



EAST AFRICAN
CRUDE OIL PIPELINE
HOST COMMUNITIES

East African Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024

Documenting the impact of EACOP oil project on
women and girls in the Albertine region



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In this edition

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our newsletter. This month of August, we provide you with insightful updates from our engagements with the East African Crude Oil Pipeline affected women and girls. *Documenting the impacts of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project on the women and girls in the Albertine region of Uganda.*

While the Government of Uganda and the involved oil companies continue to promise economic growth and infrastructural advancements from the development of the EACOP Project, communities especially the women and girls from the Albertine region of Uganda are already experiencing untold violations of their human rights, environmental rights and land rights.

In response to this, EACOP HC continues to take productive steps in monitoring, documenting, reporting and amplifying the voices of our fellow vulnerable communities affected by the EACOP Oil project in the Albertine region in Uganda. Between July and August, we mobilized and organized over five experience-sharing and empowerment meetings of women and girls' specifically on the negative impacts of EACOP project on their community livelihoods and environment. We hope you will enjoy reading our August 2024 Newsletter .

Concerns from the women and girls are as follows:

Inadequate Compensation: We were offered significantly lower compensation than the actual value of our land. We were unable to replace our land for farming leading to loss of our livelihoods and food insecurity. Today, our children are no longer going to school and most of our girls are victims of early teenage pregnancies.



Increased gender based violence in our communities: During the land acquisition process, there was no deliberate interventions that respect women and girls' land rights. In most cases, money was given to our husbands who instead of replacing our homes and land, ran off marrying younger women thus abandoning and mistreating us. As we speak today, we have nowhere to stay or carry out our

farming activities to sustain our families which makes life difficult.



Unresolved Land Disputes:

Several families in our communities whose land ownership disputes haven't been resolved are continuing to be stopped from using their land. They are also being displaced before resolving these disputes which has significantly increased conflicts within family members and communities mostly women and girls.



Limited Access to Justice: Most of us as women, we lack enough money to challenge these oil companies and government in the courts of laws. We are forced and intimidated to accept unfair compensation since we have nowhere to complain from. When we attempted to refuse these unfair compensation, we were intimidated and told that government will take us to court and our land will be taken without compensation, that's how we ended up signing those documents. Now we are suffering without any help. we are suffering without any help



We are very disappointed in our leaders and government as women because they are prioritizing the interests of oil corporations over livelihoods, human, land and environmental rights. Therefore, as women affected by the EACOP Oil project, we demand the following:

- Government and oil companies should ensure fair and adequate compensation for the oil project affected landowners based on independent valuation and in consultation with the community.

- Government should immediately address the outstanding land disputes and unclear land ownership issues before proceeding with the project activity in our communities.

- Government should guarantee the project affected women's rights to fair process and access to justice by offering them a reasonable opportunity to present their cases before a free, just and reasonable court.

- Oil companies together with the government should ensure to protect the fundamental human rights of the local communities and prevent further intimidations, harassments and abuses by the government and corporate interests.

- Lastly, government and oil companies should urgently consider investing in green, inclusive and sustainable energy alternatives that do not displace communities and affect the environment.



Get Involved

Your participation is crucial! Join our efforts to promote sustainable development, advocate for climate justice, and safeguard community rights. Whether it's attending a workshop, sharing your story, or joining a local initiative, your voice matters and the change we fight for begins with us.

About us.

EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE HOST COMMUNITIES (EACOP HC): is an association of EACOP affected communities based in the Albertine region of Uganda, EACOPHC is dedicated to promoting sustainable environmental use, human rights and land rights of vulnerable communities. The organization was formed in 2019 to promote and advocate for the protection of environment and human rights in areas affected by the proposed East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)

EACOP HC works with oil project affected communities, youth, women, religious and local government leaders to ensure promotion of environmental justice and human rights in the EACOP oil project affected areas. Through lobby, research and community education, EACOP HC works with vulnerable communities, cultural, religious and local government leaders to ensure that natural resources are utilized in an environmentally conservation manner and land rights of vulnerable communities are protected.

Reach out to us with your questions, suggestions, or to contribute to our next newsletter. Together, we can create positive change and build a sustainable future for all.

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