



# Pre-Trial Detention Reform in Uganda's Criminal Justice System: Insights from Stakeholder Perspectives

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## Abstract

Pre-trial detention has been a significant issue in Uganda's criminal justice system, leading to delays and inefficiencies in the legal process. Qualitative data were collected through semi-structured interviews with key informants from various sectors including law enforcement, judicial officers, and community leaders. Thematic analysis was employed to identify common themes and insights. Stakeholders identified a need for more transparent procedures in pre-trial detention allocation, with approximately two-thirds of respondents suggesting improvements in communication between the police and courts to reduce unnecessary holds. The findings underscore the importance of enhanced coordination and clear protocols in managing pre-trial detention to streamline the justice system and improve efficiency. Stakeholders recommend implementing standardised procedures for detaining suspects, improving inter-agency communication, and conducting regular training sessions on best practices.

**Keywords:** *African geography, qualitative research, criminal justice reform, pre-trial detention, stakeholder analysis*

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