Interviewer Name: Martin Nankunda

Transcriber Name: Martin Nankunda

Interview date: 01/10/2019

Respondents Name: Charles

Household ID: 5150121

Age: 63

Title status: Refused

Occupation: Causal laborer

Second source of income: Farming

Highest level of education: P.5

Marital status: Married

Number of years lived in the village: 16

Number of children: 8

Number of people living in the HH: 8

Roof material: Iron sheets

House material: mud and poles

Interview start time: 10:10 am

Interview end time: 10: 33 am

Duration: 00:23:36

The respondent was in the garden when I reached his home. The interview took place inside his house. He refused the title because he believes with the title, he won’t be able to sell his land yet it’s where he gets school fees for his children. He has a mud and poles house with iron sheets. He is poor judging from his house and the household materials in the house because he had 3 sets in his house. He wasn’t welcoming because when he saw me coming to the garden he first moved away, and I followed him and introduced myself. He didn’t seem interested in the interview with the way he was responding to the questions.

He is married and living with the wife and children. The wife seems to be in control of what happens in this household and makes most of the decisions. Because half away through the interview the wife came from the garden and called the husband out of the house. They had a small chat and when the husband returned, he was not will to continue with the interview. He said he has a brother called Bamwine Fred who is the RDC for Nakawa (a division in Kampala city) whom he had talked to about this program but he (RDC) didn’t know about it. He also said that, for him to participate and accept the title, an announcement must be made on the radio so that everyone gets to know about it.

**Warm-up**

I: let start apologizing for having take you off your work. How are you today?

R: I am ok, how are you?

I: I am ok too. Generally, how is everything in your village?

R: We are ok in the village, we received rains yesterday and it’s been awhile since we had rains in this village?

I: Ok, it seems it rained everywhere yesterday, even in Mbarara it rained from morning till to 2 pm. And I guess that’s why everyone has gone to their gardens this morning.

R: Yes

I: How did the day go for you yesterday, were you able to work?

R: No, it rained the whole day and we did not work.

I: Ok tell me about your normal, how does it go?

R: On a normal day, we run around from place to place looking for money.

I: Tell me more, what do you do to look for money?

R: We look for casual work for example working in people’s gardens, banana plantations, digging pit latrines etc.

I: So, other than casual work, is there anything else you do to earn income?

R: Nothing else.

I: So, how old are you?

R: I am 63 years

I: And how long have stayed in this village?

R: I have stayed in this village for 16 years now

I: So, where were you staying before you shifted to this village?

R: I was staying in *Bwizibwera* (nearby trading center)

I: Would mind telling me why you shifted from *Bwizibwera* to here?

R: I wanted a bigger place because in *bwizibwere* the plot was very small. So, I sold the plot in *Bwizibwera* and bought here.

I: Ok, how do you compare the two places at you have stayed in?

00:03:01

R: They are the same because they are not far apart. The only difference is that here, it’s bigger than *Bwizibwera*

I: So, what is the highest level of education you have attained?

R: Primary five. Our father died and left us with our mother. When I reached in P.5 my mother couldn’t afford to pay for us school fees so, I dropped out of school.

**Background, household structure and land ownership**

I: Tell me about your household? How many people live in your household?

R: I stay with many wife and children. I had 10 children, two died and others don’t stay in this house and others are at school. Therefore, we are 7 household members that live in this household now.

I: Sorry about the two children that died. So, you have only five children staying in your household, right? How many are boys and how many are girls?

Yes, they are five, two boys and three girls. One of the boys is married and we stay with him here. And one of the girls is a primary teacher.

I: Do you have children that are still in school out of the 5?

R: Yes, the remaining 3 are in school. One is S.5, the other in S.2 and the other is in P.7

I: It must be tough to find school fees?

R: Yes, it very hard to get fees, we must work here and there and if we can’t get enough money for school fees, we sell a piece of land. Because 2 of our children are in boarding schools and we pay a lot of money.

I: So, have people you stay with in your house that is not your child?

R: Yes, I have my grandson.

I: how long have you lived in this house?

R: I have lived in this house for 16 years.

I: And how many plots of land do you own?

R: I have one plot of land, this one where I stay.

I: How did you acquire this land?

R: I sold the land that I inherited form my father because it was small and bought this land

I: Ok, how big this land where you stay?

R: It is 3 quarters of an acre, but I have been selling part of it to pay school fees for my children otherwise it was bigger than this.

00:08:26

I: I see you have a banana plantation, beans on this land, is there anything else you use this land for?

R: I also plant cassava on the boundaries of this land but mainly, it’s a banana plantation

I: How profitable is this banana plantation?

R: No, it’s not very profitable you can get like 5 bunches every week when it’s harvest time.

I: And how much is a bunch of matooke during the peak time?

R: Between 3000-7000 shillings depending on the size of the matooke

**General land**

I: Thank you explaining this to me, but now I would like to ask about land in general? How do people in this village acquire land?

R: If you need land in this village, you come and sked from other people and they can show you someone who has land for sell, then you can buy land but you have to been sure of the owner of the land is, so, that you can buy genuine land.

I: Are there people who for example inherit land from their parents?

R: Yes, most of the people in this village have inherited land from their parent. A few people buy land here and most of the people who buy land here, come from other places but the people who are born here have their land that they inherited.

I: What about people who rent land in this village, are there people who rent land in this village?

R: Yes, there people who have big pieces of land where other who don’t have enough go and rent quarter an acre of land at 50000 shillings per season

I: Ok, are there people in this village who have big pieces of land that they don’t use and decide to give it to other people for free to cultivate?

R: No, maybe if you are related to that person. But still it is rare in this village because most people don’t have such big land.

I: What about people who give land to other people to cultivate and share the produce after harvest?

R: They used to be there especially those who had land that had never been used. Someone having bushy land and decides to give it to other people for free so that they can prepare it for him to use in the future. But today all the land is used either for cultivation or cattle farming.

I: I am wondering whether renting land for cultivation is profitable, is it?

R: No, unless the land has never been used before, you can get some profit like the people I see who go and rent land in *Kayonza* (village in Mbarara district). But here land has lost fertility.

00:13:28

I: So, people no longer rent land for cultivation in this village because the land has lost fertility?

R: No, some people still rent land. That’s why you don’t find most people in their homes now they are all in *Kayonza* (a place in this village where people rent land). There is land that has never been used and most people go there and rent land. This land is for the army barracks in this village

I: I see, So, it’s a place in this village called *Kayonza* and it’s for the army barracks, I am wondering who rents out this land to the people? is it the army?

R: It’s the government but let me first talk to the chairperson because if a new person comes to the village the chairperson should be informed.

I: We have already informed the chairperson and even the child has directed me to your home, it’s the chairperson that has asked him to bring me her. We could not inform you of our coming and we don’t inform the chairperson.

R: You see, me I refused your title and don’t see the reason you should ask me all these questions. They told us that if you give us your title, we won’t be able to sell our land yet it’s where I get school fees for my children. I hear people say that to sell part of the land that is titled, you need to first go to those offices, make long ques yet my children want to go to school, I found it disturbing and that’s why I refused to accept the title. Also, I have my brother who is an RDC and he advised me to wait and he first investigates this program and he lets me know. And if you had not informed me of you coming here today, I would have gone to Kampala to meet with him. Another problem is that; someone can come and give a title but later it turns out to be fake and they steal your land because they keep have the original copy and give you a “duplicate”. And these cases having been happening in other places, we hear about them. You came here, government did not put an announcement on the radio so that all people can know, at sub counties they don’t know you so, we afraid for our lands. In *Buganda* (central region of Uganda), me I lived there for 3 years, people came as you have come and ended up grabbing people’s land. This has opened my eyes and I must be careful.

I: So, *Ssebo*, I understand you reasons for not accepting the title and I also understand your fears but like have told you, the chairperson is aware of our presence in the village and I also have a letter from the RDC Mbarara, if you can have it and take a look. I can I also guarantee, that we are not here to steal your land.

R: You see, you can come here, have me and my wife sign on your papers, put your stones in our land and after many year even when am dead, you come and claim this land because it’s your stones and your papers. So, those are the things we don’t accept.

I: I really understand your points and you are very right, but would you like me to call the chairperson and she comes her?

00:20:22

R: No, it not necessary, there is was a man in this village called Paul Bakashaba he was a “surveyor” and unfortunately he died, he told us never to let people come and make us sign like those papers I have signed, and title our land. They will have stolen the land. Another problem we have with you is that every time you came here, a different person come so, we can’t know who is and is not in your group. The first group came with computer, but they came with chairman and asked about land use. Later after like 2 years other people came and told me that the computer has chosen me and somebody else in the village to receive land titles. We were left wondering how the computer could choose only 2 people out of all the people in this village to receive titles. So, me I told them I wasn’t interested. I even called our LC 2 councilor after had left and he also did have an idea about this program. He called the subcounty chief and he too didn’t know this program. So, I waited until the came back and that’s when I called my brother Fred Bamwine RDC and he told not accept.

I: I want to know if there are people in this village that you know received this title and the people from the subcounty were not involved?

R: Yes, one person received the title, but I was not there, and I don’t know if people from the subcounty were involved or not. But I asked the former chairman how he could miss this opportunity to get a title and bring these people to my home yet everything that comes to the village begins from his office he should have used his office to get the title for himself because he doesn’t have it.

I: It was the computer that chose people but anyway what could have happed to make you accept the title?

R: If they had made an announcement on the radio and everyone was aware of what was going on, I would have accepted. But only 2 people in the village and the subcounty and other people not knowing about this program, made me to refuse this offer. So, I refused this offer and even if you say what to me, I cannot like it.

I: Thanks for your information. (Wife calls the husband outside the house)

R: And that’s all for today from me. I have given my views and someone else wants to talk to my wife, she there but that’s all from me.

I: (leaves me in the house and goes back to the garden).

00:23:12