Interviewer Name: Martin Nankunda

Transcriber Name: Martin Nankunda

Interview date: 26/09/2019

Respondents Name: Mustafa

Household ID: 3950052

Age: 90

Title status: Refused

Occupation: Farmer

Highest level of education: 0

Marital status: Married (polygamous)

Number of years lived in the village: 90

Number of children: 5

Number of people living in the HH: 11

Roof material: Iron sheets(versatile)

House material: Sand and bricks

Interview start time: 10:25 am

Interview end time: 10: 33 pm

Duration: 00:07:18

When we reached at the respondent’s home, we found him in his banana plantation near his house, working in the banana plantation. He was hesitant to leave his work and we introduced ourselves as he was still in his plantation. We asked him if we could get somewhere to sit and explain to him the purpose of our visit. We sat outside his home and read to him the consent. He insisted that his sons be present and if possible, we give him another day when he can invite his other 3 sons who stay in Kampala because for him, he too old and cannot make any decisions without his sons. His wife was not at home and he send one of his grandchildren to call her. He has a cement and brick permanent house with versatile roofing. He is rich judging from his house.

We stared the interview, but he kept insisting that his sons be present. As I was still explaining to him why it is important to hear his views, his other son who stays near his home came. I explained to him the purpose of our visit and showed him the letters from the RDC permitting us to conduct the interview. He asked me to stop wasting my time because for them, they don’t need a title and if they need it in future, they know the proper ways to go through to get the title and that they can afford to have it. He also said that he had worked at parliament for many years and seen many cases of land grabbing where old people are taken advantage of. He asked for our contact and promised to contact us in case they sit down as a family and agree.

I: How are you today Mzee?

R: Today is one those lucky days that you have found me working otherwise most days don’t go well for me at my age.

I: I see, so, how old are you?

R: I am in 90’s plus because I was born in 1929.

I: You must be a very strong man because at your age if you still have the energy to hold a hoe and dig like you were doing?

R: No, today like I have told you, you were very lucky to find me here. Like a saying goes that *‘eyakura ebaagwa’* meaning, if a cow is old, it must be slaughtered, am an old come now. And I know you want to hear from me, but it would be better if my sons were here. So that they read this letter that you have given me, because I am now too old, and I don’t make decisions on this land without my sons. It is even better if you can give me another day so that when you came back, I invite all my sons and you find them here. Me a loan can make decisions. I would be in bed now struggling to get up or sleeping but today was a good day.

I: I understand why it important for you to have your sons present today but I am also your son and I would love hear your views on land since you have been in this area for such a long time, you knowledge and views would be important to us.

R: Yes, I see but like I have told you I am an old cow (respondent laughs), some days, am ok like today, some other days I can’t even get out of bed. Therefore, for me to feel free and give you the information you need, I would like to first sit and talk with my sons. I have 3 sons who don’t stay here in this village. If you can choose another day, I can invite them we sit together and have a chat with them. I also want to get a land title because a land title is good but what if you need money from us to get this title, where would I get this money?

I: The title was free but today I am not here to offer you a title. Today, I am here to chat and hear from you about issues concerning land in general. And like I have told we are working together with the ministry of lands and the world bank who selected people in this village where some people received land title and others did not receive. So, for those that received the title offer but didn’t get titles, we would like to know in detail the reasons why they did receive the titles. And that’s what I want to ask you day. If it’s ok with you of course.

R: Ok, go ahead.

I: Thank you sir, and I would like to first know how many children do have?

R: (Respondent laughs) that requires a pen and paper because I have very many children?

I: Ok, how many wives do you have?

R: I have 2 wives now?

00:04:07

I: Are there they all staying in this village?

R: Yes, but they are in different places, they have their own land.

I: Is this land where we are now, for the old wife or younger wife?

R: This is for the older wife?

I: So, how many children do you have with the older wife?

R: Most of them died but here they are 7 children who are still a live

I: What about the second wife, how many children do you have?

R: They are 5 children now.

I: Do have school going children?

R: Yes, I have 3 children who are still in school. One is in senior five, there other is in senior there the last one is in senior two.

I: I am curious to know how you get school for these children. It must be tough?

R: I have been getting school fees from these bananas but now because of the drought and banana wilt, the plantation is no longer much productive. Aren’t the children going to drop out of school? Because the plantation is drying out and I no long have energy to work for them.

I: But since you have sons who are already working maybe they can help with school fees?

R: ‘Ebyo mbibyo obigambira nyoko, mukaasho noryanju’ proverb meaning, it’s easier to tell your problems to your mother but with your stepmother, it’s trouble. (Respondent laughs) it rare for children to educate their siblings. They are very few especially in this village.

I: If you compare your days back then and today, what has changed in the way people help one another?

R: Back in our days, if you lacked money or anything else, would run to your brother for help. But now your brother can help because he also has his family to take care of. The family needs back in our days weren’t so many like today. Most families don’t have excess to give to others. If you don’t have money to educate your children, your brother can’t help because his family too needs help.

I: The son interrupts the interview and asks to leave.

00:07:18