

# WoGEM Report



The disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across project affected communities in Uganda. A case of Kyakagoba, Kyakatamba and Kijjumba Villages in Hoima District.

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August, 2025



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## TITLE

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June - August 2025



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BY: WOMEN FOR GREEN ECONOMY MOVEMENT UGANDA

August, 2025

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



## // THERE IS NO CLIMATE JUSTICE WITHOUT GENDER JUSTICE

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The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project, while positioned as a driver of economic growth, has had profound and disproportionate impacts on women and girls in project-affected communities. In Kyakaboga, Kyakatemba, and Kijjumba Villages in Hoima District, women have experienced the loss of land and livelihoods, Gender Based Violence, family breakups, increased early marriages, increased domestic responsibilities, and limited participation in decision-making processes, exacerbating existing gender inequalities and social vulnerabilities.

At Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda (WoGEM-U), we have engaged closely with these communities to document the gendered dimensions of EACOP's social and environmental impacts. The findings underscore the urgent need for development initiatives that are gender-responsive, socially just, and environmentally sustainable. Women must be recognized not only as those affected but as critical agents of resilience, leadership, and sustainable development.

Furthermore, we have closely listened to and worked with Project Affected Persons (PAPs) whose lives and voices have been overshadowed by extractive interests. Their testimonies reveal the disproportionate burdens women carry such as depression, anxiety, stress, trauma and unpaid care work while mitigating and adapting to the above challenges.

This report further, highlights the critical importance of adopting gender-responsive frameworks in the planning and implementation of large-scale infrastructure and extractive projects. A just, feminist energy transition must prioritize women's rights, ensure equitable participation in decision-making, and promote sustainable

livelihood restoration for affected households.

In addition, intergenerational healing, emotional wellbeing, social justice and environmental integrity for marginalized women must be prioritized through creating open safe space for women to share their resilience stories, to reimagine their influencing power to break the patriarchal systems and challenge the false narratives in the sector. We must know that women are not mere victims of climate and extractive injustices; they are critical agents of resilience, innovation, and peace

We call upon government institutions, development partners, and private sector actors involved in EACOP to ensure that women's rights, participation, and livelihoods are prioritized at all stages of project implementation, including compensation, resettlement, and environmental restoration. Sustainable development can only be achieved when women's voices and contributions are central to planning and decision-making.

Finally, we wish to sincerely thank our partners, 350.org, 11TH HOUR and other donors for their support in enabling this research. Your commitment has made it possible to document and amplify the experiences of women in these communities, providing evidence to inform policy and advocate for gender-equitable approaches in extractive projects.

Let us commit to building a future where green, inclusive, and equitable economies take precedence over extractive profit. The women of Kyakaboga, Kyakatemba, and Kijjumba deserve nothing less.

The women of Hoima deserve more than promises they deserve justice, dignity, and the power to shape their own futures.

# ABSTRACT

The construction of the East African Oil Pipeline impacts has been discussed in terms of environmental, economic and local concerns but rarely raises the critical aspect of disproportionate gendered impacts; the profound gendered impacts EACOP has had on women in affected communities. This study was conducted to divulge the disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across project affected communities in Uganda. A study survey designed was adopted and Interviews were conducted among 28 women, youths and elderly in three villages of Kijjumba, Kyakatemba and Kyakagoba in Hoima district along the EACOP corridor. The findings of the study revealed that Women in the EACOP corridor face unique challenges, from economic displacement and social disruption to health risks and cultural losses, in spite of the female empowerment claims made by EACOP developers. The EACOP project disrupted livelihoods of women disproportionately because they primarily rely on land for subsistence farming and small scale trade. The employment opportunities generated by such projects are typically male-dominate and perpetuating gender inequalities. The influx of a predominantly male workforce led to increased gender-based violence, increased cases of sexual assault, harassment, social disruption and other violent crimes against women exacerbating women's vulnerabilities. Environmental degradation resulting from pipeline construction has also disproportionately impacted women, who are usually responsible for gathering fuel, and food for instance, a drop in food available for the family has resulted in some cases



an uptick in tensions and conflicts in the households. These critical challenges are contrary to the EACOP's developers' claim that the oil project will help to close the "gender gap" in displaced communities, and empower women. Challenges must therefore be addressed to ensure more equitable and sustainable development. It was therefore, recommended that EACOP developers' ought to carry out a Gender Impact Assessment to carefully understand, mitigate and reduce impacts the project has had on women other than relying on the conventional ESIA, the government of Uganda should provide adequate supervision of the EACOP developers to ensure that they are compliant with the approved Resettlement Action Plans and the government needs to increase land and crop compensation rates on an annual basis to reflect rapidly changing costs of replacement land, inflation rates, and revenue generating potential of crops and ensure that up-lift allowance is fully paid among others.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS



ESIA	:	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
EACOP	:	East African Crude Oil Pipeline
FEED	:	Front End Engineering Design
ROW	:	Right of Way
CNOOC	:	China National Offshore Oil Corporation
CSCO	:	Civil Society Organizations
UBoS	:	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
IPCC	:	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IEA	:	International Energy Agency
TPDC	:	Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation
UNOC	:	Uganda National Oil Company
EBSA	:	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas
IFHR	:	International Federation for Human Rights
FHRI	:	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
WoGEM	:	Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda
HRD	:	Human rights defenders
HRW	:	Human Rights Watch
RAP	:	Resettlement Action Plan
FID	:	Financial Investment Decision
PAPs	:	Project Affected Persons
PACs	:	Project Affected Communities
IFCPS	:	International Finance Corporation Performance Standard
IFC	:	International Finance Corporation
HRIA	:	Human Rights Impact Assessment
GBV	:	Gender Base Violence
LRP	:	Livelihood Restoration Plan
HIV	:	Human Immune Virus
NCEA	:	Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment

# INTRODUCTION



The development of oil and gas pipelines over the world has been closely associated with serious environmental and social implications, which if not well addressed could irreversible impacts on the environmental conservation and the overall human development situation in the region.



## Study Background

Globally, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project is one of the most significant fossil fuel infrastructure projects under development. Uganda's oil development, if completed, will include hundreds of wells, hundreds of kilometers of roads, camps, and other infrastructure and a 1443-kilometer pipeline, the longest heated pipeline in the world, connecting western Uganda's oilfields to the Tanzanian coast. Infrastructure development is underway and compensation under the land acquisition project along the pipeline corridor is 96 percent complete as of September 2023. Being the longest electrically heated pipeline in the world, EACOP is expected to transport 216,000 barrels of

oil per day. As detailed by Front End Engineering Design (FEED) which detailed technical, technology and financial requirements required to start production and exportation of oil and gas resources from Uganda through Tanga port in Tanzania (Uganda Directorate of Petroleum, 2016).

The EACOP pipeline is also expected to be a 24-inch diameter and shall be located below ground. It will run for 1,443 km in length along a 30-100m path known as the pipeline Right of Way (ROW). It is important to note that an oil and gas pipeline is not confined to the pipe itself, it also includes ancillary facilities such as receiving dispatch, pump

and control stations; access or maintenance roads, booster stations (required at regular intervals for long distances to cope with internal friction changes in elevation along the line) and compression stations which maintain pipeline pressure at regular intervals (Barclays, 2015).

As such, 5,300 hectares of land were required for construction and operation of the pipeline, which means that around 14,000 households lose land. Of these, roughly 200 households in Uganda and 330 households in Tanzania have to be resettled, and approximately 3,200 to 3,500 households in Uganda and 9513 households in Tanzania are economically

displaced, which means that they lose land essential to their livelihoods (Business and Human Rights Resource Centre. 2019). In both countries, the EACOP passes through critical sources of water for local communities. Nearly 2,000 square kilometres of protected wildlife habitats will be negatively impacted by the EACOP project (WWF and CSCO, 2017). Although the official EACOP route starts in Hoima, which lies outside the Murchison Falls National Park in Uganda, a feeder pipeline will be constructed (Roker, 2017) that will run from Total's Tilenga oil field, which is partly situated in the National Park, (CNOOC, Total, Tullow. 2018) to the EACOP starting point. The pipeline and associated infrastructure, including a feeder pipeline and roads, encroach on the vulnerable Bugoma Forest Reserve, home to large groups of Eastern chimpanzees. In all, some 500km<sup>2</sup> of wildlife corridors for the Eastern Chimpanzee and African Elephant are likely to be severely degraded (WWF and CSCO, 2017).

It is also estimated that over one million people in the Murchison landscape depend upon it for fishing and water, while Lake Albert alone is the largest contributor to Uganda's fishing industry, sustaining an estimated 43% of the country's fisheries. (UBoS, 2019) Approximately 460 km of the pipeline will be within the freshwater basin of Lake Victoria (WWF and CSCO, 2017), Africa's largest lake, which directly supports the livelihoods of more than 40 million people in the region. The risks of pipeline

spills are significantly exacerbated by the fact that its planned trajectory crosses the Rift Valley, one of the most geologically active regions of the world (USGS). As well, important tributaries of the Nile flow nearby, and oil spills and other pollution affecting the river could have profound impacts. Pollution of these rivers could put severe pressures on all users - from individuals, to businesses and governments – leading to an increase in cross border conflicts.

In addition to disruption of livelihoods, environmental damages, ecosystems, water bodies and natural resources, EACOP still comes at a time when the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and other experts warn that if the international community is to reach the goals stated in the Paris Agreement and avoid the worst impacts of climate change, no new fossil fuel projects can be built (Oxfam et al. 2020). Successful completion of the EACOP will unlock commercial production at two oil fields in the Albertine Graben in Uganda, adding to reserves of unburnable carbon. The pipeline carrying 216,000 barrels of crude oil per day at 'plateau production' according to the project's website is likely to result in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of over 34 million tonnes each year, significantly greater than the current combined emissions of Uganda and Tanzania (Inclusive Development International, 2022).

Despite the red flags, The government's national oil companies i.e Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC, 15%) and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC, 15%) in cooperation with the international oil companies, Total Energies (62%) and China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC, 8%) have pushed their plans forward their Agenda without sufficient safeguards to address the ecological and human rights risks of the oil project, because, as a mode of oil and gas transportation, pipelines are recognized to present a low cost alternative in the transfer of large quantities of oil and gas resources compared to other alternative transportation means such as use of trucks on roads or railways. However, the development of oil and gas pipelines over the world has been closely associated with serious environmental and social implications, which if not well addressed could irreversible impacts on the environmental conservation and the overall human development situation in the region.

# Problem Statement

*Construction of oil pipelines, while often discussed in terms of environmental, economic, and indigenous concerns, seldom addresses a critical yet frequently overlooked aspect; the profound impact these projects have on women in affected communities.*

The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) is notorious for the socio-economic and environmental impacts that it will continue to devastate. This Pipeline project has displaced at least 118,348 persons (56,460 in Uganda and 61,889 in Tanzania). The climate impacts of the oil projects are also evident: at peak production, the oil exported by the EACOP is anticipated to produce roughly 34 million metric tons of additional carbon emissions per year. In September 2020, the human rights organizations International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) undertook a community-based human rights impact assessment of the oil fields, pipeline, and proposed oil refinery. The assessment documents numerous serious violations of local communities' rights-including rights to land, housing and an adequate standard of living, the right to health and clean water, and the right to a healthy environment-that had already occurred at early stages of the projects. (Les Amis de la Terre & Survie, 2020).

Even, before construction begun, tens of thousands of oil-affected people in the Albertine region remained without access to significant portions of their land, unable to grow food for survival or income generation and prevented from burying

their deceased, while awaiting compensation more than two years overdue (HRW, 2023). Community members who reported grievances in the land acquisition process, and human rights defenders seeking to challenge the project through litigation and non-legal means expressed fear of retaliation that prevents them from speaking freely and openly about the projects and engaging meaningfully in consultation with the project sponsors. Human rights defenders, environmental defenders and journalists critical of the oil projects have experienced harassment, intimidation, security threats, and retaliation, including arbitrary arrest and detention. At least 30 protesters and HRDs, many of them students, have been arrested in Kampala and other parts of Uganda since 2021, when the government heightened a crackdown on environmental and human rights organizations, suspending 54 organizations on the basis of vague language in the 2016 NGO Law (HRW, Nov, 2023)

Nonetheless, Construction of oil pipelines, while often discussed in terms of environmental, economic, and indigenous concerns, seldom addresses a critical yet frequently overlooked aspect; the profound impact these projects have on women in affected communities. Women face unique challenges, from economic displacement and social disruption to health risks and cultural losses, mental health issues, which must be addressed to ensure more equitable and sustainable development. For instance the phenomenon of the money from extractives flowing predominantly to male household members has been reported elsewhere, including by the Papua New Guinea, and by UN Women in other parts of Asia Pacific. Yet the alliance carrying out the EACOP development, comprising the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments as well as Total and CNOOC, claim that the oil project has helped to close the "gender gap" in displaced communities, and to empower women.

It is against this back ground that Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda (WoGEM) produced a detailed report on disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across impacted communities in Uganda a case study of Kyakatemba, Kijjumba and Kyakagoba villages along the EACOP corridor in Hoima District. This report highlights the dangers of EACOP and the gendered challenges the project affected persons especially women face in their day today life and how the project has contributed to the climate crisis.

## Research aim

The aim of this report was to investigate the disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across project affected communities in Uganda.

## Objectives

- To identify socio-economic threats that arose from EACOP operations and their impact on marginalized groups like women, girls and elderly living in the Project affected communities of Kyakatemba, Kijjumba and Kyakagoba villages in Hoima District.
- To establish health and safety challenges of women living in communities impacted by the East African Oil Pipeline in Kyakatemba, Kijjumba and Kyakagoba villages of Hoima District (health and safety).
- To disclose the intersectionality of the environment, gender, fossil fuels and climate change.
- To provide recommendations that are required to ensure that women and other vulnerable populations are safeguarded during the development and operation of the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline project.

## Scope

The thematic scope of this report investigated the disproportionate gendered various environmental and socio-economic issues associated with the EACOP project across project affected communities in Uganda. The geographical scope on the other hand covered sections of the project route in Hoima District Western Uganda where it starts. This report specifically covers areas of Kyakagoba, Kyakatemba and Kijjumba. The temporal (time) scope of the investigation covers the EACOP project from June 2017 through February 2023 when operations started to date.

## Limitations

Research of similar nature previously incited harassment and intimidation of interviewees and so due to fears for reprisals from proponents of the oil project, participants were reluctant to take part or may not disclose information at ease. Consequently, all interviewees were assigned pseudonyms and all identifying information is withheld.

Participants were also reluctant to discuss EACOP project because they were demoralized by many organizations that have come to them asking questions but have never issued any solutions to their problems, though WoGEM coordinators convinced them to cooperate as they are known in these communities.

The study field work was done during the time of political campaigns and therefore participants expected some gains from participation. However, research assistants explained to them the purpose of the research which was not related to the campaign season

# LITERATURE REVIEW

## ***EACOP Land Acquisition Processes and Compensation Impacts***

The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) is notorious for the socio-economic and environmental impacts that it will continue to devastate. According to a recent human rights impact assessment carried out by Oxfam, “...significant human rights and environmental risks remain and need to be urgently addressed.” In total, 13,305 households (3,792 of them in Uganda and 9,513 in Tanzania), will lose land within the 30-meter EACOP pipeline corridor and from associated infrastructure (Human Rights Watch, 2023). EACOP was also required to relocate 599 houses, 1,550 graves, and a number of schools and other buildings according to project documentation (EACOP, “Land Acquisition Summary 2022”). Most of these households are smallscale farmers growing banana, coffee, maize, beans, cassava, and other crops on small plots of land. Land for EACOP was acquired under the provision of the Ugandan Constitution on “compulsory land acquisition” for land that is “necessary for public use”. According to EACOP’s government-approved Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and Article 26 requires “prompt payment of fair and adequate compensation.”(Constitution of Uganda, article.26.) The implication is that persons are economically displaced, which means they lose or lost land essential to their livelihoods. It is important to note that the biggest burden of these impacts has been borne by women who have been dispossessed of their land, placing them at the forefront of the consequences though the resettlement plans of EACOP do not give the women, girls and other vulnerable populations specific attention hence they disproportionately bear the brunt of EACOP’s developments.

Similarly, the valuation and compensation process for land taken by the project was characterized by delays, insufficient provision of information to communities, harassment and irregularities. Affected people have stated that

they had only a basic understanding of the project’s stakeholder engagement process, and felt that the project subcontractors had pressured them into signing valuation forms without ensuring their full understanding of this process. Community representatives also report having been harassed, forced to sign different forms without clear explanation, stamp and sign empty forms, and fill valuation forms using a pencil but sign in ink.(OXFAM, 2019; Financial Risk Briefing 2020)

Additionally, ESIA report noted that there are impacts of delayed compensation, one year after announcing the valuation cut-off dates in Uganda, compensation was not been paid, and there was no certainty around when it would be paid as the process would recommence once a FID is made. The delays in paying compensation and the restrictions on using the land severely impacted people’s livelihoods. While growing seasonal crops was allowed, some households were afraid to lose their harvest if they have to vacate the land at short notice. Many affected households in Uganda have decided to quit agriculture because there were also concerns that the replacement lands had inadequate agricultural productivity. Oxfam and others 2020 reported that Total recognized this risk and affected people were supposed to visit the offered land in advance,( Inclusive Development International, 2022) but replacement land was scarce and it is unclear if Total’s suggested measures were sufficient to mitigate the risk (Les Amis de La Terre 20,20). However, these reports paint a general view, it is women in the communities that are more into agriculture for subsistence, these delays and inefficiencies cost them dearly and their children. This report aims to point out specifically how women, girls and other vulnerable PAPs are impacted by EACOP’s actions.

The ESIA report further acknowledges that without adequate compensation,

or if other land able to produce food or sees for panting cannot be found, then households may experience food insecurity. Notably, Female-headed households and other vulnerable groups were anticipated to experience nutritional disorders if food insecurity becomes a long-term problem because such households are particularly vulnerable because of discrimination that excludes women from owning, inheriting and controlling land (Total Energies Universal Registration Document, 2021). Compensation for loss of land is typically paid to the head of household (men) without spousal consent, leaving women vulnerable in terms of access to that compensation (HRW, 2023). Despite policy and legal safeguards formalising the rights of women, children and disabled people's access to land, these groups often enjoy inferior land rights, as traditions and customs protect men's control over land, and as the value of land increases, male dominance over land-related decisions is likely to increase. This project therefore intends to unearth the disproportionate gendered impacts that women have faced because of EACOP operations

A report by Human Rights Watch disclosed that, local communities along EACOP claim that, in contravention of Uganda's 1998 Land Act, project-affected people were never consulted on the compensation rates used for crops and buildings of a non-permanent nature, resulting in inadequate rates and under-valuation of property in several districts (Inclusive Development International, 2022). However, Project-affected people who have sought to challenge insufficient asset valuations have reported ongoing harassment and intimidation from security agents and individuals associated with the EACOP and Tilenga projects, including the Resident District Commissioners and District Police Commanders. Further, Communities report inaccuracies in the cadastral surveys and valuation processes carried out in relation to both Tilenga and EACOP. In several instances, valuation forms were signed under duress, or valuation was carried out while property owners were not present. Community members reported facing pressure from TotalEnergies and its subcontractors to sign valuation forms, including incomplete forms (Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, 2019).

Despite the Irregularities, according to Total Energies' June 15 2023 letter to Human Rights Watch, 97 percent of compensation agreements in Tilenga have been signed and 97 percent had been paid out as of the end of May 2023 (Total Energies, 2023). For EACOP, 96 percent of compensation agreements have been signed and 93 percent paid out in Uganda (Total Energies, 2023). Total Energies and its subsidiaries have repeatedly stated a commitment to comply with international standards and best practices including International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 5 on Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement (IFC Performance Standard 5) and the Equator Principles (IFC Performance Standard (January 2012)). The IFC Performance Standard applicable to Total Energies and its subsidiaries are clear. Those displaced from their land must have their livelihoods restored or enhanced and compensation is required for loss of assets at replacement cost (EACOP's Human Rights Impact Assessment 2018). This research will establish whether women, girls children and other vulnerable groups have been compensated to full value or have been disproportionately impacted by the actions of EACOP operations.

### ***EACOP's Impact on Livelihoods and food security***

In a report by OFAM in 2020, as noted from the Environmental Social and Impact Assessment (ESIA), EACOP was projected to create approximately 1,800 jobs during the construction phase, plus around 8,500 indirect jobs including in logistics, supply chain, catering and security (Uganda ESIA, 2017). 1,600 of the direct project jobs are skilled jobs, and 1,080 for nationals. The ESIA is silent not only on the number of jobs created during operation of the project but also on the number of jobs likely to be created for men and for women. Thus it was expected to significantly favour men. The ESIA also acknowledges that incomes earned by men engaged with the project may not necessarily be used to benefit the household, and that increased access to cash by men may result in increased substance abuse and gender base violence (GBV) (Uganda ESIA, 2017). This phenomenon of the money from extractives flowing predominantly to male household members has been reported elsewhere, including by the in Papua New Guinea, and by UN Women in other parts of Asia Pacific. Yet the

alliance carrying out the EACOP development, comprising the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments as well as Total and CNOOC, has claimed that the oil project will help to close the “gender gap” in displaced communities, and to empower women without specific mitigation risk measures.

The ESIA report also acknowledged that employment with the project may cause a lack of attention to, or possible abandonment of, existing subsistence livelihood such as crop growing and livestock rearing. Household food security and nutrition would therefore be compromised if replacement income sources are not available immediately after the end of project employment, and the economic shock and drop in household standard of living may result in increased alcohol abuse and GBV in a country where 95% of women have received physical or sexual violence in their lifetime (Gender analysis: EACOP, 2017). However, no consideration is given to who may be most affected by reduced household food security and nutrition; these are definitely women, children, girls and elderly populations. OFAM further notes that if household members gain employment with EACOP, other family members, and this is most likely to be the wife, who would need to increase their contribution to crop farming and other livelihood activities employed by a household. Further, increased child labour requirements by the household may jeopardise school attendance, particularly for girls, and if women are employed by the project, girls were more likely to be withdrawn from school to fulfill household tasks (Oxfam and others 2020). As such since start of operation of the EACOP in February 2023, there has not been assessment of these anticipated disproportionate gender impacts. The WoGEM Uganda report will divulge these details.

The main livelihood in project areas is from agriculture-both crop production and animal rearing. Food is grown for consumption in the household with surplus crops traded. While women and men are involved in all aspects of agricultural activities, such as tilling, sowing and harvesting, 19 women are particularly engaged in crop farming and use the income generated to reinforce household food security and pay for their children’s education and health care (Oxfam et al 2020). Other important economic activities are small-scale processing of agricultural products, and small-scale trade in retail merchandise and agricultural

produce (particularly among women). Crop farming households engaged in subsistence and commercial crop farming are vulnerable, owing to their limited access to alternative sources of income caused by remote location, lack of education, skills and experience (HRW, 2023). Female-headed households are even more vulnerable because women are constrained by household duties and have no alternative livelihood opportunities. The Disruption of that primarily rely on land for subsistence farming and small-scale trade impacts women who are often at the forefront of these activities and suffer the most compared to other gender. This report will shed light on these imbalances in the EACOP PAC’s.

According to the ESIA report for EACOP the project required the permanent acquisition of approximately 300 hectares of land, resulting in loss or severance of agricultural land and land used for other purposes. Further, it stated that there was increasing scarcity of land and replacement land for economically displaced individuals was not as productive as previous land holdings. Areas of land associated with natural resource use was also to be acquired by the project (Uganda EISA Report 2017). While, Poorer households were particularly dependent on natural resources, project-related land acquisition caused the permanent loss of agricultural land used to grow high value cash crops, livestock grazing, and land used for artisanal and small scale mining. On the later, women and young people were particularly vulnerable because they often turned to mining because they did not have access to land for farming or livestock rearing and lacked alternative livelihood opportunities which may disproportionately impacted their wellbeing.

A Human Rights Watch Report in 2023 similarly stated that properties along EACOP were initially valued between 2017-2019 and oil company representatives told people the land would be acquired “very soon,” “quickly,” or within “six months” at public meetings. They were told they could only access their land from that time to grow “annual” crops and that they should not access land to tend perennial crops (Uganda ESIA, 2017). There was a range of understandings among farmers whether this meant they could not access perennial crops for harvest or merely could not tend to the perennial

crops – to weed, prune, and fertilize them. There was also confusion around the “cut-off date.” Though clearly the IFC Performance Standard 5 defines “cut-off date” as “the date of completion of the census and assets inventory of persons affected by the project. Persons occupying the project area after the cut-off date are not eligible for compensation and/or resettlement assistance” (Uganda ESIA, 2017). However, many farmers understood it to be the date after which they could not access their land either for annual or perennial crops and compensation was only paid out in 2022 or early 2023- a delay of between three to five years. This delay meant many households had diminished revenues from selling bananas, coffee or other cash crops for several years. The beneficiaries from perennial and annual crops are mostly female headed households because most their livelihoods is dependent on agriculture, however reports generalize impacts of EACOP to all PAPs yet women, girls, children among others are really hit hard by these disruptions. The WoGEMUganda report will reveal the disproportionate nature of EACOP impacts on these vulnerable populations.

Accruing from failure to utilize their land and gain some cash flows to pay school fees and buy food for their children, many households resorted to borrowing money at very high interest rates, often from informal money lenders in their communities after being denied access to their regular and relatively predictable revenue streams from cash crops and believing that they would soon receive significant cash payments. In about one-third of the cases Human Rights Watch documented in which individuals borrowed money, the borrowers were required to pay principal plus 100 percent with no fixed repayment dates (Uganda ESIA, 2017). In other cases, borrowers were charged monthly interest rates of between 10% and 50%. However, their diminished cash crop revenue and the delays in compensation have made the amounts they borrowed increase dramatically while their ability to pay the money back has decreased. The delays in compensation, high interest rates, and inability to otherwise repay debts meant that a significant quantity of compensation money end up going to money lenders and not toward livelihood or asset restoration (HRW, 2023). The implication is that the EACOP degenerated the livelihoods of the already vulnerable PAPs like female lead households. The WoGEM Uganda research intends to bring out the evidence of disproportionate impacts of EACOP on

vulnerable groups like female lead households, Elderly, girls, children among others.

### ***Impacts in EACOP's Resettlement of Project Affected Persons***

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of EACOP induced a need for a project resettlement action plan consisting of procedures for compensation and livelihood restoration strategies which is key strategy to reduce impacts from loss of land and disruptions to land-based livelihoods (Oxfam, 2020). This was developed to guide the land acquisition and resettlement process, and is based on an earlier land acquisition and resettlement framework that was been endorsed by the government of Uganda. The resettlement strategy is a foundation for the detailed resettlement action plan (RAP) and Livelihood Restoration Plan (Lrp) (Uganda ESIA, 2017).

The resettlement strategy states that the project commits to compensating affected persons for loss of rights over land or property in kind or in preference over cash. While this might have had benefits from a gender perspective given that women have little control over use of household funds, the resettlement strategy does not identify this as a potential benefit or aim. While the resettlement strategy noted the need to include women in participatory planning and consultation processes, the resettlement strategy lacks a gender analysis or focus and does not commit ensuring a gender responsive or equitable compensation process. The particular vulnerability of women-headed households with respect to limited non-land based livelihood options, or that women typically have little control over decisions on the use of household funds, is not mentioned. The lack of acknowledgement of these realities RAP and LRP documents implied that women's needs and interests were ignored and their rights undermined during the resettlement process (Uganda ESIA, 2017). This is an area of concern for WoGEMUganda to divulge these realities and focus on salvaging the situation of Women, children, Elderly e.t.c in the EACOP affected communities.

A December 2020 impact assessment by Les Amis de la Terre France and Survie (2020) documents how the mishandled resettlement processes for Tilenga and EACOP have led to the infringement of numerous rights including those to

property; to an adequate standard of living; to food; to education; to health; to adequate housing; to life, liberty and security; to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly; and to free, prior and informed consent. Overall, in the development of the Resettlement Action Plans, the companies have failed to allow for meaningful consultation and community participation on draft plans and have not disclosed in an appropriate and accessible form plans for the resettlement and livelihood restoration programs. Significant confusion, anxiety and fear surrounding the land acquisition and relocation processes for EACOP persist throughout affected communities, who remain largely uninformed of project timelines, location of replacement land, and plans for livelihood restoration programs. These processes are in grave breach of the objectives and requirements of Performance Standard 5. This standard calls upon IFC clients to anticipate, avoid and/or minimize adverse social and economic impacts resulting from land acquisition or restrictions on land use by, (i) providing replacements or replacement cost compensation for loss of assets, and (ii) ensuring that resettlement activities are implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, consultation and the informed participation of affected communities (IFC Performance Standard (January 2012)).

By contrast, the land valuation, acquisition, and compensation processes for the EACOP and associated oil field projects have been carried out in a way that has exacerbated, rather than mitigated, negative impacts. As a result, community members have faced and are currently facing increased impoverishment, livelihood disruption, economic hardship, food insecurity, and other cumulative impacts. An assessment in the Energy Research and Social Science academic journal concluded with reference to IFC Performance Standard 5 that, “It is very evident that the EACOP project has failed in relation to its obligations to minimize the time between cut-off date and compensation/resettlement” (EACOP’s Human Rights Impact Assessment 2018). The accumulation impacts most disproportionately women, girls, children, elderly among others, though reports generalize impacts. This report will make known the disproportionate gendered impacts among EACOP affected communities.

In accordance with Performance Standard 5, economically displaced people

whose livelihoods are land-based should be offered alternative land of equal size and quality, alongside the option of replacement cost cash compensation. Compensation (in-kind or cash) should be provided prior to any acquisition or land use restrictions. Despite public statements by the project sponsors that communities are offered the option of monetary or in-kind compensation, communities claim that the companies and their subcontractors employed tactics of intimidation and manipulation of affected landowners that compelled them to accept monetary compensation rather than compensation in-kind (IFC PS5, 2012). Those who have received monetary compensation report inadequate and outdated compensation rates that do not meet replacement cost, effectively leaving families without an economic base to earn a living and grow food (Les Amis de La Terre, 2020). Those who have requested or intend to request replacement land were relocated to land that is of lesser value and fertility, and where agricultural productivity is low. The impacts of these actions are long-term and affected some households within the PACs. This research project intends to further investigate these impacts and establish how they disproportionately affect women and girls as well as female lead households in EACOP PACs.

In consideration of delays in compensation and resettlement of PAPs, the implementing partners of EACOP announced application of an uplift of additional financial compensation of 15 % per year for the period between valuation of the inventory and payment in Uganda notes that Human Rights Watch (2023). These measures were aimed at mitigating the effects of these delays on the PAPs in their daily lives. However, practically most people received 30 % (2 years of 15%) even though compensation delays, in many cases, were between three and five years. This was grossly inadequate to make up for several years of diminished or no revenue from lost land and the disproportionate impact of this income loss on vulnerable populations like Women, girls, children and elderly is not articulated. The Evidence based research by WoGEM Uganda will divulge these details (HRW, 2023).

### ***EACOP’s Impacts on Health and Safety***

Environmental degradation resulting from pipeline construction disproportionately impacts women, who are usually responsible for gathering

water, fuel, and food. Contaminated resources lead to severe health issues, including reproductive health problems, while increasing the workload of women as primary caregivers. Notes the Multinationals Observatory research. The ESIA for EACOP anticipated similar risks and stated that there was the potential for high-risk sexual behaviour along transport corridors to, from and within the project area (Uganda ESIA, 2017). The assessment notes that drivers are a high-risk group, often having multiple sexual partners and supporting sexual networks along transport corridors, engaging in high-risk sexual practices that may promote the spread and incidence of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. Despite requirements that employees housed at the project camps must remain there after work hours, there are inevitably interactions between the project's workforce and local communities. Further, interactions between workers may result in the spread of communicable diseases including pulmonary tuberculosis and HIV, initially from labour sourced outside the project area to local workers, and then to local workers families and to communities (HRW, 2023). The WoGEM Uganda report will disclose the impacts to health that have disproportionately affected women and other vulnerable PAPs in the EACOP affected communities despite the workers code of conduct instituted the EACOP implementing Institutions.

Global extractive industry projects are also known to represent risks for women's safety. So-called "man camps", as in temporary settlements for workers on oil and gas fields and other fossil fuel infrastructure, allegedly lead to increased cases of sexual assault, harassment, human trafficking and other violent crimes against women, in the U.S ([www.gasoutlook.com/long-read/woodfibre-lng-in-canada-threatens-unesco-reserve](http://www.gasoutlook.com/long-read/woodfibre-lng-in-canada-threatens-unesco-reserve)). The EACOP's ESIA states that because of the potential for employment opportunities and other indirect economic possibilities, the in-migration of job seekers, commercial sex workers and people seeking business opportunity is likely to occur, particularly near project camps (Uganda ESIA, 2017). OXFAM, noted that poor standards of housing, associated with overcrowding and poor environmental hygiene, is a contributing factor to the development and spread of diseases in communities. The in-migration of job seekers may lead to an increase in commercial sex work, which, in the existing polygamous environment, may cause an increase

in sexually transmitted diseases (Oxfam, 2020).

Further, in-migration may result in increases in so-called 'social ills' in local communities, including substance abuse, unplanned pregnancies and GBV. Local health facilities have limited capacity to manage an outbreak of any communicable disease, and the in-migration of people to project areas will place additional on local health facilities (OXFAM, 2020). Addressing such issues as stated in the ESIA has not been a priority for the government and partners involved in the project. Instead, they have built a police station in the area instead of the requested healthcare facility. This action is also contrary to the ESIA which stated that these impacts would be managed by measures outlined in the project's community health, safety and security plan; occupational health and safety plan; labor management plan; and project induced in-migration plan (Uganda ESIA, 2017). This report will unveil the impact of government's more concerned with controlling those against the pipeline, and not with addressing the needs of the community and how this disproportionately impacts women, girls, children and other vulnerable populations

The ESIA report also failed to recognize that the spread of communicable diseases would have significant impacts on women's unpaid care work. Additionally it also fails to truly grasp the implications for women and girls, and their health and safety, resulting from the in-migration of large numbers of mostly men seeking project employment and other opportunities. While the increase in commercial sex work in project area is acknowledged, for example, the effect this might have on women and young girls, and their ability to move freely and safely in their communities, is not considered. Other research points to impact this can have on women and girls. For instance, research from Mongolia has found that the presence of large number of men working at mining sites resulted in local women reporting that they no longer feel safe to walk alone at night and that when they do venture out, they now travel in groups (Total Energies, 2023). Women also reported that cars of men would stop and ask them if they are prostitutes or if they want to go for a 'drive' with them. These experiences impinge on women's freedom to move and contribute to a woman's sense of insecurity in her community (HRW, 2023). Ugandan women expressed fear

and frustration over the presence of new male oil workers, that included road workers, oil workers, military representatives and others, which they described as an “unidentifiable group of male foreigners restricting their movements,” the Multinationals Observatory research noted.([www.multinationales.org/en/investigations/women-on-the-frontline](http://www.multinationales.org/en/investigations/women-on-the-frontline)).

### ***Climate and Environmental Impacts of EACOP***

It is known that oil is a vital part of our society. It is the biggest product used for energy sources by mankind and goods for several consumers. But, on the other hand, the oil and gas industries hold major hazards which affect the environment at all levels: air, water, soil and all living beings and organisms on this planet. However, one of the most dangerous activities of the oil and gas industries is pollution, which is associated with all processes of oil and gas production and refining. Water Wastes, gas emissions, solid waste and aerosols are generated during the drilling, production and refining process, and transportation of over 800 various types of chemicals. (Environmental impacts of the oil industry – EOLSS. (n.d.). from <https://www.eolss.net/sample-chapters/c08/e6-185-18.pdf>).

Successful completion of the EACOP will unlock commercial production at two oil fields in the Albertine Graben in Uganda, adding to reserves of unburnable carbon. The pipeline will carry 216,000 barrels of crude oil per day at ‘plateau production’ according to the project’s website. According to Financial Risk calculations this oil is likely to result in CO2 emissions of over 34 million tonnes each year, significantly greater than the current combined emissions of Uganda and Tanzania (Carbon Trucker Initiative, 2022).

Independent expert reviews of the Tilenga, Kingfisher and EACOP ESIA’s document the project sponsors’ failure to apply “best available techniques” to prevent and mitigate degradation of ecosystem services at the project site, choosing to employ low-cost technology for oil drilling and water crossings (E-Tech International 2019). These failures create foreseeable risk to the health and safety of community members. These actions increase the prospect of an oil spill or leak from the EACOP poses a significant risk to water resources in

the region. The pipeline route traverses numerous bodies of water relied upon by local communities, and puts at risk the groundwater that local communities especially women, girls, children and elderly use to meet their daily needs which disproportionately increases their vulnerability (WWF and CSCO (2017).

Where hazardous waste generation cannot be avoided, Performance Standard 3 requires project sponsors to “reduce the generation of waste and recover and reuse waste in a manner that is safe for human health and the environment. Where waste cannot be recovered or reused, the client will treat, destroy or dispose of it in an environmentally sound manner when hazardous waste disposal is conducted by third parties, the client will use contractors that are reputable and legitimate enterprises licensed by the relevant government regulatory agencies,” or consider alternative disposal options (IFC, 2012). Safeguards to this effect have for instance have not been effectively established at both the Tilenga and Kingfisher oil field projects, where independent experts found that both projects are resorting to low-cost options for hazardous waste disposal, including through the outsourcing of waste disposal to inexperienced local sub-contractors (E-Tech International, 2019).

TotalEnergies has defended its decision to outsource waste disposal to local contractors despite the fact that, “there is no history in Uganda of successful operation of hazardous waste landfills at a standard necessary to process drilling wastes from the Tilenga Project,” as noted in the project’s ESIA technical review (Uganda ESIA, 2017). Moreover, recent studies conducted in 2021 by Makerere University researcher, Abraham Mwesigye, found that poor oil waste disposal and management in the Albertine Graben has already led to the contamination of soil and two water bodies, impacting agricultural livelihoods which a life line for women, girls, children and elderly. The impacts on the section of PAPs are generalized while their suffering gross compared to others in the same PACs (Abraham, 2021). The WoGEM Uganda report exclusively investigated the disproportionate nature of impacts on these vulnerable PAPs in EACOP’s PACs.

The pipeline and associated infrastructure, including a feeder pipeline and road,

will encroach on the vulnerable Bugoma Forest Reserve, home to large groups of Eastern chimpanzees (NCEA, 2019). From Hoima, EACOP subsequently runs through the Taala Forest Reserve. In all, some 500km<sup>2</sup> of wildlife corridors for the Eastern Chimpanzee and African Elephant are likely to be severely degraded. Oil extraction will take place within the Murchison Falls-Albert Delta Wetland System, a Ramsar site that plays an important role for wildlife in the National Park and is a spawning ground for indigenous fish species. The pipeline will also run near or through a number of Ramsar sites that lie just west of Lake Victoria, including Mabamba Bay, the Lake Mburo-Nakivali System, the Lake Nabugabo System, the Nabajjuzi System, and the Sango Bay-Musambwa Island (Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2016). Several potential financiers have policies restricting them from financing operations that adversely impact Ramsar sites.

### ***Observations from the Review***

Despite numerous public statements, policies, and plans from Total Energies and its subsidiaries to identify and mitigate negative impacts in the project, the situation on the ground for many families who are losing land is grim. Thus there are devastating impacts on livelihoods of Ugandan families from the land acquisition process. Though not documented, female lead households, Women, young girls are disproportionately hit.

The land acquisition process has been marred by delays, poor communication, and inadequate compensation. Reports have shown PACs are still awaiting the adequate compensation promised. The tactics of pressuring and intimidation to agree to low levels of compensation that were inadequate to buy replacement land worked more effectively against women, girls and female lead households. These realities are not in existing literature which WoMEG intends to disclose in its report

The Literature notes that those families, who have purchased replacement land with their compensation, have typically bought less land, with poorer soil quality, located farther away, and with land costs steadily increasing in many of the areas of proposed oil development, partly due to land speculation. Yet it

is women who mostly depend on natural resources for small scale agricultural annual and perennial crops. Thus the EACOP project has diminished their livelihoods significantly, which has left their families poorer and unsure about the future than other households. WoMEG will make known these disproportionate gendered impacts.

In addition, delays impacted households food security, buying food they would have grown previously to feed their families by resorting to selling household assets, including livestock, or borrowing from predatory lenders at excessive rates to pay their expenses. The situation gets worse for women who culturally have limited rights to assets like land implying the impact to their wellbeing goes beyond food security. This research will reveal the gravity of these impacts on women and other vulnerable groups

Further, reports note that many households were largely self sufficient before oil begun with revenues from coffee, bananas and other cash crops which enabled them to pay school fees and other household expenses. With compensation 3-5 years down the road, they were unable and resorted to selling household assets and borrowing at exorbitant rates. The impact of this are worse among already vulnerable groups like female lead families whose children and grand children more often girls who ended up dropping out of schools and exposure to Gender Based violence. The WoGEM report intends to go deeper to discover these accumulative impacts that disproportionately affect women and young girls

The literature shows that there was inadequate livelihood assistance by the EACOP consortium. PACs who lost land to the project received food aid in limited quantities. The promises of livestock and school fees did not come true. There is silence regarding the impact of these scarcities on vulnerable groups like women, girls and elderly which prompted WoGEM to carry out this research



# METHODOLOGY

This Research adopted a qualitative study method on the basis of its emphasis on understanding and exploring meaning from the participants' points of view. Qualitative research methods are suitable when studying facts in the natural settings from the perspective of participants. PAPs were studied in their natural contexts, at their homesteads, work places, all in Projects affected Communities. This helped us to get rich information from the participants about their views, opinions and experiences with the EACOP project.

A survey study design was adopted and was suitable because surveys are effective for gathering information directly from the sample population. Open-ended questions were used during interviews with an aim of revealing opinions, feelings, experiences and narratives of participants on the subject matter. Similarly, open-ended questions were used during Focus Group Discussions which were conducted among PACs who were most especially women, girls living in Project affected areas.

This study targeted a population of PAPs in Hoima District in the Three Villages of Kyaka boga, Kyakatemba and Kijjumba. These villages are located in the Project area and have been impacted by the land acquisition program in the

EACOP pipeline corridor. The report is based on 15 Interviews and 3 Focus Group Discussions conducted in June 2025.

12 interviews were in person with direct PAPs of EACOP. To gain as broad a perspective as possible, we interviewed women, elderly and Youth with a wide range of backgrounds, ages, livelihoods, and with different experiences of the compensation process and Operations of EACOP. Three of the interviews were with women who head households.

In addition to the 12 affected individuals, we interviewed 3 people who are not displaced but have other firsthand experiences with the land acquisition process, such as village opinion leaders, and activists.

Some interviews were conducted in English, but most were translated from English into local languages. In addition, photo graphic evidence was attained at Project sites to reconcile with interviews. All Interviews were recorded for ease of transcription and retrieval during analysis of findings. While Videos are good option, they may expose participants and were not opted for since the research was limited to a scope of only three villages, besides previous interviewees with media and civil society have been harassed. All Interviewees in this research were not offered any compensation for participation and were informed of the purpose of the interview and its voluntary nature, including their right to stop the interview at any point, and had to consent prior to the Interview.

On the basis of previous reports, some interviewees who have been interviewed previously by the media or civil society groups reported experiencing harassment or intimidation from oil company subcontractors or government officials. Consequently, all interviewees were assigned pseudonyms.

Throughout the research, Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda took various precautions to verify the credibility of interviewees' statements. Unless otherwise specified, all the patterns of statements in this report are based on a variety of independent sources including interviews, FGDs and secondary material.

We reviewed nongovernmental organization (NGO) reports, media articles, government documents, social media posts, compensation documents, and project documents from EACOP. This report focused on the “EACOP consortium” comprised of Total Energies East Africa Midstream, CNOOC, UNOC. Total Energies EP Uganda - is the majority owner and operator.

Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda chose to research and report on EACOP because the oil project posed significant risks of human rights harms to the local population, has major climate change implications, and incurred actual

harms on people whose lands were needed for the development during early implementation of the project. EACOP is also important as part of the broader discussion about fossil fuel infrastructure amidst a rapidly changing global energy context and devastating harms from the worsening climate crisis. The livelihood risks and the consortia’s approach to managing risk are illustrative of issues around land acquisition which have disproportionately impacted PAPs most especially Women and young girls which has widened gender gaps in Uganda, specifically along the EACOP corridor.



The Research Team

# RESEARCH FINDINGS

## 1 IMPACTS OF LAND ACQUISITION PROCESSES

While government can acquire land compulsorily on the grounds of public interest, the land owners must be paid fair and adequate compensation before government takes possession of the property according to the constitution of Uganda. It must pay timely, fair and adequate compensation to all persons with interest on the land and must be assessed at the actual market value at the time of acquisition. While PAPs of EACOP project were excited and expected to be well-off because of the development brought about by the oil pipeline, the excitement vanished as most were plunged deeper into poverty. One of the PAPs interviewed by WoGEM in Kyakatemba clearly puts it; "... During sensitization, around 2017/2018, they would tell us how the pipeline will pass through our land and we shall get money and become rich so they advised us to plan as family! We were optimistic but actually, it was vice versa they took your acre of land and promised e.g 6 million but they came back to pay after 5 years while the land appreciated in value to 20million. This was a total loss..." Indeed all PAPs in the 3 Villages of Kyakatemba, Kyakagoba and Kijjumba villages of Hoima were left in a worse off financial position after the acquisition of their land than they were before. This disproportionally affected women, elderly and children since most depend on their farm land for a living as shown in the following sections.

### Consultation for Compensation

In 2 of the three villages' i.e Kyakagoba and Kyakatemba, women were dissatisfied with the processes the Developers of EACOP used to evaluate and assess their property. They were denied effective access to meaningful information and as such they did not participate in making decisions regarding valuation of their property. Majority did not understand what they were signing at different stages of the compensation process and yet there was no legal representation for such illiterate PAPs. One of the Women 40, in Kyakagoba who signed agreements reported, *"...Whether you were educated or not all of us were treated liked fools, we signed things we did not understand, they evaluated our properties but papers written in pencil, on return you find what we signed were missing, we were lost .... Later they came to tell the good and bad, we were later categorized in things we did not understand..."*

In addition to inadequate sensitization and involvement of the women, many affected women signed agreements out of bandwagon; they could not afford to lose everything, besides EACOP developer officials' intimidated and harassed women who attempted to get clarification. One woman who signed following others from Kyakagoba notes *"...We were put in categories like 2A for those whose land was almost finished and others without explanation and proper*

*sensitization. Sometimes they bring agreements, when saw 2 or 3 people sign, we just line up and sign without taking you through the agreement to understand! When you tried to inquire during sensitization, they would reply with arrogance and intimidate you as someone trying to sabotage government programs..."*

The findings further indicate that women who disagreed with developers valuations were intimidated by government officials up to LCV. Several women interviewees described feeling threatened by EACOP Uganda's developers, often at public meetings, that if they were not willing to sign the different agreements, then the courts would take their land. Going to court for a rural Ugandan is an expensive and intimidating prospect. EACOP officials threatened women that even when they do not agree, they could not stop government programs. And as such their money would be deposited in a government court and court helps them to get it while EACOP operations continue. One woman threatened with court sermons reported *"...they just called us to show us how much you are getting and not negotiable. We had no say in that, if you refuse, we will either give or decline to give you the money, you can go to court, we shall ignore you but government will continue. We shall deposit the money on a government account and even continue to use your land..."*

The findings also indicate that EACOP in some

cases used scare tactics and manipulation to use PAPs property without their consent. Interviewees reported that in case you are not in the pipeline corridor but they needed to use your piece of parking and network issues, they occupied the land without asking for permission and disrupted households. One woman 38 in Kyakatemba whose compound was and is still being utilized narrates, “...For me I gained nothing, those people from EACOP camped in my compound with at least 12 vehicles. They even installed some gadgets in our compound for their networks without our consent, they did not even ask for permission. They made us so uncomfortable even our children were very scared all through. I refused to sign and they made my husband sign when they engaged LC 5, we requested them to bring the papers that were first signed which got lost to date...”

The research findings also noted that women were most curious about the valuation because it was basically their farm land that facilitate their livelihood that was at stake. On the contrary, the men who were the most recipients did not care much; they had a lot of plans for the anticipated compensation. One woman with 9 children in Kyakagoba noted that, “...it is the small piece of land where I get produce and get some money for basic essentials so I refused to sign the small money however due to the greedy nature of my husband, he signed and I lost it all because he married another woman with the money...” as such majority of the women have a sense of wishing the project away, or wishing it never had been lingering in them because

they were denied a chance to decide on the fate of their farm land.

### ***Impacts of Financial Inadequacies of Land Acquisition***

The land acquisition process has been marred by delays, poor communication, and inadequate compensation in the villages of Kyakatemba, Kyakagoba and Kijjumba. The findings indicate that many women were left much worse than they were before the EACOP project. The women who did sign said the compensation amounts received are far below than what they need to purchase replacement lands because on recognition that there was a pipeline passing, the rates of land skyrocketed due to speculation. One woman in Kyakagoba reports “...during sensitization, around 2017/2018, they would tell us how the pipeline will pass through our land and we shall get money and become rich so they advised us to plan as family! We were optimistic but actually, it was vice versa they took your acre of land and promised e.g 6 million but they came back to pay after 5 years while the land appreciated in value to 20million. This was a total loss...”

Many interviewees expressed anger that they waited forever for the adequate compensation promised by EACOP developers in early meetings in which company representatives extolled the virtues of the oil development. In Kyakatemba a woman who was manipulated with her husband reported that the adequate compensation was changed without their

consent and they were forced to accept the small amount while the former evaluation papers vanished “*Pipeline bypassed us and we were excited because we expected to get money, build a house, ride a bike ..... but things changed along the way. For instance my garden was affected and evaluated at 3 million, along the way, they turned around and said the previous agreements were invalid and we were supposed to get 800,000/= and we were intimidated that we might even loose the money and so we signed for the little money which even delayed for more than 3 years*”

Many Women, particularly those whose houses were along the pipeline corridor, said that they were not being offered the option of replacement land and instead were pressured to accept cash settlements that were below the cost to replace land and the house. They were asked to locate anywhere where the Developers would build for them houses with two bedrooms that could not accommodate their children. As such, their children both girls and boys had to sleep in the same rooms contrary to their mad and wattle houses which accommodated their families. One woman 35 in Kyakaboga reported “... they did not have the option of giving you optional land, for those whose buildings were affected! You either accepted cash to go and build or show them a piece of land where they can build for you.



Photos:

Houses of some families that are still living in the EACOP corridor, EACOP has not relocated them

were inconvenient because they have only two bed rooms they cannot accomodate boys and girls who end up sleeping together. In the participants own words; “...for those of EACOP! Their houses were built..... For those whose houses were constructed have a lot of challenges... when someone had a house despite the type of house, for instance if a house had 4 rooms for parents, girls, boys and visitors, the newly constructed house even though they were made with breaks were small with only two bedrooms and a living room! boys end up sleeping with girls....”



Photo: An Internal Camp where PAPs were relocated from Chaploni to Kijjumba

Similar concerns were reported in Kijjumba resettlement camp, for PAPs that were relocated from Kyaplioni. PAPs in this community noted that developers did not honor their agreements. The houses were supposed to be constructed on their farm land. On the contrary, they were relocated into houses that were in one single community and far away from their farm Land. One elderly woman 53 who is a priest in Kijjumba reported; “the agreement was that they build the house on the allocated land when time came, they build the houses in the same location for us all in one location, but for us we are farmers, we are supposed to have some small gardens in the neighborhood, have some chicken, one or two goats but were are clouded here”. Another Participant Woman 35 in Kyakagoba notes that the houses

In addition the houses being crowded in one community, they are so close to one another. The kitchen and the pit latrine are very close and such their health is at risk of cholera which is also common in the Albetine region. The chair person in this community reported “there is also a big challenge, those latrines which you are seeing there, the pit latrine, which you cannot enter it, and it is

just closer to the house, to the kitchen. And this, this Albertine region, sometimes we have a problem of cholera. When you construct my house, my kitchen is here. And it is not like, it is like two meters to three, the pit latrine is there, where the food, where the food is here. Is it okay?... So, we are worried”. The findings indicate that because of these houses, many vices have broken out

that affect most women, girls and children for instance the children impregnate each and conflicts are never ending in the community.

The lack of replacement land, and inadequate compensation have left many families poorer and unsure about the future. Many women and elderly described being largely self-sufficient before the oil

project began, using revenue from, bananas, maize, mangoes and other cash crops to pay for school fees and other household expenses. They did not receive compensation money, because the little was received by the men but they lost the farm land as well making them very vulnerable. Women especially those evacuated to Kijjumba also reported lower quality of land compared to what they had previously owned in Chaploni. This has compromised their ability to grow mangoes for sale, maize, soya and simsim for consumption or selling in markets and gain a livelihood because the soil here is sandy and dries quickly. This has negatively dwindled their income making them very poor and vulnerable.

### Impacts of Delayed Compensation

The findings also indicated that most lands were initially evaluated in 2013-2014 and others in 2017-2019. Compensation was not received until 8 or 5 years later, in 2022 or 2023. For those that were ought to be relocated, it was effected 8 years later. All interviewees acknowledged that considerable hardships accrued from these delays that were also poorly communicated amidst confusion over ability to access their farm land for agriculture during this time. And elderly man of 50 in Kijjumba notes that the delays left them in the bush while those compensated with cash left; *“...The major problem was just delay of the project. There was a cut-off*

*date of 8 months, whereby the oil companies would resolve all the issues of those who opted for cash compensation than relocation. But for us, who opted for relocation, we remained there for six years while we were in the bush. So, there is no road. Some people who opted for cash left. So, at that time, you never know whether you can find a woman while you are moving in the bush, to fetch water. Some women met strangers who even raped them, this project has faced us with problems...”*

Further, because of the delays, many women noted that because of restriction of using their land for farming, they lost income. Worse still, the men started borrowing on the promise of getting money and by the time the money came they were already heavily in debt. They gained nothing because the money was used to pay debts. A one Mary 36 in Kyakatemba whose crops were destroyed reported *“...They came in 2016 for assessment and evaluation of our land but they started compensating us in 2022. Also during this time they restricted us from using our land, only crops with a gestation period of 3 months were allowed things like millet, maize, and beans e.t.c but if they found them, they would pass through and destroy them without care...”*

Another woman who borrowed because of promised compensation noted that the small money came and found them in debts *“...When men knew that they will receive money, they went borrowing at 100% interest, e.g, they borrowed 100000/= and paid*

*back 200000/= in short time. Once the small money came, it was used to pay debts and women did not even get a dress.... And could not fail to pay because men would be jailed and ended up losing all the money without benefiting anything...”* Another woman who lost income from crop production from Kyakagoba notes that their crops were destroyed without compensation and they lost and famine popped up into their families, children dropped out of school and are causing mayhem in the village *“....After Evaluation, they stopped us from using the land for example, we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco, mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours...”*

The finding imply that these delays have left many women disproportionately poorer and unsure about the future. Many described being largely self-sufficient before the oil project began. During the delays, many women farmers understood they were not permitted to access their land to tend perennial crops and hence were deprived of crucial income and bread food insecurity. They have since resorted to selling household assets, including livestock, or borrowing from predatory lenders at excessive rates to pay their expenses including the paying

debt incurred by their men as they waited for compensation money.

### ***Inconsistent Approach to Uplift Allowance***

The findings of this study further indicate that the developers of EACOP tried to mitigate the impacts of delays in compensation in the daily lives of PAPs. Though most women interviewed by WoGEM only received 15% indicating that only on year of delay was compensated. This was in Kyakagoba village though those in Kyakatemba and Kijjumba were not aware of such arrangements. For cases which acknowledged the up lift allowance, they were evaluated in 2017 while compensation started in 2022 which was too inadequate to compensate for the income lost in those years. One woman who received 15% up-lift after 5 years in Kyakagoba said: *“...Compensation started around 2022 and they were paying in phases but at least they took 4 to 5 years but they only gave us uplift allowance of 15%. When we try to complain or if there is a misunderstanding, they ask you where you were when grievance mechanisms bypassed you and why are you just checking your papers now...”*

Another interviewee noted similar concerns and adds that the Developers diverted their concerns during meetings by giving them good food and they ended up accepting the inadequate 15%. As she explains, *“...regarding why they paid us late, they*

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*called us in a meeting and gave us very good food and explained that payment had delayed but they are giving us a disturbing/uplift allowance of 15% twice but still it was too small because they value of land had skyrocketed to buy the same piece land that was acquired by the project...”*

Amidst the miserly that women faced after loosing their land and crops, the Developers of EACOP shamelessly turned around and deducted the money that they expected to have been gained from the crops that were on the land during evaluation. This implies that these women did not get the uplift allowance but lost money that was initially assessed for their land as well. One woman of 42 in Kyakatemba said *“...these EACOP people came like thieves, they came and counted all crops that were on the piece of land affected by the pipeline and asked for estimated and expected income from the gardens! After that evaluation, they restricted us from using our land but when they came to pay they claimed we sold products from the garden and deducted the money!”*

The findings are contrary to EACOP restoration plans which state that 15% per year “uplift” allowance was “aimed at mitigating the effects of these delays on the PAPs in their daily lives. Incidentally, very few of the women that WoGEM spoke too were aware or even received this uplift allowance further showing how disproportionately they were disadvantaged by the EACOP project.

### ***Orphaned Land***

In most locations, land acquired for the pipeline corridor is a 30-meter right-of-way. This effectively bisects many land parcels, often leaving small parcels of land “orphaned” from other portions of land that contained people’s and farm lands in studied villages. A number of interviewees said that EACOP Uganda and Tanzania was not willing to offer compensation for these pieces of land. The women interviewed by WoGEM reported that these pieces of land had effectively lost much of the resale value, and they could not sustainably use it for certain livelihood strategies like growing crops or trees. They noted that some of these pieces of land were left between two pipelines (“Multipurpose pipeline and EACOP”). The women, who lost land for agriculture noted with concern, that they were aware that it is risky to use this land especially when the pipeline is operating. Though this land was evaluated, EACOP developers still gives ambiguous explanations and the owners are left without any help. An elderly woman 59 whose piece of land was left in the middle of nowhere in Kyakatemba reported *“...there was some pieces of land that remained between the Ugandan and the Tanzanian pipeline, they are called corridors but they were not assessed and they did not pay for this land since it cannot be used for anything: when we inquired, we were advised to wait for oil to compensate us....”*

Another woman 40 in Kyakagoba whose land was left between multipurpose and EACOP notes with similar concerns that *“...We are their, we don't know whether we will get help, between the two pipelines i.e for refined oil and EACOP. They came and evaluated the land that is between two pipelines cannot be used for anything. EACOP give ambiguous explanations about the land. We don't know whether we shall be compensated for the land because surely no one would risk using it for anything, it being in the middle of pipelines...”*



Photo: Oil pipelines leave unaccounted for pieces of land in the middle

The findings further indicate that EACOP developers evaluated the orphaned pieces of land, however their evaluation forms were excluded when it came compensation without explanation. The interviewees further noted that they aware that oil moves for some distance in the soil and therefore these pieces of land are useless for neither agriculture nor live stock. However, EACOP advised some PAPs to wait for Oil to compensate them. One Interviewee in Kyakaboga scared of utilizing orphaned land said, *“....Besides their ambiguous nature about that piece of land between pipelines, we were given blank evaluation/ assessment of the land, for instance if there are 10 mango trees, or coffee, they were not counted or counted for in the forms. So we are lost, we cannot use this land for agriculture. Besides we are aware that oil moves in the soil for some distance and agricultural products will be infected with oil...”*

### ***Inaccessible Grievance Mechanism***

The findings of this study also indicate that the Interviewees were generally not aware of any grievance mechanism to address their concerns incase of any challenges with EACOP projects processes. The interviewees were intimidated with court sermons which the village women in the area did not understand. An interviewee who had nowhere to seek redress in Kyakagoba said, *“... We had nowhere to go in case any queries because we stay very far from town. We did not even know where to start from, we did not know how grievances were handled. Actually there was a woman called Safina! She would arrogantly advise that you will find your money in court where the company would deposit after you walking up and down and loosing the case...”*

It was also established that there was actually a grievance mechanism, however, EACOP developers took opportunity of the illiterate women. While they came and noted their grievances, they as well signed and closed those grievances. Another woman in the same village who realized she closed the grievance in Kyakagoba said, *“...EACOP had grievance mechanism, they tricked us, they come asking if you had any grievances and we listed them for example how our properties were under-valued. They at the same time tricked us to sign and close the grievances...”* such actions by the EACOP Developer's representatives left women with considerable frustration over the compensation program and completely rendered them helpless and disproportionately impacted this project.

# 2

## LIVELIHOOD AND FOOD SECURITY

For residents of most displaced Women, elderly and youth with whom WoGEM spoke, compensation was only paid out in 2022 or early 2023 a delay of between three to 8 years. This delay meant many households had diminished revenues from selling bananas, coffee or other cash crops for several years. The diminished livelihood has threatened their existence, especially women who have been consistently sidelined through denial of agricultural land which support their whole livelihood. In the following sections, WoGEM discloses the impact of EACOP project on the livelihoods of women in Kyakagoba, Kyakatamba and Kijjumba Villages along the pipeline corridor in Hoima District.

### **Employment in the EACOP Project.**

The interviewees in this investigation noted that when EACOP project was being introduced to the community, they promised it would bring good changes; development and prosperity. Even EACOP developers i.e Total Energies and Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation themselves promised “...Job creation, national content, new infrastructure, logistics, skills and technology transfer and enhancement of the trade corridor between Uganda and Tanzania”. Though, the PAPs especially women, elderly and youth WoGEM interviewed reported that they have not benefited from any jobs and even qualified ones are left out by the project as one elderly 50, who was not happy about the uninvolved of their children in Kijjumba noted “...When this project came, the project of this oil, you see, our boys were educated. They don't want them to get jobs and some training, where they are training, boys and girls. Our boys are not, our children are not involved. So, I'm not happy about that...”

Similarly, in Kyakagoba the interviewed noted that even though their children were trained, none has ever been employed by the project. They said that even casual jobs like cleaning they cannot qualify as one disappointed woman states “...the EACOP promised to skill and train our children like in welding, carpentry, Saloon, electrical, catering, tailoring. However, the children underwent training and none has ever been employed at the project. Even casual jobs like cleaning for us women, we cannot get the jobs so jobs are really not for us. You just find other people from other places like Masindi, Kampala, Hoima e.t.c...!”

The findings further indicate that, it was not easy to supply anything to EACOP, and being illiterate the women did not about the database that they were required to appear in to qualify as a supplier as the interviewee reports “... You cannot supply them anything. They have their suppliers, the things required for you to supply are aimed at failing you like what do we know about database?... ”

In addition, while EACOP developers, donated seedlings, fertilizers and pesticides to help out women in agriculture; they noted that EACOP only accept supplies of agricultural products that are organic. The women who benefited from this livelihood program ended without any gains and doubting whether the chemicals donated were safe as woman in Kyakagoba who noticed EACOP staff eat only organic food reported “...but me I did not understand, they brought for us maize seedlings and beans! They also brought us pesticides and herbicides, however, when you want to supply them, they don't want products that were sprayed! Did they intend to makes us fail, the really disappointed we don't know whether the products are safe at all...”

Due to the Relocation program of EACOP, Some families were relocated from Kyaplioni to Kijjumba in houses that were built in one community as opposed to their farm land. The findings indicate that EACOP developers built for them a market in the same community with stalls, however the women noted that this market is not

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beneficial because no one in their community can buy unless it is barter trade. They noted that they all have similar commodities and as such there is no demand. A one priest woman 53 noted “...*They even built for us a market, but it is useless! We are all farmers, you cannot bring beans to the market while your neighbor also brings beans and get money. There are no buyers, we women are in small women groups where can borrow and get some school fees but also paying back is big issue*” Another participant a youth 19 expresses similar concerns thus “...*I feel, this is not my real home. We feel the government has dumped and abandoned us here at the cost of developing oil. They only built for us market stall but we have nothing to sell their besides who can buy? In this community we are all the same we don't have cash...*”



**Photo:** Market Stall that were constructed for PAPs Relocated to Kijjumba Village.

The interviewees also expressed discomfort with the relocation to far more places that are not convenient for trade. They noted in their former residence the landing site was near and they could buy and sell fish in the markets around Buseruka for livelihood. However, since relocation, they are not able to do business because of the distance. They are helpless since even their livestock have since been stolen or which has left them miserable while they hoped to get rich from oil. A woman 40 in Kijjumba internal camp recounts “... *I used to do business, I would go to the landing site and buy fish which I would bring to the centre and sell and earn but since relocation, the distance is far and no longer do business. Besides I had my goats and chicken but they have since either been stolen or they died so this oil has rarely made us miserable while we hoped to be the richest...*”

The findings thus imply that EACOP project has not been exception from other similar projects because the employment opportunities generated are typically male-dominated, limiting women's economic empowerment and perpetuating gender inequalities. While ESIA report predicted that

1,800 jobs would be created of which 1,600 would be skilled and semi-skilled and 200 unskilled jobs. While 1,080 of the job were for nationals, No national for the villages where research was conducted has ever been employed on the EACOP project.

## Vocational Skilling

The findings also show that, in a bid to bring the promised good changes; development and prosperity, EACOP developers attempted to skill PAPs with hands on skills such as welding, carpentry, Saloon, electrical, catering, tailoring and computer training. However the youth and women interviewed noted that the training was short and not enough skills were gained to earn them a job even with EACOP themselves. As such many interviewees were not happy with EACOP, while people from other areas came and got jobs; they were left out despite acquiring necessary skills. One woman interviewee who failed to get even casual work in Kyakagoba stated, “...*the EACOP promised to skill and train our children like in welding, carpentry, Saloon, electrical, catering, tailoring. However, the children underwent*

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training and none has ever been employed at the project. They can even give even a small job to mend even an overall so what's the use of skilling?...even casual jobs like cleaning for us women, we cannot get the jobs so jobs are really not for us. You just find other people from other places like Masindi, Kampala, Hoima e.t.c..."

One of the youth 27 in Kijjumba adds that the training was too short, it was less than a month and wondered what computer skills are gained in less than month could earn anyone a job. He Narrates thus, "... *Through Restoration program some youth were taken for skilling in computer training, carpentry and welding but the training was short for not more than one month's which was not sufficient. The oil companies also gave out Goats to the families in this community but they all stolen, this place is not safe at all...*" therefore while skilling was a good initiative, it did not necessarily put the youth and women in an advantageous position to benefit from EACOP opportunities.

### **Agricultural Annual and Perennial Crops**

The findings indicate that compensation paid for both land and crops were substantially below replacement cost. Participants noted that their land and crops were valued between 2017-2019 and for those in the refinery around 2013. EACOP and oil company representatives told PAPs the land would be acquired "very soon," "quickly," or within "six months" at public meetings. They were told they

could only access their land from that time to grow "annual" crops (maize, beans, etc. that can be ready in three months) and that they should not access land to tend perennial crops (coffee, bananas, cassava, and other cash crops).

A large majority of interviewees, particularly along the pipeline corridor, told WoGEM that they stopped putting time and money into crop maintenance as they waited for compensation which did not come 4-5 years later and left them without financial gains for over 4 years. This trickled down into the households which were plunged into famine and failed to provide basic essentials and needs such as food, children's and school fees. One woman whose household was hit by famine because of EACOP in Kyakagoba narrates; "...*After Evaluation, they stopped us from using the land for example, we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco, mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours...*"

Another Participant in Kyakatemba notes that EACOP developers would find grown crops and destroy them. In the participants own words; "... they came in 2016 for assessment and evaluation of our land but they started compensating us in 2022. Also during this time they restricted us from using our land, only crops with a gestation period of

3months were allowed things like millet, maize, and beans e.t.c but if they found them, they would pass through and destroy them without care..."



**Photo:** Oil pipeline through PAPs maize plantations



**Photo:** Garden of beans that doesn't flower

In addition to the delays and inadequate compensation, the women also complained about the quality of the seedlings that were supplied by EACOP. These were planted but did not germinate and those that germinated dried, others like banana

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suckers were noted to have “Todura” as a woman 35 whose coffee dried in Kyakagoba said, “...They supported us with, some seedlings like maize, matooke, cabbage, watermelon, coffee seedlings e.t.c but also they gave us very poor seedlings that don’t grow, suckers that had “Todura” and even coffee dried’. For those who requested cows, they were given grass and after growing the grass, EACOP declared that they do give cows even Goats are no where after 7 years...” Another woman participant in the same village who only experienced green crops that did not flower reported that beans given by EACOP remained green and did not put on flowers. “...they made us make losses, you plough and prepare land for the season! However the seedlings did not grow! We used to spray and the beans would remain very green and they did not flower and put any seeds! And after that, they shamelessly brought us fake taplins for post harvest handling...”

Further findings indicate that women whose livelihood depended on their farm land for subsistence and small-scale trade were so disrupted. Women, being at the forefront of these activities, suffered the most, they resorted to casual work (Ebibango) in their neighborhood to get basic needs like salt and soap for their children. One woman 40, who resorted to casual labour in Kyakagoba to provide for her family “...for us we survive on cassava, when we were restricted from using our land, we lost income and did not have food. We then resorted to doing casual work (Ebibango) to get some food to feed our children and raise some money for salt and soap...”

In the community where members were relocated and built new homes, the women were hoping to find better land for agriculture to generate more income that would better benefit their families. They were expectant to be able to plant more of what they would previously plant in their farm land such as; maize, beans, Irish potatoes and cassava. However, where they were relocated to in Kijjumba, the land and seasons are poor leaving them with much less produce than they usually had. One of the elderly 50, participants who is also a leader in the Kijjumba internal camp reports; “...*Actually, from the place where were transferred Kyaplioni, we had three seasons in a year and here it is only one, when you lose one rainy season, you lose the whole*”

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**Photo:** A tobacco stall and maize garden along the Oil pipeline corridor which up for demolition

*year! Even when you see crops in the garden are not good! My maize, beans and simsim are drying because of too much sunshine and I have 10 children! Where am I going to get school fees?...”*

In addition to one season, another woman, Fausta 53 notes that the soil in Kyaplioni is sandy and dries fast and as such their crops now dry quickly. This limits their produce as women who rely on crops for a livelihood. She recounts thus “...*Where we were in Kyaplioni, the soil was good, it could hold water but now this one here is sandy! It gets dry so quickly! When it is sunny for a few days everything dries up! For instance beans dry when they just start flowering. Even now maize has dried before it is ready!...*”

From the findings of this study, women spoke of their farmland being polluted by nearby oil development, making the soil practically unusable. Some of the

women associated the problem of their soil to the chemicals that were supplied by EACOP in form of pesticides and fertilizers. They note that prior, they would get yields but now for instance cassava rots and income is lost. One woman 36, who noticed that soils have been depleted in Kyakatemba reports, *“...our soils have even become a problem! They gave us chemicals to spray for weeding and fertilizer because of spraying where used to get yields of cassava, G.nuts, Potatoes, maize e.t.c. those chemicals now make cassava rot. But when were weeding with hands we would get enough to eat and even sell to get school fees! Now we can't even get food to park for children for school...”* Another woman 42 a bee farmer in Kyakatemba whose income from selling honey reported that her bees were chased by the sprayed chemicals but she cannot report to anyone; *“...The chemicals they gave us even affected neighbors gardens who did not get. All pests ran to the neighboring gardens. In addition, the chemicals they gave us to spray chased my bees. My bees all ran away, now I have lost all the income from the sales of honey. But I have nowhere to report EACOP is long gone...”* the implication of the findings is that, Women were exposed to lower quality land compared to what they had previously owned, compromising their ability to grow crops like mangoes maize, cassava, bananas among others for their family to consume, or crops to sell at markets and gain a livelihood this was all thanks to EACOP.

## Live stock Enhancement

The alliance carrying out the EACOP development, i.e the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments as well as Total and CNOOC, promised that the oil project will help to close the “gender gap” in displaced communities, and empower women. As such they promised PAPs food supplies for about 6 months, domestic animals like goats, cows and pigs as well as seedlings. The women WoGEM spoke however were disappointed with EACOP developers' arrangements. One of the women in Kyakagoba 33 who waited endlessly for a promised cow, reported that, instead of the domestic animal, she was given grass to plant in preparation to receive live stock but since, the grass has grown and she has not received anything *“... they promised us live stock like cows, goats, pigs e.t.c, food for 6 months, agricultural inputs, seedlings, building schools and health centers. But at the end they came up with categories' we did not understand. They gave us grass to grow like Reeds and Kariyandra in preparation to receive our livestock but in the end we grew the grass and no one has ever received even goat or hen and the grass is just their growing...”* Another participant 35 also in Kyakagoba expressed similar sentiments that; *“... For those who requested cows, they were given grass and after growing the grass, EACOP declared that they do give cows even Goats are no where after 7 years...”*

Women whose homes sat along the route of the pipeline and were evacuated from their properties

were promised better homes, improved livelihoods and a better quality of life in modern homes on their farm land. Though, they were relocated in crowded much smaller than several homesteads on a single property and cannot suite the multigenerational family's activities. The women WoGEM spoke to reported that as farmers, they usually have small gardens and some domestic animals at home which became impossible because of a crowded community imposed on them by EACOP. One woman a church priest 53, in Kijjumba internal camp who cannot even keep a single domestic animal notes; *“...they build the houses in the same location for us all in one location, but for us we are farmers, we are supposed to have some small gardens in the neighborhood, have some chicken, one or two goats but were are clouded here!...”*

An elderly and leader 50, who has already lost 30 goats further notes that, in their current community it is risky for domestic birds or animals to cross to a neighbors' environment. They are either stolen or slaughtered as he reports *“...Due to houses which are close to each other, when domestic animals like chicken and goats cross to the neighbor's garden and they slaughtered while others are stolen... me who had 30 goats, now I have nothing. It is really going backwards...”* This is attributed to EACOP developer's failure to honor their promise of building their houses on their farm land.



# SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DISRUPTIONS OF EACOP PROJECT

3

## Family Neglect and Gender Based Violence

The findings also indicate that EACOP has brought domestic violence onto the lives of women, some families have even been broken since this project started. The women WoGEM spoke to noted that, men were excited about getting a lot of money they were not used to, they ended up drinking and chasing after beautiful women and spent all the money and hence the compensation did not benefit them at all. One woman in Kyakagoba noticed that *“...It takes us a longtime to get like 1 million cash, but once money came, men stopped in bars, they start looking for the good looking women, they only come back home when the money is finished as a result families have disintegrated...”*. Similarly, A Mother of 9 children in Kyakaboga reported that, *“...We, women have suffered a lot, ever since the money came, my husband married another woman and yet we have 9 children..., my child was in senior two but dropped out and even all other of my children none is going to school...”*

In addition, women noted that ever since the compensation money trickled in, men no longer want work as they did before. They spend time at pork joints and sadly they don't want to go with their wives. Many women interviewees think that, if EACOP never came, they would be content with their poverty and in harmonious families. The men are now quarrelsome because of the small compensation they received from EACOP as some

one woman 33 in Kyakagoba whose husband changed after EACOP compensation explain; *“...The men now leave us at home and enjoying pork in trading centers while they leave us at home. They don't want women to go with them, unless you want slaps in your eardrums. I think if EACOP never came, we would be content with our poverty and in harmonious families. But now men have changed those who we used to go with to the garden and plan are no longer the same, they come home late, quarreling and they beat us because they have some cash and are no longer cooperative...”*

Another Woman 40 who no longer plans with her husband also recounts how EACOP has disorganized their marriage; *“...Prior to the pipeline, we were leaving in peace, we would plough like maize, tobacco, maize and get money and pay school fees and buy books and even plan together for our small money like buying iron sheets to build our house.... But since the 6 million money came, men now go to bars and advise each other and whoever stays home, it means the woman bewitched him. This EACOP has really disorganized us...”*

The findings also noted that EACOP tried to mitigate the failure of women receiving cash by having couples sign evaluation forms and have joint accounts to limit men's access to compensation money alone. However, the women WoGEM spoke to noted that men sweet talked them into giving them the money if not, they engaged “Jambia” to get the money by force so they ended up getting nothing as one woman 35 in Kyakagoba said; *“...Even we opened joint accounts with men where the money was deposited, men still had an upper hand, the men sweet talked us into giving the money, for those who would not cooperated, men would even get the panga and take the money by force so they ended up not gaining anything...”* Further, some women were advised by their husbands that they benefit when they pay school fees for their children. Another woman of 40 years in Kyakatemba said, *“...this pipeline really increased our miserly! Famine increased, theft, quarrels increased and men started sleeping in bars spending the money. They even said women benefit school fees are paid. They were no longer cooperative, and married second wives. However when money was finished, they came back to disturb us...”*

In Kijjumba where PAPs were relocated, there was increased domestic tensions arising from failure of men to provide for their families. The money and food available for the family dropped and resulted in increased tensions and conflicts in the households. The women particularly failed to understand their husbands and thought that men were misusing the money which degenerated into quarrels and family breakups. As such, many in Kijjumba are planning to relocate to their farm land as an elderly leader 50 recounted; *“...When you have lack of money, your home gets disturbed. Your wife will think you are misusing money when actually you are not earning! Because we earn when the season is good but here there is no good season. So families are breaking and they are quarreling more often. We are now*

*planning to leave and stay at our farmland where you can keep some animals, like chicken, and goats because this is house but not a home... ”*

The findings imply that the EACOP project has elevated levels of gender-based violence, domestic violence and family breakups. This has been due to drop in income a drop in food available for the family has resulted in an uptick in tensions and conflicts in the household which all affect women disproportionately than their male counterparts.

### **Unintended Pregnancies and HIV infections**

The findings of this investigation also found that there are many cases of unintended and unwanted pregnancies in areas affected by EACOP. This implies that young girls and women are not using protection or contraceptives even though they do not want to become pregnant. This kind of behaviour has exposed them to HIV infections. Participants WoGEM interacted with noted that because of so many developments in the area there are many military and construction workers who have stolen people's wives and impregnated young girls. One woman even notes that they now fear to go for HIV tests. *“...there are many camps because of many developments! There is an airport, their EACOP a proposed industrial park and roads so there are military and army men and those staying in camps. They have impregnated many underage girls and even stole people's wives. The prevalence HIV/AIDs is now high, if they bring free HIV tests, people cannot go for testing, they fear to find out the*

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*truth...., they have stolen our cows, goats, hens e.t.c so we are no longer safe... ”*

Further, unintended pregnancies of women and girls has been fueled by poverty, illiteracy and unemployment fueled by the presence of EACOP that escalated their poverty levels and as such their daughters have become wild. Participants in this study noted that military and construction give the girls a little more money and get them pregnant. One woman 40 in Kyakagoba whose daughter was pregnant narrates; *“... the girls' children we have failed to control them and they have become wild. All they do is get pregnant and dropout of school, there are many cases like at Levis, Kyomuhendo, Balime...and so on. Because the army men give them money for instance if they are given 100,000 shillings compared to villagers of 2000 or 3000 has made our girls disobedient and wild, they are no longer controllable...”*

In the Kijjumba community, the risk of HIV infection and incidences of unintended pregnancies, among young people are driven by the crowded nature of the community and poverty. The Participants WoGEM interacted with noted that the houses which they relocated to cannot accommodate them. The children end up sleeping at the neighbours and the results have pregnancies which have really messed young people's future. An Elderly Chair person 50 reported an incident in his home thus, *“...Due to houses which are close to each other, there many cases to handle for instance my son married my neighbors daughter they 19 and 18! This was because they were close and thus their*

*future of attaining education and become important people... ”*

A youth in the same community also reports that young people are getting married at high rate while unintended pregnancies are high because some youth who are above 18 are not supposed to stay with parents house though EACOP forced them into the same houses while they would have had their own hurts at the farm land. Freeing their parents houses exposes them to “sleeping around” where there are not watching hence all the unwanted pregnancies. The Youth Interviewee 27, narrates; *“...And the rate at which people get married is high. And the pregnancy is also high. Just listen. Because, like, if my father has a house, I'm not in a position to stay in. I go and maybe sleep with the neighbor's kid. So, what transpires in the night, our parents do not know. Yes. It is like this. We have one family. And in that group, we have over five children above 18 or people who understand things. So, we can even go across that way, may sleeping with neighbors kids and parents don't know what will transpire within the night. These children end up sleeping in other scheduled places like disco and end up becoming spoilt...”*

Another elder 78 in Kijjumba internal camp notes that children have impregnated each because they are crowded and not in school because of marginalization in income caused by EACOP. She recounts thus; *“...also because of this crowdedness, even our children have impregnated each other often this has denied us the piece we had. Even our children are out of school because of the delays by*

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*this oil project because we did not have any income for quite a long time...*”

## Education

All the women, youth and elderly who WoGEM interviewed said that the loss of income from delays made it difficult to pay household expenses. Some expenses could be deferred until compensation payments were received, but school fees and related expenses are a regular and significant expense, particularly given many rural households have large families. One of the interviewees a mother of 9 children reported that, “... *During sensitization, we were promised that we will be rich, money lenders cheated us! They would give you 1million and you sign for 2 million... When the money came you had to first deduct that money. We, women have suffered a lot, ever since the money came, my husband married another woman and yet we have 9 children, my child was in senior two but dropped out and even all other of my children is going to school...*”

Many participants in this study noted that prior to the EACOP project they would sale produce from their farm land such as matooke, maize, tobacco, mangoes to raise school fees and scholastic materials for their children. However EACOP destroyed their gardens and even did not compensate them. The children are out of school and becoming thieves in the village. One woman who children are out of school and have become a village burden in Kyakagoba narrates; “...*we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco,*

*mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours...*”

Another Elder 59, in Kyakatamba who used to get school fees from her tree plantation notes that ever since her plantation was destroyed, her grand child who was in primary seven has since dropped out of school, “...*My grand children used to go to school, but these pipeline people too my plantation of trees where I was getting school fees. Now, my child completed P.7 but is still at home because there is no where I can school fees...*”

In Kijjumba, A youth 27, participant notes that they are no longer attending school because learners are closer to home while parents are far from home at the farm land. The children have take opportunity to stay home and wonder around since parents are not there to supervise. He recounts thus; “...*So, when you go to the school setting, you go straight to the school. The Primary school is just... behind here. Yeah. So, you see kids now are not concentrating and because they are near home especially... They keep running back home. In studies, most times, when the kid feels angry, he or she just... Run home. Comes home when their parents are there still in the garden. They come and do whatever they feel like. Even if they don't want to go back to school,*

*they just stay. Because they know parents come back late from work. So, for that reason, many children today are not having that kind of studies. They have dropped out quickly. They are dropping out...*”

To deal with the loss of household income, the findings indicate that women chose to send their children to less resourced, cheaper schools. Others borrowed money from local money lenders and women groups to pay school fees often at interest rates of more than 30 percent per month. Some sold household assets including livestock to pay for fees, and some had children drop out of school. These responsibilities were carried by mostly women while men moved on to marry other women with compensation money, unfortunately the came back after the money was depleted.

## Housing

One of the biggest frustrations expressed by residents of Kijjumba community was the design of their homes. Many people in Kyaplioni used to live in large extended families. Many people had multiple structures for various reasons, including because they have large extended families. Up on evacuation, they were promised better homes, improved livelihoods and a better quality of life, However, it seems the homes built were rushed and much smaller. Interviewees reported that these houses are only two bed rooms and unfortunately their boys and girls sleep in the same rooms as one woman 35 in Kyakatamba explains; “... *For those whose houses were constructed have a lot of*

*challenges... when someone had a house despite the type of house, for instance if a house had 4 rooms for parents, girls, boys and visitors, the newly constructed house even though they were made with breaks were small with only two bedrooms and a living room! Girls end up sleeping with girls, in addition Latrines build were not deep compared to what they had. This has exposed us to so many diseases like Cholera and so their old latrines which were deep even tough were mad and wattle....”*

Youth interviewees particularly noted that the houses are not appropriate because when they grow into adults (18 and above), they cannot live in the same house as their parents. They construct their own huts, however in the current setting, where they were resettled, there is no space. As such many youth have left their parents and now live in huts at their farm land. One youth 19, explains thus;

*“...The setting the way the house was constructed culturally, if someone is 18 and above, you are supposed to have your own house, you are supposed to reside in the same house as your parents. So, for that person, he goes and maybe he gets it, maybe it is for her. Her hut. Like, when you came here, we found when buildings were constructed as you see.. Yet, previously you thought that you were going to find your beauty in your own house, in your own piece of land. But when you came here, things have changed...”* One of the elderly women Foraswas 54, said their children have shifted to the farm land disintegrating a family which used to an extended family: *“...We used to have extended families and were staying with our children in their huts near their parents. But when we shifted houses are small and are now children have shifted staying at the farm...”*

One of the elderly and chairman 50 of the community

in Kijjumba described them as houses but not homes and they are planning to relocate to their farm land where they can do their agricultural work and also rare some domestic animals *“...Due to houses which are close to each other, me who had 30 goats, I now have nothing! How can I pay school fees for my 10 children? Most of us are now planning to leave and stay at our farmland where you can keep some animals, like chicken, and goats because this is house but not a home...”*



**Photo:**  
Part of the 60 houses  
that were built in one  
community instead of the  
farm land

## Debt

The findings further indicate that many households borrowed money at very high interest rates, often from informal money lenders in their communities after being denied access to their regular and relatively predictable revenue streams from cash crops and believing that they would soon receive significant cash payments. In two-thirds of the interviewees WoGEM spoke to, in which households borrowed money spearheaded by men, the borrowers were required to pay principal plus 100 percent in a short time. One woman 37, in Kyakatemba whose husband borrowed said; *“...When men knew that they will receive money, they went borrowing at 100% interest, e.g. they borrowed 1000,000/= and paid back 2,000,000/= in short time. Once the small money came, it was used to pay debts and women did not even get a dress.... And could not fail to pay because men would be jailed and ended up losing all the money without benefiting anything...”* Another woman who is stuck with her 9 children expressed similar concerns that they were cheated by money lenders as she recounted *“...During sensitization, we were promised that we will be rich, money lenders cheated us! They would give you 1million and you sign for 2 million.... When the money came you had to first deduct that money...”*

The findings also revealed that the delays in compensation, high interest rates, and inability

to otherwise repay debts meant that a significant quantity of compensation monies end up going to money lenders and not toward livelihood or asset restoration. In other cases, when men realized that money was coming, they drunk on credit and the money ended up paying debts all through. This increased the misery of women unlike men who enjoyed their alcohol as one woman interviewee in Kyakagoba notes, *“...In fact, it us women have suffered a lot because of EACOP cash! The small money took long, besides men had already drunk on credit; they would take money to pay back the debts...”*

Also, women expressed disappointment with EACOP blaming it to have come with poverty in addition to borrowing. They noted that men bought less land and used the remaining which they had no access to for drinking. Because of addiction to borrowing, the men keep selling some yards of land to pay debts which has left them with less land for crop farming and plunge them deeper into poverty. One Woman 29 whose husband got addicted to borrowing in Kyakatemba reports, *“...the pipeline came along with poverty, when the money came for those who the pipeline pass through their house and they had to shift, but unfortunately they bought less land and misused the balance. The men even got addicted to borrowing and selling some yards of land to pay back. As a result someone who had 3 hectares now just small pieces. So we women have*

*nowhere to do agriculture and are just suffering because of this pipeline...”*

The findings imply that households routinely borrowed money before EACOP, but their predictable revenue streams made this manageable. The women told WOGE that their diminished crop revenue and the delays in compensation have made the amounts they have had to borrow increase. Their ability to pay the money back has been severely decreased by men who opted to misuse the money by drinking and marrying second wives. This meant that a significant portion of the compensation money ended up in the hands of money lenders and men not asset restoration which gravely impacted women.

# 4

## ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY

UGANDA

## Health and Sanitation

This study also revealed that in Kijumba where families who chose a “land-for-land” exchange in place of cash compensation were evacuated, women reported experiencing a dive in their quality of life and/or disruption to their usual social customs. Many were left with inadequate or even worse housing. The houses are much smaller than the several homesteads on a single property and cannot fit multigenerational families. Common complaints were a lack of outdoor cooking space, the kitchen and pit latrine were too close and excessively long distances to walk their new farmland. They noted that this environment was conducive for cholera which is common in the Albertine region. One elderly leader of this community reported, “...there is also a big challenge, those latrines which you are seeing there, the pit latrine, which you cannot enter it, and it is just closer to the house, to the kitchen. And this, this Albatine region, sometimes we have a problem of cholera. When you construct my house, my kitchen is here. And it is not like, it is like two meters to three,

*the pit latrine is there, where the food, where the food is here. Is it okay?... So, we are worried...”*

In addition the interviewees also noted that the Pit latrine which were within 2-3 meters to the kitchen were shallow compared to their old mad and wattle pit-latrines. They noted that this increased their vulnerability to cholera because flies can easily move from toilet to the kitchen and infect food. One woman 35 in Kyakagoba said, “...in addition Latrines build were not deep compared to what they had. This has exposed us to so many diseases like Cholera and so their old latrines which were deep even tough were mad and wattle...” Another woman 40 in Kijumba notes that their awkward environment smells and they cannot sit outside their home and eat food; “...we relocated here, the design of the homestead was awkward, the Toilet is near the Kitchen and the house. The environment is sometimes smelling even when you want sit outside your house and eat food, it is impossible because of flies which can make you sick easily...”



**Photo: A pit Latrine and a Kitchen are very close**

Further, it seems addressing health issues was not a priority for EACOP developers and government. Instead, they have built a huge community centre in the area instead of the promised healthcare facility. Women and their children are now left to travel between 10 to 20 km to the nearest healthcare facility in Buseruka which interviewees noted has no medicine. For some community leaders, this has shown that the government is more concerned with developing the pipeline, and not addressing the needs of the community affected by the Pipeline. Because of this, the chairperson notes that they have already lost 2 children because the access route to the health centre is impassable and government has promised to fix it for the last 8 years but failed. In the interviewees own words “...We were told before we came that we were going to have a good Health centre and a good tarmac road which we did not find here. We have to go up to Buseruka Health centre III through a short cut which the government has promised and failed to fix for the last 8 years. The road is very bad and the government has failed to fix and because of the we have lost 2 children on the way to hospital...”

## Impacts of EACOP on Women's Safety

The findings of this research also found that the EACOP project paused risks for women's safety. This was mainly because of inconsistent cut-off dates and evacuation schedules issued by EACOP developers. While cut-off dates of 8 months were given, relocation and evacuation was effected 6 years later for families that preferred land for land instead of cash. While those who opted for cash were compensated and they left, families that waited for relocation were left in the bush. Some of the interviewees that WoGEM spoke noted that this increased the risks of women to sexual assault, harassment and other violent crimes against women and young girls. One of the Participants an elder in Kijumba internal camp said their women were left to walk in the bush to fetch water and some were

raped by strangers. In the interviewees own words; *"...The major problem was just delay of the project. There was a cut-off date of 8 months, whereby the oil companies would resolve all the issues of those who opted for cash compensation than relocation. But for us, who opted for relocation, we remained there for six years while we were in the bush. . So, there is no road. Some people who opted for cash were left, leaving their home scattered. So, at that time, you never know whether you can find a woman while you are moving in the bush, to fetch water. Some women met strangers who even raped them, this project has faced us with problems..."*

Further women WoGEM spoke too along the EACOP corridor expressed fear and frustration over the presence of new male oil workers, that included road workers, oil workers, military representatives

and others, they described these as an "unknown group of male foreigners threatening their routine free movements," Women noted that the foreigners have impregnated their children, stole people's wives and also increased cases of theft of their livestock. One of the women notes that HIV prevalence is now high and women even fear to go for HIV tests. One interviewee in Kyakagoba noted, *"...so there are military and army men and those staying in camps, they have impregnated many under age girls and even stole people's wives. The prevalence HIV/AIDs is now high, if they bring free HIV tests, people cannot go for testing, they fear to find out the truth..., they have stolen our cows, goats, hens e.t.c so we are no longer safe..."*



Photo:

A community centre built in an internal camp without a health centre

In addition, women noted that they cannot collect firewood normally this time round. One woman 40, in Kyakatemba recounts how she found a Chinese wondering in the forest as she notes, *“...these days firewood is now scarce and little, there is no where to get firewood, there are even strange people around like Chinese you find moving around while EACOP people have been seen around for some time! So our movement around is no longer safe looking around for firewood...”* Clearly, the influx of a predominantly male workforce for EACOP and other projects has led to increased sexual assaults, exposure to HIV infections and social disruption which compromise their safety.

### ***EACOP Environmental Degradation Impacts on Women***

The findings of this research also discovered that EACOP project actions has already impacted the environment and degraded it to disproportionately impact women, who are usually responsible for gathering water, firewood, and agriculture for subsistence food. The women WoGEM spoke to reported that the chemical supplied by EACOP for weeding and fertilizers have caused more harm than good. One woman 36 in Kyakatemba who has failed to nether park or pay school for her children notes that because they used these chemicals their output from the gardens has since dwindled. She can longer get enough to pay school fees or even park for the child. In the participant’s own words; *“...our soils have even become a problem! They gave us*

*chemicals to spray for weeding and fertilizer because of spraying where used to get yields of cassava, G.nuts, Potatoes, maize e.t.c. those chemicals now make cassava rot. But when were weeding with hands we would get enough to eat and even sell to get school fees! Now we can’t even get food to park for children for school...”*

It was also found out that the chemicals used for spraying also disrupted the gardens for neighbors that were not affected EACOP. Interviewees noted that all pests run to neighbors” gardens who did not spray. In addition the Bees that facilitate pollination were also chased by spraying which reduced their produce as well as side income from bee keeping. A woman 42 in Kyakatemba whose bees fled explains; *“...The chemicals they gave us even affected neighbors gardens who did not get. All pests ran to the neighboring gardens. In addition, the chemicals they gave us to spray chased my bees. My bees all ran away, now I have lost all the income from the sales of honey. But I have nowhere to report EACOP is long gone...”*

Findings also found out that women were suspicious that Oil may contaminate resources like water sources may lead to severe health diseases like cancer and also reproductive health problems. The women WoGEM spoke too revealed that there was information that oil moves into the soil from the pipeline for some meters. One interviewees noted that the Pipeline is like a flask which they need to stay far away from, otherwise they can get menopause as early as 25 years of age which disastrous. One interviewee who has been in Kyakagoba for a life

time discloses discomfort thus; *“...we also very worried about the pipeline, we are informed that the pipeline is like a flask and it will be work. We are informed it is risky for us we should be staying far away from the pipeline. You can even start your menopause at 25 years, we are wondering where are heading with this EACOP...”*



**Photo:** Source of water in Kyakagoba in EACOP corridor.



**Photo:** A wetland along EACOP corridor at risk of contamination

The findings imply that EACOP will pass through critical sources of water, water reservoirs and forest cover for local communities in Kyakatemba and Kyakagoba and a number of vulnerable populations especially women and elderly depend upon it for water and firewood. It is estimated that EACOP will severely degrade them by oil spills, deforestation and other pollution that could have profound impacts that affect women especially disproportionately.

### ***Alternative Energy Sources for Women Impacted by EACOP***

The findings of this study indicate that all participants use firewood and crop residues as fuel for cooking. This has increased the carbon gas emissions and contributes to climate change. With the involvement of the EACOP project the contribution of climate change of the area is likely to increase. Participants however noted that with the development of EACOP

their sources of energy have been compromised. The women are now limited to access forest cover where they used to collect firewood. One of the women 40, in Kyakatemba noted that they need to use alternatives that use less firewood as she recounts, *“...our movement around is no longer safe looking around for firewood. We would love to be trained in making charcoal, energy saving cooking stoves that use less firewood and making briquettes which we can get from garbage around us...”*



**Photo:**  
Oil Pipeline  
corridor  
through a  
Reserve  
forest where  
women get  
firewood

In Kijjumba village where families were relocated from Chaploni, their houses are connected to hydro power, however they are now a marginalized community which was dumped there to pave way for EACOP development with unkempt promises. They have as such lost their capacity to earn and have not been afforded even a unit of electricity for 8

years they have been around. One interviewee 50, notes that government would do them a good job by giving them solar panels, *“...Another thing, this power which is here we cannot afford, some of us have failed to pay even for one month in the last 8 years. If government can put for us solar at least for lights it would do us a good job...”*

Similarly, another elderly woman participant 59 in Kyakatemba notes that she had an acre of land with eucalyptus trees and other fruit trees that were a source of firewood and fruits for school fees. However, it was undervalued and is due for destruction and thus losing a source of energy for cooking and a sustainable source of school fees as

she recounts, “...the Ugandan pipeline passed through a small piece of land but I was duly compensated, but the Tanzania took my Acre of land which had trees, mangoes e.t.c but surprisingly my land was valued at 8million which I refused to sign. They said that even when I refuse, they will continue to use the land without my consent. Eventually I had to sign instead of losing everything”.



**Photo:** Part of the tree plantation to be destroyed by the Pipeline line

Also, majority of the women WOGEM spoke to acknowledged that they no longer have reliable sources of firewood which is major source of energy for cooking. They encroach a forest reserve in the area (Wambabya forest reserve) where they are allowed twice a week to collect firewood. This is supplemented by a private forest plantation of a one Hadji Mustafa Zaidi where they are not allowed to go with pangas. They would therefore like to be trained and use alternative cooking methods that use less firewood such as making briquettes, permanent cooking stones that use less firewood as well as solar panels because

at the moment they use Torches for lights. A Participant in Kyakagoba reports “...We have been using Torches, we would love to have Solar, at least with good battery that can at least light the house and charge a phone. Also, we love to be trained to make good and permanent cooking stoves/stones that use less firewood and learn making briquettes from available things like grass, banana peelings e.t.c...”

From the findings, it is notable that women in EACOP corridor are not knowledgeable of fossil oils potential for climate change. In addition they are not aware of the harm related to cooking methods they are using to the environment. It is therefore crucial to train women to use cost-effective, clean and renewable energy sources that are sustainable.

# CONCLUSIONS



EACOP construction has displaced communities and disrupted livelihoods that primarily rely on land for subsistence farming and small-scale trade. Women, who have been at the forefront of these activities, have suffered the most. The Impacts of EACOP are often discussed in terms of environmental, economic, and indigenous concerns, but seldom addresses a critical yet frequently overlooked aspect: the profound impact this project has had on women in affected communities. This Research found that Women, young girls and the elderly have disproportionately been impacted by unique challenges, from economic displacement and social disruption to environmental, health risks and cultural losses.

The findings have shown that, resettlement by EACOP project has had gendered impacts, with discrimination against women, benefits accrue to men in the form of employment and compensation. As a result the EACOP project has limited women's economic empowerment and perpetuated gender inequalities. For instance, the influx of a predominantly male workforce has lead to the disruption of family and social life; the increased risks to health and safety, especially in terms of domestic and sexual violence; and environmental degradation resulting from pipeline construction has disproportionately impacted women, who are responsible for gathering water, fuel, and food. In addition, the pollution and depletion of soil, and declining land productivity, is a cause of anxiety for women because the subsequent decline in food production and worsening health of their children worsened the workload of women as primary caregivers. These unique impacts require EACOP developers' immediate intervention for a sustainable development of the project.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## To EACOP Developers



- The implications for women and girls' health and safety resulting from the in-migration of large numbers of mostly men seeking project employment and other opportunities and has increased in women's vulnerabilities. EACOP therefore ought to carry out a Gender Impact Assessment of the project to carefully understand, mitigate and reduced impacts the project has had on women other than relying on the conventional ESIA.
- EACOP developers should endeavor to consult women in Project affected Communities and offer financial literacy before compensation to aid in

handling the large amounts of money received by their husbands, this would've addressed the challenges they are facing at the moment.

- The Pipeline developers should address the multifaceted impacts of pipeline construction on women because this is crucial for fostering equitable and resilient PACs. They can empower women through inclusive policies and practices can mitigate negative effects and promote sustainable development such as adopting using clean and renewable energies, livelihood enhancement through agricultural supplies and livestock other than the work in progress empty promises.
- Most of the women had little access to the cash compensation they received for displacement; it is therefore useful to have a requirement for both the husband and the wife's signatures on a compensation forms.
- Review past compensation practices to ensure that amounts paid reflect the cost to replace land at the time compensation was paid and promptly provide supplemental compensation to reflect changes in replacement cost.
- Pay additional allowances as necessary to make up for lost revenue from multi-year delays and miscommunications about restrictions on land access and maturation of trees.
- Issue clear instructions to subcontractors to ensure the option of land-for-land compensation is offered, and to ensure adequate time and resources are built into land acquisition processes to explain in local languages what is being proposed, the contents of the forms, and to permit affected people to ask questions.
- Take all necessary measures to refrain from using any form of intimidation

## » Recommendations

to coerce Project Affected Persons into signing documents, including, but not limited to, implied threats of legal action.

- Offer to acquire so-called orphaned land that is most especially left between pipelines or compensate for decline in value and restrictions on access.
- Total Energies EP Uganda and other companies involved in developing EACOP should ensure that the livelihoods of affected households are restored or enhanced to pre-project levels in line with international standards.



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# To the Government of Uganda



Photo by NPCA Online

- The government of Uganda should provide adequate supervision of the EACOP developers to ensure that they are compliant with the approved Resettlement Action Plans. At the moment no resettlement plan or restoration program has been implemented in accordance with RAPs and neither are they to international accepted standards.
- The government needs to increase land and crop compensation rates on an annual basis to reflect rapidly changing costs of replacement land, inflation

## » Recommendations

rates, and revenue generating potential of crops. And tighten supervision in this area because, they developers are currently compensate PAPs with only 15% up lift allowance for a 4-5 years period.

- Interviewees complained about energy poverty and requested if the government should install solar panels for at least light and work with civil society to capacitate and train the communities other alternatives of fossil fuels.
- Government should relocate the communities
- Government should construct boreholes for clean water to the affected communities.
- Government should be open to their communities and tell them the truth
- Government should bring mentorship programs to communities that are affected.
- Government should set policies and regulations that safe guard young girls and women from EACOP workers for sexual abuse.



## To Women and Other Vulnerable Populations

- Women should adopt energy saving and renewable energy sources to reduce the effects of their technologies on climate change.
- Communities should focus on benefiting themselves through local training initiatives



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# Project Timelines

Stage	Activity	Time	Start date	End date	Deliverable	Responsibility
Research design and planning	Finalize research Concept	1 week			Confirmed research problem/objectives	WoGEMUganda
	Develop research design	1 week			Draft research design section for final report	WoGEMUganda
Desktop review	Search, capture and synthesise relevant literature	2 weeks	1/6	15/6	Notes and other output from the review process	Consultant
	Prepare Inception report				Draft inception report for final review	Consultant
Data collection	Finalise sampling plan	1 day	16/6	17/6	Sampling plan	Consultant
	Develop data collection instrument	1 day	17/6	17/6	Draft data collection instruments	Consultant
	Pre-test/pilot data collection instrument	2 days	18/6	20/6	Finalized data collection instrument	Consultant
	Carry out data collection	7 days	21/6	27/6	Raw data	Consultant/ WoGEMUganda
	Write up data collection	4 days	28/6	30/6	Draft data collection section for final report	Consultant
Data analysis	Prepare data for analysis	1 week	1/7	7/7	Data ready (e.g. interview transcripts) for analysis	Consultant
	Analyse data	1 week	8/7	14/7	Notes and other output from analysis	Consultant
	Draw conclusions/ recommendations	1 week	15/7	21/7	Draft data analysis and findings for draft submission	Consultant
Writing up	Final draft for review	1day	1/8	1/8	Final report	WoGEMUganda
	Review draft	5days	2/8	6/8	Notes of feedback from client	WoGEMUganda
	Final editing	7days	9/8	14/8	Inclusion of feedback from client	Consultant
	Submit to Client	1 day	15/8	15/8	Final submission of Research report	Consultant

# Participant Information Sheet

## Understanding the disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across project affected communities in Uganda

You are being invited to take part in this research study. Before you decide whether to participate you need to understand why the research is being carried out and what it involves..

## What is the purpose of the study?

The study purpose is to investigate the disproportionate gendered impacts of EACOP across project affected communities in Uganda.

## Why am I invited to take part?

Being a Project Affected Person of the East African Oil Pipeline I believe that you have witnessed and experienced its impact. We believe that you will provide comprehensive information on the basis of what you have experience with the EACOP project..

## Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide to take part or not. This information sheet describes the study, but if you wish you may contact the researcher or their consultant and ask any further questions to help with your decision. You are free to withdraw from the study without giving reason and with no penalty to you at all. However please note that, after a time, the copy is anonymised and therefore it becomes impossible for the researcher to identify and remove information from the project.

## What will happen to my data if I take part?

If you decide to participate the researcher will be the only institution who knows who you are and will guarantee that the information given will remain confidential. The results received will be condensed and made anonymous. Any participant who takes part will be unidentifiable in the final report. All

information will be stored on a password protected computer and in line with the General Data Protection Act. All information will then be securely destroyed upon completion of the project.

## What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The findings, conclusions plus recommendations from the study will contribute to helping Civil society structure advocacy and influence authorities to make decisions based on factual information. This will inform policy makers to devise policies supportive of your conditions.

## Further Information

Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda is funding the study; it is being carried out as part of their strategy to strengthen advocacy for the Project Affected Persons.

If you require any further information regarding this study please contact Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda directly: Irene Twongyirwe Email: [info@Wogemuganda.org](mailto:info@Wogemuganda.org) Tel. 256772504678.

## Consent

This consent form contents have been explained to me and have been given the opportunity to ask questions. I give my consent to participate in this study.

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's signature \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_ C o n t a c t

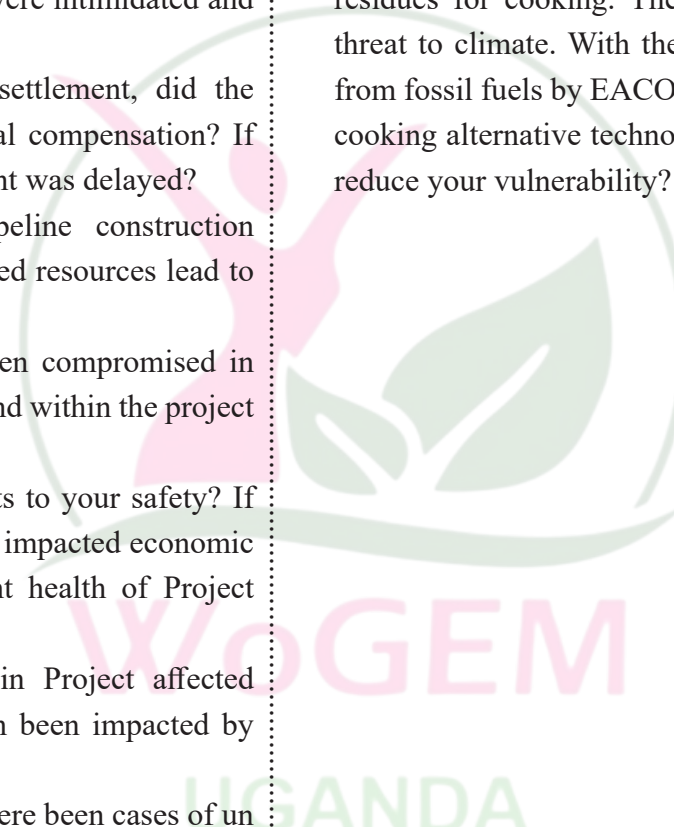
Researcher Assistant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Interview Guide

Participant Age	
Gender	
occupation	

1. What steps were taken by EACOP operators to determine to determine rates from which your compensated for your land?
2. Regarding those compensation agreements, did you understand and consent freely to them? Why were compensation payments delayed?
3. What steps were taken by EACOP project implementers to mitigate impact on households during delays in compensation?
4. Are their any orphaned pieces of land along the EACOP corridor? If positive, were the affected households duely compensated for the lost value?
5. What steps did EACOP project implementers take to restore livelihoods including but not limited to livestock, food aid, training on new techniques or assistance with school fees?
6. Please describe what steps, if any EACOP managers used to inform you of any options of like “in kind” or Cash assistance for both land and primary housing
7. Did you the people affected by EACOP passage receive legal and/or other forms of support before signing compensation agreements? Briefly describe the process you underwent.
8. Do you have any idea of why compensation payments been delayed? What measures did you put in place to mitigate the impact on households during delays in compensation?
9. In even that you disagreed with EACOP implementers about compensation, resettlement or any other issue arising out of the project, where did you seek redress for your grievances?
10. The displacement because of EACOP meant that you lost land essential for your Livelihoods. How did you juggle through the times without essential land for agricultural annual crops?
11. Were, the valuation and compensation process for land taken by the project made on time? If there were any delays how did these impact your normal routine?
12. Prior to the project, were you sufficiently informed and engaged to understand the project impact or you were pressured into signing valuation forms without proper understanding of the process?
13. How did the delays in paying compensation and the restrictions on using your land impact your livelihoods?
14. Have you been harassed or intimidated by security agents or individuals associated with the EACOP? If positive how did you seek justice and how were you impacted by these actions?
15. The EACOP project was expected to create jobs for PAPs directly or indirectly in logistics, supply chain, catering and security among others. Have you ever benefited in any way from this or the jobs are only for men?
16. If you were able to secure employment with the project. Has it caused or disrupted your attention to or possible abandonment of, existing subsistence livelihood such as crop growing and livestock rearing? How has this impacted your standard of living?
17. The main livelihood in the project area is from agriculture – both crop production and animal rearing. How has the project impacted your potential in Agriculture? Are you still able to take care of responsibilities like children’s education and health care alike since the inception of the project?

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18. Were you compensated/resettled to the land that is equally productive as the one that was acquired for the project? If not, how has the newly acquired land impacted your livelihood?
19. How did you managed to compensate for the lost income and pay your bills like paying school fees and buy food for the children?
20. The project's compensation for affected persons for loss of rights over land was meant to be in kind or in preference over cash! As a PAP were you at freedom to choose cash or property in Kind? Or you were intimidated and manipulated to accept cash against your will?
21. In consideration of delays in compensation and resettlement, did the implementing companies pay you a sufficient financial compensation? If positive, did it cover all the period of which the payment was delayed?
22. Has environmental degradation resulting from pipeline construction impacted you wellbeing? For instance, has contaminated resources lead to health issues?
23. Has the health of the people living in the project been compromised in anyway as a result of the influx of the people to, from and within the project area? Potential for high risk sexual behaviour
24. Has project structures such as camps posed any threats to your safety? If positive explain how the in-migration job seekers have impacted economic possibilities and sexual and reproductive to represent health of Project Affected communities.
25. How has the EACOP project impacted education in Project affected communities? Specifically has a girl child's education been impacted by implementation of this project?
26. Such projects as EACOP come with social ills. Have there been cases of unwanted pregnancies or Gender based violence in households driven by this project?
27. Is your safety impacted by the oil project in any way? If positive, briefly explain how the safety of women and young girls has been threatened
28. Are their any hazardous waste generated by the EACOP project in your area? If yes are they disposed and treated properly by the operators or they are threat to the environment and your health?
29. The EACOP project is clearly a driver of climate change through fossil fuels industries expected from it. This increases your vulnerability to climate related impacts. What other energy technologies do you think can best serve your interests other than fossil fuel products?
30. In your communities, you largely depend on firewood, charcoal and crop residues for cooking. These increase carbon gas emissions which are a threat to climate. With the introduction of pipeline leaks and gas derived from fossil fuels by EACOP, your health and safety are at stake. What other cooking alternative technologies can you adopt or be assisted to adopt and reduce your vulnerability?

# Focus Group Discussion Guide

1. What steps were taken by EACOP operators to determine to determine rates for your land compensation?
2. Did you understand compensation agreements and consent freely to them?
3. Were you compensated on time as promised by project implementers? If not, briefly explain
4. Did EACOP project implementers restore your livelihoods such as livestock, food aid, and training on new techniques e.t.c?
5. Were you informed that compensation was optional? i.e “in kind” or Cash assistance for both land and primary housing?
6. Do you have any idea of why compensation payments delayed? How did you manage during this period?
7. The displacement because of EACOP meant that you lost land essential for your Livelihoods. How did you juggle through the times without essential land for agricultural annual crops?
8. Were there any restriction on using your land after valuation? If yes briefly explain
9. The EACOP project came along with jobs. Have you benefited or they for men?
10. The main livelihood in the project area is from agriculture. How has this sector been impacted and how has this affected your livelihoods?
11. Were you compensated/resettled to the land that is equally productive as the one that was acquired for the project?
12. How have you managed to compensate for the lost income and pay your bills like paying school fees and buy food for the children?
13. Has the health of the people living in the project area been compromised in anyway as a result of the influx of the people to, from and within the project area?
14. Has project structures such as camps posed any threats to your safety? If positive explain how these have influenced economic possibilities and sexual and reproductive health of the natives.
15. Such projects as EACOP come with social ills. Briefly explain in terms of GBV, SRHR and education of the youth.
16. Is your safety impacted by the oil project in any way? If positive, briefly explain how the safety of women and young girls has been threatened

Disproportionate gender impacts of EACOP Project		
Verbatim quote	Code	Theme
<p>(Born their) "...Whether you were educated or not all of us were treated liked fools, we signed things we did not understand, they evaluated our properties but papers written in pencil, on return you find what we signed were missing, we were lost .... Later they came to tell the good and bad, we were later categorized in things we did not understand..."</p> <p>(Starlet) "...We were put in categories like 2A for those whose land was almost finished and others without explanation and proper sensitization. Sometimes they bring agreements, when saw 2 or 3 people sign, we just line up and sign without taking you through the agreement to understand! When you tried inquired during sensitization, they would reply with arrogance and intimidate you as someone trying to sabotage government programs..."</p> <p>"...they just called us to show us how much you are getting and not negotiable. We had no say in that, if you refuse, we will either give or decline to give you the money, you can go to court, we shall ignore you but government will continue. We shall deposit the money on a government account and even continue to use your land..."</p> <p>(Alice 38): "...For me I gained nothing, those people from EACOP camped in my compound with at least 12 vehicles. They even installed some gadgets in our compound for their networks without our consent, they did not even ask for permission. They made us so uncomfortable even our children were very scared all through. I refused to sign and they made my husband sign when they engaged LC 5, we requested them to bring the papers that were first signed which got lost to date..."</p> <p>(Mother of 9) "...it is the small piece of land where I get produce and get some money for basic essentials so I refused to sign the small money however due to the greedy nature of my husband, and I lost it all because he married another woman with the money..."</p>	Consultation for Compensation	Impacts of Land Acquisition Approaches
Kyakaboga "...During sensitization, around 2017/2018, they would tell us how the pipeline will pass through our land and we shall get money and become rich so they advised us to plan as family! We were optimistic but actually, it was vice versa they took your acre of land and promised e.g 6 million but they came back to pay after 5 years while the land appreciated in value to 20million. This was a total loss..."	Inadequate land acquisition and compensation	

<p><b>KYaka</b> “Pipeline bypassed us and we were excited because we expected to get money, build a house, ride a bike ..... but things changed along the way. For instance my garden was affected and evaluated at 3 million, along the way, they turned around and said the previous agreements were invalid and we were supposed to get 800,000/= and we were intimidated that we might even loose the money and so we signed for the little money which even delayed for more than 3 years”</p> <p><b>(Starlet)</b> “...they did not have the option of giving you optional land, for those whose buildings were affected! You either accepted cash to go and build or show them a piece of land where they can build for you. But for those of EACOP! Their houses were built..... For those whose houses were constructed have a lot of challenges... when someone had a house despite the type of house, for instance if a house had 4 rooms for parents, girls, boys and visitors, the newly constructed house even though they were made with breaks were small with only two bedrooms and a living room! boys end up sleeping with girls....”</p> <p><b>(Fausta 53):</b> “the agreement was that they build the house on the allocated land when time came, they build the houses in the same location for us all in one location, but for us we are farmers, we are supposed to have some small gardens in the neighborhood, have some chicken, one or two goats but were are clouded here”</p> <p><b>C/M 50</b> “there is also a big challenge, those latrines which you are seeing there, the pit latrine, which you cannot enter it, and it is just closer to the house, to the kitchen. And this, this Albertine region, sometimes we have a problem of cholera. When you construct my house, my kitchen is here. And it is not like, it is like two meters to three, the pit latrine is there, where the food, where the food is here. Is it okay?... So, we are worried”.</p>		
<p><b>C/M 50</b> “The major problem was just delay of the project. There was a cut-off date of 8 months, whereby the oil companies would resolve all the issues of those who opted for cash compensation than relocation. But for us, who opted for relocation, we remained there for six years while we were in the bush. So, there is no road. Some people who opted for cash left. So, at that time, you never know whether you can find a woman while you are moving in the bush, to fetch water. Some women met strangers who even raped them, this project has faced us with problems”</p> <p><b>Mary 36</b> “They came in 2016 for assessment and evaluation of our land but they started compensating us in 2022. Also during this time they restricted us from using our land, only crops with a gestation period of 3months were allowed things like millet, maize, beans e.t.c but if they found them, they would pass through and destroy them without care”</p> <p><b>Lucia 37:</b> When men knew that they will receive money, they went borrowing at 100% interest, e.g, they borrowed 100000/= and paid back 200000/= in short time. Once the small money came, it was used to pay debts and women did not even get a dress.... And could not fail to pay because men would be jailed and ended up losing all the money without benefiting anything</p>	<p>Delays of compensation</p>	

<p><b>(Maize Brown):</b> “After Evaluation, they stopped us from using the land for example, we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco, mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours.”</p>		
<p><b>Doreen:</b> Compensation started around 2022 and they were paying in phases but at least they took 4 to 5 years but they only gave us uplift allowance of 15%. When we try to complain or if there is a misunderstanding, they ask you where you were when grievance mechanisms bypassed you and why are you just checking your papers now</p> <p><b>Starlet:</b> .regarding why they paid us late, they called us in a meeting and gave us very good food and explained that payment had delayed but they are giving us a disturbing/uplift allowance of 15% twice but still it was too small because they value of land had skyrocketed to buy the same piece land that was acquired by the project.</p> <p><b>Jacylyn 42:</b> these EACOP people came like thieves, they came and counted all crops that were on the piece of land affected by the pipeline and asked for estimated and expected income from the gardens! After that evaluation, they restricted us from using our land but when they came to pay they claimed we sold products from the garden and deducted the money!</p>	<p>Insufficient uplift allowance</p>	
<p><b>Peninah 59:</b> There was some pieces of land that remained between the Ugandan and the Tanzanian pipeline, they are called corridors but they were not assessed and they did not pay for this land since it cannot be used for anything: when we inquired, we were advised to wait for oil to compensate us....</p> <p><b>Born there:</b> We are there we don’t know whether we will get help, between the two pipelines i.e for refined oil and EACOP. They came and evaluated the land that is between two pipelines cannot be used for anything. EACOP give ambiguous explanations about the land. We don’t know whether we shall be compensated for the land because surely no one would risk using it for anything, it being in the middle of pipelines.</p> <p><b>Starlet:</b> ....Besides their ambiguous nature about that pieces of land between pipelines, we were give blank evaluation/assessment of the land, for instance if there are 10 mango trees, or coffee, they were not counted or counted for in the forms. So we are lost, we cannot this land for agriculture. Besides were are aware that oil moves in the soil for some distance and agricultural products will be infected with oil.</p>	<p>Orphaned Land</p>	

<p><b>Brown Lady Maize:</b> We had nowhere to go in case any queries because we stay very far from town. We did not even know where to start from, we did not know how grievances were handled. Actually there was a woman called Safina! She would arrogantly advise that you will find your money in court where the company would deposit after you walking up and down and loosing the case.</p> <p><b>Doreen:</b> EACOP had grievance mechanism, they tricked us, they come asking if you had any grievances and we listed them for example how our properties were under-valued. They at the same time tricked us to sign and close the grievances.</p> <p><b>Carolyn 26:</b> We were in the middle of nowhere; we had nowhere to start, report and who to report and ended up accepting the money which was withdrawn from Hoima town. Also they promised seedlings which we planted and they failed to germinate and fake taplins which got destroyed after using it once. In short, we did not gain anything from the pipeline while we lost our properties.</p>	<p>Inaccessible Grievance Mechanism</p>	
<p><b>C/M 50:</b> When this project came, the project of this oil, you see, our boys were educated. They don't want them to get jobs and some training, where they are training, boys and girls. Our boys are not, our children are not involved. So, I'm not happy about that.</p> <p><b>Doreen:</b> You can not supply them anything. They have their suppliers, the things require for you to supply are aimed at failing you like what do we know about database?....</p> <p><b>Born of:</b> .....But me I did not understand, they brought for us maize seedlings and beans! They also brought us pesticides and herbicides, however, when you want to supply them, they don't want products that were sprayed! Did they intend to makes us fail, the really disappointed we don't know whether the products are safe at all...</p> <p><b>Starlet:</b> .....the EACOP promised to skill and train our children like in welding, carpentry, Saloon, electrical, catering, tailoring. However, the children underwent training and none has ever been employed at the project. Even casual jobs like cleaning for us women, we cannot get the jobs so jobs are really not for us. You just find other people from other places like Masindi, Kampala, Hoima e.t.c...!</p>	<p>Jobs and employment in EACOP</p>	<p>Livelihood and food security</p>

<p><b>Fausta 53:</b> They even built for us a market, but it is useless! We are all farmers, you cannot bring beans to the market while your neighbor also brings beans and get money. There are no buyers, we women are in small women groups where can borrow and get some school fees but also paying back is big issue</p>		
<p><b>Starlet:</b> .....the EACOP promised to skill and train our children like in welding, carpentry, Saloon, electrical, catering, tailoring. However, the children underwent training and none has ever been employed at the project. Even casual jobs like cleaning for us women, we cannot get the jobs so jobs are really not for us. You just find other people from other places like Masindi, Kampala, Hoima e.t.c....!</p> <p><b>Steven 27:</b> Through Restoration program some youth were taken for skilling in computer training, carpentry and welding but the training was short for not more than one month's which was not sufficient. The oil companies also gave out Goats to the families in this community but they all stolen, this place is not safe at all.</p>	Vocational skilling	
<p><b>Maize Brown:</b> "After Evaluation, they stopped us from using the land for example, we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco, mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours."</p> <p><b>Staret:</b> They supported us with, some seedlings like maize, matooke, cabbage, watermelon, coffee seedlings e.t.c but also they us very poor seedlings that don't grow, suckers that had "Todura" and even coffee dried'. For those who requested cows, they were given grass and after growing the grass, EACOP declared that they do give cows even Goats are no where after 7 years.</p> <p><b>Born of:</b> They made us make losses, you plough and prepare land for the season! However the seedlings did not grow! We used to spray and the beans would remain very green and they did not flower and put any seeds! And after that, they shamelessly brought us fake taplins for post harvest handling'</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> Actually, from the place where were transferred Kyaplioni, we had three seasons in a year and here it is only one, when you lose one rainy season, you lose the whole years! Even when you see crops in the garden are not good! My maize, beans and simsim are drying because of too much sunshine and I have 10 children! Where am I going to get school fees?.....</p>	Farming of Annual and Perennial Crops	

**Fausta 53:** Where were in Kyaplioni, the soil was good, it could hold water but now this one here is sandy! It gets dry so quickly! When it is sunny for a few days everything dries up! For instance beans dry when they just start flowering. Even now maize has dried before it is ready!

**Mary 36:** They came in 2016 for assessment and evaluation of our land but they started compensating us in 2022. Also during this time they restricted us from using our land, only crops with a gestation period of 3months were allowed things like millet, maize, beans e.t.c but if they found them, they would pass through and destroy them without care

**Mary 36:** our soils have even become a problem! They gave us chemicals to spray for weeding and fertilizer because of spraying where used to get yields of cassava, G.nuts, Potatoes, maize e.t.c. those chemicals now make cassava rot. But when were weeding with hands we would get enough to eat and even sell to get school fees! Now we can't even get food to park for children for school.

**Freda 40:** For us we survive on cassava, when we were restricted from using our land, we lost income and did not have food. We then resorted to doing casual work (Ebibango) to get some food to feed our children and raise some money for salt and soap.

**Jacylyn 42:** these EACOP people came like thieves, they came and counted all crops that were on the piece of land affected by the pipeline and asked for estimated and expected income from the gardens! After that evaluation, they restricted us from using our land but when they came to pay they claimed we sold products from the garden and deducted the money! They even promised to give us food for 6months, but they fulfilled any of these promises. This pipeline really brought poverty.

**Jaclyn 42:** The chemicals they gave us even affected neighbors gardens who did not get. All pests ran to the neighboring gardens. In addition, the chemicals they gave us to spray chased my bees. My bees all ran away, now I have lost all the income from the sales of honey. But I have no where to report EACOP is long gone.

<p><b>Brown maize:</b> they promised us live stock like cows, goats, pigs e.t.c, food for 6 months, agricultural inputs, seedlings, building schools and health centers. But at the end they came up with categories' we did not understand. They gave us grass to grow like Reeds and Kariyandra in preparation to received our livestock but in the end we grew the grass and no one has ever received even goat or hen and the grass is just their growing.</p> <p><b>Staret:</b> They supported us with, some seedlings like maize, matooke, cabage, watermelon, coffee seedlings e.t.c but also they us very poor seedlings that don't grow, suckers that had "Todura" and even coffee dried'. For those who requested cows, they were given grass and after growing the grass, EACOP declared that they do give cows even Goats are no where after 7 years.</p> <p><b>Fausta 53:</b> they build the houses in the same location for us all in one location, but for us we are farmers, we are supposed to have some small gardens in the neighborhood, have some chicken, one or two goats but were are clouded here!</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> Due to houses which are close to each other, when domestic animals like chicken and goats cross to the neighbor's garden and they slaughtered while others are stolen... me who had 30 goats, now I have nothing. It is really going backwards</p> <p><b>Grace 40:</b> "Besides I had my goats and chicken but they have since either been stolen or they died so this oil has rarely made us miserable while we hoped to be the richest".</p> <p><b>Peninah 59:</b> The Tanzania side said they were concluding! They promised to give us things like coffee seedlings, goats, pigs, maize, beans, chicken but we were supposed to choose only two items. However they noted that if you do not have a pig sty for example you would not receive the piglet, if did not grow grass, they would not give you goats! However when my son when the forms, he said that while I signed for one goat, I was qualified to get 3! But they took advantage of me because I could not read and write.</p>	Livestock restoration P	
<p><b>Gap Teeth:</b> "It takes us a longtime to get like 1 million cash, but once money came, men stopped in bars, they start looking for the good looking women, they only come back home when the money is finished as a result families have disintegrated".</p> <p><b>Small brown:</b> "The men now leave us at home and enjoying pork in trading centers while they leave us at home. They don't want women to go with them, unless you want slaps in your eardrums. I think if EACOP never came, we would</p>	Family Neglect and GBV	Social and cultural Impacts

<p>be content with our poverty and in harmonious families. But now men have changed those who we used to go with to the garden and plan are no longer the same, they come home late, quarreling and they beat us because they have some cash and are no longer cooperative”</p> <p><b>Staret :</b> “Even we opened joint accounts with men where the money was deposited, men still had an upper hand, the men sweet talked us into giving the money, for those who would not cooperated, men would even get the panga and take the money by force so they ended up not gaining anything”.</p> <p><b>Born their:</b> “Prior to the pipeline, we leaving in peace, we would plough like maize, tobacco, maize and get money and pay school fees and buy books and even plan together for our small money like buying iron sheets to build our house.... But since the 6 million money came, men now go to bars and advise each other and whoever stays home, it means the woman under looking him. This EACOP has really disorganized us”.</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> When you have lack of money, your home gets disturbed. Your wife will think your are misusing money when actually you are not earning! Because we earn when the season is good but here there is no good season. So families are breaking and they are quarreling more often. We are now planning to leave and stay at our farmland where you can keep some animals, like chicken, and goats because this is house but not a home</p> <p><b>Freda 40:</b> This pipeline really increased our miserly! Famine increased, theft, quarrels increased and men started sleeping in bars spending the money. They even said women benefit school fees are paid. They were no longer cooperative, and married second wives. However when money was finished, they came back to disturb us</p> <p><b>Mother of 9:</b> “We, women have suffered a lot, ever since the money came, my husband married another woman and yet we have 9 children....., my child was in senior two but dropped out and even all other of my children is going to school...”</p>		
<p><b>Foraswas 54:</b> “We used to have extended families and were staying with our children in their huts near their parents. But when we shifted houses are small and are now children have shifted staying at the farm. We are no longer safe here because our children who proved security are not around and the garden is quite far.”</p> <p><b>Steven 27:</b> “The setting the way the house was constructed culturally, if someone is 18 and above, you are supposed to have your own house, you are supposed to reside in the same house as your parents. So, for that person, he goes</p>	Cultural Erosion	

<p>and maybe he gets it, maybe it is for her. Her hut. Like, when you came here, we found when buildings were constructed as you see.. Yet, previously you thought that you were going to find your beauty in your own house, in your own piece of land. But when you came here, things have changed. We talked to different organizations like this one and aired out our views hoping to get help but non was able to help but that did not change anything. . Though some, some restoration program, like DAPO, are trying to help but still in the process”</p>		
<p><b>Doreen:</b> there are many camps because of many developments! There is an airport, their EACOP a proposed industrial park and roads so there are military and army men and those staying in camps. They have impregnated many under age girls and even stole people’s wives. The prevalence HIV/AIDs is now high, if they bring free HIV tests, people cannot go for testing, they fear to find out the truth...., they have stolen our cows, goats, hens e.t.c so we are no longer safe..’</p> <p><b>Born here:</b> the girls’ children we have failed to control them and they have become wild. All they do is get pregnant and dropout of school, there are many cases like at Levis, Kyomuhendo, Balime..... And so on. Because the army men give them money for instance if they are given 100,000 shillings compared to villagers of 2000 or 3000 has made our girls disobedient and wild, they are no longer controllable.</p> <p><b>Steven 27:</b> “And the rate at which people get married is high. And the pregnancy is also high. Just listen. Because, like, if my father has a house, I'm not in a position to stay in. I go and maybe sleep with the neighbor's kid. So, what transpires in the night, our parents do not know. Yes. It is like this. We have one family. And in that group, we have over five children above 18 or people who understand things. So, we can even go across that way, may sleeping with neighbors kids and parents don't know what will transpire within the nigh. These children end up sleeping in other scheduled places like disco and end up becoming spoilt.”</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> “Due to houses which are close to each other, there many cases to handle for instance my son married my neighbors daughter they 19 and 18! This was because they were close and thus their future of attaining education and become important people”.</p> <p><b>Fausta 53:</b> “Also because of this crowdedness, even our children have impregnated each other often this has denied us the piece we had. Even our children are out of school because of the delays by this oil project because did not have any income”</p>	<p>Un wanted and under age Pregnancies</p>	

<p><b>Mother of 9:</b> During sensitization, we were promised that we will be reach, money lenders cheated us! They would give you 1million and you sign for 2 million.... When the money came you had to first deduct that money. We, women have suffered a lot, ever since the money came, my husband married another woman and yet we have 9 children..., my child was in senior two but dropped out and even all other of my children is going to school..."</p> <p><b>Gap Teeth:</b> You send your child to school and they are sent back, you don't have where to get even a hundred shillings. Prior you would have three bunches of matooke, you eat one and sell two to buy books and schools fees but EACOP took it all we are ruined.</p> <p><b>Maize Brown:</b> "we had banana plantations, maize, tobacco, mangoes and others, they did not compensate us, our crops got destroyed and we lost income especially us women! You would sell mangoes or banana and get books for your children but all was lost, no land for agriculture and no compensation which caused famine in our homes, our children are out of school and end up stealing mangoes from neighbours</p> <p><b>Steven :</b> So, when you go to the school setting, you go straight to the school. The Primary school is just... behind here. Yeah. So, you see kids now are not concentrating and because they are near home. especially... They keep running back home. In studies, most times, when the kid feels angry, he or she just... Run home. Comes home when their parents are there still in the garden. They come and do whatever they feel like. Even if they don't want to go back to school, they just stay. Because they know parents come back late from work. So, for that reason, many children today are not having that kind of studies. They have dropped out quickly. They are dropping out.</p> <p><b>Perinah 59:</b> "My grand children used to go to school, but these pipeline people too my plantation of trees where I was getting school fees. Now, my child completed P.7 but is still at home because there is no where I can school fees"</p>	<p>Education and school dropouts</p>	
<p><b>Starlet:</b> "... For those whose houses were constructed have a lot of challenges... when someone had a house despite the type of house, for instance if a house had 4 rooms for parents, girls, boys and visitors, the newly constructed house even though they were made with breaks were small with only two bedrooms and a living room! Girls end up sleeping with girls, in addition Latrines build were not deep compared to what they had. This has exposed us to so many diseases like Cholera and so their old latrines which were deep even tough were mad and wattle...."</p> <p><b>Steven 27:</b> The setting the way the house was constructed culturally, if someone is 18 and above, you are supposed to have your own house, you are supposed to reside in the same house as your parents. So, for that person, he goes and maybe he gets it, maybe it is for her. Her hut. Like, when you came here,we found when buildings were</p>	<p>Housing</p>	

<p>constructed as you see.. Yet, previously you thought that you were going to find your beauty in your own house, in your own piece of land. But when you came here, things have changed.</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> “Due to houses which are close to each other, there many cases to handle for instance my son married my neighbors daughter they 19 and 18! This was because they were close and thus their future of attaining education and become important people is lost. We are now planning to leave and stay at our farmland where you can keep some animals, like chicken, and goats because this is house but not a home”</p> <p><b>Foraswas 54:</b> “We used to have extended families and were staying with our children in their huts near their parents. But when we shifted houses are small and are now children have shifted staying at the farm”</p>		
<p><b>Gap teeth:</b> “In fact, it us women have suffered a lot because of EACOP cash! The small money that took long, men had already drunk on credit, they would take money to pay back the debts”</p> <p><b>Mother of 9:</b> “During sensitization, we were promised that we will be reach, money lenders cheated us! They would give you 1million and you sign for 2 million.... When the money came you had to first deduct that money”.</p> <p><b>Fausta 53:</b> “They even built for us a market, but it is useless! We are all farmers, you cannot brings beans to the market while your neighbor also brings beans and get money. There are no buyers, we women are in small women groups where can borrow and get some school fees but also paying back is big issue”</p> <p><b>Stedia 36:</b> “We thought we would be happy, when we were promised, by the time we were compensated, the loan officers were waiting because we borrowed right, left and centre expecting compensation. We ended up wondering why our land was taken!”</p> <p><b>Lucia 37:</b> “When men knew that they will receive money, they went borrowing at 100% interest, e.g, they borrowed 100000/= and paid back 200000/= in short time. Once the small money came, it was used to pay debts and women did not even get a dress.... And could not fail to pay because men would be jailed and ended up losing all the money without benefiting anything”.</p> <p><b>Scovia 29:</b> “the pipeline came along with poverty, when the money came for those who the pipeline pass through their house and they had to shift, but unfortunately they bought less land and misused the balance. They even got addicted to borrowing and selling some yards of land to pay back. As a result someone who had 3 hectares now just small pieces. So we women have no where to do agriculture and are just suffering because of this pipeline”.</p>	Debt	

<p><b>Starlet</b> “..in addition Latrines build were not deep compared to what they had. This has exposed us to so many diseases like Cholera and so their old latrines which were deep even tough were mad and wattle....”</p> <p><b>C/M50:</b> “there is also a big challenge, those latrines which you are seeing there, the pit latrine, which you cannot enter it, and it is just closer to the house, to the kitchen. And this, this Albatine region, sometimes we have a problem of cholera. When you construct my house, my kitchen is here. And it is not like, it is like two meters to three, the pit latrine is there, where the food, where the food is here. Is it okay?.. So, we are worried..”</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> We were told before we came that were going to have a good Health centre and a good tarmac road which we did not find here. We have to go up to Buseruka Health centre III through a short cut which the government has promised and failed to fix for the last 8 years. The road is very bad and the government has failed to fix and because of the we have lost 2 children on the way to hospital.</p> <p><b>Grace 40:</b> We relocated here, the design of the homestead was awkward, the Toilet is near the Kitchen and the house. The environment is sometimes smelling even when you want sit outside your house and eat food, it is impossible because of flies which can make you sick easily.</p>	Health sanitation and	Environment Health and Safety
<p><b>C/M 50:</b> “The major problem was just delay of the project. There was a cut-off date of 8 months, whereby the oil companies would resolve all the issues of those who opted for cash compensation than relocation. But for us, who opted for relocation, we remained there for six years while we were in the bush. . So, there is no road. Some people who opted for cash were left, leaving their home scattered. So, at that time, you never know whether you can find a woman while you are moving in the bush, to fetch water. Some women met strangers who even raped them, this project has faced us with problems.”</p> <p><b>Doreen:</b> “.....so there are military and army men and those staying in camps, they have impregnated many under age girls and even stole people’s wives. The prevalence HIV/AIDs is now high, if they bring free HIV tests, people cannot go for testing, they fear to find out the truth....., they have stolen our cows, goats, hens e.t.c so we are no longer safe”</p> <p><b>Freada 40:</b> These days firewood is now scarce and little, there is no where to get firewood, there are even strange people around like Chinese you find moving around while EACOP people have been seen around for some time! So our movement around is no longer safe looking around for firewood.</p>	Safety	

<p><b>Born here:</b> “we also very worried about the pipeline, we are informed that the pipeline is like a flask and it will be work. We are informed it is risky for us we should be staying far away from the pipeline. You can even start your menopause at 25 years, we are wondering where are heading with this EACOP”</p> <p><b>Mary 36:</b> “our soils have even become a problem! They gave us chemicals to spray for weeding and fertilizer because of spraying where used to get yields of cassava, G.nuts, Potatoes, maize e.t.c. those chemicals now make cassava rot. But when were weeding with hands we would get enough to eat and even sell to get school fees! Now we can’t even get food to park for children for school”.</p> <p><b>Jaclyn 42:</b> “The chemicals they gave us even affected neighbors gardens who did not get. All pests ran to the neighboring gardens. In addition, the chemicals they gave us to spray chased my bees. My bees all ran away, now I have lost all the income from the sales of honey. But I have no where to report EACOP is long gone”</p>	Environmental impacts	
<p><b>Frceada 40:</b> “...our movement around is no longer safe looking around for firewood. We would love to be trained in making charcoal, energy saving cooking stoves that use less firewood and making briquettes which we can get from garbage around us...”</p> <p><b>C/M 50:</b> “...Another thing, this power which is here we cannot afford, some of us have failed to pay even for one month in the last 8 years. If govermnt can put for us solar at least for lights it would do us a good job...”</p> <p><b>Mother of 9:</b> We would like WoGEM to train us to Make charcoal (Briquettes), because there is no where to get firewood sometimes we fluke Hadji Mustafa’s forest to get some firewood.</p> <p><b>Doreen:</b> We have been using Torches, we would love to have Solar, at least with good battery that can at least light the house and charge a phone. Also, we love to be trained to make good and permanent cooking stoves/stones that use less firewood and learn making briquettes from available things like grass, banana peelings e.t.000</p>	Alternative Energy Solutions	

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