

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) FOR
BEAUTIFICATION OF PARTS OF MBALE TOWN AND UPGRADE OF
MBALE – TSIMBALO – ROAD TO BITUMEN STANDARD**

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FORUM HELD ON THE 16TH
NOVEMBER 2020 AT IZAVA NORTH CHIEF’S OFFICE.**

1.0 MIN-01- Introduction

The meeting was called to order by the chief Izava North location for *Mr Evans Endesia* at 11.00 am, he requested those in attendance to observe atleast one meter social distance and put on masks properly as guided by ministry of health due to the COVID 19 pandemic, they were also asked to be attentive ask questions if any and also, they should share what was going to be discussed in this forum with other residents who could not attend due to one reason or the other. He later invited the consultant representative *Mr Obra M'Maitsi- an environmentalist* to address the meeting.

The consultant started by issuing an apology from Vihiga Municipality Board Manger *Mr. Ahuga* who could manage to attend the meeting due to other urgent matters that needed his attention. The consultant further give an overview of the Project with regards to the funding, Project Scope, importance of improved road network, and ESIA report that is supposed to be prepared to identify project impacts and their mitigation measures.

2.0 MIN -02- Project Funding

Mr Obra informed those in attendance that the Government of Kenya received financing from the World Bank (IDA) in the form of a credit towards the cost of Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP). The objective of the Project is to establish and strengthen urban institutions to deliver improved infrastructure and services in participating counties in Kenya. Vihiga County Government is one of the counties that qualified to receive the funds after meeting the required guidelines. Upgrade of Mbale – Tsimbalo – Munoywa road is an initiative of Vihiga County Government utilizing this funds.

3.0 Project Scope

The main activity is to upgrade Mbale – Tsimbalo – Munoywa road from the current gravel to bitumen standard. During the upgrade there will be improvement of drainage channels, provision of access culverts, improvement of river and stream crossing points, road marking and installation of road signs.

4.0 MIN -03- Importance of improved road network

Residents were informed that road network improvement within Vihiga Municipality was an important objective of the County Government of Vihiga. Once Mbale – Tsimbalo – Munoywa road has been upgraded to bitumen standard, it will have a number benefits to residents. These benefits include;

Road network improvement benefits.

- a) The road will reduce time taken by residents to move from Mbale town to Munoywa. This will lead to reduced transport costs on the road, it can also save lives in the event that a residents requires to be rushed to hospital for urgent medical attention..
- b) It will lead to a reduction in maintenances cost for motor vehicles and motorbikes that use the road regularly. The funds saved can be utilized for other income generating activities
- c) Security along the road will also improve since there has been cases of people who are accosted as they slow down to navigate bad sections of the road
- d) A good road network will also attract investors in the area. Investors in real estate development, hotel and hospitality industry will be attracted to the area due to an Improvement in the state of Mbale – Tsimbalo – Munoywa Road.
- e) Land value in the area will also appreciate. Land owners can put up dwelling units that attract a higher rental income.

5.0 MIN-03- Preparation of An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report (ESIA).

Residents were informed that an ESIA report was an important document that needs to be prepared for infrastructure projects like Beautification of parts of Mbale town and upgrading of Mbale – Tsimbalo - Munoywa road. During ESIA preparation, public participation with stakeholders is a requirement where residents are given project information and allowed to raise their concerns.

He added that the ESIA would capture Environmental and Social impacts of the project of and come up with mitigation measures for them. They were assured that all their opinions and objections would be captured in the report so as to ensure that the project would be widely acceptable and environmentally friendly. Some of the Environmental and Social issues likely to occur during project implementation are as mentioned below;

Likely Road Improvement Project Impacts to Environment.

- Dust from disturbed soils
- Soil erosion that may be occasioned by vegetation cover disturbance.
- Smoke and exhaust fumes from construction equipment
- Noise and excessive vibration from construction equipment
- Solid wastes like plastics generated during project implementation activities
- Pollution of stream, springs and rivers by oil and grease spillage which can interfere with water quality
- Health and safety issues for workers on site and road users.

6.0 MIN-04- Plenary Session

After discussion summarized in minutes 2,3,4 and 5 above, the community were invited to a question and answer session under the guidance of *Endeli Village elder*. Detailed questions and suggestion of the plenary session are presented in **Table 1** on **Page 3**.

Table 1: Plenary Discussion

Suggestion / Question	Response
Mr. Sagide wanted to know what safety measures will be put in place near open ditches that are excavated by the contractor in order to ensure safety of resident residing near the road as well as other road users.	The meeting was informed that the contractor will put warning tapes around deep ditches to warn the public as they approach this sections. The tapes are usually bright in colour mostly red and white, residents were advised to approach areas with this kind of tapes cautiously. Contractors are also encouraged to reinstate excavated sections on time so as to reduce residents exposure period to the risk
Mr. Omar Majimbo wanted to know how destruction of property along the road by the contractor will be handled and if there will be any compensation for them.	The meeting was informed that the contractor will limit their activities within the existing road reserve, no destruction of property outside the road reserve is anticipated. Residents were encourage to avoid encroaching into road reserves so as to avoid loses in the event of road expansion works. If private property is destroyed within private land, the owner will be entitled to full compensation.

Mr. Jafar Musa wanted to know how residents will access their homesteads after drainage channels along the road have been constructed.	Residents were informed that homes and access roads will be provided with culverts to ensure they can access their homes with ease.
Mr. Asava complained that storm water was being directed into their water springs causing pollution and flooding which hinders access to their water points.	Residents were encouraged to write proposals for spring protection and forward them to the county government of Vihiga. The county has a water department that improves water points for residents.

7.0 MIN-05- Adjournment

There being no any other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12.30 pm by North Izava chief who asked those in attendance to be good ambassadors for the project. He then invited a village elder to give a closing prayer.

SAMPLE MEETING PHOTOS



A resident giving his concerns



A village elder asking questions.



North Izava chief giving his closing remarks

ATTENDANCE LIST

KENYA URBAN SUPPORT PROGRAM



VIHIGA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

VIHIGA MUNICIPALITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Public Participation Attendance List - ESIA For Upgrade of Mbale - Tsimbale - Munoywa road to bitumen Standard

DATE 16/11/2020 Venue 12AYA NORTH CHIEF'S OFFICE

NO	NAME	MOBILE NUMBER	VILLAGE/DESIGNITION	SIGN
1	EVANS .K. ENDESA .	0721118952 .	CHIEF-12AYA NORTH	
2	LULU KAHONZI KIBIRD	0716002083	A/CHIEF MUNOYWA	
3	COSMUS M OUIA	0705799592	S/Village Elder	
4	LEIKA MWANZI	0729519707	Village Elder	
5	ELIZABETH KILODE	071446426	Village Elder	
6	EDMUNDO B. AMBANI	0721484134	Village Elder	
7	RICHARD M. ADA	0719720077	Village Elder	
8	JOHN MUKHAYI	0728492394	Village Elder	
9	CHRISTOPHER OTONGO	0728386010	Village Elder	
10	PHILIP AKWONA ALHAWA	0726003159	VILLAGE ELDER	
11	RENEE L KUBALIA	0719717454	VILLAGE ELDER	
NO	NAME	MOBILE NUMBER	VILLAGE/DESIGNITION	SIGN

12	EVERLINE AVUDIKU	VILLAGER ELDER	0797223830	TH
13	OMARI-MALIMBO	V/ELDER	0718384414	CHWAS
14	CLEMENT AYODI	V/ELDER	0716323355	HB
15	JAIRO MUHANDARE	V/ELDER	0702508577	At
16	HERMAN ANYENDA			
		V. ELDER	0706353755	Paul
17	JOSEPH MUEGH	V/ELDER	0716949701	Is
18	HUSSON ELGWA	V/ELDER	0728560101	Isudw
19	JAFARY AMBAZA	nyumbukumu	0795772019	Is
20	IDDY NASIBU	V. MUYERE	0729834210	Is
21	LIVINGSTONE AGSWERE	V. ELDER	0708441615	Is
22	ELIAS MANYLAGE	V. ELDER	0717398203	Is
23	RAPHAEL ISINGA	Kimbo V/ELDER	0713176922	Is
24	BENJAMIN BUNGA	V. ELDER	0712311629	Is
25	STEPHEN SAGULA	V. ELDER	0712955696	Is
26	Charles Chongwa	-	0734348957	Is
27	ALEX CHORE	V. ELDER	0796219041	Is
28	WILSON ASAVA	V. ELDER	0724160282	Is
29	HDZON BEO	V. CHANASI	0706229052	Is
30	GRACE MUSIMBI	V. BRWAD	0701192588	Is
31	EVANS MWFESA	V. ELDER	0728029855	Is
32	DAVID LUNISHA	V. E	0728930128	Is
33	FRANCO ASAVA	Nyoma Is	0706940244	Is
34	Oben Mmetsi	Environmentalist	0129766004	Is
NO	NAME	MOBILE NUMBER	VILLAGE/DESIGNATION	SIGN

MINUTES AUTHENTICATION PAGE

CONSULTANT REPRESENTATIVE (NICHE ENVIRONMENT CONSULTANTS)

NAME.....

SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....