

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

**AN EVALUATION OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN
KAMPALA CITY – A CASE OF COMMUTER TAXIS**

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ABSTRACT

This study set out to examine the current public transport system in Kampala City, in the context of its nature and characteristics, the governing regulatory framework(s), benefits and related challenges of the current system. It adopted an exploratory study design.

Kampala City public transport system is characterised by congestion, poor infrastructural planning, low volume passenger carriers, erratic drivers behaviour and un clear regulatory framework.

Respondents were sampled from three gazetted stages in the City, and KCCA. These provided qualitative data that was thematically organised and analysed. Secondary data was obtained for the regulatory frameworks.

Findings revealed that the system is characterised by heavy traffic jam / congestion, bad behavioural conduct and most drivers are of youthful age, with NO public transport policy in place but one is being developed. TAPSCOM at every stage helps to fill the Taxi management gap. It employs drivers and some Taxi owners directly and third parties indirectly, but is also faced with challenges such as behavioural conduct of drivers, police and KCCA law enforcers and poor infrastructural development.

Based on study findings it's recommended that Government / KCCA must come up with a comprehensive sustainable urban public transport policy which addresses environment issues, congestion, safety, affordability, and friendlier governing regulations.