

August 2023; Issue 8

HALTING OF LOANS TO UGANDA: DO UGANDANS BENEFIT FROM THE WORLD BANK-FUNDED PROJECTS?



Former World Bank President David Malpass (C) addresses a press conference at World Bank office in Delhi, India.

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Dear reader, welcome to our August 2023 newsletter.

On August 9, 2023, Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni denounced the World Bank's **decision** to halt any new loans to Uganda. The president vowed to find alternative sources of credit and assured Ugandans that his government would even do better without the loans. He noted that most of the World Bank loans and aid packages are either of no value or are even anti-growth to the country.

The president's **statement** followed the World Bank's statement of August 8, 2023, indicating that the bank had halted any new funding to Uganda because of the enactment of the 2023 Anti-Homosexuality law.

However, in its statement, the bank reassured the government of Uganda that ongoing projects amounting to the tune of USD 9.5bn (UGX 35trn) will not be affected by the bank's decision.

Unfortunately, the bank noted that there will be increased scrutiny of how the loans will be used in the implementation of the funded projects. For instance, the bank indicated that third-party monitoring and grievance redress mechanisms in the funded projects will significantly increase to enable the bank to make timely decisions as and when deemed necessary.

It should be noted that since 1961, the World Bank alone has funded Uganda with billions of dollars as loans and grants for purposes of promoting national social and economic development.

Most of the funded projects have been in key sectors such as electricity, roads, education, health, clean water, agriculture, climate resilience and others. Currently, over 30 active World Bank-funded projects are ongoing while 13 projects are being negotiated. The over 30

ongoing projects are estimated at USD 9.5 billion (UGX 35 trillion) while the 13 projects in process are estimated at USD 4.43 billion (UGX16 trillion).

Besides loans, Uganda also receives grants from the World Bank and other development partners. By 21st December 2022, the World Bank alone had given Uganda grants of over USD 204.6 million of which the largest share of up to 85% was for Human Capital Development where education, health, clean water, sanitation and others fall.

It is against the above background that Ugandans need to critically understand the implications of the World Bank's decision and the president's response. As citizens, we need answers to questions such as; What is the relevance of loans to a country like Uganda? Why is the president saying that the World Bank loans are of no value to the country? How can the loans be used to maximize benefits for the citizens and the country?

Furthermore, in his response, the president pointed out one example of a loan of USD 800 million received by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). The ministry borrowed the loan for a period of ten years to modernise the agricultural sector but the country gained nothing from the said loan.

Instead, the president said that much of the USD 800 million was wasted on seminars and others by the government technocrats. In effect, the president informed the country that most of the World Bank loans are always wasted and therefore he cannot be bothered by the bank's decision. However, the president's example above is very strange. How can the government's failure to use the loans effectively be interpreted to mean that the loans are of no value?

Further, in his response, the president revealed

how in 2017 he wrote a letter to the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MOFPED) rejecting some loans and approving others. The loans he approved were meant for electricity, oil, roads, railway infrastructure and others. He rejected other loans as being unclear.

Based on the World Bank's statement and the president's response, both parties know the importance of affordable credit to a country like Uganda. In particular, the president knows that no country has ever developed without access to credit. Yes, today countries such as the USA, China and others are the biggest debtors in the world but they are also the most powerful. Indeed, countries such as South Korea, the Philippines, Malaysia and others have achieved great socio-economic transformation in a short time, thanks to loans from the World Bank and other lenders.

In our **Word from the CEO**, we call upon both the World Bank and the government to resolve the current misunderstanding and ensure that the loans are used for the benefit of Ugandans and the country at large. Both the World Bank and the president must respect each other and ensure transparency and accountability in the selection, negotiation and implementation of the World Bank-funded projects.

In our **pictorial**, we bring you some of the activities we implemented this month. For instance, with our partners, we held a webinar to create awareness of the role of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) in human rights protection, biodiversity conservation and climate action.

We also supported over 20 Tilenga and EACOP oil project-affected communities from both Greater Masaka and Bunyoro regions to engage TotalEnergies to stop violation of their rights including the right to land, fair and

prompt compensation and others.

In addition, our staff travelled to South Africa and participated in campaigns against fossil fuels. Further, with support from partners, we trained the youth on strategies to engage the Chinese government and other stakeholders.

Further, we supported over 500 community members to engage Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) to put a stop to the invasion of elephants endangering the lives of communities living around Murchison Falls National Park (MFNP) and Bugungu Wildlife Reserve. The communities believe that ever since the commencement of oil exploration activities with MFNP, the elephants have left the park and attacked the neighbouring villages who are already suffering the negative impacts of oil.

In our **lobbying** section, we bring you some of the lobby and advocacy materials that we disseminated this month. For instance, with our partners, we supported and worked with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to petition the Auditor General to audit the Bujagali hydropower dam project and tax waivers.

We also engaged the Principal Judge of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) to expedite the hearing of the EACOP case at the EACJ. Further, with our partners, we published IEC materials to mark World Elephants Day and call for the protection of oil-affected communities who live around the Murchison Falls National Park and Bugungu Wildlife Game Reserve.

In **the media** section, we bring you four (4) articles that were written by our staff and partners and published in newspapers.

We hope you will enjoy the newsletter.

Editorial team:

Rachael Amongin

Patrick Edema

Balach Bakundane

Do World Bank loans benefit the citizens?

Dear Reader, in the financial year (FY) 2023/2024, the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) is expected to collect a total of UGX 30 trillion as domestic revenues as part of the national budget of UGX 52 trillion. This leaves over UGX 20 trillion as a deficit and the government will have to fill the gaps in revenues through borrowing and seeking grants from financial institutions and development partners.

Further, in the same financial year, over UGX 17 trillion from the total budget of UGX 52 trillion will be used to meet part of the national debt obligations, currently, Uganda's national debt stands at over USD 23 billion (UGX 86 trillion). In effect, if URA collects UGX 30 trillion in domestic revenue collections and UGX 17 trillion is spent on servicing the national debt, only UGX 13 trillion will remain available as cash for the government to meet the national needs including health, education, clean water, roads, electricity and others.

This clearly shows that Uganda is still a poor country characterised by a small Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a huge national debt, high unemployment, less than 20% access to the grid electricity, poor health and education services and other challenges.

Amidst the above problems, the government is currently pushing to commence oil exploitation where it plans to spend over USD 15 billion in the next five years to develop oil infrastructure including the East African Crude Oil pipeline (EACOP), the Tilenga, the Kingfisher, the oil refinery and other oil projects.

In his August 9, 2023 reaction to the World Bank's **decision** to halt loans to Uganda, the president listed some loans he deemed good and necessary to be acquired by the

government. He also listed other loans which he said he rejected because he deemed them unclear.

The loans listed as acceptable by the president in 2017 included **USD 474 million for electricity projects, USD 303 million for oil roads and USD 327 million for the Kabaale International Airport.**

On the other hand, the president rejected a total of eleven (11) loans worth over US\$914 million. It should be noted that the loans the president rejected are those that have the potential to help the country empower poor households to mitigate the impacts of climate change. They include; **USD 30 million for agriculture, USD 60 million for nutrition and climate change, USD 101 for household incomes, food security and sustainable natural resources and USD 50 million for enhancing value chain for agriculture.**

It is evident that for over the last 62 years, the World Bank has remained one of the key and most reliable partners of our country. They have funded some of the most critical projects including the 180MW Owen Falls dam built in the 1950s, the 200MW Kira dam, the 250MW Bujagali dam and others. They have also funded many electricity transmission, distribution and free connection projects. They continue to fund value addition projects in the agricultural sector, a sector that continues to employ and benefit over 60% of Uganda's over 46 million people.

Further, in September 2020, the World Bank approved USD 300 million to boost service delivery in education, health, water and environment through local governments.

In addition, in 2021, the World Bank board also approved a USD120 million credit to improve reliability and increase access to electricity

supply in the southwest region of Uganda.

According to an [article](#) published by *The Observer* on August 16, 2023, in the last five years alone (FY 2018 to FY 2023), Uganda has received \$3,291.2 million (UGX 12 trillion) in loans, and \$1,089.6 million (UGX 4 trillion) in grants bringing the World Bank's support to a total amount of \$4,380.18 million (UGX 16 trillion) to Uganda.

What needs to be done

The World Bank should appreciate that Uganda is a sovereign state where the government has the mandate to govern the country. On the other hand, the president should be humble enough to recognise the critical importance of loans and grants from the World Bank and other development partners.

Both the World Bank and the president should sit and resolve the concerns. They should both appreciate that in the end, it's the people of Uganda especially the poor who lack services such as access to clean energy, health, education, clean water, roads, employment and other critical services who will suffer.

On one hand, the president will continue to enjoy his good at the expense of Ugandan taxpayers while the bank will also not gain from the suffering of the people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the above, the following recommendations are proposed:

i) The World Bank should stop making unilateral decisions that affect innocent people from its member countries.

ii) The president should provide leadership to ensure that the acquired loans and grants are used well for the benefit of the citizens. The World Bank cannot be blamed for the government's mismanagement of loans such

as the USD 800 million quoted by the president. The government technocrats who misuse public resources should be prosecuted and punished.

iii) If the World Bank has no trust in the government, they should work with the private sector to ensure that funds for Uganda continue to help Ugandans access clean energy, especially off-grid solar energy services.

iv) The World Bank and other development partners should stop funding big dams because it's clear that the majority of Ugandans cannot benefit from those projects due to high electricity tariffs. Projects such as Bujagali and others funded by the Chinese such as Karuma and Isimba are not benefiting the citizens.

v) The World Bank and other development partners should stop funding oil and other related activities such as oil roads, and others to save our country from the perils of fuels.

vi) The government of Uganda should reform the entire governance structure to eliminate waste in the form of unnecessary districts, members of parliament, ministers and others. The ineffective government structure affects all public services including loans and grants.

vii) The loans meant for agriculture, climate, food security, household income and others rejected by the president are not bad loans and the president should reconsider his decision. The important thing is to ensure the effective utilisation of those funds.

viii) The World Bank and other development partners should conduct a forensic audit of all loans and grants to Uganda and use the findings to reform the system to address the concerns of the president and the entire lending system.

By CEO and Partners

Pictorial of our activities

AFIEGO SUPPORTS AN EXCHANGE LEARNING EXPERIENCE BETWEEN THE KYAKABOGA WOMEN BEE KEEPERS AND BUDONGO FOREST HOST COMMUNITIES



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On August 5, 2023, AFIEGO supported an exchange learning experience for Kyakaboga women bee keepers and Budongo forest host communities. The meeting took place in Masindi district.

During the exchange learning visit, the women groups acquired knowledge and skills on how to improve their bee keeping projects as a means to restore their livelihoods while sustainably conserving the forested land scopes.

AFIEGO PARTICIPATES IN THE EACOP COURT CASE PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH COMING HEARING AT THE EACJ



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On August 24, AFIEGO participated in the EACOP case preparation on the debatable to test the strength of our EACOP case against the governments of Uganda and Tanzania and the Secretary General for the East African Community (EAC).

AFIEGO CREATES PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE ROLE OF EACJ IN HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION, BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND CLIMATE ACTION



On August 17, 2023, AFIEGO and partners organised a webinar to create awareness on the roles of EACJ in human rights protection, biodiversity conservation and climate action.

The webinar brought together civil society organisations, community members, legal practitioners, women and youth among other stakeholders from East Africa and across the world.

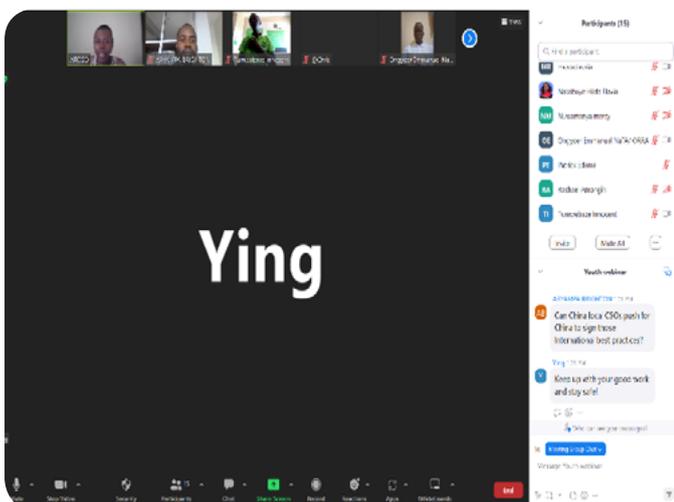
AFIEGO JOINS THE WORLD IN PROTESTING AGAINST CHINESE INVESTMENTS IN FOSSIL PROJECTS DURING THE BRICS SUMMIT IN SOUTH AFRICA



On August 23 AFIEGO and partners participated in the peaceful protest in South Africa during the BRICS summit against the expansion of fossil projects in Africa.

During the protest, African CSOs called on China to withdraw any and all support for fossil fuel projects and emphasized on the need for China and other global powers to heavily invest in renewable energy alternatives.

AFIEGO AND PARTNERS EQUIP THE YOUTH WITH SKILLS TO ENGAGE IN ADVOCACY TARGETING CHINESE POLICYMAKERS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS



On August 27, 2023, AFIEGO and partners trained youth on how to successfully engage Chinese government officials and financial institutions.

The training equipped the youth groups with knowledge and skills on how to use the available resources and strategies such as the media, public action and international mechanisms to engage the Chinese government to stop financing fossil fuel projects in Uganda.

AFIEGO JOINS OTHER AFRICAN CSOs TO ADVOCATE FOR CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY



On August 22, 2023, AFIEGO and partners engaged Johannesburg university students on the need to advocate for a clean energy transition in the region.

During the meeting, AFIEGO's community mobiliser shared experience on how the EACOP activities continue to undermine human and environmental rights in Uganda.

He called on the students to advocate and lobby for a just energy transition so as to protect the environment and community livelihoods.

Lobbying

This month, petitioned the Auditor General to audit Bujagali hydropower dam project and tax waivers. Further, we also wrote to the Principal Judge of the East African Court of Justice, First Instance Division to expedite the hearing of the EACOP case in the EACJ.

In addition, we supported EACOP affected communities from both Greater Masaka and Bunyoro regions to engage TotalEnergies over their compensation and other challenges.



THE FAMILY OF JOHN TUNDULU OF
KIRAMA VILLAGE, KIGWERA SUB-COUNTY, BULIISA DISTRICT
TELEPHONE CONTACT: 0782162736

August 10, 2023

Mr. Philippe Groueix,
The General Manager,
Total Energies E&P (U),
Kampala Uganda.

Dear Sir,

RE: COMPLAINT OVER HOUSE CRACKING DUE TO TILENGA OIL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Warm greetings.

First and foremost, allow me to appreciate you and your teams' efforts towards ensuring the grievances of the Tilenga Project Affected Persons (PAPs) are addressed within the shortest time possible.

It is on that note that I am writing on behalf of my family to complain about the continuous cracking of my family house due to the ongoing Tilenga oil project activities.

I am Mr. John Tundulu a 64-year-old widower, living in Kirama village, Kigwera sub-county in Buliisa district. Our family house which accommodates 29 members including 14 children, 15 grandchildren and myself is developing cracks due to the ongoing Tilenga oil project activities that are taking place at Ngiri (NG3) just 150m from my family house.

This unfortunate incident is devastating and adds to my burden of taking care of an extended family of 30 members.

It is worth noting that as the head of my family, I informed the Community Liason Officer (CLO) of Total Energies E&P in **January 2023** and she promised to send some officials from her office to assess the magnitude of the problem. Unfortunately, no one has reached out to my family up to date.

BACKGROUND

In 2017, on behalf of the Government of Uganda (GoU), TotalEnergies E&P the operator of the Tilenga oil project compulsorily acquired 786 acres of our land located at Kasinyi village, Nile parish, Ngwedo sub-county, Buliisa district for the Tilenga oil project's industrial area.

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OFF 2867747



August 10, 2023

The Principal Judge,
East African Court of Justice, First Instance Division
Arusha, Tanzania

Dear Principal Judge,

RE: PETITION TO EXPEDITE THE HEARING OF THE REFERENCE NO 39 OF 2020

The above subject matters

On behalf of the undersigned civil society organizations (CSOs) including the Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) and my behalf, allow me to thank you for the great work of providing leadership to the East African Court of Justice (EACJ)-First Instance Division. As provided for under Article 24(8) of the East African Community Treaty, we thank you for spearheading and supervising the operations of the court.

AFIEGO is a Ugandan incorporated company limited by guarantee for non-profit whose main objective is to promote good energy governance based on access rights such as the right of access to information, public participation and access to justice for all in Uganda and the East African Region. All the undersigned CSOs are East African registered groups working to promote human and environmental rights for the common good of East Africans. They support poor and vulnerable communities to engage in cross boarder- environmental, social and economic decision-making processes as part of efforts to make the East African countries and the East African region as a better place for all. They work to better the lives of the East Africans.

The main objective of this petition is to appeal to your good office to ensure that the EACOP oil project affected people get justice without any further delay in the case below.

Reference No 39 of 2020

It is against the above background of promoting 'access rights' for the socio-economic transformation of East Africa that AFIEGO together with other three CSOs from Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya jointly filed Reference No 39 at the EACJ-First Instance Division to stop the environmental, social and economic dangers of the proposed 1,443km heated East African Crude Pipeline (EACOP) oil project.

August 16, 2023

The Auditor General,
Kampala-Uganda



Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: PETITION TO AUDIT BUJAGALI HYDROPOWER DAM PROJECT AND TAX WAIVERS

The above matter refers

On behalf of the Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO), a Ugandan incorporated organization dedicated to influencing energy policies to benefit the poor and vulnerable communities and, support socio-economic transformation, on behalf of other undersigned signatories and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to thank you and your office for the continued efforts to promote transparency and accountability in the country.

The thirteen (13) undersigned civil society organizations also work to promote good energy governance based on the access rights including access to information, public participation and access to justice for redress for the common good.

First, we appreciate the regular audit reports on relevant sectors of the economy including electricity that your office has continued to compile and submit to parliament to support and facilitate the oversight role of the Parliament. For instance, the Auditor General 2017 value for money audit report on the oil refinery land acquisition project in Hoima, Jinja-Kenya and Mbarara-Rwanda power transmission power lines, the Karuma-Kawanda electricity transmission line and others which have helped to provide relevant information to the public.

Despite, the challenges of poor implementation of Auditor General's reports which has facilitated worsening corruption cases in the country, the reports remain critical in promoting the common good as they provide relevant and timely information to Parliament and citizens to promote transparency and accountability, promote citizens participation and help in pressuring those who abuse public resources.

It is notable that president Museveni returned the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2023 and asked parliament to insert a clause to grant the Bujagali Energy Limited (BEL) that owns and operates the Bujagali hydropower project another one-year tax waiver. In returning the tax bill, the President claimed that the tax exemption will help the government to reduce the cost of electricity for the benefit of the citizens and promote industrialization. However, we note with concern that the President's claim may not be untrue because since 2012 the Bujagali dam project investors

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This month, AFIEGO staff, research associates and youth champions wrote over 15 newspaper articles that were published in the leading newspapers. Some of the published articles are captured below.

THERE IS A NEED TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES

EDITOR: Goal seven of the UN General Assembly on new Sustainable Development Goals requires that countries ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030. The goal comes at a time when Uganda, like the rest of the developing world, is experiencing rapid urbanisation and a radical shift from wood fuels to charcoal consumption.

Data from the energy ministry indicates that urban centres consume about 1.8 million tonnes of charcoal annually. This and the exclusivity of wood fuel use in rural areas, among other reasons, makes Uganda lose more than 90,000ha of trees annually, with only 7,000ha replenished. The report indicates that biomass energy demand may hit 135 tonnes up from the current 44 million by 2040. The country will then run out of energy sources in the next few years.

On August 17, there were media

YOUR MAIL
HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?
email us at letters@newvision.co.ug
or SMS: Text Letters to 8338

reports that people have been complaining of the charcoal crisis and prices being high ever since President Yoweri Museveni issued an executive order banning all charcoal burning and trade in northern and northeast Uganda. This has been a big challenge affecting mostly the poor and vulnerable people who mostly use charcoal to cook.

Tony Musisi, a charcoal dealer in Sentema-Mengo in Kampala, told journalists that since the ban, charcoal prices have leaped from sh55,000 to sh80,000 half a bag.

Godfrey Ndawula, the commissioner of renewable energy in the energy ministry, said the tree resource stock stands at 286 million tonnes, which

means that the current consumption is likely to grow more because of population pressure. Apart from the biomass sector feeding energy needs, an estimated 200,000 people derive income from it directly as charcoal burners, says Ndawula.

This means that if the Government does not provide alternatives like renewable energy to replace charcoal burning, people are going to suffer as they cannot afford the high tariffs imposed on electricity to cook and charcoal burners are likely to become jobless.

The Government should encourage the use of renewable energy sources such as clean cook stoves, bio gas, or solar energy that are designed to be more efficient, cheaper and produce fewer emissions compared to traditional cooking methods as substitutes for charcoal.

This can be done through awareness campaigns, subsidies, or incentives for adopting these alternatives. Implementing and enforcing

regulations on charcoal production, distribution and usage can help control the charcoal burning.

This may involve setting limits on charcoal production, ensuring sustainable harvesting practices and monitoring the supply chain.

The Government should raise awareness about the environmental and health impacts of charcoal burning to encourage behaviour change towards sustainable practices.

It should also engage with relevant stakeholders, such as local communities, non-governmental and international organisations to foster collaboration in making awareness of renewable energy by sharing knowledge, resources and expertise to address the charcoal burning issue.

A combination of these options, tailored to the specific needs of the population, can help reduce reliance on charcoal burning in Uganda.

Olive Atuhaire,
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Protect fragile ecosystem areas to avert animal invasions

Ever since the initiation of oil exploitation activities commenced in the districts of Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa, the cases of human-wildlife conflicts have increased. In Buliisa District, the residents staying around Murchison Falls National Park have been grappling with the issue of elephants invading their homes and gardens.

This could be due to the on-going oil activities that are being carried out within and around the Murchison Falls National Park. The vibration and the loud noise caused by heavy vehicles have triggered a lot of distress to wild animals hence displacing them from their habitats.

The displacement of elephants from their habitats have forced them to go to people's gardens and destroy crops. The recurring invasions have left the residents with no other option but to harvest premature crops to avoid incurring losses hence posing a threat to food insecurity in communities.

Besides, people's lives have also been lost as Kazi Njema reports that since February 2022, three people have been killed by elephants in Buliisa Sub-county. The cases involve a 15-year-old boy who was killed by an elephant on his way home from school, a 67-year-old man who was killed by an elephant while weeding his garden and a 42-year-old woman.

Yesterday we celebrated World Elephant Day and it is my humble request to Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), relevant stakeholders, conservationists and experts to devise a long lasting solution to the invasion of elephants and other wildlife. This will enable the protection of wildlife and people.

Secondly, I appeal to UWA to provide timely and fair compensation to families/individuals whose crops have been destroyed and to families which have lost their beloved ones to elephant attacks.

Lastly, the government and oil companies should also stop the oil activities within or around the Murchison Falls National Park because it is a fragile ecosystem that must be protected. The Murchison Falls National Park is a home to wildlife such as lions, elephants, buffaloes and about 500 other animal species. The wildlife animals attract tourists, who bring in foreign exchange hence boosting the country's tourism sector as well as development.

Hildah Nsimiire
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LETTERS

Support women in oil host communities



On August 2, 2023, a local television reported that the leaders in the districts of Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa revealed that the oil activities, especially East African Crude Oil Pipeline project, have negatively affected the locals, most especially women who are subjected to gender-based violence.

The leaders further noted that the project has brought about mixed fortunes whereby some people's lives have been transformed by the received compensation and others are still waiting to be compensated.

Oil activities in Kikuube, Buliisa and Hoima have caused environmental consequences such as pollution and habitat destruction hence affecting women. Women who often rely on natural resources for their livelihoods have faced challenges in accessing clean water, food security, and health risks due to environmental degradation.

The influx of workers associated with oil and gas projects has led to changes in social dynamics within communities. This has increased gender-based violence and changes in traditional gender roles and power dynamics.

According to the Global Rights Alert 2021 report, the Uganda's oil and gas sector is predominantly dominated by men and benefits tend to accrue to them. The National Local Content Policy for the petroleum sub-sector in Uganda (2018) indicates that the participation of Ugandan women in the oil and gas industry though important and necessary for equitable socio-economic development is still low due to highly specialised skills and technology required by the industry. It also indicates that women entrepreneurship is also constrained by socio-cultural, family and economic barriers impeding the growth of their enterprises including those in the oil and gas industry.

The report further shows that men are more engaged in consultations compared to women. As of December 2020, oil companies UNOOC and TEPU employed a total of 91 female staff while the male staff were 136, meaning that there is no gender equality when it comes to employments in oil projects. In many projects of oil host communities, women have been excluded from landownership and formal recog-

Upcoming events

September 4, 2023; Nairobi: Engage IUCN on Ugandan, Congolese and Tanzanian CSOs' concerns on oil exploitation in protected areas in the Albertine Graben

September 11, 2023; Bunyoro and Greater Masaka: Disseminate IEC materials to sensitise communities on the importance of litigation in promoting biodiversity conservation and climate action

September 12-15, 2023; Bunyoro and Greater Masaka: Organise validation meetings on research assessing the socio-economic impact of the EACOP project on the affected people

September 19, 2023; Kampala and Kikuube: Engagement meeting with women and youth champion groups on the importance of clean energy in addressing the climate change crisis.

September 20-23, 2023; Hoima: Sensitisation meetings with the forest host communities on gender mainstreaming in conservation efforts

September 25, 2023; Regional: Meeting to discuss the negative impacts of the EACOP project on community livelihoods and environment

September 27, 2023; Hoima and Kikuube: Engage the Ministry of Lands on the need to make the Bugoma Forest boundary opening report public

September 28, 2023; Hoima and Buliisa: Training and radio talk show to enhance women and youth participation in beekeeping and fruit tree planting in the Albertine Graben

September 30, 2023; Bunyoro: Empowerment meetings on women and youth's roles in monitoring the compliance of ESIA reports for oil and gas projects

About Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO)

AFIEGO is a non-profit company limited by guarantee that was incorporated under Uganda's Companies Act. AFIEGO undertakes public policy research and advocacy to influence energy policies to benefit the poor and vulnerable. Based in Kampala-Uganda, the non-profit company was born out of the need to contribute to efforts to turn Africa's clean energy potential into reality and to ensure that the common man and woman benefits from this energy boom. Through lobbying, research and community education, AFIEGO works with communities and leaders to ensure that clean energy resources are utilised in a way that promotes equitable development, environmental conservation and respect for human rights.

Our Vision

A society that equitably uses clean energy resources for socio-economic development

Our Mission

To promote energy policies that benefit poor and vulnerable communities