



Kiziranfumbi, Kikuube District
Albertine Region of Uganda,
Tel: +256 394857997
Email: info@eacophc.org
Website: www.eacophc.org

PETITION TO HALT RE-EVICTIONS, DEFEND LAND RIGHTS, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS ENSURE JUSTICE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND HOLD PERPETRATORS ACCOUNTABLE

TO:

- The Parliament of Uganda
- The Minister of Energy and Mineral Development
- The Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
- The Executive Director, Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU)
- The District Chairperson, Hoima District Local Government
- The General Manager, East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project / TotalEnergies EP Uganda

Date: May 24, 2026

1. PREAMBLE

We, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities (EACOPHC) present this petition on behalf of the residents, landholders, and the over 800 oil-impacted women and girls of Kapapi Village and neighboring communities. The mothers, daughters, widows, farmers, caregivers, and custodians of their communities. Women and girls who depend entirely on their land for food production, income, culture, and the survival of future generations. Today, that vital foundation is under severe and existential threat.

Within the past three years, the Kapapi community has experienced repeated, highly disruptive forced re-evictions. Thousands of residents have once again been displaced, leaving families homeless, destroying crops and livelihoods, interrupting children's education, and exposing women and girls to heightened risks of violence, exploitation, poverty, and profound psychological trauma.

Women have borne the greatest burden of these re-evictions. Many have lost access to the agricultural land that sustained their households, while others have become internally displaced with little or no protection. The persistent uncertainty surrounding land ownership continues to deepen inequality and insecurity, particularly for women whose land rights remain undocumented or insufficiently protected.

2. OUR GRIEVANCES AND CHALLENGES

- **Systemic Threats to Land Rights and Forced Evictions:** The rapid acquisition of land for EACOP activities has resulted in the displacement of local residents without the prior, prompt, fair, and adequate compensation guaranteed under Article 26 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda. Vulnerable community members are facing immense pressure to surrender ancestral lands, leaving families landless, without livelihood alternatives, and destitute.
- **Disproportionate Social and Economic Impact on Women and Girls:** Women and girls bear the heaviest burden of these displacements. The loss of agricultural land directly destroys local subsistence farming, causing acute food insecurity, depriving women of their primary source of economic independence, and increasing their vulnerability to gender-based violence, exploitation, and institutional neglect.
- **Intimidation, Surveillance, and Civic Suppression:** Community members, local activists, and defenders who attempt to peacefully speak out against unfair land acquisition processes are being subjected to systemic harassment, surveillance, and intimidation. Peaceful assembly, expression, and collective civic participation are being actively suppressed in direct violation of fundamental human rights.
- **Lack of Genuine, Survivor-Centered Grievance Mechanisms:** Affected families are systemically shut out of critical decision-making processes. Existing grievance mechanisms

managed by project developers are heavily biased, non-transparent, and fail to provide a safe space for survivors to document violations, present testimonies, or receive genuine legal and financial redress.

3. OUR DEMANDS FOR JUSTICE AND RESOLUTION

- **Immediate Halt to Compulsory Land Acquisitions and Evictions:** All land acquisition processes, physical displacements, and project-related civil works in Kapapi must be immediately suspended until all pending land disputes, compensation appeals, and community grievances are independently reviewed and resolved.
- **Implementation of Fair, Prompt, and Market-Value Compensation:** Compensation rates must be transparently recalculated to reflect current market realities and rising inflation. Land-for-land resettlement options must be prioritized to preserve the livelihoods and agricultural heritage of the community.
- **Gender-Responsive Protection Measures:** The government and project developers must design and implement specific economic and social safety nets targeting the over 800 oil-impacted women and girls in Kapapi and surrounding areas, ensuring they have secure access to alternative land, agricultural inputs, and clean water.
- **A Complete Guarantee of Civic Safety and an End to Intimidation:** Cease all forms of judicial harassment, surveillance, and physical intimidation directed at community activists, women leaders, and local residents. The right of host communities to assemble peacefully, express dissent, and engage in collective civic action must be fully protected.
- **Establishment of an Independent, Survivor-Centered Redress Mechanism:** Establish an independent, community-led, and gender-inclusive accountability platform where survivors can safely report violations, present testimonies, and receive immediate legal and financial redress.
- **Establish an independent Commission of Inquiry** to investigate allegations of forced evictions, destruction of property, intimidation, violence, human rights violations, and any abuses committed against community members.
-

4. CONCLUSION

We demand that the relevant authorities and project developers take immediate heed of these demands and take decisive, corrective action to respect and protect our community. We stand united and unwavering in our resolve to protect our ancestral lands, secure environmental justice, and safeguard the future of our children.