JINJA MUNICIPALITY PROFILE

A PRESENTATION ON JINJA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

BY

VICKY KAKAIRE

VICKY KAKAIRE
Municipal Environment Officer
mvkakaire@yahoo.co.uk
MISSION STATEMENT:
Committed to providing quality services, a healthy and clean environment, upholding democratic governance thereby promoting social economic development
There are seven departments in place
- Administration
- Finance and Economic planning
- Engineering and physical planning
- Health
- Education
- Environment

Introduction
Jinja is one of the 13 municipalities and the second largest town after Kampala in Uganda. It is located 80 km east of Kampala the capital city. Jinja Municipality is situated on the northern shore of Lake Victoria and the east shore of River Nile. The town serves a catchment area of about 3 million people.
**Location, Topography and Climate**

Jinja Municipality is situated on the northern shore of Lake Victoria and the east shore of the Victoria Nile at a point where River Nile issues from Lake Victoria in the former Rippon Falls (It is located at the source of the River Nile). The town site takes the form of a tapering plateau and stands at an altitude of approximately 3750 feet (1,230 meters) above sea level. It covers an area of approximately 28 square kilometres.

Jinja Town Centre is located approximately 45 kilometres north of the Equator. It enjoys a pleasant climate with temperatures varying between 20°C and 28°C. Average rainfall is approximately 112.5 centimetres. This rain comes with two maxima, one in March to May and another in November to December. The difference between the two seasons are dry spells, which are sometimes very short giving periods of prolonged rainfall.

**Issue to Note**

- Jinja’s location is strategic for tourism as it is located at the source of River Nile and the Northern shores of Lake Victoria, fairly good climate, etc.
- It is a blessed town with natural endowments like the lake, the river, good soils, beaches, etc. prerequisite for development.
- Jinja and its neighbourhood have good and productive soils and climate to sustain food production.

**Demographic Characteristics**

**Population Size by Sex**

The 2007 Uganda Population and Housing Census Analytic Report Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS, 2005) put Jinja Municipality’s total population to 71,213, of which 36,325 are males and 34,888 are females.

This figure is far lower than that of the day population estimated to fluctuate between 200,000 to 300,000 persons. People who work and go to school but do not reside within the boundaries of Jinja Municipal council explain the higher figure during day. The table below indicates that the males constitute 51% of the total population.

**Population Size by Sex and Divisions in Jinja Municipality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>%age</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>%age</th>
<th>Both Sexes</th>
<th>%age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Division</td>
<td>13,184</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>13,514</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>26,698</td>
<td>37.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumudde Division</td>
<td>10,788</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>9,113</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>19,901</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masese/Walukuba</td>
<td>12,353</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>12,261</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>24,614</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>36,325</strong></td>
<td><strong>51</strong></td>
<td><strong>34,888</strong></td>
<td><strong>49</strong></td>
<td><strong>71,213</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: UBOS, 2002 Population Census*
Population Distribution

Population distribution in the Municipality is based on socio-economic factors such as infrastructure, employment, proximity to services and cost of living.

The table below indicates that 38% of the population is in Central division, which is the hub of major economic activities. Population is lowest in Nalufenya Parish and Central-West Parish due to high housing costs and low house occupancy rate.

Population Growth and Projections

The table and figure below show growth of the Municipality population from 1906, (the year Jinja was declared a township and measured only 8.3 square kilometres), to 2002 the year of the most recent Population Census in Uganda.

Note the highest annual growth rate between 1980, 1991 and 2002. The figure indicates a growth rate of 2.8% per annum, which was attained between 1980 and 1991 and was the highest for any ten-year period in Jinja’s history following a negative growth between 1969 and 1980.

Population Growth for Jinja Municipality 1906-2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>47,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>45,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>65,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>71,213</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1.1: Population Growth for Jinja Municipality 1906-2002
Using the above growth over period of 11 years, the population of the Municipality is expected to have increased to 76,256 persons in 2013 of whom 39,508 will be male and 36,770 female.

Migrants and Rural Urban Migration

One phenomenon, which explains the population growth of the Municipality, is rural-urban migration. About half of the population residing in the Municipality are migrants born either outside the Municipality or outside Uganda. According to the 2002 Census 29,920 (42%) persons, are born in the Municipality and the greater number 41,460(58%) persons migrated into the Municipality. However the in-flow of day population increases this figures higher causing pressure on the services and infrastructure. Central Division (12,560) has the highest number of persons born in the Municipality, followed by Walukuba Masese division (10,834) and Mpumudde Division with least (6,101). Mpumudde Division leads in the persons born outside the Municipality.

Issues to Note:

- Jinja Municipal Council and other service providers should not rely on night time population statistics in planning and resource allocation as there is a very high in-flow of day population that adds to pressure on the services and infrastructure to be provided. Besides, the high day time population and the rising population growth is straining the existing infrastructure which are ancient and are in a poor state.

Political and Administrative Structure of Jinja Municipality

Divisions or Local Council III (LC III)

There are three divisions in Jinja Municipality, namely Central Division, Walukuba/Masese Division and Mpumudde/Kimaka/Nalufenya Division. Each of the three divisions is headed by a Local Council III (LC III) Chairperson or Chairman. The Chairperson works with a team of elected Councillors who are technically guided in policy making by the technical officers (Civil Servants) working in the Council. The Divisions are required to cooperate with the head office (LC4) which is headed by the Mayor

It oversees the operations of the Technical Departments and the programmes of the Council and the developments in the Municipality. Jinja Municipal Council consists of 26 councillors among whom some will be appointed members of the Jinja LCIV (Municipality) Executive.
Technical (Sectoral) Departments

There are seven Technical Departments each with a respective technical head in the administration of Jinja Municipal Council. Technical officers and the Municipal Technical Planning Committee are headed by the Town Clerk who is the Chief Executive of the Council. The departments, their functions and heads are summarized in table below.

**Departments and their functions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Functions of Mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Town clerk</td>
<td>General administration, personnel, establishment, enforcement and welfare, development control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>Medical Officer of Health</td>
<td>Vector (disease) control solid waste management, health clinics, health inspectorate, inspection of abattoir and municipal markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Municipal Engineer</td>
<td>Overall maintenance of vehicles and plant building maintenance, roads construction and maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit</td>
<td>Auditor</td>
<td>Pre-payment Audit, Post-payment Audit, Value for money Audits, Audit Reports, Special Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Principal Production and Environment Officer</td>
<td>Environmental management Conservation, Environmental policy and planning, Environmental education awareness, Municipal agriculture extension services, Aesthetics, Municipal vegetation management parks and recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury</td>
<td>Chief Finance Officer</td>
<td>Financial administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Education Officer</td>
<td>Supervise and administer the primary and secondary education system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the three divisions are administered directly by the Assistant Town clerks who head the Technical Planning Committees and technical staff at the divisions.

Main Economic Activities

Presently the main economic activities in Jinja Municipality comprise of commercial activities that take place in the Central Business District (CBD) where markets, supermarkets, wholesale and retail shops, commercial institutions, industries, service shops, workshops and garages are found. Commerce is the dominant component of the economy followed by the Service Sector, Manufacturing Sector, Construction and then Agriculture. The greatest concentrations of commercial activities occur in the Town Centre especially along Main Street.

However, it is important to note that 25% of the working population is involved in public services, 18% in agricultural services, 13% in the manufacturing sector and 8% in the financial institutions.
The table reveals that the informal sector is the highest contributor to employment in the town, followed by commercial activities, the public and private sector, and the industrial sector that contributes 10% of the employment in the town.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The informal sector,</td>
<td>3,458</td>
<td>2,287</td>
<td>5,745</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial activities,</td>
<td>2,574</td>
<td>2,738</td>
<td>5,312</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban agriculture</td>
<td>2,779</td>
<td>1,918</td>
<td>4,697</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of Services-public sector</td>
<td>2,723</td>
<td>1,612</td>
<td>4,335</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of Service -Private sector</td>
<td>2,692</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>2,998</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light and Medium size Industries.</td>
<td>1,723</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>2,664</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15,949</td>
<td>9,802</td>
<td>25,751</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is important to note that the unemployment rate in the Municipality is at 32% and this partly attributed by the collapse of the industrial sector.

**Manufacturing Sector**

Jinja was in the 1960s the most industrialised town in Uganda lost this economic advantage to Kampala and other towns probably when the Government embarked on the privatisation scheme and the harmonisation of the power tariff rates.

**Tourism**

Jinja’s strategic location at the source of the Nile and being surrounded by Lake Victoria waters makes it a high tourist attraction. There is a huge opportunity for tourism investment in the Municipality. The potential of water sports on Lake Victoria and rafting on River Nile is unexploited. Jinja and its neighbourhood have beautiful sceneries and cultural sites. There is the Source of River Nile (second longest river in the world), with associated falls and Rapids, most spectacular being the Bujagali falls, Musoke-Itanda falls, Kalagala falls and Kyabirwa falls; extensive wetlands with a high eco-tourism potential; and the cultural sites such as Mpumudde hill, the Kyabazinga’s palace and the Kirinya Man-made Hill.

The town has relatively good hotel accommodation. With easy access to transport in and around Town.

**Energy Sector**

The major source of energy is hydropower with two hydro electric generating stations (Nalubale and Kiira Power Stations) and a potential for a third power station at Bujagali.
Information, Communication and Transport

Jinja is strategically located on the main highway between Kampala City, the Capital of Uganda, and the Kenyan cities of Nairobi and Mombasa. The same highway is also a link to both the Northern and Northern Eastern Uganda and its roads as well served and networked. The town is served by railway that links it to Mombasa and Kisumu in Kenya, Mwanza in Tanzania,

Socioeconomic Characteristics

Literacy and Education Level
The literacy rate was established at 84.5% in the Municipality with the age group 18-29 having the highest literacy rate of 40%. The number of those who have not attained any educational level is 25% (2002 Population and Housing Census Analytical Report, 2007).

Household Utilities
The Uganda National Household Budget indicates that 74% of households use charcoal for cooking, 15% firewood and 7% electricity/gas. The majority of households 44% used paraffin for lighting and 41% used electricity. 90% of households use piped water and 10% use other sources like protected spring, bore halls.

Land-use, Urban Development, and Environment
Jinja Municipal Council is a well-planned town, and the Municipal Authority has effectively enforced observance of the 1994 structural plan. Predominant existing land-uses include residential (18%), industrial (8%), government (6%), and agricultural/undeveloped (51%) a total of approximately 1100 hectares (40% of the Municipality) is currently undeveloped and available for future new development. A further 42% is presently developed, while the remaining 18% can be classified as un-developable for reasons of environmental protection. Over 133 hectares of land are reserved for new industrial development. There are also substantial industrial premises, which are lying dormant and could be rejuvenated into functional industries.

Commercial
Jinja has been originally a commercial distribution centre in eastern Uganda only rivalled by Kampala. Jinja has an extensive and growing local market that includes its neighbourhood and other small townships and trading centres in the Busoga and Buganda.
Issues to Note

- Whereas the Municipality was originally a structurally well planned town, apparently Jinja’s structural plan is outdated. However, a new structural plan covering 2008-2018 is being finalised.
- Land-use planning, rezoning, and building regulations need to be revamped and strengthened in the Municipality and its neighbourhood to cater for rising urbanisation.
- There is a lot of unutilised land. Most of the undeveloped land represents institutional land like the land occupied by army, police, Uganda Railways Corporation, and the East African Community.
- In the Divisions of Walukuba/Masese and Mpumudde/Kimaka/Nalufenya, there are slums and squatter settlements that pose a challenge to the modernisation of the Municipality. There are also many semi permanent houses and unfinished houses being inhabited in the Municipality.
- Currently there is great demand for low cost housing accommodation for the lower and middle class residents.
- There is need for streamlining land-use, improvement and investment in infrastructure at zones gazetted for industrial development to enhance the economic competitiveness of Jinja Municipality.
- No accurate and clear demarcation of the Municipality boundaries.

Environment

Jinja is pursuing an integrated approach to urban environmental management that seeks to achieve a balance between conservation and development. However, environment challenges in the Municipality comprise issues to do with sanitation; land, water, and air pollution; sustainability of the natural environment; solid waste management and pollution from the sewerage.

The table below indicates that 35% of households used pit for disposal. Residents have complained of the inadequate availability of garbage skips. They propose that garbage skips be located in each of the 54 villages of the Municipality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type Solid Waste Disposal</th>
<th>Male Headed</th>
<th>Female Headed</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skip bin</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>1,484</td>
<td>5,134</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>5,489</td>
<td>1,532</td>
<td>7,021</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heap</td>
<td>3,204</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>4,130</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,275</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>1,640</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning</td>
<td>1,477</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>1,912</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Households</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,199</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,758</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,957</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Issues to Note**
- Open spaces and green zones are fairly maintained though lack street furnishings. Therefore leading to their encroachment upon
- Wetland degradation through farming.
- Land fill management and potential for recycling
- Rampart and immense dumping of polythene bags
- Bushy surroundings including road verges in the residential areas.

**Gender and Community Development**
The special interest groups are the most marginalized and contribute to the high numbers of the people who are poor. These include children, the youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and the orphans.

**Children**
The National Household Survey indicated that the majority of the national population was below the age of 15. The 2002 National Population Census showed that Jinja Municipality’s people wishing to go and die in the villages when they grow old.

**Culture**
Though Jinja and the entire Busoga region have a rich cultural heritage, there is no deliberate policy or programme to promote the culture in the Municipality. The Municipality lacks community activities that encourage pride and ownership of the area and the degree to which diverse communities enjoy positive relationships.

**Issue to Note**
The Municipality is lacking community activities that encourage pride and ownership of the area and the degree to which diverse communities enjoy positive relationships.
Social Services and Infrastructure

Infrastructure

Jinja is a well planned town with well planned infrastructure and a good road network and facilities. The town has a road network of 85 kilometres of tarmac and 30 kilometres of murram. 30 kilometres and 20 kilometres of the tarmac roads have been rehabilitated and maintained respectively. 35 kilometres of the tarmac roads are in a very poor state. Which require over hauling and expansion. A plan that council is working upon

Nevertheless, Jinja Municipal Council remains committed to improving living conditions in town and creating an enabling environment for investment and prosperity.

Issue to Note

- Despite the fact that Jinja has infrastructure for recreational facilities there is need to furnish them to meet the interests of the stakeholders.

In conclusion Jinja is a beautiful town with a great potential of rising to great heights through the promotion of various partnerships and knowledge sharing, a venture that the administration of Jinja Municipal Council has taken on with great enthusiasm.