory: Local government in Uganda were introduced as a system of governance to ensure that services go nearer to the people, to achieve local economic development, to contribute to the maintenance of law and order and to promote accountability and democracy. The localist theory argues that local approach is one where local gains autonomy in a normal structure of government, gains power politically is best system of governance as opposed to regionalism or centralization. The need for local decision making where the local people participate in decisions that directly affects them hence strengthening democracy and political participation opportunities and spreading the populace domain. The theory supports local consumption, control, promotion, culture and production. It's time for the leaders in the local communities preside over serious matters affecting their communities. The center has always troubled the local leaders where the money supposed to be remitted to the LC1 level is never sent yet for Uganda's case they are not paid a salary to motivate them for the tasks they perform.

According to the exponents of the theory community, representative and managerial. The managerial is delegated role for LC1 chairpersons to support government through local government system to implement government programs at the local level but they are not given full mandate to be exercised since they contribute less to the decision made in line with the policies they implement. The representative role is because the LC1 chairperson were elected by the village populace as their representative hence explaining the fact that the power is in the hands of people, they elect their own leaders hence exercising democracy and community are the populace where the LC chairperson picks his committee to ensure proper service delivery and they participate in village affairs and enjoy government programs. The localism is both top-bottom and bottom-top in the nature of operation, and multi-level layer and delivery instrument. It's a better way to deal with economic and social problems the population just walk or run to the LC1 and they are readily available in the communities. Secondly the democratic get-together and responsibility the population has shown not only in voting their representatives but also to offer themselves as leaders although sometimes it suffers a serious downfall where representative promise but fail to deliver. The level of distrust that the population have for their leaders has resulted into vote buying which definitely affects service delivery. Hence the way-out should be personal values, the community should pick one among themselves they know can be trusted, socially tested and the person should be tested member of the community.

Methodology

The study followed a secondary approach with the use of electronic databases, reference harvesting , grey literature (Auger, 2017) and discourse analysis (Johnstone, 2017, Paltridge, 2012), with subjective serious composed opinion on the most appropriate way to understand the lowest level of local government structure in Uganda during Covid-19 Lock down to avoid the spread of the pandemic. In this regard, the research is captivated on the present state of the country's Local government system and its structure through the use of written documentary declarations in the current reports in the world of virtual/electronic sites. The purpose of the study was to understand the role of local council I, the significance of Local Council I, their role in food distribution during Covid-19 lock-down and challenges. Since the study was carried out during covid-19 lock-down the researcher targeted secondary sources specifically on Wakiso and Kampala districts because they were the districts that were piloted to distribute food since majority of the population in the two districts are hand to mouth town dwellers.

Role Of Local Council I Chairpersons

- 1) Local councils are fundamental in restoration of democracy in Uganda (Kiyemba, 2002).
- 2) Local council call for registration of all residents in the villages and this helps to identify wrong elements in the villages.
- 3) They participate, initiate, coordinate, encourage, participate, support self-help projects and mobilize people with material and technical support.
- 4) They are expected to serve as communication channel between districts, government, lower and upper administrative units and the community of their jurisdiction.
- 5) They also help in operationalization of village and parish courts that have jurisdiction to handle cases related to debt nor more than 2 million, assaults, contracts, conversion, property damage, battery, disputes and trespass.
- 6) Oversee the implementation of policies and decisions by its district council and government
- 7) They act as the linkage between lower and upper administrative units of government
- 8) Local councils restored peace, unity among the villages in the country since 1986 to-date.
- 9) Local councils implement government policies and coordinate the local people to benefit so that policies trickle down to the communities.

- 10) Local council system has contributed to the improvement of peoples' standard at village level through providing them with paper work and they endorse them to enable local people get money to start small businesses.
- 11) Local council chairpersons have ensured security among the villages of the community since security starts from LCI system structure. i.e. Chairman LCI is the chairman of the security or heads the security committee at the village level. The bomb blasts that hit Kampala and killed 74 people was a clear indication of the gaps in security at the local level and since 2010 central government started to utilize and beefed up security at LCI level (Reporter, 2010). The local council and village committees were idle since 1986. Uganda has 60,800 villages in 135 districts and every village by law is required to have a village security committee, led by either the chairman or the secretary for defence and it's a ten (10) member committee of people selected from strategic and different parts of the village. While in the 80s all village members knew one another, the situation has since changed due to rapid population growth, increase in tenants within villages whose responsibility goes to the landlord to declare them to local councils and there is need to work with police to enhance community policing (Admin, 2010).
- 12) Local councils report the spread of diseases to health center II, health center III, referral hospitals and ministry of health. Recently local council (LCI) were among the teams the president of Uganda His Excellency Yoweri Kagutta Museveni praised them for the role they played in the fight to avert the spread of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) disease. The villages were a no go place for outsiders who would easily carry the coronavirus (Akena, 2020).
- 13) Local council chairpersons have participated in reduction unemployment through providing recommendation letters to the people of the community. They argue locals to engage in investments through issuing recommendation letters for them to start or introducing them to the districts to make the registration process easy or also access government funding from the community development offices.
- 14) Ensure service delivery like water, electricity and in rural areas residents demand for improved agricultural services.
- 15) During the novel coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown and quarantine the chairpersons gave out authorized letters of emergency to allow sick people access health care services

especially at night and they were available on call when police needed additional information or confirmation in case of doubt (Basudde, 2020).

- 16) Directly involved in local and community planning
- 17) The local councils are engaged in resource allocation at the village level through zero budgeting processes.
- 18) Management and accountability of the entire village
- 19) Mobilization role in the liberation struggle between 1980 and 1986 and later weed out the Obotism from all villages in Uganda and turned them National Resistance Movement (NRM). The villages were under their control especially in areas contention.
- 20) Local councils play a supportive role to National Resistance Army (NRA) through locality committees prearranged in open-minded areas. This system was used in Mozambique by Liberation Front (LF).
- 21) The Local councils supported popular democracy in all villages in Uganda well as it started as support structure to NRA fighters it later supported government programs.
- 22) Local councils' system has contributed to the extension of electricity, water to the people of the village.
- 23) Local councils have contributed to the economic development through mobility & emphasizing people to construct recommended structures, roads and stream, bore holes in the communities to ensure safety of the people.
- 24) Local council established the foundation of the decentralization policy which was approved and implemented in 1992. They became the first point for localized citizens planning and involvement in the governance process (Akena, 2020).
- 25) Local councils act as civil courts especially in Northern Uganda that has been in a war for over 12 years. LCs try to bring peace and restore justice through resolving conflicts.

According to the Local Government Act the Section 50 (b) (CAP 243) the chairman local council 1 has the following responsibilities;

- a) The political head
- b) Presides over council meetings
- c) Provides security to the village
- d) Over sees community sanitation and initiates it

- e) Identifies beneficiaries of government programs
- f) Does back ground checks and recommends candidates for some government appointments i.e., primary endorsement documents are signed by the local council chairperson.
- g) Maintains law and order
- h) Receives and handles glitches or disagreements in the villages
- i) Monitor and administer the area
- j) Any other functions necessary for smooth management of the council

The Structure of Local Council I

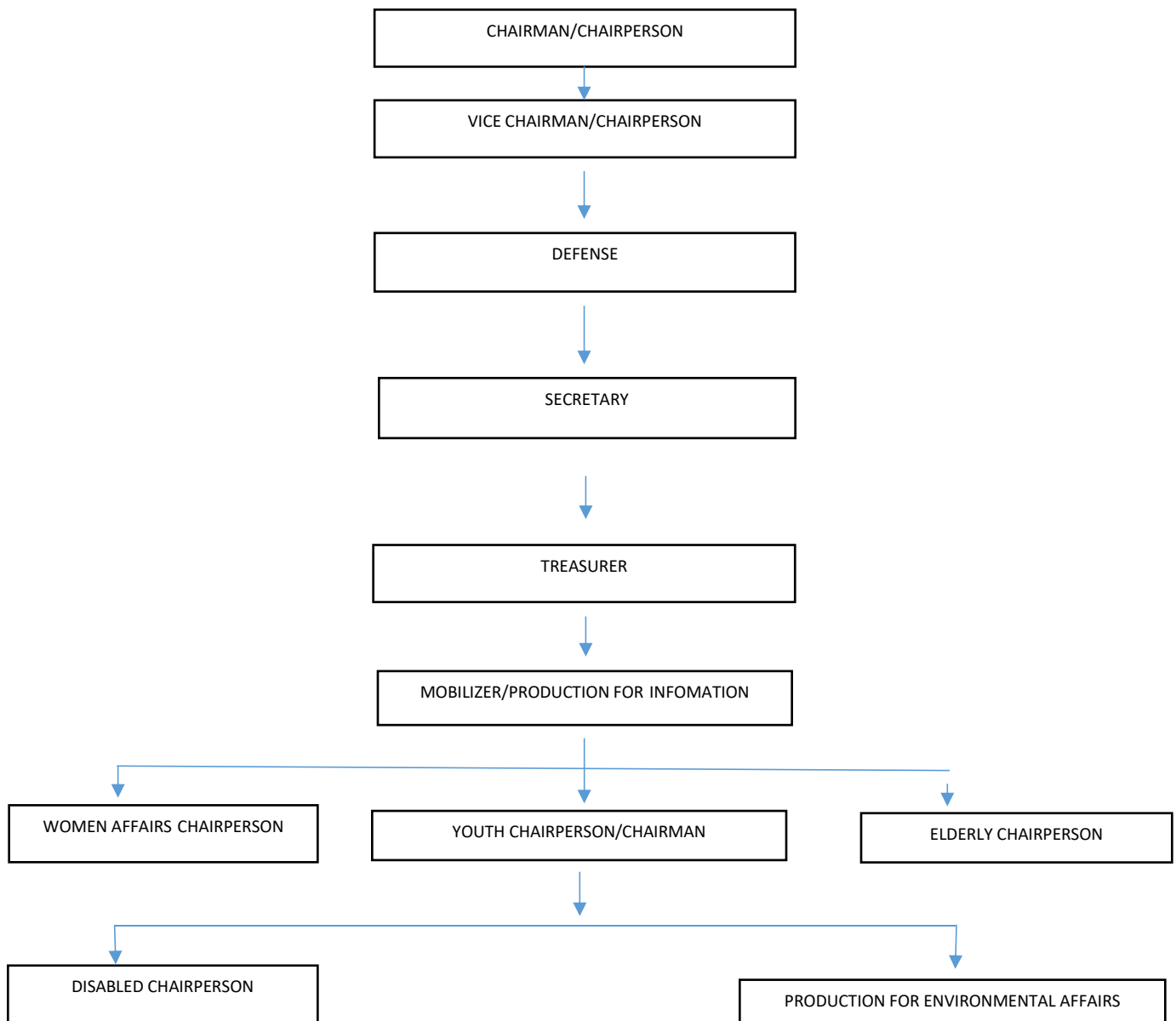


Figure I: The Structure of Local Council I

Source: Researcher

Responsibilities For The Positions

Chairman/Chair Person

The Local council chairman is the head of the village.

He/ She is responsible for the duties of the village and he is the one in control of the village work.

Vice Chairman/Chair Person

- The role of the vice is to deputize the chairman in absence of the chairperson.
- He/ She is responsible for children's affairs in the village.

Defence

- The role of defense is to provide security at the village i.e., through patrolling the village with security personnel i.e., the police and army.
- He is responsible for security/peace and to protect peoples' properties and lives through making security subzones which include 10 people each sub zone in the village to implement community policing.

Secretary

- The role of the secretary is to document and protect village documents
- The responsibilities of the secretary are to organize and arrange the documents of the village and also to take minutes in the village meetings and courts.

Women Chairperson

- The role of the chairperson is to handle the affairs of the women at the village this especially deals with women and family issues.
- She is responsible for settling disputes related to affairs of women and family.

Elder Chair Person /Chairman

- The role of the Elder chairperson is to deal with affairs of old people in the village this includes men and women.
- The responsibility of Elder chairperson is to manage the affairs of the old people at the village and ensure that their welfare is taken care of.

Production Environmental Affairs

- The role of environmental affair is to maintain and protect the environment at the village, through protecting swamps, stopping the flow of dirty water in the village roads.
- To ensure that constructions have approved plans and avoid building in swampy areas.
- Preserve and protect the environment at the village level.

Disabled Chairperson/Chairman

The role of the disabled chairperson is to maintain the welfare of the disabled people in the village and ensure that they are well represented and taken care of.

Responsibilities

- To investigate and know the total number of the disable people in the village.
- To improve on the welfare of disabled persons.

COMMITTEES

Security committee

This committee, it under the Local council I structure specifically defense and the chairperson heads the committee and directs the defense of the village to ensure security of persons and property.

The committee has fifteen (15) members and each sub zone of the village has a representative on the committee to ensure security at the village.

Women Affairs Committee

This committee is in the Local councils I structure of the women affairs and it is headed by the chairperson (Nabakyala) and her committee members.

These committee members are elected by the people in the village. Their role is to settle women affairs and these include among others family related issues.

The Role Of Local Village Councils (I) Structure In Food Distribution In Uganda During Covid-19 Lock down

The lock-down in Uganda was managed by a task force that was in charge of mobilizing for support and receive donated food items and later distributed them among the neediest population. The task force was assisted by military, police and prison departments under ministry of internal affairs in support with Red Cross Uganda to ensure that the relief items reach the poor town dwellers who earn hand to mouth and couldn't survive the lock-down without government's support. The relief distribution exercise was supported by the local council structure at the local level in and the system supported the central government to ensure that the items reach the deserving population among the roles played by LCI included the following;

- a) Local council I governs & guide the village residents which include chairman/person with his/her cabinet. The chairpersons informed the residents on when the food items will be distributed in the villages.
- b) Local council mobilized the people of the village during government food distribution and informed local populace stay at home and only four persons were given food items.
- c) Local council structure acted as a guide with his committee since they knew the village location and boundaries to avoid distribution of food items to residents outside the village.
- d) Local council I structure identified the vulnerable people in the village i.e., pregnant mothers, elderly, disabled etc. who were entitled to extra benefits during food distribution.
- e) Local council system notified village residents so that there is equal food distribution especially to the needy.
- f) Local council structure helped to estimate the village population in order to bring enough food to the specific village.
- g) Local council system worked hand in hand with the food distributing team to ensure law and order in the village during the activity.
- h) Local council sensitized and coordinated its people on the preventive measures of corona virus i.e., sanitizing, social distancing, wearing of protective gears like masks and remain orderly since food was to be distributed on the door step.

- i) Mobilize manpower in support during food distribution exercise since the security personnel were not enough to ensure that the activity moves on smoothly.
- j) To coordinate food distribution activity in their area of jurisdiction and ensure all the members in the village get food.

The Significance Of The Local Village Councils (I) Structure Under The Nrm Government System

- 1) Local council structure implements government policies e.g. immunization, food distribution elections etc. in the village which has made governance effective.
- 2) Local council structure promotes peace and security under the **NRM** government regulations
- 3) Local council structure has promoted government programs e.g. Youth Livelihood Program (YLP), **UWEP**, **DDOG** which have improved different categories of people i.e., youths, women, and elderly hence making the LCI structure under the NRM system of government highly significant.
- 4) Local council has promoted economic development through infrastructure rehabilitation at village level.
- 5) Local council has encouraged people to pay taxes hence improved government revenue that results into infrastructure development.
- 6) Local councils have maintained law and order at villages through implementing LCI courts in place thus low crime rates.
- 7) Local councils engaged in food distribution activities during Covid-19 lock-down an activity they performed in the late 80s when NRM took over power and there was need to distribute basic needs to the local populace.

Challenges Of Local Village Councils

- a) They don't sanction imprisonment of locals for fear to lose electoral votes. They have failed the forest sector since they replaced the Muluka/Gombolola chiefs (Kasozi, 2009).
- b) Underprivileged payment of 120,000 Ugx annual payment with huge responsibilities yet it's not enough to take care of their families. The chairpersons engage mobilization of the communities, monitor government programs on security, education, health, sanitation and agriculture.

- c) There is need for new laws governing the local councils since the referendum of 2005 that gave way to multi-party democracy in Uganda and this explains the successful challenge of the legality of local councils since the new laws have not been provided by the ministry of local government guided by the Attorney General.
- d) The local chairpersons are still considered as volunteers since 1986 and all the promises have not been fulfilled by the government (Kato, 2020).
- e) It is a fulltime job with no leave year in year out yet they need to attend to their person duties where they earn a living to provide for their families.
- f) The remittances from the Urban and rural centers 750,000 Ugx and 30,000 Ugx respectively annually which was meant for government programs is not remitted as agreed by the village committee.
- g) They charge illegal fees i.e., 5%-10% of sold land and 3000-10,000 Ugx for a stamp to substitute their salaries.
- h) Politics rather than service delivery. Local councils were perceived as NRM structures that are supposed to be used to win elections and remain in power. In 2009 local councils were seen registering voters house-to-house and they claimed it was a directive from the NRM secretariat to evaluate the strength of the party. In the process of registration if the residents know the chairperson is NRM they definitely registered as NRM. It's a constitution right to belong to any political party and therefore Ugandans should not be intimidated to register as NRM supporters (Wadri, 2009).
- i) It is so easy for the public to forge an LCI recommendation letter to support application for passport or security service jobs.
- j) Lack of funding that hindered the development of rural local projects i.e/. distribution of seedlings and send a goat project.
- k) Embezzlement of funds at sub-county level were remittances meant for Local council chairperson is never sent which has buried the local council system of administration.
- l) Village meetings in many villages have died a natural death the residents no longer care to attend and they only report to chairperson when they have a challenge and need services due to a lot of graft among village leaders.
- m) The residents have demystified the post of the chairperson at the local council and the only surface when there is a sale of land in the particular village.

- n) Lack of motivation has resulted into inefficiency in service delivery by the local council leaders in many villages in Uganda and it has killed coordination between lower and upper administrative units.
- o) There are challenges in handling minor disputes imagine an NRM chairperson presiding over a case between Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) and NRM? Hence the need to review this mandate from being NRM administrative units at the local level.
- p) LCs would request for a letter of introduction from of any resident who reports to their village for settlement this would help weed out the would-be criminals who may have committed crimes and shifted to where they unknow. Laxity set in and the public no longer takes LCs seriously.
- q) Today the residents of the same zone don't know one another and this has made neighborhood watch a challenge hence increased criminals i.e., theft, child abuse, defilement, domestic violence and human trafficking.
- r) LCs are accused to be a source of bribery, injustice due its male dominance partly in the rural settings. LC courts have failed to fairly preside over several cases due to inadequate knowledge and limited levels of education. LCs also ask for money during the court sittings this hinders many who would have reported their cases.
- s) LCs structures were designed to serve the interests of NRM party especially ensuring that elections are in favor of the ruling government.

Conclusion

With numerous breaches in the government relief food item delivery structure, we suggest a more personalized method targeting people at the village-level. The local people should be given mobile money directly sent on the registered telephone number to avoid additional expenses in the distributing relief items to people of Kampala and Wakiso. Our neighbor in Kenya was successful because the government extended money to the people given the fact that different families have different priority needs.

While its impractical for government to pay a salary to 7000-20,000 Local council chairpersons, the 11th parliament may deliberate amend the Local Government Act 1997 to permit them charge money paid for services rendered i.e., recommendation and introduction letters, stamp for Passport and National Identification (ID), LC identity Card to enable them generate an official

income for effective service delivery. Local council chairpersons should be paid at least 20% of the locally generated revenue just like the case of upper local governments in Kampala city councils who are paid and entitled on a percentage of locally generated revenue. Their roles and contribution should not be underestimated so that they perform without being compromised in their line of duty. The Local Governments (Amendment) Bill that was tabled 2009 to provide payment and allowances to chairperson of the villages should be completed and payment should be got from the consolidated fund (Namutebi, 2009). There is need to review the mandate of local council leaders solving or presiding over minor disputes doesn't apply in the multi-party dispensation if democracy is to thrive in Uganda at the grass root level because the chairperson cannot exercise impartiality.

There is need to facilitate them with means of transport and chairpersons claimed that government promised them bicycle unfortunately to-date they have never been delivered and denying them a monthly salary to take care of their bills has confined them to connive with thieves that terrorize the villages in Uganda today which has resulted into village security challenges (Mugenyi, 2017). Another school of thought argues that, Local council leadership is community service hence should not be paid besides the leaders requesting for it are interested in the money rather than the services they render to the people. It is very clear that local leaders get incentives and unexpected presents from government as one way of appreciating their services to the people.

There is need to legalize the LCI identity cards and splitting the sizeable villages into smaller ones for easy management. LCs currently have over 30,000 people in their villages yet previously they had about 600 people. There is need to have a manageable number of the populace for ease of administration hence zones should be split into manageable units.

The Local council I system has been reduced to distribution of food relief items in 2020 during Covid-19 pandemic just like it was the case in the late 80s when NRM took over power. It goes without mentioning that this is one successful role that LCI was performing under the ruling party. With high devolution of power at the local level, the LCI position has lost meaning given the poor motivation hence the structure at the local level has created more problems than it can solve hence turning into a curse.

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