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## OFFICE OF THE HEAD DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**The Chairperson,**

School of Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee Makerere University  
P.O. Box 7062,  
Kampala, Uganda

**Subject: Letter of Support for Research Project: "Strengthening Knowledge, Evidence Use and Leadership in the Global South on Forced Displacement: With a Focus on East Africa"**

Dear Chairperson,

I am writing to express my strong support for the research project entitled "Strengthening Knowledge, Evidence Use and Leadership in the Global South on Forced Displacement: With a Focus on East Africa," which is being submitted to the School of Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee for review and approval.

This important study is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) through the University of Dar-es-Salaam Research Chair on Forced Displacement and will be conducted in close collaboration with the Department of Development Studies and the Institute of Gender and Development Studies at Makerere University.

I firmly believe that this project is highly relevant and timely, addressing a critical issue of global concern, particularly within the East African context. I offer my full support because the project presents a valuable opportunity to build research capacity within Makerere University, particularly within the Department of Development Studies and the Institute of Gender and Development Studies. The collaborative nature of the project will facilitate knowledge sharing and skills development among researchers and students at Makerere University.



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The project will provide opportunities for mentoring junior scholars and students, enabling them to gain valuable experience in conducting research on forced displacement. This mentorship will contribute to the development of the next generation of researchers in this critical field. The project's focus on raising the voices of displaced people on their livelihoods is crucial. This participatory approach will ensure that the research is grounded in the lived experiences of those most affected by forced displacement. The planned outreach programs will further amplify these voices and contribute to community empowerment.

The project's focus on studying existing social and legal protection efforts, designing empowerment programmes, and conducting policy dialogues is essential for informing evidence-based policy and promoting democratic and inclusive governance. The research outcomes will provide valuable insights for policymakers and practitioners working on issues related to forced displacement. The project's emphasis on sustainable and economic inclusion for displaced persons is vital for promoting long-term solutions and fostering self-reliance. This focus aligns with international efforts to address the root causes of displacement and promote durable solutions.

I am confident that this project will generate valuable knowledge and contribute significantly to our understanding of forced displacement in East Africa. I strongly urge the Ethics Committee to grant its approval.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Robert Senath Esuruku

