

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



STATE OF CONSERVATION

TOMBS OF BUGANDA KINGS AT KASUBI (UGANDA)

PROPERTY ID NO C1022

IN RESPONSE TO WHC 39 COM 7A.23

1st FEBRUARY 2016

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE DECISION

Decision adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015)

Tombs of Buganda Kingdom at Kasubi (Uganda) (C 1022)

Decision: 39 COM 7A. 23

The World heritage Committee

1. Notes the progress made on the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga and congratulates the State Party for its continued commitment to this work;
2. Expresses its concern that the timelines provided in the state of conservation report for the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga are overly optimistic , and in order to better reflect the need for careful work to be carried out on the thatching, and on the redesign and installation of a fire protection system, requests that the State Party provides a revised, realistic reconstruction project timeline, with clearly defined benchmarks;
3. Also expresses its great concern that ad-hoc developments within the property could adversely impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
4. Also requests the State Party to:
 - (a) Halt further work on the provision of a reservoir and a fire-fighting system, alterations to the entrance, implementation of a visitor route or development of tourism facilities such as restaurants, until an integrated Master Plan has been completed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, as requested by the Committee since 2012
 - (b) Prepare, in order to inform the Master Plan, a comprehensive site plan showing all structures on the property, indicating their date of construction as far as is ascertainable, and submit this to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Further expresses its concern that the plans to widen Masiro Road may encroach on one edge of the property, and further requests the State Party to ensure that this proposal is realigned in such a way as to avoid any negative impact on the OUV of the property, and to submit revised plans to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Request furthermore the State party to revise the management plan for the property to take into account the new management structure for the property, and in particular, to endure that the safeguarding of the OUV of the property is the overarching principle for management decisions, and to submit the plan to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

7. Requests moreover that a comprehensive disaster risk management plan and a tourism plan be developed and integrated into the management plan;

1.0 Executive Summary.

This Progress Report on the State of Conservation of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, responds to World Heritage Committee Decisions 39 COM 7A.23. It also provides an update to previous State of Conservation reports submitted to World Heritage Committee, plus other conservation issues identified by the State Party to World Heritage property.

The timeline for the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga have been revised to include realistic, and clearly defined benchmarks with the view of completion of the project by December 2017. The time line has allowed ample time for the over arching component of the intangible heritage related to the reconstruction of the tomb house which have in the past caused unforeseen delays, and is forwarding the timeline for review by the advisory bodies.

All new developments on the site have been halted until an integrated master plan has been completed and submitted for review by the World Heritage Centre and its advisory bodies. However a comprehensive site plan showing all the structures on the property to include those that were demolished and rebuilt, new toilets, new kitchens and renovation of wives houses and kitchens has been prepared and submitted for review.

The widening of the Masiro road, will not encroach on the facility as a permanent fence has been already constructed around the entire property. Thus the widening of the road is likely to be inclined on the opposite side of the Masiro, the state party awaits for new plans which will only come after government has compensated the affected residents (on the opposite side), as soon as the new plans are available, they will be submitted for review .

Also an improvement of the Management structure of the site took place when the Katikkiro of Buganda appointed the Heritage and Tourism Board to manage Kasubi Tombs. Joint meetings between the Buganda Kingdom, Department of Museums and Monuments, Heritage and Tourism Board, National Technical Committee and Traditional management of the site to start so as to harmonize the management structure were held. An organ gram of the new structure for management is attached, further more a good proposal for the mitigation of fire management has been developed as part of the management plan. Development of a tourism plan has commenced but still under consultations with stakeholders.

Responses

2.1. Decision 4, Expresses its concern that the timelines provided in the state of conservation report for the remonstration of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga are overly optimistic , and in order to better reflect the need for careful work to be carried out on the thatching, and on the redesign and installation of a fire protection system, **Requests the State Party to provide revised,** realistic reconstruction project timeline, with clearly defined benchmarks;

Response

The state party together with its stake holders revised and come up with a realistic, revised reconstruction project time line with clearly defined benchmarks with the view of at least two years until end of December 2017 and is now submitting it to the world heritage centre for review by the advisory bodies. The reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga will take at least 2 years (until end of 2017). see Annex A

2.2 Decision 6.A Also requests the State Party to halt all development works as requested i.e a reservoir and a fire-fighting system, alterations to the entrance, implementation of a visitor route or development of tourism facilities such as restaurants, until an integrated Master Plan has been completed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies .

Response

All developments have been halted, and consultations are still going for the completion of a master plan yet to be submitted for review by the advisory bodies.

2.3 Decision 6 b Prepare, in order to inform the Master Plan, a comprehensive site plan showing all structures on the property, indicating their date of construction as far as is ascertainable, and submit this to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;

Response

A comprehensive site plan has been prepared by the project team to include all the houses that were in dilapidated state ,demolished and rebuilt, the new toilets, the new kitchen,(note this was a necessity to avoid wives from cooking within the court houses, that has been identified as the main threat of the fire in palaces) and renovations of wives houses . See Annex B

2.4 Decision 7. Expresses its concern that the plans to widen Masiro Road may encroach on one edge of the property, and further requests the State Party to ensure that this proposal is realigned in such a way as to avoid any negative impact on the OUV of the property, and to submit revised plans to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

Response

The widening of the Masiro Road will not encroach on the facility as a permanent fence has been already constructed around the property. The widening of the road is to be inclined on the opposite side of the Masiro. The state party awaits for new plans to this effect which will only

come after government has compensated the affected residents(those on the opposite side) . As soon as the new plans are ready they will be submitted for review.

2.5 Decision 8 .Request furthermore the State party to revise the management plan for the property to take into account the new management structure for the property, and in particular, to endure that the safeguarding of the OUV of the property is the overarching principle for management decisions, and to submit the plan to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

Response

The management plan was revised to take care of the new management innovations that were made by the Buganda Kingdom as a way of improving and strengthening the management of the site. The organ gram chart presented on next page takes into account the changes observed since July 2015 see annex C

2.6 Decision 9 Requests moreover that a comprehensive disaster risk management plan and tourism plan be developed and integrated into the management plan;

Response

A good proposal for the mitigation of fire management has been developed and is to be part of the management plan . See annex D.

3.0 OTHER CONSERVATION ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE PARTY

3.1 UP DATE OF PREVIOUS ISSUES.

This section of the report provides an update of issues identified in previous responses to Decision adopted by World Heritage Committee

3.1.1) Progress on the Re-Construction of Muzibu Azaala Mpanga

The reconstruction of Muzibu Azaala Mpanga commenced in December 2013 , following the approved reconstruction strategy. All issues of concern raised on intangible, tangible and technical aspects have been addressed by the construction committee. The walling of the tomb house, the columns, the steel strum, the fire proof paint has been applied to it, and the site is ready for the ceiling phase. Thatching had commenced and about 24 rings had already been installed between March and July 2015 , however they had to be removed because they were not made right due to the fact that the shape was completely different from what had been agreed upon by the national technical committee and the various experts. The curvature and height did not stick to the 1938 ceiling that was 8,7 meters high in the centre but also were not perfectly circular. A new team of craftsmen has been mobilised to restart the works.

3.1.2. Fire fighting system

The fire fighting system is not yet in place as per the world heritage request all works on site were halted until the master plan is ready and the procurement of the fire fighting system is done.

3.1.3.IntangibleHeritge

A new minister who understands clearly the intangible values of the site of the Baganda has already commenced. It is hoped that the intangible values will be enhanced and managed in a better way. This will enhance the state of intangible values at Kasubi, to augment a key outstanding universal values (OUV) which brought the site on the World Heritage List.

3.1.4. Site Managemet

A new Minister for Culture, Royal Tombs and Heritage (Denis Walusimbi-Ssegendo) is now in charge of the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga . A board is place and in charge of the visitor management of the site . The new changes are good for the site and have already been embraced ,with a new management plan structure see the attached in annex

3.1.5Fence

The fences remain a good protection for the site. Already its presence has protected the site from being encroached upon by the expansion of the road. The expansion now will be inclined to the opposite side of the masiro where by the residents will be compensated to allow for the expansion.



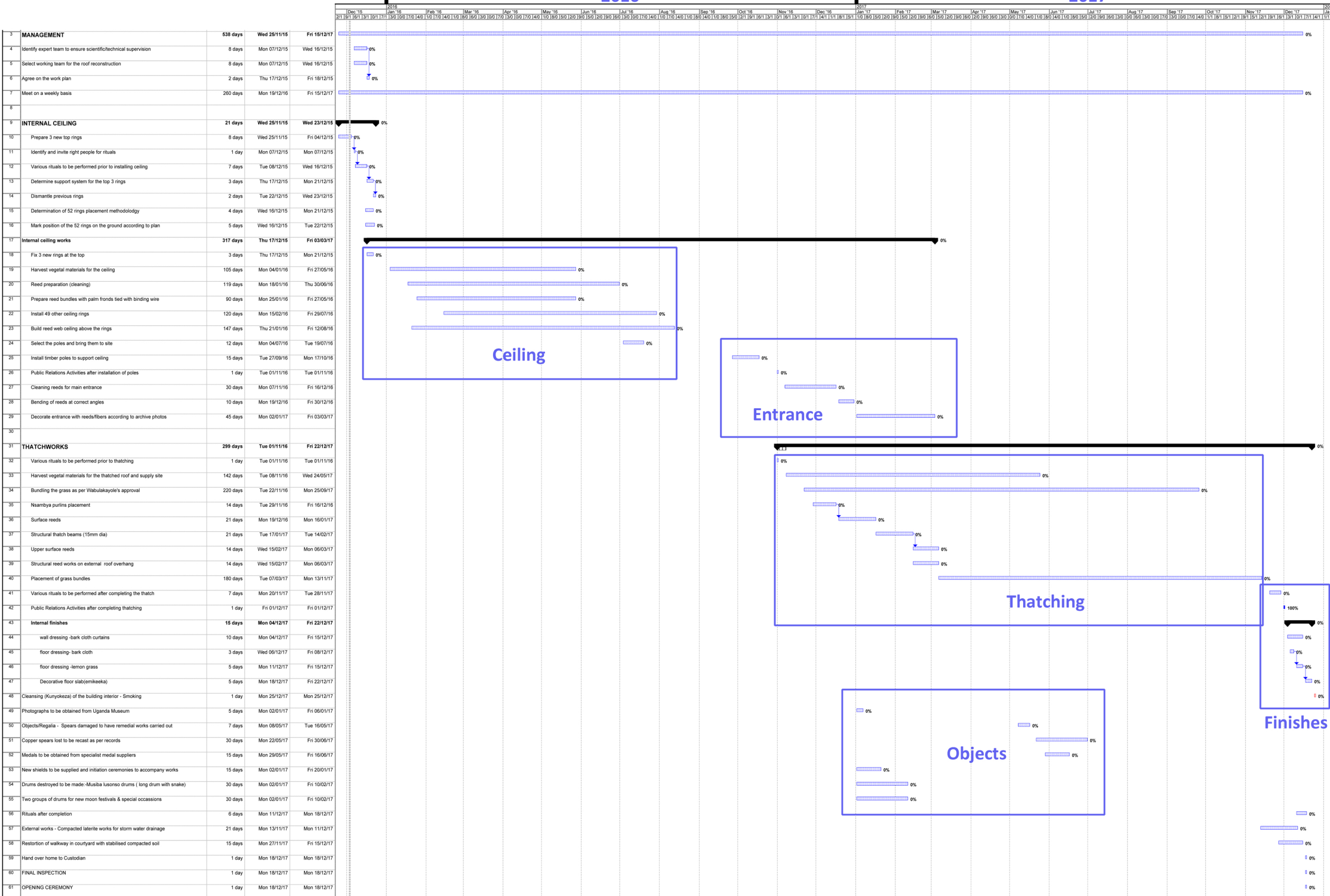
3.1.6Bujjabukua

Bujjabukula is the oldest and most authentic architectural elements of the site, much as it is right now threatened by rot and deformation, plans are already underway to reconstruct it as soon as the pressure on Muzubu Azaala Mpanga is reduced.

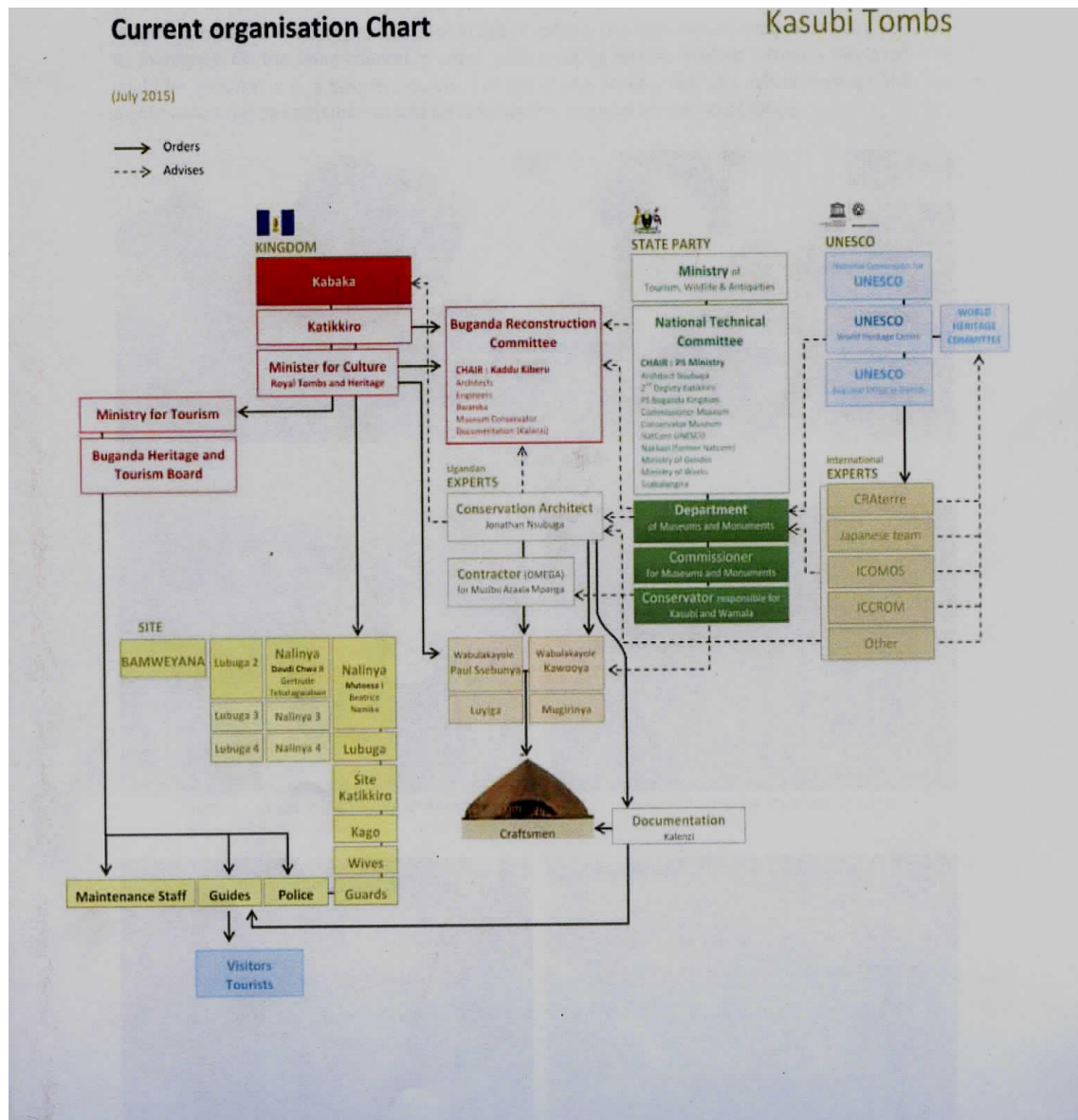


2016

2017



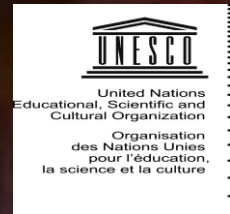
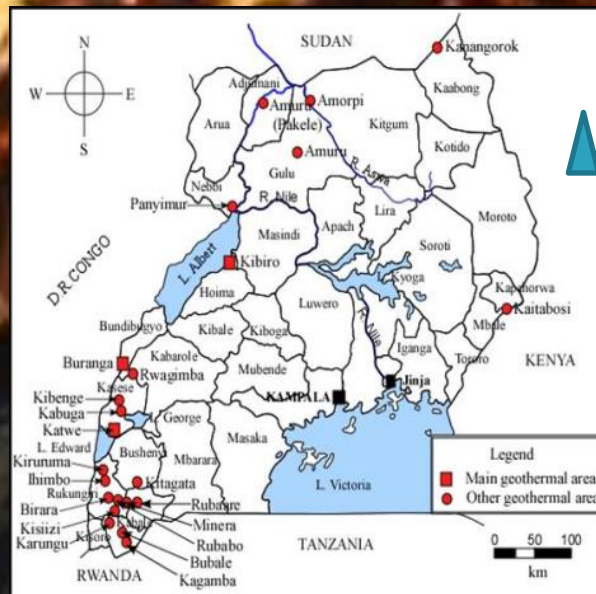
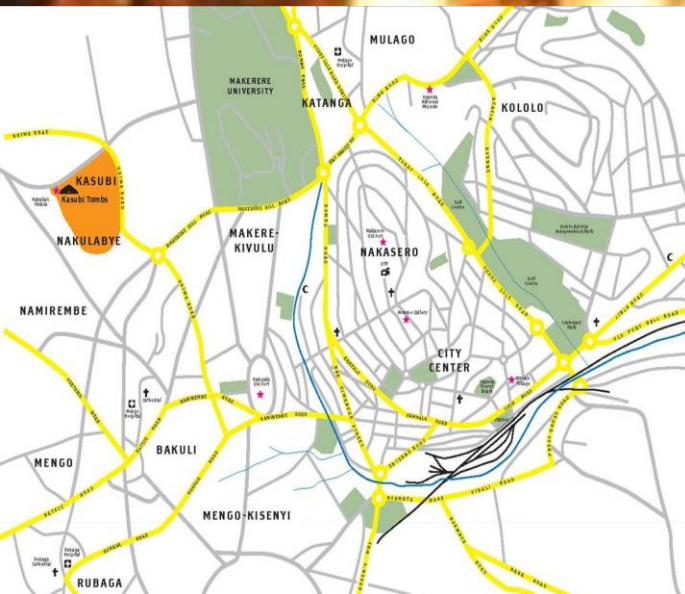
Appendix D



Disaster Risk Management for the Tombs of Buganda Kings a World Heritage Site

Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga

In 1880s councils huts caught fire and on 16 March 2010



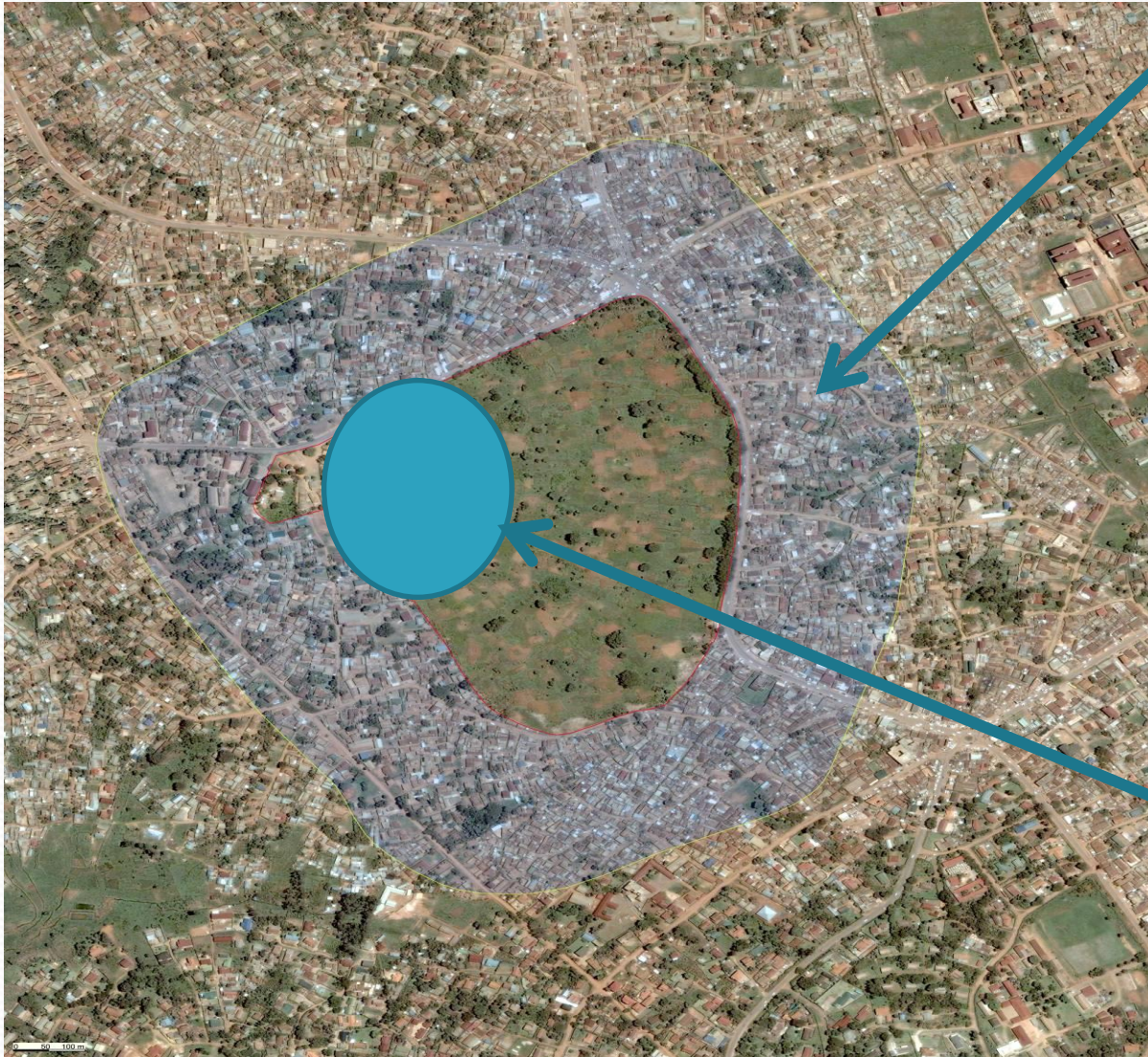
Buganda Kingdom

The Most Possible scenario
For 'FIRE'

Kigongo Remigius
Uganda February 2015

Showing the Aerial view of the site and
development pressure

**BUFFER ZONE
monitoring**



**AREA
VULNERABLE TO
HAZARD OF FIRE
GRASS THATCHED
HOUSES LOCATED**

Preparedness and Preventive Measures for disaster

Source of Water

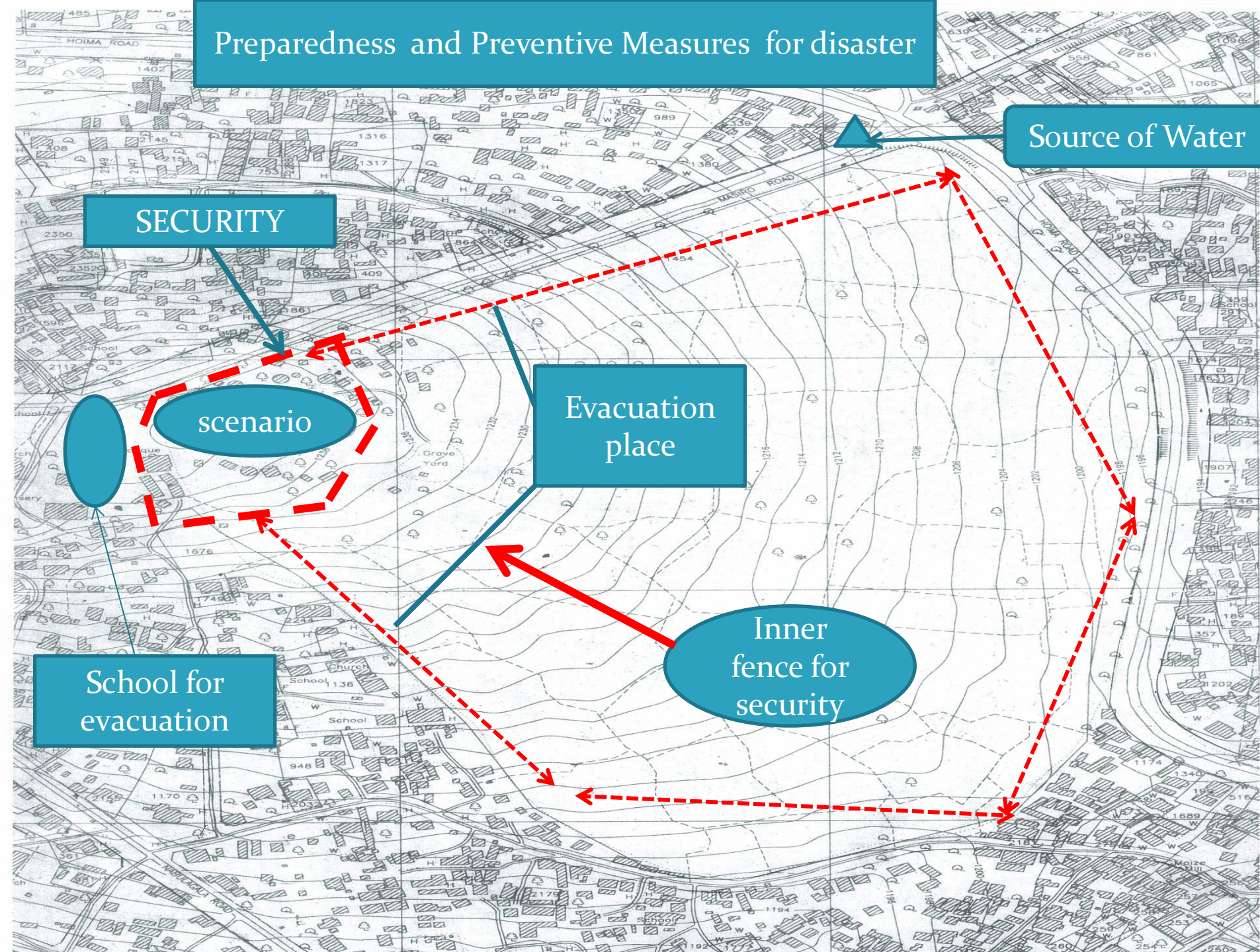
SECURITY

scenario

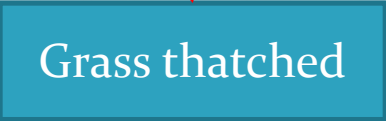
Evacuation
place

Inner
fence for
security

School for
evacuation



Preparedness for the Disaster Risk Management



Security Surveillance



Artefacts from inferno are kept here

FOR DETAILS OF FIRE POINT (FP) SEE DRAWING MEA634-02

- With Normal & TELESCOPIC LENS
- Near point with WIDE LENS
- With Normal LENS

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Project: PROPOSED RE-CONSTRUCTION OF KASUBI TOMBS ON PLOT....., NABULAGALA.

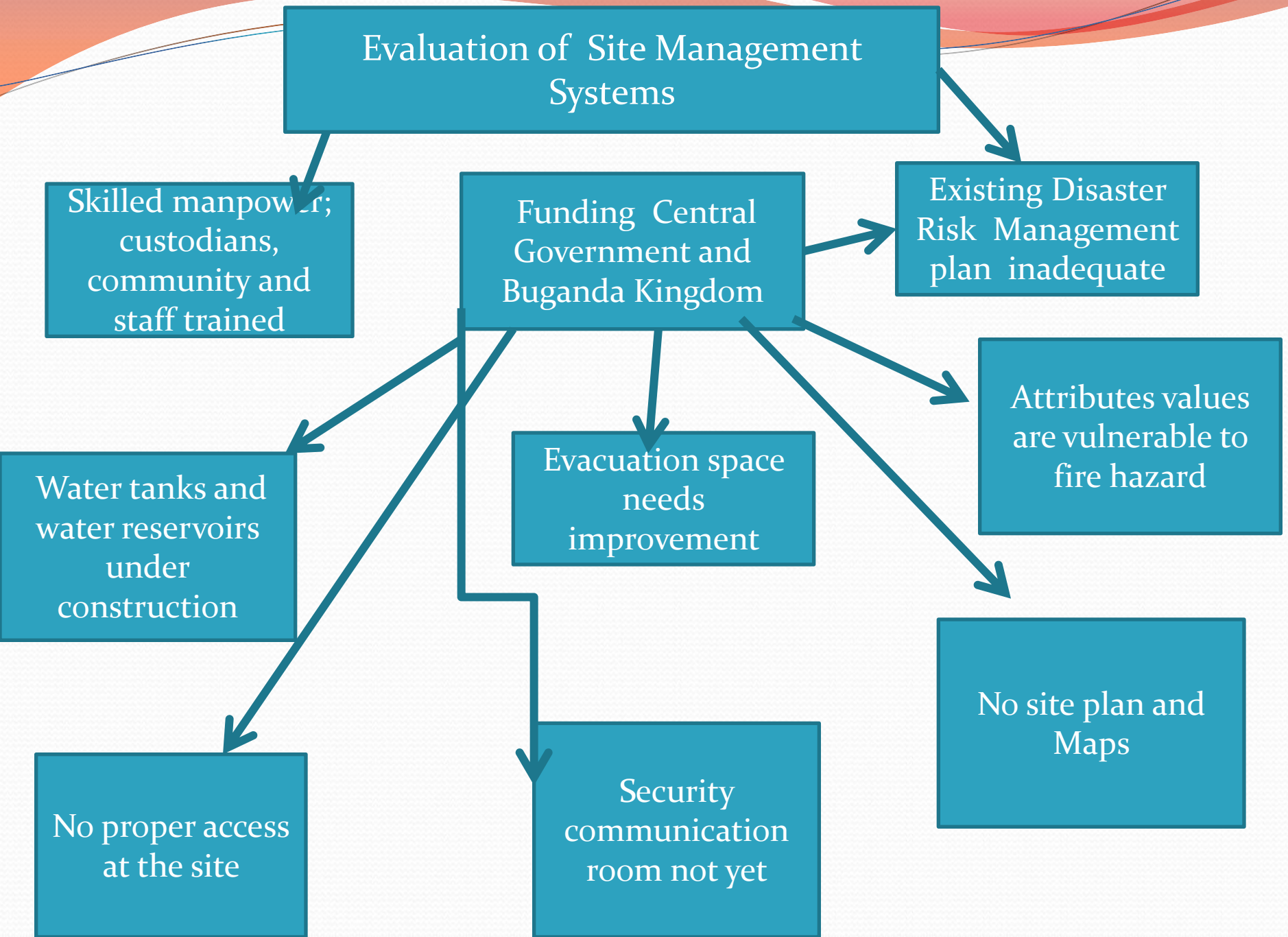
Drawn: SITE PLAN: FIRE FIGHTING DESIGN

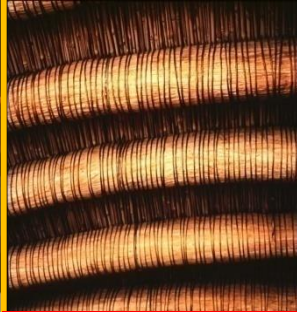
Scale	Date	Drawn
1:500	AUG. 2011	

Project No: MEA634-01 **Revision No:** 2

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Site plan showing areas possible scenario





Fire vs. Values

Tangible and Intangible



EMERGENCY PROTECTION MEASURES

Fire

Possible
cause

Arson

Human
inducement

Assessment
&
Evaluation

Plan

Risk **Prevention** and **Mitigation**

Organization

Buganda Kingdom

People

Site Custodians

Facilities

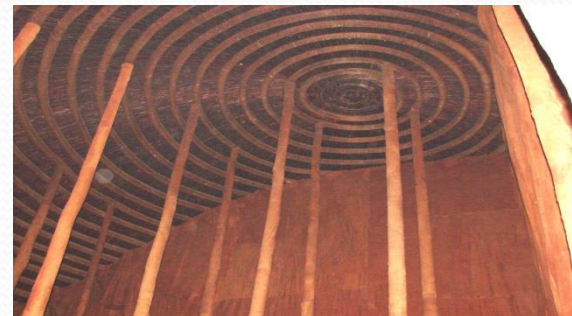
Equipments

Before Fire (Mitigation and preparedness)

Organization	Museums and Monuments and Buganda Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk assessment, prevention measures, Advisory and Supervision, Training Programme ▪ Preservation and Protection of the Site and Periodical Reporting on weekly basis ▪ Maintenance , Procurement , wages. ▪ Publication for promoting the site Conservation
People	Executive officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procurement of equipment's, workers wages, and welfare of custodians and visitor management
	Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervision, Monitor, Report, checklist on Disaster Risk Preparedness and Equipment services and training of community, custodians and staff
	Nnaalinnya Katikkiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To report any risks against tangible and intangible vulnerable to disaster.
	Wives	Maintain the cleanness of the floor mats and security conscious on visitors and knowledge.
Facilities	Equipments Fire Extinguishers, integrated technology for fire equipments , CCTV, communication systems	Emergency preparedness and response

During Fire (Mitigation and preparedness)

Organization	Museums and Monuments and Buganda Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report risk assessment to Disaster Department, Red cross, Directorate fire services of Uganda police ▪ Provide information to media
People	Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate to all responsible persons and response directorate police fire services ▪ Report risk assessments for urgent response ▪ Communication to Media ▪ Evacuation the people ▪ Mobilize the staff ▪ Coordinate with out site disaster department, Red cross tor
	Nnaalinnya Katikiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extinguish fire ▪ Evacuation and rescue artefacts
	Wives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extinguish small fire and make alarm ▪ Evacuate and rescue artefacts to safe zones



After Fire RESPONSE

Workshop for
Sensitization on
Reconstruction
Strategies



assessment

Regular meetings on immediate protection damaged heritage seek international Technical Assistance for Research in the Disaster History , Cultural Heritage values, Weak points , Survey on traditional materials, designs, management conditions. Coordination and harmonises the situation , make agreements, Networking, welcome new ideas and Preparation data



Training of the Heritage Manager

After fire (Rescue and Salvage of Heritage Response)

Organisation	Activities	Procurement	Role
Museums and Monuments	Reports ,Advisory, Budget, Collaborate, documentation, Storage	Equipments	Documentation, exhibition, Restoration and implementation
Buganda Kingdom	Mobilization the public on recovery response	Purchase materials for restoration	Collection of entrance fee and welfare of wives and workers
UNESCO and Partners	Expert Mission for assessment	Equipments	Mobilize Funds for restoration
National Technical Committee	Coordination and implement of all actions	Equipments	Reports, debriefing, Ps and Ministers

Institutions to collaborate



Central government

Buganda

UNESCO
& International in

Private sector

Community

HOW TO USE THE EXPERIENCE

- **On Recovery and Preventive measures of the Cultural Heritage Site**
- **To practice by workshops, Presentations to fellow heritage professionals, Staff, Private Sector and respective institutions, Students and networking**
- **Develop a Research Project Proposal for the Master in Disaster Risk Management**