

- Lumbering e.g in Bugoma and Budongo forests lead to reducing rainfall and increasing temperatures.
- Wood fuel extraction e.g charcoal burning in Nakasongola and Lyantonde reduce water vapour and rainfall.
- Mining e.g gold mining in Kotido sand mining in Lyantonde lead to decline in vegetation cover and hence reduced rainfall.
- Swamp draining /reclamation e.g in Rakai leading to depletion of water resources.
- Sinking /drilling of bore holes e.g in Moroto and Kotido leading to loss of surface water.
- Construction of roads e.g Mbarara -Masaka road ,Kampala - Kiboga - Hoima road leading to loss of vegetation cover and hence reduced cloud cover and humidity.
- Urbanisation /settlement in areas of Sembabule, Isingiro has lead to loss of wetlands hence reducing surface drainage.

Physical factors

- Influence of the rain shadow /leeward effect of high mountains create arid conditions on the leeward side e.g Kasese (Mt. Rwenzori) ,Nakapiriprit (Mt. Elgon)
- Pests and diseases e.g periodic invasion of locusts in Kotido and Kaabong which destroy green plant cover hence reducing water vapour and rainfall totals.
- Presence of dry winds e.g the North East trades cause hot and dry conditions in Kaabong,Kotido, Moroto, etc.
- Presence of wild animals e.g buffaloes and elephants in Queen Elizabeth N.P which feed on and destroy plant cover which reduce cloud cover and rainfall amounts.
- Presence of scanty vegetation cover in areas of Moroto, Kotido, Sembabule leading to reduced

water vapour.

- Limited occurrence of surface water e.g in Napak and Moroto leading to reduced cloud cover and

rainfall.

- Influence of low altitude in the rift valley leading to hot and dry conditions due to the passing over of winds e.g at Ntoroko.

- Global warming due to increased emission of green house gases in areas of Nakasongola, Moroto

etc

- Climatic change e.g prolonged drought conditions leading to loss of surface water.

EFFECTS OF DESERTIFICATION IN UGANDA

- Destruction of trees leading to energy crisis e.g in Nakasongola.

- Loss of biodiversity /death of animals due to pasture and water scarcity e.g in Kaabong

- Persistent famine/food shortage e.g in Isingiro due to crop failure and death of animals.

- Decline in the water table leading to increased water shortage for domestic and industrial use e.g

in Nakasongola.

- Displacement of people /refugee problem in areas like Moroto to to unbearable increasing temperatures and water scarcity.

- poverty and loss of revenue to death of animals reared and reduced soil productivity in areas such

as Buliisa and Nakasogola.

- Increased government expenditure on environment conservation efforts effort e.g in Kaabong

Rev qn: To what extent have human activities contributed to desertification in Uganda?

Approach

- Define desertification.

- Identify areas experiencing desertification in the different regions on Uganda by description

Obbo Peter



and

a sketch map.

- start with human activities causing desertification
- Transition statement.
- Give other factors (physical)

NB: Each point raised should be clearly explained with illustrations of areas experiencing desertification in Uganda.