

**March 2026; Issue 3**

**BUILDING WOMEN UP: MALE CHAMPIONS SUPPORTING WOMEN'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS IN OIL-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES**



Men, women, elderly persons and youth from Tilenga project affected communities after a community sensitization meeting in Kasinyi village in Buliisa district in March 2026.

**In this newsletter:**

- How couples are standing together to defend their rights against oil injustices
- Pictorial of our activities
- Lobbying
- In the media
- Upcoming events

Dear reader, welcome to AFIEGO's March 2026 newsletter.

Across Uganda's oil-affected communities, families are navigating complex social, economic, and environmental changes brought about by large-scale extractive projects. Behind statistics on displacement and livelihood loss are real households making difficult decisions to protect their dignity, land rights, and future opportunities.

Between March 23 - 27, 2026, AFIEGO held engagement meetings with project-affected persons from the Tilenga and EACOP oil projects in the Bunyoro and Greater Masaka sub-regions.

Women, men, youth, and elderly individuals participated in these dialogues that focused on training and awareness about Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) compliance requirements during the project's construction and operational phases.

The meetings also included training for oil-affected persons on community organizing processes and facilitated Focus Group Discussions to document the social and biodiversity costs of the EACOP and other related oil projects.

Furthermore, communities continue to report persistent challenges, including inadequate sensitisation by oil companies and subcontractors, unfair and delayed compensation, prolonged court processes, destruction of crops, degradation of

wetlands, soil erosion, and increased human-wildlife conflicts. Increased traffic on narrow community roads has exposed residents to dust pollution, noise, vibrations, and safety risks. Land encroachment and intimidation of affected persons further undermine community resilience, increasing land and livelihood loss, poverty, loss of dignity, and frustration.

While these impacts affect entire households, women experience disproportionate burdens. Women face heightened food insecurity, increased care responsibilities, reduced livelihood opportunities, exposure to domestic tensions, health risks associated with pollution, and limited access to decision-making spaces.

Structural and gender inequalities continue to limit women's participation in advocacy processes, although they bear many of the project's social costs. As a result, there is institutionalised invisibility, economic disempowerment, increased health and safety risks, and reduced women's participation.

AFIEGO recognises the importance of women's voices in defending community rights and their role in driving better environmental outcomes and community resilience.

We are, therefore, creating and expanding male championship by encouraging men to actively support their wives, ensuring that women develop confidence and feel empowered to participate in advocacy efforts.

These efforts have resulted in women's active participation in advocacy and leadership roles in community initiatives, forming groups where they come together to raise concerns, share experiences, and demand justice for themselves, their families, and their communities.

For instance, women of Bunyoro are hosting a clean energy demonstration centre in Buliisa district, creating a platform for knowledge sharing on sustainable energy alternatives.

Women are also increasingly participating in radio talk shows and community dialogues, amplifying community concerns and contributing to public discourse on energy justice.

This approach has a strong impact because, as men become active supporters, women gain the confidence to speak publicly and advocate for their rights.

This is more than community sensitisation; it represents a shift that supports justice and equality in environmental and human rights protection.

As these efforts grow, they remind us that significant change is rarely achieved by individuals alone.

It is achieved when communities stand together, families support one another, and people unite to

defend their rights and the environment on which their livelihoods depend.

In our **Word from CEO**, we share stories from women across communities affected by the EACOP, Tilenga, and other oil projects.

Through our interviews, we explored how oil-affected communities have experienced challenges such as land loss, reduced livelihoods, displacement, and social pressures, and how men support women to engage in advocacy.

**In this newsletter, we also bring you our pictorial** section, through which we share highlights of the activities that AFIEGO and our partners implemented in March 2026.

Furthermore, we bring you our **lobbying** section through which we share some of the lobby and advocacy products that we produced and disseminated this month (March 2026).

Finally, in **in the media** section, we bring you some of the newspaper articles written by our staff and partners that were published in the leading newspapers in March 2026.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter.

### **Editorial team:**

**Vivian Ainembabazi**

**Jane Apio**

**Mercy Nuwamanya**

## STORIES OF STRENGTH: HOW COUPLES ARE STANDING TOGETHER TO DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS AGAINST OIL INJUSTICES

In several oil-affected communities in Bunyoro and Greater Masaka sub-regions, men have begun to play a critical role by openly involving their wives in advocacy, speaking out during community engagements, and encouraging other men. They are challenging harmful stereotypes that often discourage women from participating in public decision-making.

They understand that women's voices matter because they suffer the consequences of oil projects the most; their perspectives are essential for fair, inclusive, and effective advocacy.

AFIEGO recognises that the best way to understand the real impacts of oil projects is by listening to those directly affected. In this section, we share stories of couples from communities affected by the EACOP, Tilenga, and other projects.

We interviewed some of these couples, and we explored how their experience with challenges such as land loss, reduced livelihoods, displacement, and social pressures, and how men work together with their wives to engage in advocacy.

We focused on how women are gaining confidence to speak out, how families work together to navigate challenges, and the significance of men's support for women in defending community

rights.

As you read these stories, you will hear directly from families that have faced the impacts of oil projects in their communities. They highlight the courage, resilience, and teamwork of families standing up for justice.

They show that protecting land, livelihoods, and the environment is a shared responsibility that strengthens households, inspires communities, and ensures women's voices are heard where they matter most.

### **Community voices** **Kaliisa Gilbert Munange and Apio Juliet**



Losing our land did not just affect our livelihood; it changed how we see our future as a family. We are Kaliisa Gilbert Munange and Apio Juliet from Kasinyi village in Buliisa district, and we depend on farming, growing crops, and rearing animals to feed and educate our eleven children.

For years, our land gave us stability and dignity.

We first heard about the Tilenga project in 2017, and that time, we were hopeful. We believed that it would bring positive changes, including jobs for our children and better opportunities for our community.

Instead, the project has negatively affected our family. Our land, which was our main source of food and income, was taken without proper compensation. When we refused the inadequate offer, we were taken to court. As the former LC1 Chairman of our area, Gilbert, was even imprisoned in 2014 for refusing to cooperate with those who wanted to forcefully take our land.

Losing this land reduced our income and made it harder to educate our children. Because of these challenges, we made a decision to work together as a couple. We realized that protecting our family and community rights requires unity.

Gilbert encourages me to attend community meetings organized by organisations such as AFIEGO, which has helped me share the issues affecting us and gain confidence in speaking out. Working together has strengthened our family and inspired other couples in our community. We have faced challenges, including unfair compensation and intimidation,

but standing together makes us stronger. We believe that it is important for both women and men to defend land rights, livelihoods, and the environment. With continued support and sensitisation from organizations like AFIEGO, we have learned to assert our rights, work together, and encourage others to do the same. We urge other couples in oil-affected communities to stand together, know their rights, and support one another. Only through unity can families protect their land, livelihoods, and the future of their children.

**Kayabula Wilfred and Nakabazzi Gertrude**



The moment we realised our land would be affected, everything changed for our family. We are Kayabula Wilfred and Gertrude Nakabazzi, a married couple living in Nkoni village, Bigada parish, Kakuuto subcounty, Kyotera district, where we have raised seven children; some are married, others are still in school, and we also care for our grandchildren. In

our community, most of us depend on farming, while some people run small businesses.

We first heard about the EACOP project in August 2020, when people came to take measurements of the land in our village. When we asked what was happening, we were told that the pipeline would pass through our village.

At that time, we did not fully understand how negatively this would affect our family. Our land was taken, and we were offered compensation, which we felt was unfair, so we refused it. As a result, we were taken to court.

The reduction in the size of our land has greatly affected our livelihood, as this is where we used to grow crops for sale. Up to now, the process of getting divided land titles is still pending, and the court process has been stressful and expensive.

Because of these challenges, we decided to work together as a couple to defend our rights. This has strengthened our trust, improved transparency in financial matters, and helped us support each other in advocacy.

AFIEGO's continued sensitisation encourages us to understand our rights and shows us how to continue even if one of us is absent or unable to act. By supporting each other, we stay informed about every step of the process. Together, we have inspired other couples to attend meetings, participate in advocacy, and support

each other.

Tundulu John and Manuela Kayeny



We once believed that oil development would improve our lives. Instead, it left us struggling to rebuild. We are Tundulu John and Manuela Kayeny from Kirama village in Buliisa district. We depend on farming for our livelihood.

We grow both food and cash crops and also rear animals. We first heard about the Tilenga project in 2008 when officials came to assess our land. At the time, we had high hopes. We expected jobs, business opportunities, and a better life. However, it didn't take long for our expectations to change.

Our land was taken without proper consultation or sensitisation. We had 12 acres of land with two houses, food crops, and cash crops. We were offered unfair compensation, which we refused. Since 2017, up to now, we have not received anything. Our houses were demolished, and our family was left struggling.

Today, we depend on family members

for shelter, and we have to look for land to cultivate. Kind-hearted people have supported the education of our children. Life has become extremely challenging. Through engagement with AFIEGO, we made a decision to work together.

As a husband, I encourage Manuela to attend meetings, join groups, and speak out. This support has helped her better understand her rights and given her the confidence to advocate for our family and community. Working together strengthened us.

We have seen other men begin to support their wives, and more women are joining groups to speak up. Although we faced intimidation, court cases, and resistance from some leaders, we remained firm. Over time, even those who once opposed us are beginning to listen. We believe that both women and men must work together to defend land, livelihoods, and the environment. Women should not be overlooked as they have equal rights and must be empowered to speak out.

### **Bwowe Ismail and Lunkuse Lahairu**



The day our property was demolished is something we will never forget. We are Bwowe Ismail and Lunkuse Lahairu, living in Bethlehem village, Nabigasa, Kyotera district, with our seven children.

We first heard about the EACOP project in 2018. At the time, we were not at home when officials came to our village, but later our local chairman informed us that they had been moving around valuing people's property.

When we learned about the project, we were hopeful that it would bring development and improve our lives. Instead, things turned out differently.

Our land was reduced, yet it was our main source of food and income. This has greatly affected our family and our livelihood.

We can no longer support our children as we used to. We had to take them to lower-cost schools, and many times, they are sent home because we cannot afford school fees.

When we refused to accept the inadequate compensation, we were taken to court. Up to now, our case is still ongoing, and we have never received any compensation.

The most painful moment for us was when our property was demolished last year under court orders. We were devastated. We were not even allowed to first collect our food or firewood from our garden, and everything we had worked for was destroyed.

Because of these challenges, we

decided to stand together as a couple. We realised that this problem was affecting both of us, not just the husband alone. As a husband, I encouraged Luhairu to attend meetings organised by AFIEGO, and this support helped build her confidence to speak out. Today, she is strong, and she also encourages me because empowerment has strengthened us both. Working together has transformed our relationship.

We now share information openly and make decisions as a team. Our unity has also inspired other couples in our community. Some come to us for advice, and many now see the importance of working together.

### **Ochokdong Julius and Gipatho Grace**



Resettlement separated us from our land, our relatives, and the life we once knew. We are Ochokdong Julius and Gipatho Grace from Kyakaboga resettlement village in Hoima. We have eight children.

Five of our children are in school, while three are yet to begin. In our community, most of us depend on farming for survival. We grow crops for both food and income, and also rear animals. We first

heard about the oil refinery project around 2009 through radio announcements. Later, officials came to our community and held meetings with local leaders. At that time, we were told that we would become rich. We believed our lives would improve, that we would leave farming, buy more land, and start businesses. But that is not what happened.

We were resettled from our ancestral land, which we shared with relatives. We had to leave them behind when they chose to take cash compensation.

The land we were given is not fertile, and during relocation, we lost some of our animals. Today, our livelihood has been reduced, and we are struggling to sustain our family.

Our children's education was also delayed by seven years. Because of these challenges, we chose to work together. Julius' support has given me the confidence to speak out in community meetings and advocate for our rights.

Today, we are strong, and we continue to raise our voices for our family and community. Working together has brought us closer. We share ideas, support each other, and have joined with others to form savings groups.

Our example has encouraged other couples to work together, and many families are becoming stronger. However, speaking out has not been easy. We have faced intimidation, arrests, and resistance from some leaders.

Recently, my husband and a group of youth were even blocked by police while

trying to deliver a petition to the district offices.

Despite this, we remain strong. We continue to demand what we were promised and fight for our rights. We believe women and men must stand together to defend their land, livelihoods, and environment. When couples unite, they become stronger. We will continue to speak out, with the hope that our future will improve.

The experiences shared above demonstrate that oil-affected households are not only dealing with loss of land and livelihoods, but are also actively organising, supporting one another, and strengthening community advocacy.

These stories illustrate that when women and men work together, they are better

able to navigate displacement pressures, defend their rights, and participate in decisions that affect their futures.

Beyond individual household resilience, these experiences point to a broader structural issue that requires urgent attention.

Government institutions, private sector actors, and civil society actors must ensure that both women and men are meaningfully and actively involved in compulsory land acquisition processes.

Inclusive participation is critical to minimise social and economic harm, protect household livelihoods, and ensure that women's rights, voices, and interests are not excluded in decisions that affect their families and communities.

**By CEO**

## Pictorial of our activities

### AFIEGO SUPPORTS OIL AFFECTED COMMUNITIES TO DISCUSS OIL IMPACTS AND WOMEN'S ROLE IN ADVOCACY IN A RADIO TALK SHOW



On March 6, 2026, AFIEGO supported Tilenga project affected persons to participate in a radio talk show at Spice FM, in Buliisa District to discuss the impacts of oil and gas activities in their communities, during the discussion, the Tilenga project affected- persons placed emphasis on women and their involvement in advocacy.

## AFIEGO ORGANISES A MEETING WITH WOMEN FROM THE TILENGA PROJECT AFFECTED COMMUNITIES TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES ON CLIMATE CHANGE



On March 17, 2026, AFIEGO organized a meeting with women from different communities affected by the Tilenga project at Albert Nile Hotel in Bullisa.

The aim of the meeting was to discuss the climate change impacts women are facing and how they have been worsened by the oil activities in their area and to make requests on what they think the African Court can do to order the government of Uganda and the oil companies to do to ensure their challenges are addressed.



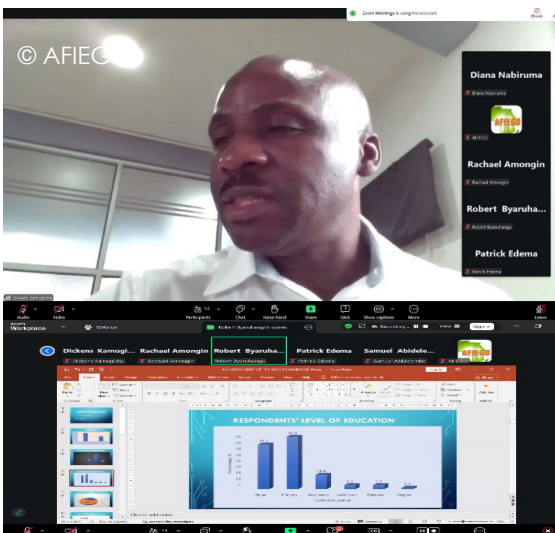
## AFIEGO PARTICIPATES IN THE IUCN UGANDA NATIONAL MEMBERS COMMITTEE MEETING



On March 11, 2026, AFIEGO participated in a meeting of the IUCN Uganda national members committee to reflect on the World Conservation Congress 2025 and discuss strategic plans for its members.

During the meeting, committee members focused on sustainable financial pathways to strengthen access to climate finance for member countries.

## AFIEGO ORGANISES A WEBINAR TO LAUNCH A RESEARCH REPORT ASSESSING THE EACOP LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME



On March 12, 2026, AFIEGO organized a webinar to disseminate the findings and share recommendations from research assessing compliance to the EACOP Livelihood Restoration Plan and IFC Performance Standards while documenting the attitudes that EACOP-affected people have to the pipeline.

The webinar also discussed whether the EACOP livelihood restoration programme was restoring or failing to restore the affected people to their pre-displacement socio-economic positions, or even better ones.

## AFIEGO SENSITISES TILENGA AND EACOP AFFECTED COMMUNITIES ON ESIA COMPLIANCE DURING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION PHASES



Between March 23 and 27, 2026, AFIEGO organized community sensitization meetings for the Tilenga and EACOP projects' affected communities on the ESIA compliance requirements during construction and operation phases.

The purpose of these sensitization meetings was to ensure that communities can monitor and identify activities contrary to the ESIA commitments to ensure that their rights and the environment are protected. The community sensitization meetings took place in Buliisa, Kikuube, Lwengo, Kyotera, Sembabule and Hoima districts.

During the meetings, community members agreed to engage policymakers to support EACOP and Tilenga affected persons.

## AFIEGO CONDUCTS FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO EVALUATE THE SOCIAL AND BIODIVERSITY COST OF THE EACOP AND RELATED OIL PROJECTS



Between March 23 and 27, 2026, AFIEGO conducted Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with Tilenga and EACOP project affected persons in Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube, Lwengo and Kyotera districts.

The purpose of the FGDs was to assess the social and biodiversity cost of the EACOP and related oil projects.

## AFIEGO SUPPORTS PROJECT-AFFECTED PERSONS IN COURT TO DEFEND THEIR LAND RIGHTS



On March 26, 2026, AFIEGO supported Project-Affected Persons (PAPs) to attend a court session at the High Court in Hoima in the case of Mukitale Robert & 4 Others v. Asimwe Samwiri & 4 Others.

The case highlights ongoing land ownership disputes emerging in Uganda's oil region, where communities face increasing pressure due to expectations of compensation linked to oil projects.

The court discussed procedural matters regarding the continuation of the case following the passing of some Plaintiffs. The court directed that relevant legal documents confirming representation be shared between parties, and scheduled the matter for ruling on 2nd April 2026.

## AFIEGO VISITS IGEN-EA CLEAN ENERGY HUB TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS



On March 25, 2026, AFIEGO conducted a field visit to the IGEN-EA Clean Energy Hub located along the Hoima–Kampala highway to observe the clean energy technologies on display and ongoing activities at the hub.

During the visit, trainees were found undertaking practical assessments in solar installation after completing six months of training.

The hub plays an important role in building local skills and promoting access to clean energy solutions within communities.



## AFIEGO CONDUCTS A COURTESY VISIT TO EACOP PROJECT-AFFECTED PERSON IN LWENGO DISTRICT



On March 23, 2026, AFIEGO conducted a courtesy visit to Ms. Teddy Nakintu, an elderly Project-Affected Person (PAP) from Lwengo district whose land and livelihood were affected by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

The visit provided an opportunity to engage with Ms. Nakintu on the challenges she continues to face following compulsory land acquisition, including impacts on her agricultural livelihood and household wellbeing.

The visit is part of AFIEGO's ongoing efforts to document community experiences and advocate for fair compensation, livelihood restoration, and inclusive land acquisition processes that protect vulnerable persons, especially elderly women.

## AFIEGO TRAINS EACOP PROJECT-AFFECTED PERSONS ON COMMUNITY ORGANISING IN GREATER MASAKA DISTRICTS



On March 26 - 27, 2026, AFIEGO organised a training on community organising for EACOP Project-Affected Persons (PAPs) from Lwengo, Kyotera, and Sembabule districts.

The training aimed to strengthen community capacity to organise, engage decision-makers and collectively advocate for their rights in the context of oil-related developments.



The meeting, held in Mbirizi town, brought together women and men, it provided a platform to enhance knowledge on safe and effective community advocacy approaches.

# Lobbying

In March 2026, AFIEGO held a webinar to launch the new research assessing whether livelihood restoration commitments made to pipeline -affected communities were fulfilled.

In addition, AFIEGO supported EACOP project-affected persons to write a letter to the Minister of Gender, Labor, and Social Development to request support to stop the immense grief and discomfort caused by the EACOP.

Furthermore, AFIEGO supported community members whose land and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the Tilenga oil project to write a letter to the head of the court of appeal and the court administrator, requesting administrative intervention regarding the delayed hearing of their case that was filed in 2020 in court. These and other advocacy material can be seen below.

## CREATING LASTING VALUE OR LASTING POVERTY?

Launch of AFIEGO's Research Report on the EACOP Livelihood Restoration Programme in Uganda

Land was acquired from **3,648 households** affecting nearly **25,000 Ugandans** for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

But are displaced communities rebuilding their livelihoods, or falling deeper into vulnerability?

Join AFIEGO for the official launch of new research assessing whether livelihood restoration commitments made to pipeline-affected communities are being fulfilled.


### WEBINAR OBJECTIVES

- Share key research findings on livelihood restoration outcomes
- Examine gaps in implementation and community concerns
- Explore pathways toward responsible and people-centred development
- Discuss government oversight and accountability

3:00pm to 4:30pm

**MARCH 12**

On Zoom




## Elderly Grandmother Cries for Help International Women's Day 2026

An elderly grandmother from Lwengo district has cried to **Hon. Betty Amongi, the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development International Women's Day 2026.**

### Why?

Because her house, garden and family graveyard have been affected by EACOP-induced floods.

The elderly woman wants the minister to engage the EACOP Company to compensate and relocate her.



### TILENGA PROJECT-AFFECTED PEOPLE

March 6, 2026

Philippe Grosset,  
General Manager, TotalEnergies EP Uganda  
Plot 21, Yusuf Lule Road  
P.O. Box 34887, Kampala, Uganda.



Dear Sir,

**RE: RENEWAL OF OUR REQUEST TO LEASE OUR LAND AFFECTED BY THE TILENGA OIL PROJECT**

We, the undersigned son (10) people from Bulisa district whose land was affected by the Tilenga oil project are writing to again ask that our land be leased to TotalEnergies, not permanently taken.

In November 2018 during the Tilenga project public hearing, we clearly expressed our preference for a lease arrangement rather than permanent acquisition of our land. Our view was that leasing the land would allow us to receive periodic income throughout the project's lifetime, which is expected to last about 25 years. This would help us continue supporting our families and sustaining our livelihoods over time.

However, our request was never addressed. Instead, in 2021, the government, through the Attorney General's Office of Uganda, filed a court case against us after we declined to accept the compensation offered. Our refusal was due to serious concerns about the adequacy and fairness of the compensation. We believed, and rightfully so, that the amount offered could not enable us to replace our land or restore our livelihoods, especially considering the central role land plays in supporting our families and sustaining our way of life.

Most of us are farmers and land users. Our land was not only our source of income but also the foundation of our daily lives. It provided food for our families, school fees for our children, and security for the future. Losing our land has therefore deeply affected us.

Since the permanent acquisition of our land, many families have struggled to find alternative land because prices have increased, and the compensation received cannot buy land of a similar size or quality. As a result, many households are now facing serious economic hardship.

Beyond the financial challenges, the loss of land has also brought social problems in our families and communities. When we could no longer rely on our land to feed our families and earn income, many parents struggled to provide basic needs such as food, healthcare, and school fees for their children. Some children have been forced to drop out of school.

Some young girls have become more vulnerable because their parents cannot support them. Sadly, some families had to marry off their daughters earlier than planned. Losing our land has not just our income, but also our families' well-being and dignity.

### COMMUNITY VOICE

FEBRUARY 2026

## ELDERLY WOMAN CRIES OUT AS EACOP-INDUCED FLOODS AFFECT PROPERTY

Ms. Teddy Nakintu, an elderly grandmother living in Nanywa A village, Ndagwe sub-county, Lwengo district, is crying out after her house, garden and family graveyard were affected by EACOP-induced floods.

Ms. Nakintu's troubles started when EACOP project sub-contractors excavated trenches near her home in readiness of laying pipes for the EACOP.

Ms. Nakintu estimates that her house is located less than 30 metres from the EACOP. Due to the proximity of Ms. Nakintu's home to the pipeline, the EACOP trench can easily drain water into her homestead.

Fearing such impacts and others, Ms. Nakintu, including the EACOP Company severely, engaged in August 2023, November 2023 and March 2025, requesting that she is relocated to avoid being affected by the EACOP project's construction impacts.

The EACOP Company has severely drained her requests.

Ms. Nakintu's fears came to life during the ongoing rains. The trenches dug for the EACOP drained rainwater into her house, which she shares with five young grandchildren. The trenches also drained rainwater into Ms. Nakintu's garden and family graveyard, causing emotional trauma and fears of food insecurity. Ms. Nakintu is now demanding compensation for her damaged property, and that she is relocated by the EACOP Company.



### AFRICA INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY GOVERNANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
KAMPALA, UGANDA

March 7, 2026

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: ELDERLY WOMAN ASKS GENDER MINISTRY TO SAVE HER FROM GRIEVOUS EACOP IMPACTS**

As Uganda prepares to celebrate International Women's Day tomorrow (March 8, 2026), an elderly grandmother, Ms. Teddy Nakintu, from Nanywa A Village, Ndagwe sub-county, Lwengo district has written to Hon. Betty Amongi, the Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Her demand? That the minister steps in to protect elderly and vulnerable women like her that are suffering impacts because of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

**BACKGROUND**

Ms. Nakintu wrote to Hon. Amongi on March 4, 2026 after several attempts to engage the EACOP Company to address her challenges failed.

Ms. Nakintu's troubles began when she was informed in early 2019 by TotalEnergies that part of her land was going to be compulsorily acquired for the EACOP project.



Total was working on behalf of the EACOP project developers, who include Total, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) and the Ugandan as well as Tanzanian governments, to acquire the land.

Ms. Nakintu was informed that since she was an elderly person, she needed to appoint someone who would act on her behalf during the compulsory land acquisition process.

She appointed her son, Mr. Kasim Katoope, to act on her behalf. He was registered as the project-affected person (PAP) on the understanding that when he received compensation for Ms. Nakintu's land, he would give this compensation to her.

In June 2023, Mr. Katoope received the compensation and he gave it to Ms. Nakintu. Ms. Nakintu notes that she mostly used the compensation to treat high blood pressure, which she developed because of the EACOP project.

Ms. Nakintu says that the pipeline is supposed to pass only a few metres from her house, posing significant safety risks to her and her family. Ms. Nakintu lives with five grandchildren, aged four to 13 years.

March 4, 2026.

Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiyabwire,  
Justice of the Court of Appeal & Court Administrator,  
Court of Appeal of Uganda,  
Kampala, Uganda

My Lord,

**RE: REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE INTERVENTION REGARDING DELAYED HEARING OF OIL-AFFECTED PAPs APPEALS**

We are the Bulisa Patience Alliance Group (BUPAG), a group of over 30 families from Bulisa District whose land and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the Tilenga oil project. We are writing regarding our ongoing appeal, Court of Appeal Civil Appeal No. 191 of 2020 (arising from High Court Misc. Cause No. 0025 of 2020: Sabiti Michael & 13 Others v Attorney General), which challenges the government's decision to take our land before fair and adequate compensation is paid, as required under Article 26 of the Ugandan Constitution. The suffering caused by the oil activities and the prolonged delays in the court process have forced us to join together under BUPAG to fight for justice and to protect our families from untold suffering.

The delay by the Court of Appeal in hearing our appeal has allowed the government and oil companies to continue pushing to take our property, including land, leading to displacement, loss of income, limited access to health and education services for our children, food insecurity, and other injustices against our families and entire communities. In our area of Bulisa, land is our life, supporting food, our culture, our security, the survival of our children, and other critical needs. The delay by the Court of Appeal in hearing our case is therefore a death sentence for our families, including women, children, and other vulnerable people in our community.

What we want is speedy and fair justice for our families.

In March 2026, AFIEGO staff and research associates wrote newspaper articles that were published in leading newspapers. Some of the published articles are captured below.

# Oil, Land, and Climate Justice, a hidden cost of development in Uganda's Albertine Graben

BY COLUMNIST — March 15, 2026



14 SHARES



By Doreen Asasira, OPINION

# Women's Day: Advancing Women's Empowerment Through Clean Energy

BY COLUMNIST — March 8, 2026

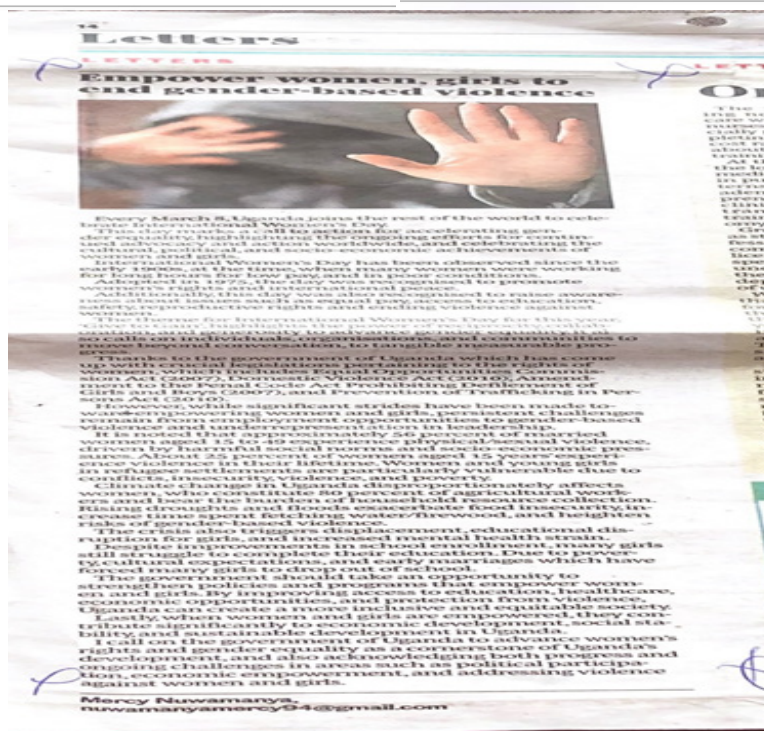


Rural woman using firewood for cooking.

32 SHARES



By Olive Atuhaire,



## Upcoming events

April 01, 2026; Bunyoro: Conduct key informant interviews (KIIs) with biodiversity experts to assess the social and biodiversity costs of developing the EACOP

April 03–30, 2026; Kampala: Support a consultant to develop a research brief on actual jobs vis-à-vis promised jobs under the EACOP

April 15, 2026; Kampala: Support EACOP-affected persons to engage project developers and address their grievances

April 20, 2026; Kampala: Support EACOP-affected persons to petition the Auditor General to conduct a special audit on the EACOP project

April 22, 2026; Kampala: Support a consultative meeting for the development of the IGEN-EA strategic plan

April 29, 2026; Online: Support research for a policy brief on understanding the role of critical minerals in promoting a just energy transition

April 30, 2026; Online: Disseminate a storybook highlighting women's experiences with the EACOP project in Uganda

## About AFIEGO

Africa Institute for Energy Governance (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