



THE EACOP IS BEING CONSTRUCTED, BUT AT WHAT COST?

A community publication on the social impacts of the EACOP construction activities



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About this publication

This publication documents the social impacts that communities living near the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) as well as the Tilenga feeder pipeline in Uganda have documented during the construction phase of the aforementioned pipelines.

The impacts were documented between September 2025 and May 2026 by communities from eight districts. These include Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube, Kakumiro and Sembabule. They also include Lwengo, Rakai and Kyotera.

The publication also documents the amount of oil revenue, both tax and non-tax, that has been due to Uganda or was received by government since 2013 and discusses whether these revenues have contributed to enhanced community clean energy access.

The Ugandan government and international oil companies operating in the country argue that oil exploitation is imperative for Uganda to promote universal access to clean energy. Are the oil revenues delivering on this promise, this publication asks?

This publication has been co-produced by Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) and oil-affected communities.

Purpose of publication

The purpose of this publication is to raise public awareness on the social impacts of the construction activities of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline. It is hoped that enhanced public awareness will promote community, citizen and other stakeholders' advocacy to ensure that the EACOP Company and TotalEnergies E&P U (TEPU) BV address the impacts of the pipeline projects.

The EACOP Company is developing the EACOP while TEPU is developing the Tilenga feeder pipeline.

Ugandan citizens and various other stakeholders can also use the information in this publication to promote accountability for public finances while asking questions around whether oil revenues can really promote a just energy transition to clean energy in Uganda.

Summary

The social impacts that communities have documented during the construction phase of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline include:

- **The EACOP project sub-contractors dumped soils on some community members' land** during the EACOP project's vegetation clearance, grading and trenching activities. This was done without community consent.
- **Consequently, the affected communities note that some of them were** unable to use their affected land to grow crops and earn money, thereby affecting their access to income. In addition, by June 2026, some community members were yet to be compensated for the losses they suffered as a result of the above practice.
- **Further, communities report that some of their access roads were destroyed or blocked during the EACOP construction activities;** the construction trucks engaged in the EACOP project are/were heavy and created potholes in some community access roads.
- **Some of the community roads that were closed are community trade routes that** aid community access to markets. This affected movement for commercial and social reasons.
- **The closure of community roads affected PWDs with community members noting that some PWDs were cut off from their gardens,** while some fall or stumble while trying to access social amenities while using new, unfamiliar routes.
- **In addition, communities' agricultural activities were impacted.** Some affected people's gardens were destroyed by flash floods or mud run-off, both of which communities attribute to the EACOP construction activities. Some of the pipelines' construction activities are taking place in wetlands or marshlands, predisposing communities to flash floods.
- **Beekeeping activities were also not spared, with communities reporting** that the population influx as well as noise and air pollution arising from the EACOP construction activities reduced colony productivity, and therefore community members' incomes.
- **Finally, gendered impacts including increased Gender Based Violence (GBV)** and family break-ups affecting children are also documented in this publication.



Oil-affected communities in eight districts¹ report that firewood remains the primary source of cooking fuel for households.

This is despite the fact that the Government of Uganda (GoU) has earned trillions of shillings in oil revenues since 2013.

The GoU argues that these revenues are important to support Uganda's clean energy transition efforts.

The revenues received so far seem to have failed to meet citizens' clean energy needs, as this publication will show.



Oil-affected children in a mock classroom in Buliisa district; communities report that oil activities have increased school drop-out rates.

¹The districts include Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube, Kakumiro, Sembabule, Lwengo, Kyotera and Rakai.

Can children whose economic futures could be negatively impacted due to limited education access clean energy in the future?

Available evidence indicates that poorer people are less likely to access clean energy. By denying some children access to education therefore, the oil sector could contribute to energy poverty in the future.

Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes the introduction, problem statement, and the objective of this publication. The chapter also discusses the methodology used to collect the community experiences that are shared in this publication.

1.1. Introduction

Uganda, a landlocked country in East Africa, made commercial oil discoveries in 2006. The oil was discovered in the Albertine Graben in Western Uganda².

TotalEnergies and China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) alongside the Ugandan government agreed to commercialise Uganda's oil reserves through four main projects³.

These include the Tilenga and Kingfisher upstream oil projects, as well as the midstream East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) and oil refinery projects³.

Oil is supposed to be extracted from the Tilenga and Kingfisher oil fields and transported to the Kabaale Industrial Area via the Tilenga and Kingfisher feeder pipelines respectively⁴.

The Tilenga feeder pipeline is 95km long and it begins its journey from Buliisa⁵. The pipeline, whose capacity is 216,000 barrels of crude oil per day¹⁴, is crossing three districts including Buliisa, Hoima and Kikuube in Western Uganda⁶.

It will terminate in Hoima district at the Kabaale Industrial Area as can be seen in the image below.

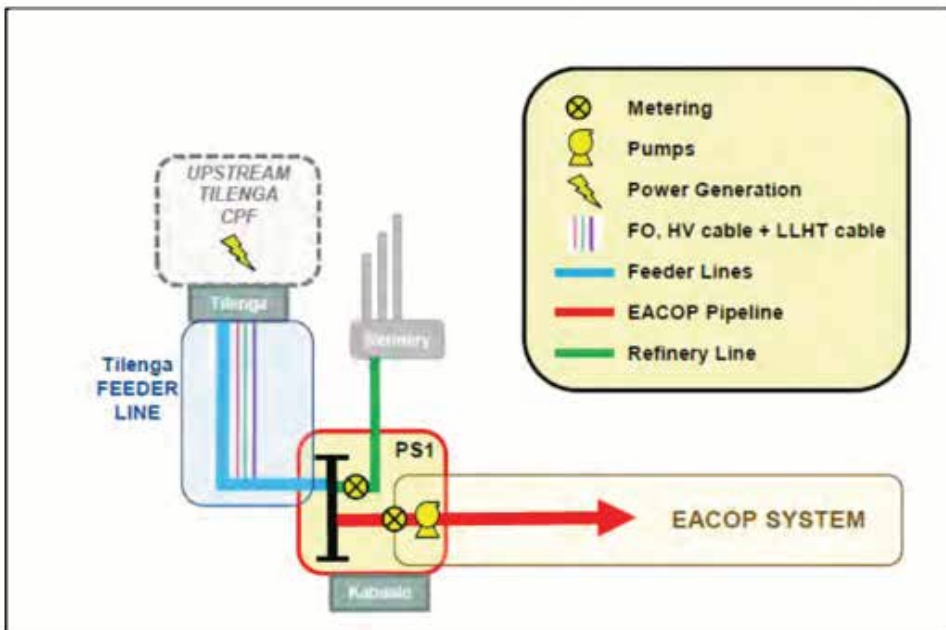
²<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/local-communities-and-oil-discoveries-a-study-in-ugandas-albertine-graben-region/>

³<https://www.pau.go.ug/projects>

⁴<https://www.eacop.com/overview/>

⁵<https://dxm.content-center.totalenergies.com/api/wedia/dam/variation/xysh7dg731tah5g1jnz8czzcr/original,default>

⁶<https://dxm.content-center.totalenergies.com/api/wedia/dam/variation/xysh7dg731ta7qdaqfii1rywbc/original,default>



*A graphical representation of the Tilenga feeder pipeline and other oil sector infrastructure
Source: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report for the Tilenga feeder pipeline project*

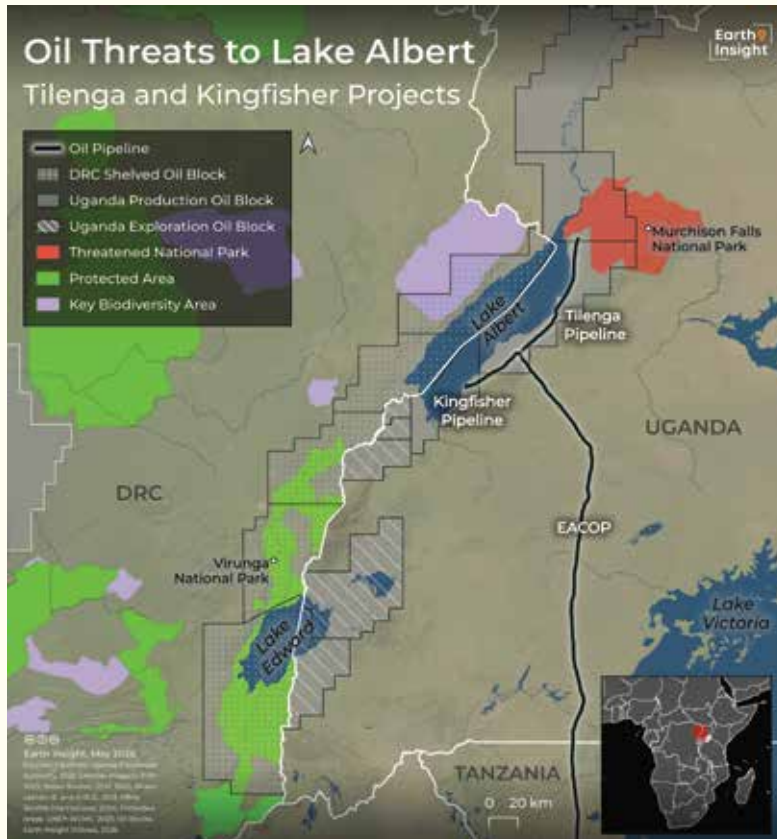
Part or all of the oil from the aforementioned oil fields is expected to be transported to export markets via the 1,443km EACOP.

The EACOP, with a peak capacity of 246,000 barrels of crude oil per day⁷, will begin its journey at the Kabaale Industrial Area in Hoima district.

The pipeline will cross ten districts in Uganda and end at the port of Tanga in Tanzania⁷. The oil from the pipeline will be loaded onto tankers at the port for export.

Below is a map showing the EACOP as well as the Tilenga and Kingfisher feeder pipelines.

⁷<https://www.eacop.com/overview/>



A map of the EACOP as well as the Tilenga and Kingfisher feeder pipelines

1.2. Status of development

Development of infrastructure under the Tilenga, Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects is ongoing.

As at April 2026, the EACOP was 82% complete⁸. Official information on the status of completion of the Tilenga feeder pipeline as at April 2026 was not publicly available. However, communities report that the Tilenga feeder pipeline is in more advanced stages of development than the EACOP.

1.3. Problem statement

The construction activities of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline present social, economic and other risks to communities. This is because the pipelines largely traverse agricultural lands in rural areas⁹. Further, about 8% of the EACOP traverses urban areas with higher human populations than the rural areas.

⁸ <https://energynews.pro/en/the-eacop-pipeline-reaches-82-completion-with-first-oil-targeted-for-july-2026>

⁹ <https://www.eacop.com/media/2022/07/eacop-uganda-rap-executive-summary.pdf>

In addition, 21% of EACOP-affected households in Uganda estimate that their homes are located less than 30 metres away from the pipeline¹⁰.

The location of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline in largely agricultural areas predisposes the gardens of households living near the pipeline to construction impacts. The location of the pipelines near homesteads also predisposes people to various risks.

This is because available evidence indicates that the impacts of pipeline construction activities on soil and vegetation can be felt as many as 300 metres away¹¹. Impacts such as noise, air, dust and other forms of pollution affecting people and nature can be felt for further distances.

While the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline construction activities predispose communities in Uganda to various risks, these largely remain undocumented.

AFIEGO sought to cure this challenge by working with oil-affected communities to document these impacts between September 2025 and May 2026.

1.4. Objective

The main objective of this publication is to raise public awareness of the social impacts of the construction activities of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline on the affected people.

The publication also assesses the impact, or lack thereof, of Uganda's oil revenues in promoting a clean energy transition in Uganda.

1.5. Methodology

Since 2025, AFIEGO has been working with community leaders to collect monthly evidence of the impacts of the construction activities of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline. This publication is based on this evidence, which is collected from eight districts including Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube and Kakumiro. Other districts include Sembabule, Lwengo, Rakai and Kyotera.

To validate the above information, in March and May 2026, AFIEGO and community leaders held community meetings and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with Tilenga- and EACOP-affected communities.

Over 135 people from seven oil-affected districts participated in the meetings and FGDs. They shared their experiences, highlighting the impact of the aforementioned pipelines' construction activities on their lives. The people were drawn from districts including Buliisa, Hoima, Kikuube, Sembabule, Lwengo, Kyotera and Rakai.

¹⁰ <https://www.afiego.org/downloads/research-report-assessing-compliance-to-eacop-livelihood-restoration-plan-february-2026>

¹¹ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264712616_Potential_effects_of_large_linear_pipeline_construction_on_soil_and_vegetation_in_ecologically_fragile_regions

This publication is based on the experiences shared by the affected people.

The publication is also based on a desktop review through which AFIEGO collated the amount of oil revenue that was due to Uganda or that the state has received since 2013 and the impact these revenues have had on supporting a clean energy transition in the country.



The Tilenga feeder pipeline corridor; the pipeline was laid, welded and buried in the marshland in this photo in Buliisa district.

Chapter 2:

This chapter discusses the social impacts of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline's construction activities. As earlier noted, these impacts were shared by communities living in eight districts where the construction activities are ongoing, or have already been undertaken.

The impacts caused by the Tilenga feeder pipeline were documented by communities living in Buliisa, Hoima and Kikuube districts.

The impacts caused by the EACOP construction activities were documented by communities living in Hoima, Kikuube, Kakumiro, Sembabule, Lwengo, Rakai and Kyotera districts.

More on these impacts can be seen below.

2.1. Use of community land without authorisation

Land is a big factor of production in Uganda. Nearly 70% of Uganda's labourforce is engaged in agriculture¹² and this labourforce relies on land to make a living.

More rural than urban households rely on land to make a living. The EACOP crosses ten districts and 171 villages in Uganda. By virtue of its location in many villages, the pipeline puts agricultural livelihoods at risk.

This risk is worsened by the fact that of the 3,648 EACOP project-affected households in Uganda, 74% have members engaged in agriculture¹³. This is according to the EACOP Resettlement Action Plan (RAP).

On its part, the Tilenga feeder pipeline crosses 94 villages in three districts including Buliisa, Hoima and Kikuube. The pipeline caused the displacement of 1,119 households, 96.5% of whom are engaged in agriculture. This is according to the Tilenga RAP 4¹⁴.

Did the pipelines' construction activities impact the largely agricultural households living near the EACOP Right of Way (RoW) and Tilenga feeder pipeline, AFIEGO and community leaders asked?

The answer is YES.

Communities, especially those in Hoima and Kikuube districts, note that the EACOP project sub-contractors used community land, which they did not pay for, to undertake some project activities.

An EACOP-affected man notes, "The EACOP people added themselves bonuses of people's land. They didn't only utilise the 30-metre corridor for their pipeline [The project developers only acquired a 30-metre corridor]. They would take may be 10 metres or more of communities' land and dump their soils there. The 30-metre right of way that they acquired was not enough for them."

The above practice, which was seen during the clearing, grading and trenching phase of the construction period, had impacts. Farming households note that they could not use their affected land to grow crops.

An EACOP project-affected man from Hoima says, "In my case, they used 0.82 acres of my land to dump soil. I wanted to use that land to grow crops and make money. I was not able to do that. They say that they will compensate us but they do not. It is a big problem for us."

¹² <https://development.finance.go.ug/agriculture-0>

¹³ <https://www.eacop.com/media/2022/06/eacop-uganda-rap-chapter-5-soical-economic-baseline.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://dxm.content-center.totalenergies.com/api/wedia/dam/variation/xysh7dg7311a7qdqxftii1rywbc/original,default>



An EACOP-affected woman's garden; communities report that part of their agricultural land was used during the EACOP construction activities without community consent and compensation. The garden in the picture was also affected by EACOP-induced floods.

2.2. Inducing mudslides and flash floods

The above was not the only impact. The EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline cross marshlands or wetlands in Uganda. On its part, the EACOP crosses over 158 wetland sections in Uganda¹⁵.

While information on any wetlands crossed by the Tilenga feeder pipeline is not publicly available, information in the Tilenga RAP 4 shows that the project's land take for protected areas is 45.935 acres.

The location of sections of the pipelines in wetlands and marshlands predisposes communities to flash floods during the pipelines' construction phase.

Did communities experience flash floods? Community members from the eight districts covered by this publication said that YES, they did.

¹⁵<https://www.afiegeo.org/downloads/factsheet-on-eacop-impacted-wetlands-in-uganda-july-2023>

A 65-year old woman from Hoima district observes, “We are experiencing the rainy season now [March 2026], and water is going into people’s gardens these days. The EACOP people disturbed the water flow, and people’s gardens flood as a result.”

Another woman, a farmer from Hoima district, notes, “I am part of Kijumba horticulture farmers’ groups. We rent land and grow vegetables. Last year [2025], we rented land near the Kanywabarogo wetland and started a nursery bed for vegetables such as nakatti, cabbage and others. When the EACOP construction activities started, CPP [the sub-contractor constructing the EACOP] heaped mud near our garden. The mud washed into our nursery bed and destroyed our crops. The mud also slid into the Kanywabarogo wetland/river.”

A Ugandan wetlands expert notes that dumping of soil in a wetland could induce flooding in areas that did not previously flood.

The expert says, “Dumping soil near a wetland could cause blockages that disturb the movement of water. This could cause increased flooding risk for communities especially during heavy rains.”



Part of Kanywabarogo wetland in Hoima district with compacted soils from the EACOP construction activities

2.3. Pollution creating barriers to farming

Beekeeping is a somewhat important economic activity in Uganda. Available information indicates that up to 1.2 million people in Uganda are engaged in beekeeping¹⁶, which is also known as apiculture.

To support forest conservation while enabling communities to earn money, government and civil society organisations among others encourage communities to engage in beekeeping.

EACOP-affected communities in Hoima and Kyotera districts are also engaged in apiculture. Was this economic activity impacted by the EACOP construction activities? Communities in Kyotera district say YES.

A man from Kyotera district observes, “Before the EACOP project started, people had beekeeping projects in plantation forests and near wetlands, and they were earning money. The noisy trucks, too many people and air pollution during the EACOP construction affected the bees, which no longer produce enough honey. People no longer make money.”

Available evidence corroborates community reports. Research has shown that air and noise pollution affect bees' immune systems, their foraging behavior¹⁷, and drives up mortality rates. Higher levels of noise and air pollution also negatively affect colony productivity¹⁸, reducing the amount of honey that is produced by bees.



A beekeeper; communities in Kyotera district report that the EACOP construction activities have had negative impacts on beehive productivity.

¹⁶<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/uganda-produces-210-000-metric-tonnes-of-honey-report-5391014>

¹⁷<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20240826-why-air-pollution-is-bad-news-for-bees>

¹⁸https://www.researchgate.net/publication/395991752_The_Impact_Of_Air_And_Noise_Pollution_On_Honeybee_Apis_Mellifera_L_Productivity_Across_Multiple_Habitats

2.4. Destruction of community access roads

Roads play an important role in supporting communities' access to social services and markets. As such, the Government of Uganda (GoU) has developed various access roads across the country to aid trade and support communities' social wellbeing.

Community access roads in Uganda, which are often dirt roads that cannot withstand heavy traffic, are predisposed to easy destruction especially during heavy industrial activities. Were community access roads destroyed during the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline construction activities?

Communities in five of the eight districts that shared their experiences for this publication note that YES, their roads were destroyed or blocked. The affected districts include Hoima, Kikuube, Kakumiro, Lwengo and Kyotera.

One EACOP-affected man from Kikuube district observes, "We have a community access road in Kyakatemba village which developed potholes. CPP trucks are heavy and they used to use the road. The more they used the road, the bigger the potholes became. The potholes are so big now that they look like ponds. The rainy season [March to June 2026] filled the potholes with water. People cannot use the access roads anymore."

The community access roads in EACOP-affected districts were not only damaged. Some were closed, undermining community access to markets for trade among others.

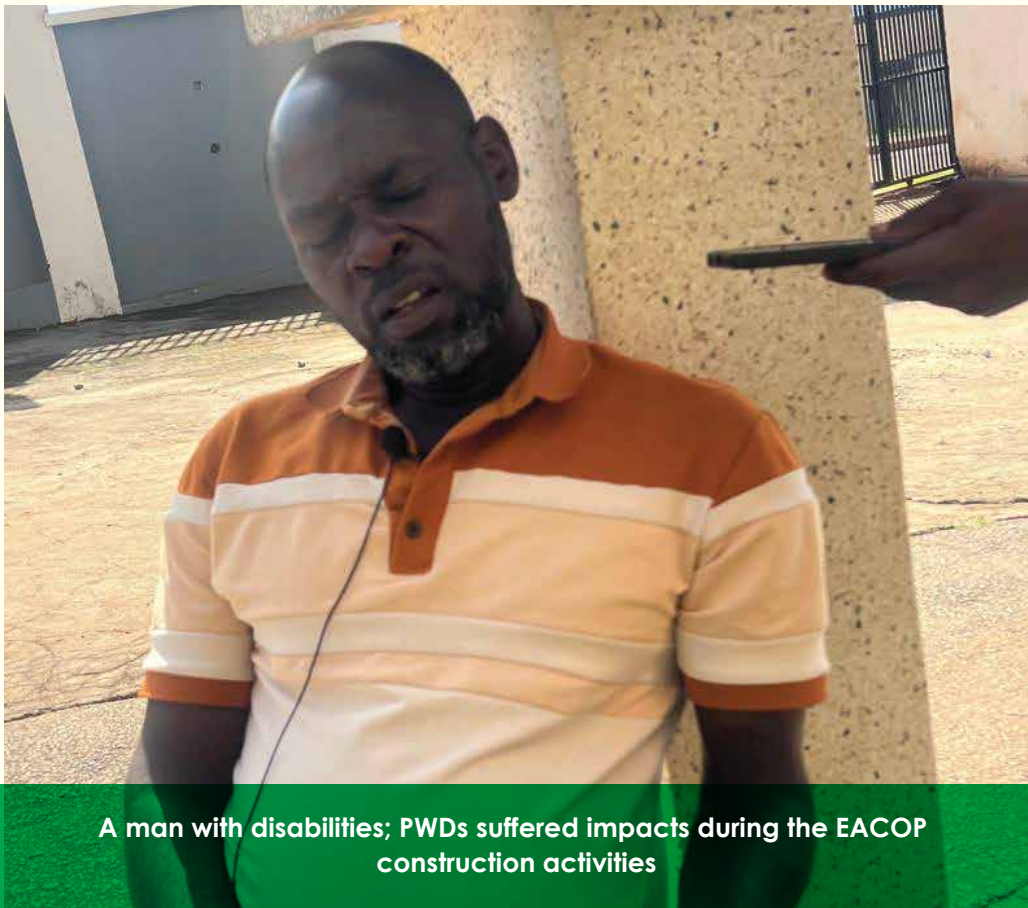
An EACOP-affected man from Kyotera district notes, "By March 2026, the road from Kiganga village to Bigada village was closed because of the EACOP construction activities. People used to walk for 2km from Kiganga to Bigada to engage in trade among other activities. They now have to use a longer route, which requires walking for 5km. This affects trade."

The closure of some roads also impacted the movements of PWDs.

A leader of PWDs from Kyotera district observes, "Several PWDs have reported impacts such as being denied access to their gardens due to the closure of roads leading to those gardens. Others have limited access to water wells because the replacement wells constructed under the EACOP project are located far away from them. Some blind people also report falling repeatedly because they have to use new roads, as the old ones were blocked. They don't know these roads well so they fall as they navigate them."



The EACOP destroyed or blocked access roads in five of the eight districts that this publication is based on; this affected communities' movements for trade and social purposes.



A man with disabilities; PWDs suffered impacts during the EACOP construction activities

2.5. Gender considerations and impacts to children

According to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), Uganda's population is largely young with the majority of the population being aged 0 to 34 years .

In addition, Uganda has more women than men with the male to female ratio being 94.6:100¹⁹.

In the districts crossed by the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipelines, more children than adults were affected by the compulsory land acquisitions. Indeed, the socio-economic survey results in the Tilenga RAP 4 and EACOP RAP for Uganda showed that the populations of the EACOP- and Tilenga feeder pipeline-affected households were largely young.

Information on the gender distribution of the affected households is not readily available however.

Be it as it may, communities have documented the impact of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline's construction activities on women and children.

Some of these impacts include an increase in elephant-human conflicts, which has affected children's capacity to study.

One woman from Buliisa district says, "Since the pipeline and other oil activities came, elephants also came. The elephants come from Murchison Falls National Park and scare the children, who scream and cry when they see them. Children have also died due to elephant-human conflicts. Some children also don't go to school because they fear elephants."

Other than increasing school dropout rates, the activities have also been implicated in increasing the disease burden suffered by children.

A woman from Lwengo district notes, "When the EACOP project construction activities started, we experienced a lot of dust. This was especially the case starting in September 2025 when the vegetation clearance and grading works were done. I am a grandmother and I live with some of my grandchildren. The children got flu and we treated it but they were not healing. We were very bothered by that dust."

More heartbreaking experiences were also shared.

One EACOP-affected man from Rakai district observes, "The people working on the pipeline took some people's wives. There is a young husband who committed suicide in January 2026. His wife abandoned him for an EACOP worker. When his wife left, the man used to live with his three young children, all of whom are less than six years. Two of the children are twins. When he committed suicide, he left his children parentless."

The blocking of roads as well as air and noise pollution arising from the EACOP construction activities are also reported to have affected the freedom of movement of children, pregnant women and the elderly.

¹⁹<https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/National-Population-and-Housing-Census-2024-Final-Report-Volume-1-Main.pdf>

Women's access to firewood is also said to have been negatively impacted due to the destruction of plantation forests for the EACOP. Gender-based violence against women due to the EACOP construction activities has also been observed.



EACOP-affected women and AFIEGO staff during a community engagement in March 2026



Chapter 3: OIL REVENUES AND CLEAN ENERGY ACCESS

3.1. Uganda's petroleum revenues

The Ugandan government and International Oil Companies (IOCs) that are operating in the country argue that it is critical for the country to exploit its oil and gas reserves to support citizens to transition to the use of clean energy.

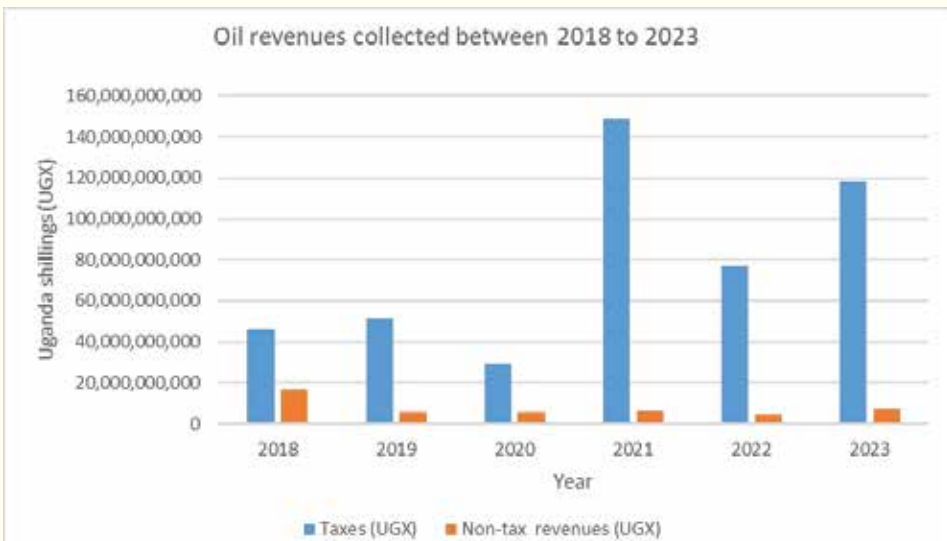
Uganda has received trillions of shillings in tax and non-tax revenues from the oil sector. In 2013 for instance, the Government of Uganda (GoU) won a tax dispute with Heritage Oil and a London-based court ordered the oil company to pay Uganda \$434 million (over UGX 1.62 trillion) in Capital Gains Tax (CGT).

Further, in June 2015, Tullow Oil agreed to pay the GoU \$250 million (over UGX 933.7 billion) in CGT.

Combined, Tullow and Heritage Oil were supposed to pay the GoU \$684 million or over UGX 2.6 trillion in CGT.

Information availed by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) also shows that the Petroleum Fund had UGX 695.40 billion (approximately \$184.155 million) between 2018 and 2025. The above money includes both tax and non-tax revenues.

More on the revenues collected between 2018 and 2023 by the GoU can be seen in the graph below.



A graph showing Uganda's tax and non-tax oil revenues between 2018 and 2023; Sources²⁰

²⁰<https://www.finance.go.ug/sites/default/files/rePetroleum%20Fund%20Financial%20Statements%20for%20the%20FY%20ended%2030th%20June%20%202023%20%281%29.pdf> and [ports/https://www.finance.go.ug/sites/default/files/reports/-Petroleum%20Fund%20Financial%20Statements%20for%20the%20FY%20ended%2030th%20June%20%202023%20%281%29.pdf](https://www.finance.go.ug/sites/default/files/reports/-Petroleum%20Fund%20Financial%20Statements%20for%20the%20FY%20ended%2030th%20June%20%202023%20%281%29.pdf)

Worth noting is that according to the MoFPED, the Petroleum Fund had UGX 131.27 billion as at June 30, 2025 compared to UGX 145.98 billion the previous year²¹.

Combined, the GoU has earned \$868.155 million from the CGT and above-discussed revenues of 2018 to June 2025.

3.2. Clean energy access in Uganda

Uganda is a largely energy poor country. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) indicates that only 25.3% of Ugandan households have access to grid electricity¹⁹.

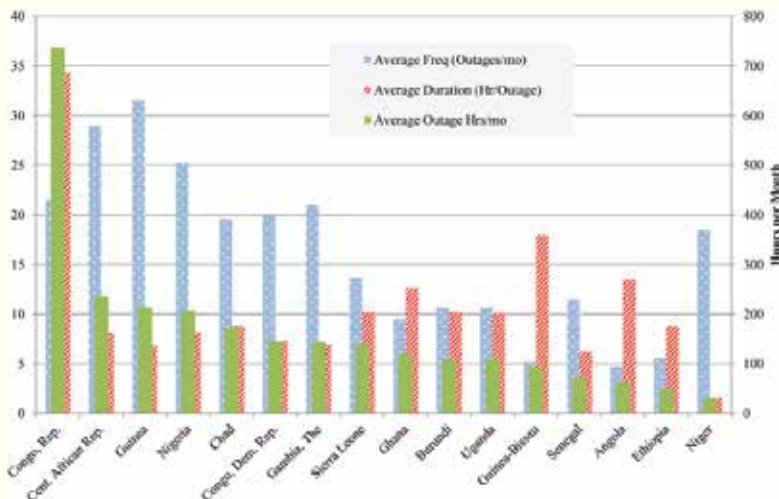
Further, the majority of the Ugandan population cooks with biomass. The 2024 Uganda National Population and Census report indicates that 64.5% of Ugandan households cook with firewood while 28.2% cook with charcoal¹⁹. This means that 92.7% households in Uganda cook with biomass.

While Uganda's Energy Transition Plan (ETP)²² that was launched in December 2023 indicates that 15% of households in Uganda cook with clean energy, the figure shared by UBOS following the 2024 national census is dismal. The census showed that only 2.2% of households cook with electricity or biogas. UBOS considers Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) a clean fuel, but this publication does not.

3.3. Oil revenues and clean energy access

While trillions of shillings have been collected in oil revenues, Uganda remains an energy-poor country.

In addition to the access challenges that have been discussed in the above section, the country grapples with expensive and unreliable power. Uganda is ranked as one of the countries with the most unreliable power supply in Africa. On average, the country's residents experience about 200 hours of power outages per month²³.



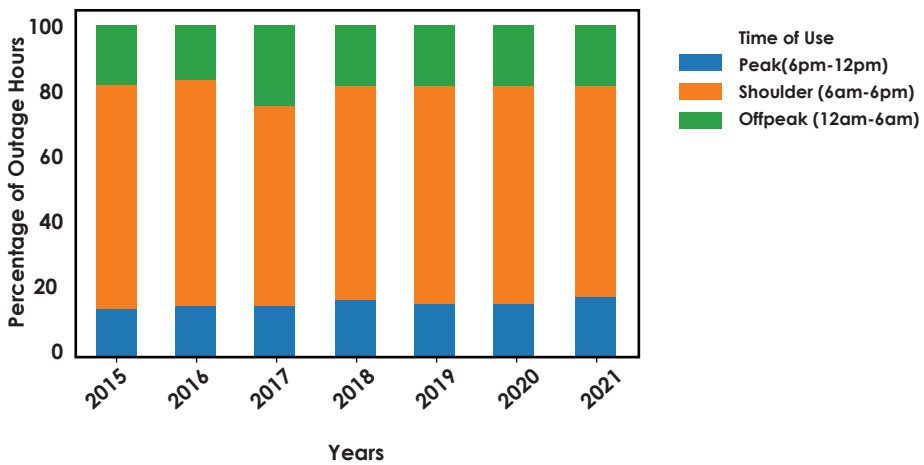
Graph that shows that Uganda experiences an average duration of 200 hours of power outages per month source:²³

²¹<https://x.com/mofpedU/status/2024448240645447765>

²²<https://nrep.ug/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/UgandaEnergyTransitionPlan-2023.pdf>

²³https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Outage-frequency-events-month-and-duration-h-outage-left-axis-and-total-average_fig1_260113833

These outages are often experienced during working hours (6am-6pm)²⁴ as shown in the graph below, thereby affecting business.



Figures showing period within which power outages are experienced in Uganda.
Source: ²⁴

The oil revenues discussed in this publication could have substantially reduced the electricity access gap in the country, especially if focus was placed on providing small solar home systems for especially rural households without power.

3.4. How oil revenues could have been used

Uganda has about 5.4 million rural households. Of these, only 18% have access to electricity.

If the GoU were to purchase small solar home systems each at UGX 650,000 for the above households, the GoU would need about over UGX 2.88 trillion (approximately over USD 771 million). Uganda's oil revenues of over \$868.115 million could have covered the above costs.

In addition to the above, in 2018, Uganda needed about \$1 billion (approximately UGX 3.74 trillion) to strengthen the grid network and \$2.5 billion (approximately UGX 9.33 trillion) to invest in electricity transmission.

If the GoU were to invest in the distribution network alone, the oil revenues of over \$868.115 million would not be enough. The revenues generated so far would also not cover the \$3.5 billion needed to strengthen and expand the grid.

²⁴https://qsel.columbia.edu/assets/uploads/blog/2024/publications/Electricity_Outages_in_Uganda_Causes_Trends_and_Regional_Disparities.pdf

3.5. Conclusion and recommendations

The GoU has competing needs and cannot use all oil sector revenues to finance clean energy access. Section 59 of Uganda's Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) provides that oil revenues are to be used for infrastructure and development purposes only.

However, in light of the global clean energy transition efforts that are being implemented by various countries, the revenues that Uganda expects to earn from oil could reduce. Research undertaken to assess how an accelerated global decarbonisation could mean for the value of Uganda's oil shows that the value could fall as much as 54% for the country²⁵.

In light of this, and the fact that there are many demands including mounting debt on the oil revenues, it is unlikely that the country's oil revenue will be used to meet all Ugandans' energy needs. Indeed, Uganda's electrification strategy that is articulated in various policies and plans centres the private sector as a critical stakeholder in promoting universal access.

While the above is true, the EACOP and related oil projects are having negative economic impacts on communities as discussed in this publication and various others. This could harm communities' capacity to use their own resources to meet their clean energy needs.

To ensure that the construction impacts of the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline are addressed to ensure that citizens can use their own resources to meet their clean energy needs, the following should be done:

(i) The EACOP Company should compensate the households whose land was used to dump soils from the EACOP construction activities without consent;

(ii) Further, the EACOP Company and TEPU should compensate the households whose crops were destroyed due to the EACOP and Tilenga feeder pipeline construction activities;

(iii) In addition, community access roads that were destroyed or blocked during the construction period should be rehabilitated or opened respectively by the EACOP Company;

(iv) Further, the EACOP Company should take measures to reduce the population influx as well as noise and air pollution that are affecting beekeeping in the EACOP project area;

²⁵<https://ieefa.org/sites/default/files/2026-01/IEEFAReassessingOilinUganda.pdf>

(v) In addition, the EACOP Company should pay special attention to its project's impacts on PWDs and ensure that these are addressed;

(vi) On its part, the Ugandan government should supervise the EACOP Company and TEPU to ensure that the impacts identified in this publication are addressed;

(vii) Finally, citizens and CSOs should engage the Ugandan government to ensure that the recommendations in this publication are implemented.

²⁵<https://ieefa.org/sites/default/files/2024-01/IEEFAReassessingOilinUganda.pdf>

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