

**“Living in Poverty Amidst Plenty:”**

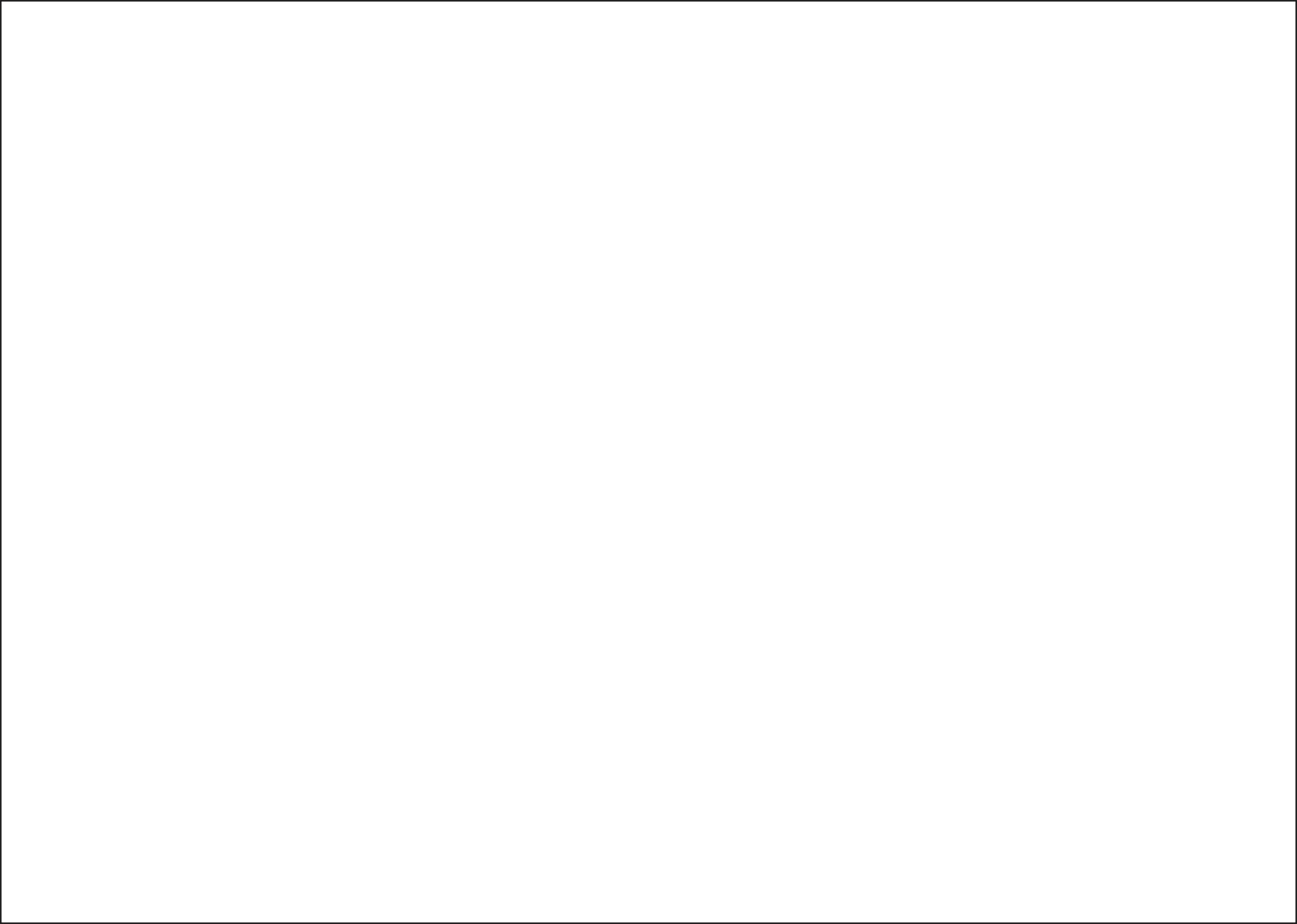
**The Case of Artisanal Miners in**

**Karamoja Region**



**UGANDA CONSORTIUM ON  
CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY**

**U C C A**



## ***“Living in Poverty Amidst Plenty:”* The Case of Artisanal Miners in Karamoja Region**

In 2017, a Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability team in the company of the Moroto Natural Resources Officer Mr. Lotiang John and a local opinion leader Mr. Angella Jackson from the Karamoja Miners Association, visited a small scale gold mining area in the district of Moroto district in Rupa sub county. The Photo Essay represents selected pictures from the UCCA engagement with Artisanal Miners in Moroto district.

The small gold mining business in the district is one activity that has become a common household trade in the region. Families including women and children wake up early to try their luck at mining gold. The dangerous activity of artisanal mining including digging tunnels across main roads in search of gold is one that has been accepted as a necessary risk. The pictures in the Photo Essay showcase the activity from the digging, panning through the collected mud and the gold trade market in Rupa sub county in Moroto District.



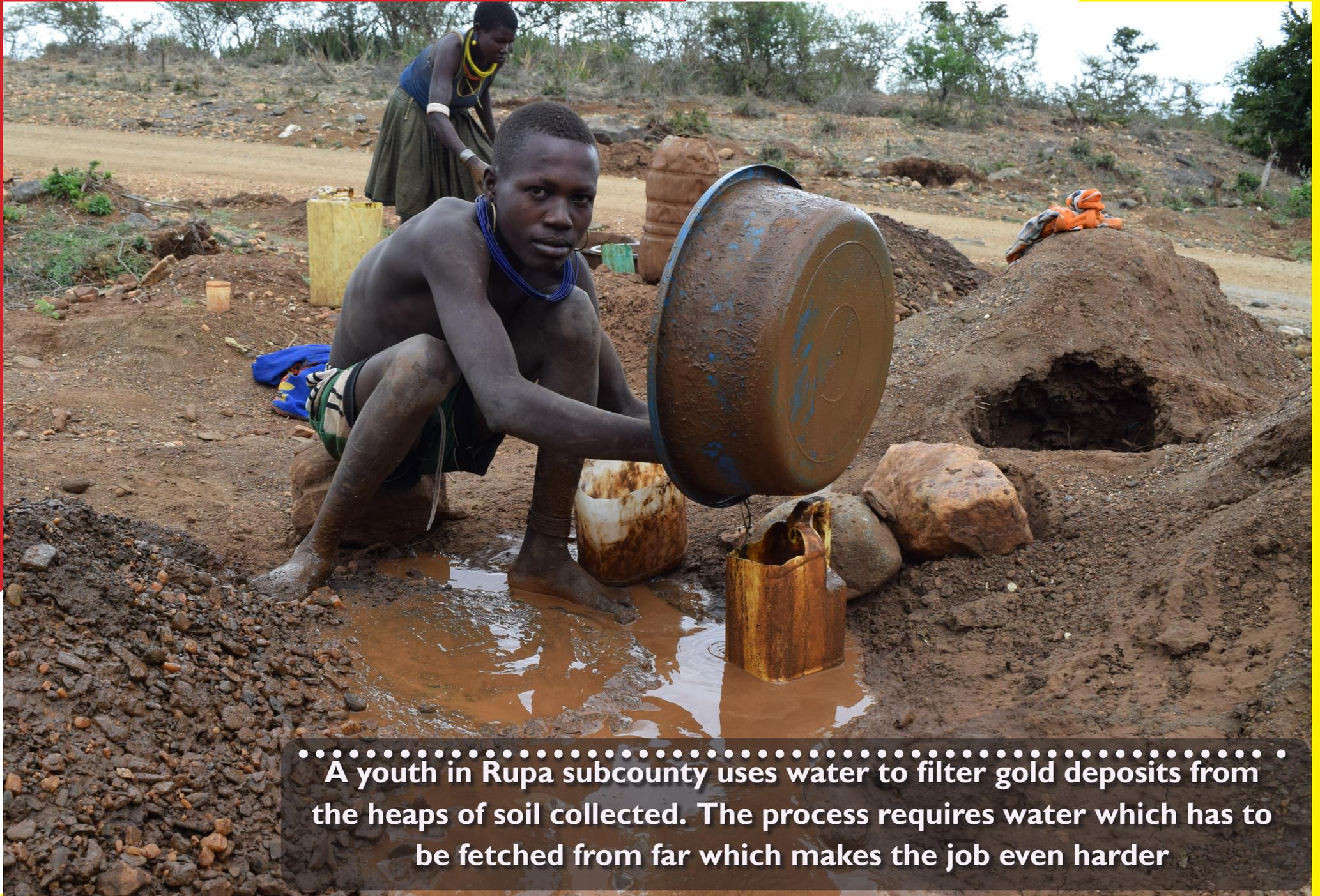
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The UCCA team discussing issues of mining and corporate accountability with the Land and Equity Movement in Uganda (LEMU) administrator in Moroto District



••••• The UCCA Project Coordinator and Project Officer talk with the Chairman Karamoja Miners Association Mr. Nangira Simon. •••••



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The UCCA team addressing leaders of the different mining associations & communities in Karamoja region  
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the transformation of conflicts related to mining in Karamoja



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A youth in Rupa subcounty uses water to filter gold deposits from the heaps of soil collected. The process requires water which has to be fetched from far which makes the job even harder



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A group of artisanal miners loading limestone rock on a truck. For all the hard labour, they earn a maximum of UGX.150,000 to load the truck to the brim



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An elderly man displaying some of the gold got  
from Rupa subcounty in Moroto District



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**A woman in Rupa subcounty demonstrates the  
gold mining process to the UCCA team**



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**Moroto District Natural resource officer Mr. Lotiang John explains how local miners risk to get gold**  
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**Community members at a local gold market in  
Rupa subcounty in Moroto District**



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**Mr. Lotiang John the Moroto District Natural resources officer(squared shirt) explains to the UCCA team the status of mining in Moroto District.**



Artisanal miners in Rupa subcounty look for gold from soil dug under the tunnel. The mining through these tunnels only stops when there are no more gold deposits in the soils collected.



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The UCCA team at Rupa mining area in Moroto District talk to Karamojong elders at the mining site



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The UCCA team observes the laborious process  
a woman goes through in the search for gold at  
subcounty, Moroto District



••••• The UCCA team observes the local gold market in Rupa subcounty, Moroto District



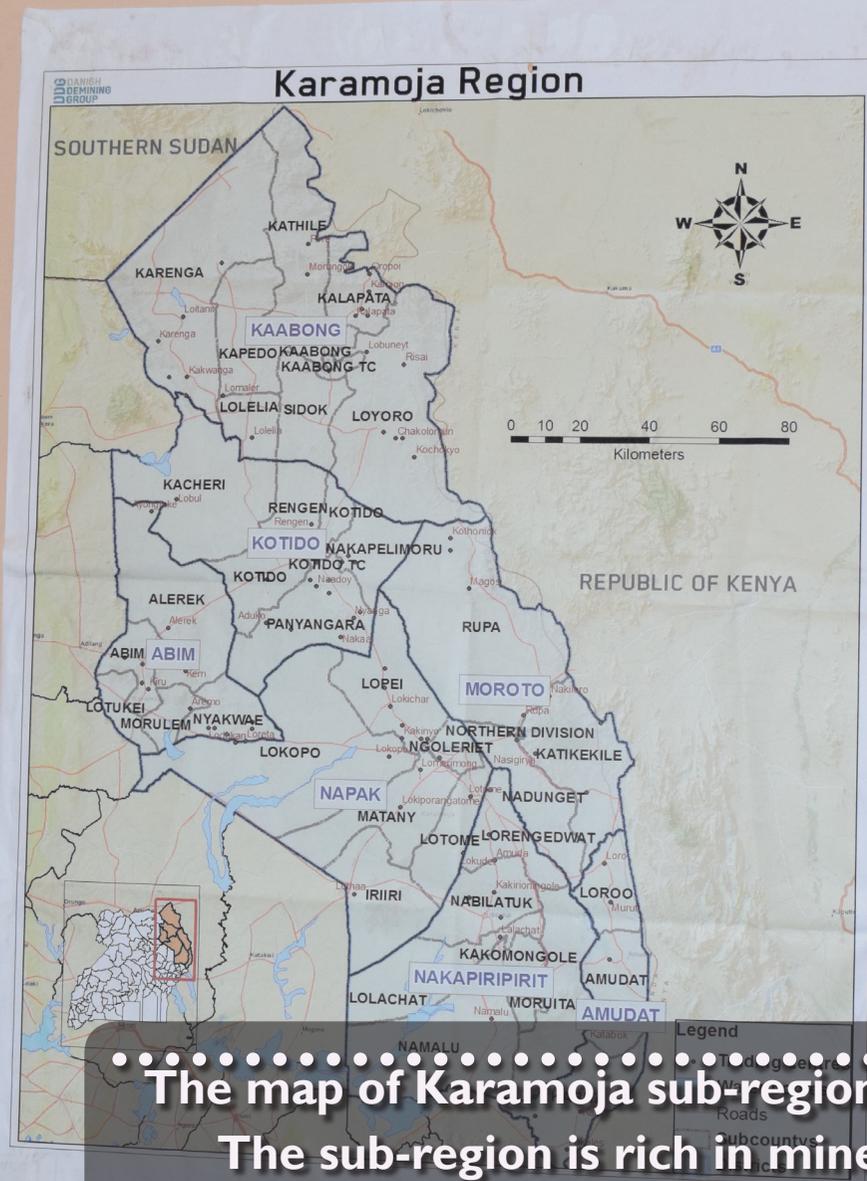
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The UCCA team addressing leaders of mining associations in Karamoja.  
The leaders hold regular meetings at KDF to share experiences  
To develop partnerships to the transformation



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**Community members working at the Tororo Cement  
mining site in Moroto district**



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**A community member displaying some of the gold got  
from Rupa in Moroto District**



••••• The map of Karamoja sub-region in north eastern Uganda. •••••  
 The sub-region is rich in minerals which has made it  
 susceptible to corporate abuses from companies and  
 Government



••••• The map of Karamoja sub-region showing the mining sites and NGO interventions. Most of these sites are sources of income for the communities but have been taken over by either the companies or Government





## About UCCA

The **Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA)** is a Civil Society Consortium on corporate accountability aimed at enhancing accountability by corporations, states, international finance institutions and development partners for violations or abuses of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCRs). Currently, the UCCA has a founding membership of four organizations specializing in different areas of rights protection, including the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER), the Public Interest Law Clinic at Makerere University Law School (PILAC), Legal Brains Trust (LBT) and the Center for Health Human Rights and Development (CEHURD). Other UCCA members are Twerwanaho Listeners Club (TLC), Karamoja Development Forum (KDF), the Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiation Institute (SEATINI), the Centre for Economic Social and Cultural Rights in Africa (CESCRA), Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development Organisation (BIRUDO), Navigators for Development Association (NAVODA), Ecological Christian Organisation (ECO), World Voices Uganda (WVU), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment West Nile (RICE WN), Teso Karamoja Women Initiative for Peace (TEKWIP), Action Aid Uganda (AAU) and International Accountability Project (IAP).

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