**LHUBIRIHA CONSERVATION AND TOURISM ORGANISATION (LUCTO)**

**P.O.BOX…………………….**

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Date: 15th April, 2025

THE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION RANGER (CCR)

IHANDIRO PARK POST RWENZORI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK (RMNP)

Dear sir/madam

**RE: REPORT ABOUT LHUBIRIHA CONSERVATION AND TOURISM ORGANIZATION.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

The government of Uganda has put in more effort to develop rural communities and as the NGO operating in the rural communities has been formed for the purpose of eco-tourism, natural environmental conservation and sustainable human development.

We members of Lhubiriha conservation and tourism organization (LUCTO) having been an organization, devoted ourselves and creating power by common conservation activities among members and large number of people within our area, thereby to announce the new law that shall guide and govern the group (NGO) in the smooth running of its plans and future activities. Thereby as aware of the threats the degraded environment is exposing to the people of this area due to human activities and other natural hazards such as floods, landslides, prolonged drought and many others, reminding to awaken people’s potentials to exploit sustainably the natural resources around them while reconciling the Rwenzori mountains potential resources and the community with modern scientific ideas.

**VISION**

A culture of tourism and relationship amongst the communities in the preserved environment on the Rwenzori Mountains.

**MISSION**

To create awareness and promotion of the ecosystems along Lhubiriha basin and Rwenzori mountains for sustainable development.

**GOAL**

The overall goal of LUCTO is to ensure that every community member knows the importance of environmental conservation and tourism.

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To establish an important tourism sites, this induces co-existence of the human population and wildlife in our areas.
2. To help our community come out of various circles of poverty and ignorance.
3. To help the youth eradicate challenges of early marriage.
4. To retain our communities that live on the Rwenzori Mountains to eradicate environmental degradation.
5. To establish adult education Centres.
6. To enhance the capacity of poor women and men to access and share knowledge and skills on sustainable agricultural production and marketing to attain food and income security.
7. To network with other stake holders and development actors with similar objectives.
8. To promote education and advocacy programs related to tourism and environmental conservation.
9. Helping individuals and groups solving their frequent obstacles to development.

**ACTIVITIES**.

1. Conserving the environment.
2. Promoting savings and credit scheme.
3. Bee keeping.
4. Promoting tourism both community and inside Rwenzori Mountains national park.
5. Promoting Hand crafts skills.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. Baluku Robert Director
2. Bahwayo Eziron Chairperson
3. Bwambale Yofesi Secretary
4. Kabuyehya Moses Treasurer
5. Sibalingana John BOD member
6. Baluku Samweri BOD member
7. Bwambale Pedson BOD member
8. Kule Apricaripo BOD member
9. Businge Biira Jesca BOD member

**ACHIEVEMENTS.**

* We have been registered at the sub county level certificate number 22/KITH/2025.
* We have established a camp site at kithakakisa with main house and a pit latrine for sanitation.
* We are opening a trail deep inside the Rwenzori mountains national park which starts from kithakakisa camp site view connecting to Nyamugasana community trail, so far we have moved as far as kasusuthi 36 kilometers.
* We have a reception office at Kanyatsi 2 village in Kanyatsi parish Kitholhu Sub County where we meet every Wednesday.
* We have a relationship with Uganda wildlife authority (UWA)/Rwenzori mountains National park (RMNP).
* We have been trained in savings and credit also how to start a SACCO by the CDO Kitholhu sub county.
* We have established SACCO with 50 active members.
* We have been trained in bee keeping by liberty development foundation (LIDEFO).
* We currently have 36 beehives in different apiaries.
* We have been clearing the park boundary in partnership with CCR Ihandiro park post.

We have identified the following community tourism attractions in the community.

1. lhubiriha swing bridge located at kyabayenze.
2. kamirima cultural stones with triple unique caves in kisabu 1 village
3. ibwelyakyona stone with caves in kanyatsi 2 village.
4. kabira starling waterfall located in kitholhu village
5. kasalhalha three stapes waterfalls in kitholhu village
6. kithakakisa campsite view located in kinone village.
7. kabira fish ponds located near kisebere primary school.
8. mbayirwe black smith located in bughungu village.
9. rwamasunga huge rock located in kiraro village.
10. tsurunga cave located at kabwe village.
11. buralya rock about 1square kilometers with unique caves.

**CHALLENGES**

* We lack facilitation to open our trail inside the Rwenzori mountain national park
* We lack funds to improve both our camp site and community tourists attractions
* We lack trainings in conservation and tourism related activities.
* We lack exposure visits/study tours
* We lack visitors both local and external
* We lack funds to support our lhubiriha conservation and tourism organization SACCO.

**REQUESTS.**

* We request Rwenzori mountains national park/UWA to consider us on the revenue sharing to improve our activities.
* We request government to link us to other tourism institutions
* We request the government to connect us to other SACCOs in the country to help us improve our livelihoods.
* We request UWA/RMNP to involve us in other development activities.
* We request the tourism warden and the senior warden Rwenzori mountains national park to allow us continue opening our trail deep in the national park in order to attract external visitors to view the beauty of fauna and flora.
* We request UWA/RMNP to give us modern beehives.
* We request UWA/RMNP to lobby for us visitors for our community attractions.

**WAY FORWARD.**

We propose to continue opening our trail deep in the Rwenzori Mountains during summer season.

We will continue improving our weekly savings and credit for our members.

We will keep on sensitizing our community about the importance of environmental conservation.

Hoping our request before your office will be met by your sympathetic considerations, we remain looking forward to receiving your parental guidance and support.

May God bless you.

Yours faithfully,

……………………………………

BAHWAYO EZIRON …………………….

C/person MUMBERE ROBERT

0789939311 Director

0773989593

Cc: sub county chief-Kitholhu

Cc: L.C 111 chairperson-Kitholhu

Cc: CDO-Kitholhu

Cc: Parish chief-kiraro