



Benchmarking the Social, Economic and Environmental Status of the Oil and Gas Host Communities

Buliisa. Kikuube. Hoima



May 2022

Contents

1.0 Introduction	5
1.1 Background and context	5
1.2 Rationale for the baseline.....	8
1.3 Purpose of the exercise	8
2.0 Methodological approach.....	9
2.1 Data collection methods	9
2.2 Study area.....	9
2.3 Sample selection and sample size determination	10
2.4 Data Collection	10
2.5 Data processing and analysis.....	11
3.0 Oil and gas in context	11
4.2 Stakeholders in the oil and gas sector.....	14
4.4 Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.....	15
Table 2: Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.....	16
Table 3: Relationship to the household head	16
Table 4: Household size.....	17
4.6 Ownership and type of housing	17
Table 5: Effect of oil exploration and development on access to resources.....	19
4.9 Household monthly income and expenditure	20
Table 6: Household monthly earnings by district	20
Table 7: Household monthly expenditure by district.....	20
4.10 Ownership of valuable assets	21
Table 8: Ownership of valuable assets	21
4.11 Land size, ownership and tenure system	22
Table 9: Size of land owned and type of tenure system.....	22
4.12 Access to employment opportunities	23
Table 10: Main occupation	23
4.13 Women’s decision making and control over assets	24
4.14 Decision making on income and expenditure	24
Table 11: Household decision making on income expenditure.....	24
4.14 Perceived changes in gender roles	25
4.15 Governance at national level.....	26
4.16 Governance at sub-county level.....	26
4.17 Governance at village level	27
4.18 Awareness of policies and laws governing petroleum development	27
Table 12: Knowledge of laws and policies.....	27
4. 19 Accessibility and effectiveness of institutions	28
4.20 Environmental status and concerns	28
5.0 Conclusion and recommendations	30

Acknowledgments

This product is a resource for application by various civil society organizations in monitoring the work of oil companies and the Government in developing Uganda's hydrocarbons. As such, this assignment was very important to us. We want to thank all those that helped to make it a success. Key among these are distinguished district officials from Buliisa, Hoima and Kikuube. In the same vein, we thank BAPENECO for mobilizing local CSO participation in the exercise and for their useful insights.

We are grateful to BIRUDO for all the activity coordination, planning and supervision of the field activities during the conduct of the baseline survey. Your sacrifices and commitment in mobilizing districts and sub-county leaders as well as introducing the consultants to the different target groups, cannot go unnoticed.

We also want to express our deep appreciation to Africa Endowment Ltd led by Ivan Amanigaruhanga, which undertook the baseline survey professionally and produced quality work in a short time. The credibility of this report is a bedrock for future CSO engagement as we continue to speak for the voiceless.

Acronyms

AG	Albertine Graben
BAPENECO	Bunyoro Albertine Petroleum Network on Environmental Conservation
BIRUDO	Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development Organization
CSCO	Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDP	District Development Plan
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GoU	Government of Uganda
IOC	International Oil Company
KII	Key Informant Interview
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NOGP	National Oil and Gas Policy
PAU	Petroleum Authority of Uganda
PLA	Participatory Learning Action
PWYP	Publish What You Pay
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
ToR	Terms of Reference
UCCA	Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability
UGX	Uganda Shillings

Executive Summary

The Albertine Graben (AG), the area running along the entire western border of Uganda has been confirmed to contain commercial oil and gas resources. Part of the graben are the districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Kikuube, which also form part of the oil-rich Bunyoro region.

The study was commissioned by the Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA) in collaboration with Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development Organization (BIRUDO) as a baseline survey for purposes of benchmarking the current status of social, economic and environmental status of communities hosting oil activities in Buliisa, Kikuube and Hoima districts. This information was deemed necessary for future impact evaluation of the civil society efforts in ensuring positive outcomes of the oil project in Uganda.

Using a blend of purposive and random sampling, a total of 912 respondents were selected, with 58.8% male and 41.2% female participants. The study employed exploratory, descriptive and cross-sectional study designs utilizing predominantly qualitative, ethnographic approaches of social investigation supplemented by quantitative approaches. The survey was carried out through teamwork-oriented processes, involving triangulation of various qualitative methods of data collection in order to get rich data from both primary and secondary sources.

From the studies reviewed, the discovery of oil has not only raised expectations on the probable economic implication but has also created anxiety over a plethora of issues including revenue sharing, environmental degradation, property rights, economic distortions, escalating the vulnerable and marginalized bracket of society, loss of livelihoods, and possible involuntary displacement.

A lack of information on oil activities, and high expectations of what oil could mean for the region, foment all kinds of rumours and ideas about oil. The survey found that both government and the oil companies are complicit in withholding information on activity plans, progress and ongoing processes such as the enactment of laws. Communities have not been availed opportunities to input into planning processes, and thus creating a fragile situation where fears, high expectations and a lack of appropriate local and national governance interventions may continue to fuel exclusion from participation in processes that affect their livelihoods.

The social, economic and environmental status of the oil activity host communities was different for the different districts as well as the villages therein as reflected in levels of access to opportunities, initiatives for improved environmental stewardship, rate of resource degradation, the responsiveness of local leadership and opportunities availed for the enhancement of community welfare.

The survey report suggests a number of indicators with which to measure future progress and concludes with a number of recommendations aimed at advising actors on how best to improve on possibilities of registering positive outcomes from hosting oil resources and activities.

1.0 Introduction

It is estimated that Uganda has 6.5 million barrels of oil reserves, with only 1.4 billion barrels that are economically recoverable. The discovery of oil in Uganda has been met with great anticipation for the benefits it could bring to Uganda's development. However, there is also a number of concerns for the way in which these potential benefits will affect society, local economics and environmental resources of the project-affected areas. Currently, there is a sizable civil society presence working to positively influence the impact that oil will have on Uganda's political climate, social institutions and populations, environmental resources and habitats, and economy. This report is in accordance with Terms of Reference (TOR) for carrying out a baseline study on the current social, economic and environmental status of select oil host communities. The study is intended to generate data needed to measure the degree of change in socio-economic and environmental aspects of Bunyoro region as a result of oil and gas activities as represented by the districts of Buliisa, Kikuube and Hoima. This study was commissioned by Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development Organization (BIRUDO)¹ in collaboration with Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA)² in March 2022. It was carried out in the Albertine Graben, where oil activities are ongoing. The main objective of the survey was to establish baseline data needed to measure the degree of change in the livelihoods, local economy and environmental quality of the communities where oil development activities are taking place. It provides data against which to benchmark for future evaluation purposes to support the wider civil society fraternity and other actors in the sector.

1.1 Background and context

In 2006 Uganda confirmed the existence of commercially viable oil deposits in the Albertine Graben, explored by Australia's Hardman Resources and UK's Tullow Oil, setting in motion the scramble to explore and extract oil in Western Uganda. The Government of Uganda (GoU) went ahead to license five Exploration Areas (EAs), both onshore and offshore in and around Lake Albert, where, of all the drilled wells, only two proved not to have commercial quantities of petroleum reserves. Conversely, once licensing disputes on the Congolese side of Lake Albert are resolved and exploration begins there, Uganda's oil deposits will be the largest onshore discovery made in sub-Saharan Africa in at least 20 years.³

Uganda has today established commercial quantities of oil and gas in the Albertine Graben in Uganda. These discoveries are mostly in the Albertine Graben within the area east of Lake Albert and the Nile Delta north of Lake Albert in the districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Nwoya (AmanigaRuhanga, 2010). As Uganda's oil production date draws nearer, the prospect of receiving hundreds, possibly billions of shillings every year in oil royalties has district officials in the oil region excited. Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa districts, all in

¹ BIRUDO is a local organization operating in the Albertine region with a mission to improve the livelihoods of local communities by implementing quality and sustainable programmes in the areas of education, health, environment and natural resources management, extractive industry governance and livelihood, income and food security

² The Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA), a 23-member consortium, was established in August 2015 as a civil society consortium aimed at enhancing accountability by corporations, the state, international finance institutions and development partners for violations or abuses of economic, social and cultural rights

³ Fresh Uganda oil find "Africa's biggest", *The Times*, 14th January 2009. See also 'Ugandan giraffe lifts heritage', *Energy Intelligence*, 14th January 2009 and 'Huge oil well found near Lake Albert', *New Vision*, 21st January 2009

Bunyoro region, are among the 25 districts in the Albertine region that stand to receive 7% of the royalties government will collect from oil production, according to the Public Finance Management Act. The Bank of Uganda expects that Uganda will save up to UGX 1.7 trillion per annum on oil imports when the country starts its production, among other economic prospects of the project. This has not only raised expectations on the probable economic implication but has also created anxiety over a plethora of issues including revenue sharing, environment degradation, land tenure, possible displacement among several others. While the oil discoveries have the potential to enrich the national economy and enhance development, their potential to destabilize the environment at regional, national and local levels is also high.⁴

There has however been limited attention from government, donors, civil society, parliamentarians, media or other stakeholders towards better understanding and mitigating such factors. The absence of clear information regarding the progress of oil development activities has already led to confusion and misinformation circulating at the local level in oil-host communities and other prospective areas. Similarly, the available legal and policy mechanisms designed to handle any misinterpretation or contestation fall short in the areas of transparency and accountability. In addition, land administration mechanisms are undermined by high levels of corruption among public officials and a general ignorance of existing land laws. There is little knowledge about legal standards for evicting and compensating residents in exploration areas, and communities do not know where to seek better information. The exploration process in Uganda has so far been secretive with insufficient public discussion over competing development plans and information asymmetries. This has led to rumours, suspicion, excitement and confusion that could precipitate poor social, economic and environmental returns from the project.

Uganda has over 94% technical success in oil discovery, as new exploration licenses are yet to be implemented. The appraisal drilling and well testing done so far shows about 6.5 billion barrels of oil in place in the exploration areas to date. This could provide 1.4 billion barrels of recoverable reserves. It is now apparent that petroleum will be produced in Uganda, with a possible start up in 2025 (PAU, 2019). These developments occasioned the formulation of a National Oil and Gas Policy for Uganda to supplement the country's Energy Policy in aspects of petroleum exploration, development and production. The policy states that "Oil and gas are non-renewable extractive resources which are therefore finite. Their exploitation and utilisation shall therefore be undertaken in a manner that creates durable and sustainable social and economic capacity for the country. These resources have the potential to provide immense benefits to the country through creation of employment, generation of revenues, development of infrastructure, and subsequently fast-tracking social transformation of the country. Oil and gas resources and the revenues accruing from them can also pose challenges of windfall revenue phenomenon and the resource curse if not well managed (Bainomugisha, et al, 2006).

The National Oil and Gas Policy is designed to maximize the benefits and meet the challenges by providing for appropriate resource management systems and procedures in line with the National Development Plan (NDP). It seeks to achieve this by providing for; the setting up of relevant institutions and capacity building in the country; attraction of companies to invest in the development of the country's petroleum sector; adequate and

⁴ International Alert (June 2009). Countering regional, National and Local Conflict Impacts of Oil Discovery in the Albertine rift of Uganda. A report of a Qualitative field Survey in 5 districts (Hoima, Bundibugyo, Kanungu, Arua and Amuru).

commensurate return on the companies' investments; ensuring the country's receipt of appropriate share and benefits from any oil and gas resources and activities; and ensuring efficient and effective resource management and utilization together with the revenues accruing there from". It is important to note that the NOGP takes a broader national outlook and this puts all the parts of the country in a vantage position, whether or not they have confirmed oil deposits in their districts.

Oil exploration work has in the recent past taken place in the three districts of baseline coverage. However, it is surprising to find that most of the residents are as uninformed as any other ordinary Ugandan about the sector and not given a chance to participate in the sector that affects them more than other Ugandans.

The occurrence of exploitable hydrocarbons in the Albertine Graben poses a particular challenge for oil exploration and development in Uganda with direct, indirect and induced effects, as well as on-site and off-site effects. This is particularly because the Albertine Graben (AG) is the most species rich eco-region for vertebrates in Africa and contains 39% of Africa's mammal species, 51% of its bird species, 19% of its amphibian species and 14% of its plant and reptile species. On the other hand, the rate of biodiversity loss in Uganda is high and was calculated in 2004 to be 10-11% per decade or about 0.8% annually (NEMA, 2010). The principal threats to biodiversity in Uganda persist including habitat loss, modification and alteration along with unsustainable harvesting, pollution as well as introduction of alien species (NEMA, 2012). Oil activity has a potential to exacerbate this situation especially the processes are not guided with actual information.

In addition, thousands of people and wildlife inhabit the Albertine region. Studies (Kakonge, 2011) indicate that one of the main constraints to the people's wellbeing is a limited access to clean water and proper sanitation. The surroundings are key ecotourism sites and have even higher tourism potential. Oil and Gas exploration and production activities have the potential to present a variety of negative impacts on the environment. They induce economic, social, and cultural changes through alteration in land use patterns, local population levels, socio-economic and cultural systems. They also result into increases of liquid and gaseous waste streams which may affect plant and animal communities due to changes in their environment through variations in water, air and soil/sediment quality and through disturbance by noise, extraneous light and changes in vegetation cover.

These are occasioned by either lack of or insufficiency in meeting the required waste disposal guidelines that could help in the improving water quality by controlling waste/effluents from the riparian industries and municipalities. Unregulated actions by the oil and gas industry can destroy habitats, damage biodiversity and important ecosystem services such as fresh water and bio-energy. Emissions from the industry must be reduced in order to reduce the rate of global warming and climate change. These negative impacts need to be mitigated and addressed to ensure ecosystem integrity. The consequences will include, but not limited to, poor water quality and prevalence of water borne diseases that threaten both human and livestock health, reduce the quality and value of biodiversity products and ecosystem goods and services. Accordingly, Ugandans are concerned about the kind of technologies IOCs are using the level of best practice attained in the ongoing oil activities.

Oil exploration and development-related environment issues are largely regulated through the National Environment Act and the other related regulations that prohibit degradation of the natural environment (water, air and land), and promote the protection of biological diversity. To enable the Ugandan Government achieve parity by strengthening sustainable

economic, social and political developments in the Albertine Graben, the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) commissioned a Capacity Needs Assessment study for Environmental Pillar Institutions to identify capacity needs necessary for rational exploitation of the natural resources within the Albertine region. However, various studies have indicated that the presence of NEMA in the Albertine region, particularly to regularly monitor oil work is largely wanting.

Impact measurement is critical in these processes to guide intervention design and planning, to evaluate value for money and to gauge the degree and quality of change created over time as BIRUDO and other CSOs under UCCA seek to foster the achievement of positive transformation of communities hosting oil activities and the Albertine graben at large.

1.2 Rationale for the baseline

BIRUDO, UCCA and partners are implementing targeted actions to build a strong and skilled oil-host community aware of their property rights, conscious of their local economy and concerned about their physical environment. The actions are purposed on effectively engaging with communities and the Government on responsible development and management of petroleum and natural resources in the Albertine Region. The main foreseeable challenge is that the current interventions are being implemented without a baseline conducted to provide the 'before' picture as a basis for determining the impact of oil whether positive or negative, on the affected communities. This is happening at a time when the oil and gas industry in Uganda is transiting into the development phase. This phase comes with a variety of implications such as land acquisition and infrastructure development that will have a diversity of impacts on the environment and livelihoods of oil hosting communities. While the frontline actors, including the oil companies and regulators at the national level have put in place environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) and an implementation framework intended to mitigate the identified environmental, social and economic impacts of the oil and gas development activities, a number of CSOs and independent analysts have criticized their practicability and the lack of local data supporting their design. In order to monitor and measure the impact of this project, BIRUDO and UCCA designed this baseline study to set benchmarks and generate a set of progress indicators to guide impact evaluation. Conducted in a manner replicable by local partners and other CSOs, the baseline also sought to fill in the information needs of CSOs, Government and oil companies in the broader Albertine region.

1.3 Purpose of the exercise

To undertake a baseline survey on the current status of social, economic and environmental aspects of oil and gas activities for the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework to benchmark the key results and impact of the various interventions. The specific objectives of the assignment are;

- To develop data as a set of benchmarks for gauging impact of oil interventions.
- To develop a monitoring tool to guide CSOs in measuring the impact of their work against the baseline data.

2.3 Sample selection and sample size determination

The appropriate sampling techniques for selecting participants for qualitative studies are purposive/non random sampling techniques. This study therefore employed purposive sampling techniques to select a range of study participants to participate in various qualitative data collection methods. In consultation with BIRUDO, some Participatory Learning Action (PLA) tools (e.g. social mapping, gender analysis) were used to enrich the data collected using other qualitative methods. Key informants were selected depending on their positions and roles in the project in all the intervention districts. From the districts, a representative sample was computed using the conventional statistical formulas. Thus, a cross-sectional household survey, representative of the total population in the region was selected. A classical two-stage cluster sampling approach was used with a single sampling domain (i.e. no over-sampling in urban areas or specific districts was applied). Clusters (villages) were selected using “probability proportionate to size”. At the village level all households were selected from a random number list without replacement (i.e. households which we could not interview after about three attempts or that did not consent were dropped and not replaced). Based on the assumptions of an alpha error of 0.05 (i.e. using 95% confidence intervals), a beta error of 0.9 (i.e. a power of 90%), a 5% non-response rate and a design effect (between cluster variation) of 2.0 this sample was calculated and sufficient to provide estimates of the core indicators with a precision of $\pm 6-7\%$ -points for estimates around 50% and $\pm 4-5\%$ -points for estimates $>80\%$.

2.4 Data Collection

A review of key policy, programmes, and published and unpublished research documents was undertaken at different levels. This was based on a document review guide developed based on the key survey questions.

Key informant interviews were conducted at district and sub-county level with executives, leaders and key technical staff in charge of designing and implementing programmes targeting the region. At the meso level, key informant interviews and group discussions were conducted with officials drawn from the district political and technical wings. Key departments targeted included representatives of the district political structures and heads of technical departments (e.g. production, community development officers, and planning). These interviews also targeted key UCCA members and like-minded civil society organizations in the region.

At the micro level, the research team carried out key informant interviews, structured interviews, ethnographic interviews, informal group discussions, focus group discussions and participatory community dialogue meetings with the community/cultural leaders and the natives using PLA techniques.

In consultation with the community, social mapping and a gender analysis were done. A checklist of issues to facilitate dialogue was developed basing on findings of the document review, key informant interviews and ethnographic methods. The study participants in this methodology were categorized into two broad categories: duty bearers and rights holders.

2.5 Data processing and analysis

For qualitative data, analysis of data was run concurrently with fieldwork in a reflexive and iterative process. Following field data collection, hand-written and electronically recorded notes mainly from the in-depth interviews, FGDs, KIIs and PLA techniques including social mapping and gender analysis was assembled and typed into a word processing program - Microsoft Word. The data was organized into themes derived from the key evaluation thematic areas as well as other key emerging issues from the data. Content analysis was then carried out to draw implications of the data and what they mean in the context of the objectives of the survey.

Quantitative data through structured interviews was cleaned and manually edited for any irregularities. A data entry screen was designed for data entry using Excel. The data captured was exported to SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) for more detailed analysis. Logical checks and frequency runs were made on all variables to further the accuracy and consistency of the data and identify any outliers before actual data analysis. Relevant cross-tabulations as well as P-values were derived to measure the relationships between variables, as presented in sections ahead.

3.0 Oil and gas in context

Petroleum systems in rift basins were formed over eight million years ago (Kakonge, 2011). Natural oil seeps on the shores of Lake Albert had been recorded over many years and in 1938 the first exploration well was drilled (Kashambuza, 2006). This well demonstrated that there was an oil source in the basin but it was nearly 70 years before any further activity took place. Since 2006 when four significant oil discoveries were made, demonstrating that the Lake Albert rift basin was a working hydrocarbon system, the Albertine stretch has become a key area of focus when it comes to oil issues in Uganda. To date, oil has been discovered on the eastern shores of Lake Albert, and onshore to the north of the lake, making close to 40% of the total prospective area (PEPD, 2012). While the area is highly prospective, it is also home to around 400,000 residents and recognised as one of Africa's most beautiful environments. It is also a highly ecologically fragile area with rare species of plants, animals and birds (NEMA, 2009).

As rightly documented, petroleum exploration in Uganda dates back to the early 1920s when oil seepages were first reported (Kashambuza, 2006). The Anglo-European investment company of South Africa drilled one of the first wells – Waki B1 in 1938 (Heum, et al, 2011). From the 1940s to the 1980s, the oil and gas industry stagnated initially due to the disruptions of the Second World War and subsequently due to changes in colonial policy (Bainomugisha, et al, 2006). Intensive exploration work commenced in the 1980s and aeromagnetic data in 1983 confirmed the existence of sedimentary basins in the Albertine rift. This was followed by enactment of the Petroleum Exploration and Product Act, 1985. The Act led to the licensing of international companies to undertake seismic surveys and drilling (Heum, et al, 2011).

Analysts assert that the 2008 National Oil and Gas Policy framework, aiming at using the resources to contribute to early achievement of poverty eradication and create lasting value to society, pays far more attention to creating a favourable investment climate for foreign companies than it does to ensuring the welfare of Ugandans (Jason Hicker, 2011). Some of the arguments are embedded in the variations in access to information on the resource with IOCs generating and having access to information while the bulk of the rest of

stakeholders including communities and local governments struggle to access the information.

There are fears that oil is likely to deepen income inequalities, entrench poverty, contribute to social and economic degradation, and devastate the environment. Most importantly, scholars posit that the country's robust small-scale farming sector-which accounts for around 80% of employment, could be seriously undermined by the impending influx of foreign currency (Jason Hicker, 2011). In addition to impact on the local economy and gaps in the existing legal frameworks, other issues of concern include institutional capacities to manage the industry, local content and human rights issues, and the potential effects to tourism. Information on such common issues of environmental concern is largely unavailable, even when a couple of baselines have been concluded.

The discovery of oil has not only raised expectations on the probable economic implication but has also created anxiety over a plethora of issues including revenue sharing, environment degradation, land tenure, land grabbing, economic distortions, escalating the vulnerable and marginalized bracket of society, loss of livelihoods, possible involuntary displacement, among several others. While the oil discoveries have the potential to enrich the national economy and enhance societal development, their potential to disintegrate societies and to lead to environmental degradation is also high.⁵ Notably too, previous studies have demonstrated that the Albertine Graben has high biodiversity spots and it is now an oil-rich region.

There has, however, been limited attention from government, donors, civil society, parliamentarians, media or other stakeholders towards better understanding and mitigating such factors. The absence of clear information regarding the progress of oil exploration, exploitation, utilization and absence of a practice of sharing results of studies conducted has already led to confusion and misinformation circulating at the local level in districts especially where oil exploration and development activities have been taking place.

⁵International Alert (June 2009). Countering regional, National and Local Conflict Impacts of Oil Discovery in the Albertine rift of Uganda. A report of a Qualitative field Survey in 5 districts (Hoima, Bundibugyo, Kanungu, Arua and Amuru)

4.0 Presentation of findings

4.1 Study area and sample size

The baseline survey was conducted in 21 villages, six sub-counties, and three districts of Bunyoro. The sub-counties were selected purposively, based on the level of present or previous oil activity and the associated real or potential footprint of environmental, social or economic nature on the community. The sub-counties include Buliisa Town Council and Ngwedo in Buliisa District; Kabwooya and Kiziranfumbi in Kikuube District and, Kitoba and Kabaale in Hoima District. The table below shows the surveyed villages in the respective sub-counties.

Table 1: showing the survey districts, sub-counties and villages

District	Sub-county	villages
Buliisa	Ngwedo	Kisomere
		Kisansya West
		Kasinyi
		Kibambura
	Buliisa Town Council	Kizongi
		Civic
		Kityanga
		Kakindo
Kikuube	Kabwooya	Kaseeta
		Nyairongo
		Hohwa
		Kyenjojo
	Kiziranfumbi	Kyarwesabya
		Kisambo
		Kidoma
		Butimba
Hoima	Kitoba	Nakulabye
		Bwendelo
	Kabaale	Kigaaga
		Kitegwa
		Nyakasenene

About 79% of the land area in the study area is under agriculture, settlement and other productive land uses, while the remainder comprises wildlife reserves and forest reserves. Oil exploration has been ongoing in this region since the 1920s. Commercially viable oil deposits in this area have been confirmed in the three districts of survey coverage and several activities to commercialize the resources have been ongoing, including, plans to build an oil refinery, crude oil export pipeline, feeder pipelines, Central Processing Facility, an airport, critical oil roads, main camps and pumping yards, among other above-ground installations. The choice of the sub-counties and villages of concentration in

the baseline survey was informed by the knowledge of these ongoing activities and plans.

For this baseline survey, a total sample of 912 was targeted in all six sub-counties. Although the plan was to have an equal number of male and female respondents, more males (537) represented 58.8% than females (375) female participants represented 41.2% of the survey population.

In addition, key informants were selected to obtain technical/expert views for the study and were drawn from national and district level government and civil society institutions, in addition to opinion leaders. A total of 28 key informant interviews were conducted, with prioritization of sub-country and district officials. Additionally, Focus Group Discussions were conducted to capture community experiences about oil exploration and development activities. A total of 21 FGDs were conducted, with one in each village. Respondents in the study districts were selected using proportionate random sampling, and population figures for each district were drawn from the 2018 population projections of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics. Approximately 29% of the study respondents were below 30 years of age, 56% were aged between 30 and 55 years, while 15% were aged 55 years and above.

4.2 Stakeholders in the oil and gas sector

Stakeholders can be defined as any group or individual who can affect or be affected by the achievement of an organization's objectives. From this definition, it is clear that stakeholders are complex and multifaceted. It has been advised that the first step in managing oil-related expectations is to "identify" and bring on board all the stakeholders that will be affected by or involved in the oil and gas sector. These stakeholders may include local communities, CSOs, the broader public, national and local government, parliament, oil companies, and the local private sector and business community.

The NOGP 2008 alludes to a number of stakeholders within and outside the government structures. On the government side, the policy refers roles to cabinet, parliament, the ministry responsible for oil and gas, and the institutions and agencies of various ministries responsible for managing resources and issues linked to the oil and gas sector. The policy also identifies non-state actors in the oil and gas developments – including civil society, along with religious and cultural institutions involved in advocacy, mobilization and dialogue with the communities.

The National Communication Strategy for Oil and Gas of June 2011 expands the stakeholder category in terms of communication and information dissemination. These stakeholders include ministries responsible for energy, water and the environment, local governments, state institutions responsible for wildlife (Uganda Wildlife Authority) and the environment (National Environment Management Authority), the mass media, regional and international media, oil companies, communities in the Albertine Graben and areas with petroleum infrastructure, civil society, universities and third-level institutions, the East African Community secretariat, and the international community.

The stakeholders are likely to continue expanding within government, as sectors respond to emerging needs arising from various developments within the industry. There is also a

proliferation of CSOs working at the international, national and community levels, focusing on oil and gas sector developments. In addition, a number of coalitions have been formed at the national and regional level. The Civil Society Coalition on Oil (CSCO) was formed in 2009 to link civil society actors working in the oil and gas sector.

Under the framework of the CSCO, regional coalitions have also been formed, bringing together local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBO) working on oil and gas within the petroleum region, initially with the support of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Uganda. Key informant interviews at the national and local government levels revealed that there are regional networks on oil and gas established and operating in Bunyoro, including; the Bunyoro Albertine Petroleum Network on Environmental Conservation (BAPENECO). The issues generated by BAPENECO are meant to feed into the CSCO national advocacy agenda. Besides the CSCO, other national level networks have emerged – including Publish What You Pay (PWYP) and the Oil Watch Network.

Overall, therefore, there is quite a wide range of stakeholders in the oil and gas sector. To some extent, stakeholders have been vigilant in fulfilling their mandates. However, there are challenges of coordination and capacity among stakeholders. For example, CSO coalitions working in the oil and gas sector are still grappling with the issue of inter- and intra-coalition coordination, especially in relation to research, policy analysis and joint advocacy.

4.3 The policy and regulatory framework for the petroleum industry

In 2008, the government passed the National Oil and Gas Policy (NOGP), which forms the overall policy guidance on oil and gas. The policy obligated the government to enact adequate enabling laws in order to realise the aspirations enshrined therein. A review of the NOGP shows that this policy was developed as a result of a consultative process – including the review of oil and gas policies from several other countries as well as consultative meetings and workshops with technical staff from various government institutions at national level. A working document of the draft policy was then shared with representatives of local and urban authorities, cultural institutions in the Albertine Graben, CSOs and academic institutions for their review.

The NOGP 2008 laid the foundation for developing necessary specific legislation and regulations, as well as the institutional framework for the development of the oil and gas sector. It is within this context that the laws shown in Annex 1 were enacted between 2012 and 2019, in addition to the other related sector laws to operationalize the NOGP. Table showing select sector laws and the relevance of their respective provisions to CSO work on oil and gas is annexed to this report.

4.4 Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents

There was a deliberate attempt to balance the selection of respondents across gender in the total sample with 58.8% males and 41.2% females. The majority (74%) of the respondents were married; of these, 82% were household heads. These findings indicate that marriage is still a valued institution in the study communities, especially as it relates to ownership of resources and decision-making at family level. In terms of education, a sizeable percentage (21%) had never attended school; 51% of the respondents had a primary-level education, while 20% had a secondary-level education. Only 8% of the respondents had

completed third-level education. Gender differences were noted, with more men (87%) than women (71%) having attended school.

Table 2: Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents

Age category	Total(n=912)			
	Buliisa (n=364)	Kikuube (n=312)	Hoima (n=236)	Total (n=912)
20–24 years	22(6.04%)	19(6.08%)	33(13.98%)	74(26.08%)
25–29 years	39(10.7%)	43(13.78%)	26(11%)	108(35.48%)
30–34 years	50(13.7%)	38(12.17%)	47(19.9%)	135(45.77%)
35–39 years	68(18.68%)	53(16.98%)	32(13.5%)	153(35.66%)
40–44 years	86(23.6%)	74(23.7%)	57(24%)	217(71.3%)
45–49 years	62(17%)	52(16.66%)	28(11.86%)	142(45.5%)
50–54 years	18(4.94%)	19(6.08%)	08(3.38%)	45(14.4%)
55+ years	16(4.39%)	14(4.48%)	05(2%)	35(10.87%)
Sex of respondent				
Male	220(60.4%)	174(55.76%)	143(60.59%)	537(58.8%)
Female	144(39.56%)	138(44.2%)	93(39.4%)	375(41.2%)
Level of education				
None	68(18.68%)	96(30.76%)	27(11.4%)	191(21%)
Primary education	177(48.6%)	125(40%)	164(69.4%)	466(51%)
Secondary education	91(25%)	62(19.9%)	29(12.3%)	182(20%)
College/University	28(7.69)	29(9.29%)	16(6.8%)	73(8%)

4.5 Relationship the to the household head

Table 3: Relationship to the household head

Relationship	Total		
	Buliisa	Kikuube	Hoima
Head	53.6%	63.6%	55.8%
Spouse	35.9%	19.6%	37.2%
Son/Daughter	7.8%	4.6%	3.7%
Sister/Brother of head or spouse	1.6%	6.4%	1.9%
Parent of head or spouse	0.5%	3.9%	1.1%
Other relatives	0.5%	1.4%	
Other		0.4%	0.4%
Grandchild			
Total	364(100.0%)	312(100.0%)	236(100.0%)

The results in the table above show that 57% of the respondents were household heads (86.2% males and 24.7% females). Some 30% were spouses, while a tiny proportion (0.2%) constituted grandchildren of the household head. No major regional variations were noted on this variable. The major implication here is that most data were collected from household heads and were able to report on family dynamics.

Table 4: Household size

Household size	Total		
	Buliisa	Kikuube	Hoima
Number of children in household (0–17 years)			
1 to 3 children	19.3%	22.6%	10.7%
4 to 6 children	47.1%	39.6%	42.0%
7 to 9 children	21.0%	26.4%	28.4%
10 or more children	12.6%	11.3%	18.9%
Total	119(100.0%)	106(100.0%)	169(100.0%)
Number of adults in household (18+ years)			
1 to 3 adults	84.4%	75.8%	65.7%
4 to 6 adults	11.5%	20.6%	28.3%
7 to 9 adults	3.1%	2.5%	4.3%
10 or more adults	1.0%	1.1%	1.6%
Total	364(100.0%)	312(100.0%)	236(100.0%)

The results in the table above show that a sizeable proportion (46%) of the households visited had 4 to 6 children and 22% had 7 to 9 children. This indicates a rather big household size and burden of care for the household head. There were no major variations at district level noted.

4.6 Ownership and type of housing

The results show that nearly three-quarters (72%) of the respondents had their own houses. A further 21% of the respondents were renting, while 6% were caretakers. Significant district level variations were noted, with majority respondents in Buliisa (93%) having their own houses compared with their counterparts in Kikuube (72%) and Hoima (56% respectively). The survey results show that almost half (45%) of the respondents had temporary dwellings, while 35% had semi-permanent and 20% had permanent dwellings. Again, variations within districts were registered and could be attributed to the rate of urbanization in Hoima and Kikuube which is higher than Buliisa's thus explaining the high presence of temporary dwellings in the district.

A photograph of some of the houses built to resettle PAPs displaced by the CPF in Buliisa



4.7 Sources of livelihood

Like many other regions in the country, communities in the Albertine region are particularly dependent on subsistence agriculture. It is the same case with the districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Kikuube where the survey was conducted. For instance, in district of Kibuube and particularly in the sub-counties where the survey took place, over 91% of the total population are employed in agriculture, with the majority (78.9%) mainly involved in subsistence agriculture. Subsistence agriculture is generally dominated by peasant smallholders, based on crops like bananas, cassava, maize and legumes. Livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs) is also an important agricultural activity and source of livelihood for many communities in Uganda – including the Albertine region. Grazing land is communally owned, especially as is the case in Buliisa district. However, with the increasing population of both humans and livestock, land availability is becoming limited, which has led to overgrazing. The agricultural situation is further exacerbated by the land demands of the oil project, which continues to take several acres of land from individuals and communities.

Fishing is another prime source of livelihood for people in the Albertine Graben and Lake Albert alone contributes about 15% of the country's total fish catch in addition to being the richest of the region's lakes in terms of fish biodiversity. In addition, fish processing is an important source of employment for people, especially young people in the region.

4.8 Access to livelihood resources

Against this background, the study sought to examine how oil exploration and development activities in the region have impacted on people's access to livelihood resources. The results in the table below show that 34% of the

respondents perceived an increased restriction on fishing activities in their communities. The highest levels of increased restriction in fishing activities were reported in Buliisa district (65%) especially during intensive oil exploration activities.

Table 5: Effect of oil exploration and development on access to resources

Resources/indicators			
	Buliisa	Hoima	Kikuube
Firewood			
Reduced restriction	1.2%	4.3%	9.7%
Increased restriction	57.1%	52.3%	35.3%
No change in restriction	41.7%	43.4%	55.0%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Forestry herbs			
Reduced restriction	1.2%	5.6%	10.9%
Increased restriction	59.5%	50.0%	23.6%
No change in restriction	39.3%	44.4%	65.5%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Wild game			
Reduced restriction		5.1%	8.5%
Increased restriction	44.6%	57.2%	27.9%
No change in restriction	55.4%	37.7%	63.6%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Fishing			
Reduced restriction	1.2%	3.0%	10.1%
Increased restriction	66.7%	47.9%	38.0%
No change in restriction	32.1%	49.2%	51.9%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Cultural sites			
Reduced restriction	1.8%	2.1%	10.1%
Increased restriction	75.0%	19.2%	12.8%
No change in restriction	23.2%	78.6%	77.0%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)

There were reports of restrictions in accessing firewood and fishing sites as the major concern. Most respondents (61%) indicated that there had not been any changes in access to cultural sites, which wild game restrictions featured in the concerns, but mildly (27%). In addition, 45% of the respondents reported increased restrictions to collect firewood, which is significant given that firewood is cited as the main source of fuel for cooking. The reported restrictions on some of the community activities, such as fishing, are already being blamed for negatively affecting income and livelihoods in the fishing communities visited. This may infringe on their right to employment and meaningful livelihoods. Oil company officials indicated that the restrictions on some resources such as forests and wetlands were implemented to guard against the risk of attributing resource degradation to oil activities. In an interview with district officials, they acknowledged the increased restrictions and were happy that the oil project had improved enforcement efforts, especially from the central government.

4.9 Household monthly income and expenditure

Further in understanding the baseline local economics, the survey also invested time in gathering information on household income and expenditure in the study districts, as summarized in the table below.

Table 6: Household monthly earnings by district

Earnings (UGX)			
	Kikuube	Hoima	Buliisa
Less than 50,000	24.6%	5.3%	36.6%
50,000–100,000	30.9%	20.6%	35.9%
110,000–150,000	9.1%	10.3%	6.5%
160,000–200,000	11.4%	10.3%	5.7%
210,000–250,000	3.4%	8.2%	1.5%
260,000–300,000	9.1%	18.5%	6.1%
310,000–350,000		3.6%	
360,000–400,000	5.1%	6.0%	1.9%
410,000–450,000	0.6%	1.4%	
460,000–500,000	2.9%	6.4%	2.3%
Above 500,000	2.9%	9.3%	3.4%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)

This is a key monitoring parameter that can be used in future to gauge the contribution of the petroleum industry to the resource host communities, especially taken at household level. Generally, about one-third (31%) of the respondents stated that their household monthly earnings were between UGX 50,000) and UGX 100,000. Some 22% of the respondents affirmed that their household monthly earnings were less than UGX 50,000. There were also significant variations in reported monthly earnings in this study across districts. For instance, a higher proportion (37% respectively) of the respondents in Buliisa and Kikuube reported household monthly earnings below UGX 50,000. Most of these attributed the reduced incomes to restrictions on access to resources such as fresh water bodies (for fishing) and forests (for timber, charcoal and firewood). In addition, gender differences were noted: for example, more women (29%) than men (15%) reported that their household monthly earnings were less than UGX 50,000. It is important to take deeper interest in this finding as the oil project progresses in order to establish whether it disenfranchises the women or contributes to early eradication of poverty across gender as capture in the NOGP objective.

In terms of household monthly expenditure, the major expenditure item was school fees (63%). Next in the ranks were medical care, food and transport in that order. Households reported expenditures of UGX 100,000 – 300,000 per month on education, a burden they expressed discomfort with, given the reduced household income. Overall, the findings show that 30% of the respondents reported monthly household spending of less than UGX 50,000, while 28% reported monthly household spending of between UGX 50,000 and UGX 100,000.

Table 7: Household monthly expenditure by district

Expenditure			
-------------	--	--	--

	Buliisa	Hoima	Kikuube
Less than 50,000	57.4%	16.4%	21.1%
50,000–100,000	30.9%	33.6%	32.2%
110,000–150,000	4.3%	12.0%	11.1%
160,000–200,000	4.8%	11.7%	15.6%
210,000–250,000	0.5%	2.2%	3.9%
260,000–300,000		6.6%	3.3%
310,000–350,000	0.5%	.4%	1.1%
360,000–400,000	1.1%	4.4%	1.7%
410,000–450,000		1.5%	0.6%
460,000–500,000	0.5%	4.4%	3.3%
Above 500,000		6.9%	6.1%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)

4.10 Ownership of valuable assets

Resource ownership and decision making has been a contentious matter in Bunyoro since the inception of the oil project. Eventually, resources such as land have become pivotal in development and social stability in the region. Accordingly, the survey examined ownership of valuable assets in the sub-counties surveyed. The findings in the table below give an overview of ownership according to the different types of assets, with a gender lens.

Table 8: Ownership of valuable assets

Assets	Gender of respondent		Total (n=1215)
	Male (n=537)	Female (n=375)	
Land			
Does not own	24.8%	41.0%	32.5%
Jointly owns	50.5%	44.1%	47.5%
Owns alone	24.6%	14.9%	20.0%
The house/dwelling you live in			
Does not own	27.8%	36.0%	31.7%
Jointly owns	49.0%	50.7%	49.8%
Owns alone	23.2%	13.3%	18.5%
Any other residence (house, apartment or dwelling)			
Does not own	77.1%	82.0%	79.4%
Jointly owns	14.9%	13.7%	14.3%
Owns alone	8.0%	4.3%	6.3%
Jewellery or gems			
Does not own	77.2%	69.6%	73.6%
Jointly owns	15.9%	10.7%	13.4%
Owns alone	6.9%	19.7%	13.0%
Livestock (such as sheep, goats, cows, chickens)			
Does not own	36.1%	46.7%	41.2%
Jointly owns	43.3%	36.2%	39.9%
Owns alone	20.6%	17.1%	18.9%
Tools (such as hoes, panga, slashers, wheelbarrow)			
Does not own	25.4%	33.2%	29.1%
Jointly owns	53.2%	49.7%	51.5%

Owens alone	21.4%	17.1%	19.3%
Transport means (such as bicycle, motorcycle, car)			
Does not own	42.7%	65.9%	53.7%
Jointly owns	33.8%	26.6%	30.4%
Owens alone	23.5%	7.4%	15.9%
Furnishings (such as bed, generator, refrigerator, radio)			
Does not own	27.5%	36.3%	31.7%
Jointly owns	49.1%	46.7%	48.0%
Owens alone	23.4%	17.0%	20.3%

The results in the table above show that 67.5% of the respondents owned land – either jointly (47.5%) or alone (20%). There were significant gender differences. More women (41%) than men (25%) did not own land. At the same time, more men (23%) than women (13%) owned dwelling units alone. The study also revealed that 59% of the respondents owned livestock.

Again, significant gender differences were noted with respect to ownership of livestock. Regarding transport, more than half (54%) of the respondents did not own any means of transport. In addition, more men (24%) than women (7%) were the sole owners of their transport means. These results show significant gender differences in access to and control and ownership of productive resources. This implies that, if such gender imbalances remain unchanged, women are likely to benefit less from the proceeds of oil exploration and exploitation.

4.11 Land size, ownership and tenure system

The study also gathered information on the size of land owned by participants. The results of these findings are shown in the table below.

Table 9: Size of land owned and type of tenure system

If owns land	Total(n=820)		
	Buliisa(n=364)	Hoima(n=312)	Kikuube(n=236)
Size of the acreage			
Less than 1 acre	2.9%	30.7%	11.8%
1–3 acres	13.9%	29.4%	32.6%
4–6 acres	13.9%	16.3%	28.1%
7–9 acres	8.0%	3.9%	7.7%
10 and above	45.3%	10.5%	17.6%
Don't know	16.1%	9.2%	2.3%
The tenure system of the land			
Customary	83.2%	80.4%	70.1%
Freehold	6.6%	2.6%	23.5%
Communal ownership	9.5%	15.0%	3.2%
Leasehold	0.7%	2.0%	2.3%
Other			0.9%

The results show that about a third (32%) of the survey respondents owned 1 to 3

acres of land. The majority of respondents (71%) had customary land ownership, while 20% were on a freehold land tenure system.

In Buliisa, a number of land conflicts were reported. Local leaders also admitted to handling more land issues than any other. During a focus group discussion in Kisomere village, one elderly man noted thus;

“shared grazing land is becoming tensive because land has become a hot cake. These days even a goat cannot graze in a neighbour’s land”

More land wrangles were reported in instances of joint ownership. The situation has been exacerbated by land dealers who come and convince one party to sale without the consent of the other. Other similar conflicts were reported in Kibambura village over water resources.

4.12 Access to employment opportunities

Employment is an important economic parameter. The table below shows the results regarding the main occupation of respondents in the study. The results show that the highest proportion (45%) of respondents were engaged in farming/ agriculture, followed by business/self-employment (23%) as their main occupation. Interestingly, more women (50%) than men (41%) reported being involved in farming/agriculture. Similarly, a higher proportion (26%) of female respondents reported being involved in business/self-employment compared with their male counterparts (20%).

Table 10: Main occupation

Occupation	Men (n=537)	Women (n=375)	Overall (n=912)
Farming/agriculture	40.7%	50.2%	45.2%
Business/self-employed	19.6%	26.0%	22.6%
Fishing	14.9%	1.7%	8.6%
Casual work	5.8%	3.1%	4.5%
Private sector employment	4.2%	2.4%	3.4%
Vending	2.4%	3.6%	3.0%
Civil service/government	3.0%	2.4%	2.7%
Working in a saloon	0.9%	1.9%	1.4%
Other	8.5%	8.7%	8.6%

One of the most pronounced expectations of communities from the oil project is employment. It is expected that the current oil activities in the survey districts will create employment opportunities in the area. Findings from key informant interviews and focus group discussions reveal that some employment opportunities have been created in areas where oil exploration activities are ongoing. The table below shows the main expectations of survey participants with a bearing on their socio-economic wellbeing.

Expectations	Percentage
Increased employment opportunities	57.1%
Increase in income	50.6%
Improved access to roads	41.3%

Improved access to social amenities	36.1%
Other benefits (business, compensation, decrease in commodity prices, etc.)	13.3%

4.13 Women's decision making and control over assets

In some jurisdictions, oil benefits are known to deepen gender inequalities. The survey took interest in generating insights into current gender roles and how they are evolving in the face of oil activities. Women's control over resources is also vital in understanding their ability to get into viable income-generating activities and to harness other investment opportunities. This study established that women seeking permission from their husbands or someone else to sell land in all districts was an overlapping practice across the districts. The same trend applies to selling joint dwelling places, ranging between 85-96% in responses. Similar trends were reported regarding jointly owned items such as livestock, farm tools and transport means. However, a considerable percentage of respondents (averaging 56%) in all study sites reported that they did not need permission to sell land owned alone. These findings give an insight into power relations regarding the use and management of jointly owned assets at family level.

The findings also indicated that considerable proportions of female respondents needed permission from their husbands to sell land owned alone (38%). However, the findings suggested that women were more at liberty to sell off items not jointly owned without their husband's permission.

4.14 Decision making on income and expenditure

Further on, views were elicited on decision-making on income and expenditure at the household level. The findings are summarised in the table below.

Table 11: Household decision making on income expenditure

Current practices	Gender of respondent		Total
	Male n=537	Female n=375	
Buying food, clothing and utensils for the family			
Yourself	42.5%	38.1%	40.4%
Partner	11.8%	20.2%	15.8%
Jointly with partner	39.1%	33.7%	36.5%
Someone else	3.5%	3.6%	3.5%
Yourself and someone else jointly	0.9%	1.4%	1.2%
NA	2.2%	2.9%	2.6%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Making a decision to study or work outside the home			
Yourself	41.0%	25.4%	33.6%
Partner	3.9%	22.5%	12.8%
Jointly with partner	45.5%	41.9%	43.8%
Someone else	2.5%	2.4%	2.5%
Yourself and someone else jointly	0.8%	1.6%	1.2%
NA	6.3%	6.2%	6.3%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Buying some assets for the home (such as bicycles, radio and land)			
Yourself	46.8%	22.0%	35.0%

Partner	4.1%	28.9%	15.9%
Jointly with partner	42.9%	40.0%	41.5%
Someone else	2.4%	2.9%	2.6%
Yourself and someone else jointly	1.1%	2.1%	1.6%
NA	2.8%	4.2%	3.5%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Disposing of vital assets (such as land)			
Yourself	37.7%	19.4%	29.0%
Partner	3.8%	25.8%	14.2%
Jointly with partner	51.2%	42.7%	47.2%
Someone else	2.8%	3.1%	3.0%
Yourself and someone else jointly	1.6%	3.5%	2.5%
NA	3.0%	5.5%	4.2%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)
Participating in community development activities			
Yourself	32.0%	28.9%	30.5%
Partner	4.7%	16.1%	10.1%
Jointly with partner	57.0%	48.4%	52.9%
Someone else	2.0%	.9%	1.5%
Yourself and someone else jointly	0.6%	1.2%	0.9%
NA	3.6%	4.5%	4.0%
Total	(100.0%)	(100.0%)	(100.0%)

NA = "not available"

The study established that similar proportions of women and men make joint decisions to buy household food, clothing and utensils (39% of men and 34% of women). No significant regional differences were noted in this respect. Moreover, similar proportions of women and men reported making a joint decision to study or work outside the home (46% of men and 42% of women). Again, no significant regional differences emerged here. Similar trends were noted in relation to joint decisions on other household practices. However, men scored higher in terms of making household decisions on their own – particularly in relation to buying certain assets for the home (47% of men compared with 22% of women) and disposing of vital assets such as land (38% of men compared with 19% of women).

4.14 Perceived changes in gender roles

Respondents were asked whether they perceived any changes in terms of gender dynamics due to oil development activities. Given that oil activities were still relatively on a small scale in all the study districts, there were few perceived changes in gender roles. The findings show that a significant and similar proportion of both men (83%) and women (88%) reported that there were no changes in gender relations due to oil activities.

Nevertheless, the oil exploration/exploitation activities are significant enough to cause changes at the household level. Qualitative information indicated that there may be changes in relationships between women and men in the future if the commercial phase of oil production begins. However, many of the changes anticipated may put women in a disadvantaged position. For example, it was reported that there was a preference to recruit men during the exploration phase, because women have not attained sufficient levels of education. Furthermore, most women noted that, once men got more income from oil-related activities, they were tempted to marry more women.

Another important finding was that men were scared of losing their wives to oil workers. Related to this, Hoima respondents indicated that compensation money in the hands of men had disintegrated families, leaving women with the burden of taking care for children after the fathers absented themselves. This was a common complaint in Kabaale parish, Buseruka Sub-county. In contrast, respondents in Kasinyi village, Ngwedo sub-county indicated that having oil in their area is a blessing. They consider compensation money as the biggest benefit from oil and would gladly give it away in exchange for compensation money.

4.15 Governance at national level

Respondents were asked how they rated particular issues relating to governance at national level. Communities expressed strong dissatisfaction about governance at the central government level in general. Nearly half (49%) of the respondents disagreed with the statement 'the central government addresses community concerns about the oil sector'. In addition, over 41% of the respondents disagreed with the statement 'they are confident that government is going to manage oil activities well for the benefit of the community'. At the same time, over 45% of the respondents disagreed with the statement 'the central government listens to community views about the oil sector'.

The study findings indicated that there has been some community involvement in oil-related issues at the national level. A sizeable proportion (39%) of the respondents stated that their members of parliament (MPs) ask for their views, while 30% felt that the central government listens to their views. However, almost half (48%) of the respondents disagreed with the statement 'the MP solicits for their views'. In the Kikuube district, more than half (55%) of the respondents disagreed with this statement, compared with 39% of respondents in Buliisa district. In Hoima, informants claimed that MPs are still ignorant about oil and gas.

4.16 Governance at sub-county level

In a quest to obtain information on the wider participation of other vital government institutions at the community level, this study adopted quite a number of parameters to study governance issues at the sub-county level. Overall, the sub-county rating on most governance parameters was quite low. Across all the regions, a considerable percentage of people were dissatisfied with the level of integrity, transparency, participation, capacity and performance exhibited by the leadership structures at sub-county level. Three quarters (75%) of the respondents expressed dissatisfaction because they were not consulted about governance of the oil sector. The same proportion was also dissatisfied that the sub-county leadership was not addressing community concerns about oil exploration.

The low rating at the sub-county level presents a daunting challenge to the oil and gas sector. Improving the rating and community confidence of study communities in the sub-county will require deliberate efforts targeted at improving the level of integrity of the sub-county leadership. The low rating of this leadership could be attributed to a lack of guidance and empowerment from the district level. It could also be due to a lack of checks and balances both at the upper and lower levels of government. In practice, under normal circumstances, the national government is supposed to empower the district leadership, which in turn is supposed to empower the sub-county leadership.

4.17 Governance at village level

Overall, an assessment of governance at the village level revealed that 77% of the respondents were dissatisfied with the level of integrity, transparency, accountability, participation, capacity and performance shown by the village leadership. The dissatisfaction of the community members in terms of key governance parameters carries serious implications for governance. This has the potential to negatively affect mobilization of the communities to actively participate in any development intervention – including the ongoing oil and gas project in the Albertine Graben. The communities’ active participation and trust in the established governance structures, if established and sustained, is likely to produce a mutually reinforcing relationship that can provide a good platform for checks and balances in the sector. This is crucial for allaying fears, doubts and suspicions that would otherwise cause tension in the communities.

4.18 Awareness of policies and laws governing petroleum development

Although there is a lot of information at the national level about policies and laws guiding the development of the oil and gas sector, it was the interest of the survey to establish whether and how this information trickles down to communities. The survey used awareness of policies and laws as a parameter to assess the virtue of governance. The survey results revealed that 86% of the respondents at the community level are not aware of any policies governing petroleum development in Uganda. The little knowledge existing is at the district level, with just a minority (23%) of respondents able to articulate the objectives of the National Oil and Gas Policy. The results in the table below illustrate the minimal level of awareness about existing laws and policies governing oil exploration in Uganda.

Table 12: Knowledge of laws and policies

Laws and policies	Buliisa	Kikuube	Hoima	Total
Finance Management Act	3	2	3	8
National Environment Act	2	1	2	5
Land Act	8	6	11	25
Mining Act	1	1	2	5
National Oil and Gas Policy	10	8	16	34
Petroleum (EDP) Act	1	2	3	6
Income Tax Act	1	1	2	4
1995 Constitution	24	28	51	103

From the table above, the findings above indicate that there is still limited information sharing on oil laws and policies. Discussions with survey participants in FGDs indicated a little understanding of the value of laws in protecting the rights and welfare of the people. In an interview with a community member of Kakindo, the respondent is quoted to have said,

“we do not have interest in the laws because they are abused by the same people who make them. Look at the land grabbers and the new property owners. Most of them are the educated and well connected...”

The sentiments above notwithstanding, the finding speaks to the need to intensify awareness and information dissemination, a role that non-government organizations are well placed to do. Indeed, even the little knowledge of the was greatly attributed to CSO work, especially as the watchdogs sought to protect the property rights of project affected persons in Kabaale (around the industrial park), in Ngwedo (around the Central Processing Facility) and in Kikuube (especially in areas traversed by the feeder pipelines and critical oil roads).

4. 19 Accessibility and effectiveness of institutions

The study also sought information on the accessibility and effectiveness of institutions involved in addressing oil-related grievances in the project-affected communities. Overall, the majority (91%) of respondents acknowledged that these institutions are accessible in cases of grievances. A higher proportion of respondents cited the local councils (47%), clans (41%) and family (40%) as being effective, compared with other institutions such as the police and religious institutions (34% respectively) along with courts of law (30%). Furthermore, the study investigated the strengths and weaknesses of the existing institutions for addressing grievances arising from oil activities. Participants in the focus group discussions and key informant interviews reported that, apart from being accessible to the community, these institutions have significant weaknesses. Such weaknesses include limited facilitation in terms of transport, lack of adequate information and greed, along with limited knowledge of the law, corruption, conflict of interest and a lack of training in conflict resolution.

Displacement due to oil-related activities was one of the issues aggrieved about in the region. Coupled with this is the inadequate compensation for private property. Some 10% of the respondents reported that their households were displaced during the oil exploration phase. Although the study findings show that there was minimal displacement, the community members interviewed expressed suspicion over the impact of the development phase in a vacuum of clear information about what is likely to happen. This has impacted negatively on the livelihoods of some communities. Participants in the focus group discussions indicated that some people have abandoned growing both food and cash crops for fear of being evicted before the crops mature. This has a negative bearing on their food security and household incomes.

4.20 Environmental status and concerns

The districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Kikuube are located in the Albertine Graben, which is a rich ecoregion, with wildlife and a natural environment, harbouring a large proportion of Uganda's mammals, birds and other species in the 10 of the country's 22 national parks and game reserves. The area also has a number of archaeological and historic sites of national importance.

Globally, oil activities have been associated with environmental effects such as environmental degradation resulting from oil spillage, gas flaring, blowouts, deforestation, ecological degradation and other negative practices that have long been associated with the activities of oil companies. Uganda has a piece of legislation entirely developed to guide environment management the country. The Ministry of Water and Environment also has environmental regulations which guide developers on the day-to-day dos and don'ts.

A view of air pollution in Kasinyi village around the CPF in Ngwedo sub-county



One of the key findings at the community level is that there is a total lack of capacity to monitor environmental changes especially as they relate to water quality, pollution, smell, and sound. A few respondents (28%) across the three districts could talk about environmental matters of community concern. It was also discovered that environmental issues do not rank highly among community concerns. For example, in Ngwedo around the site for the CPF, a lot of air pollution by dust from the construction works could be observed at the time of the survey. However, community members in the area were indifferent about the growing negative trend.

There was a concern that oil exploration by-products – such as mud cuttings, drill cuttings and waste are likely to contaminate the underground aquifers. Community members were also not aware of what to do in order to have their concerns heard and addressed. It emerged clearly that local people were not equipped with environmental information, they had listened to stories of environmental disasters in Nigeria and Europe, which only raised fear of the unknown.

In all the districts, interviews with District Environment Officers did not shed an optimistic picture because the challenges of capacity in funding, tools and technical skills were echoed uniformly.

The majority (91%) of respondents reported that they did not know of any measures in place to address the effects on the environment. Similarly, there were no community-led initiatives to conserve the environment amidst petroleum development. In Kikuube, the District Environment Officer noted that an oil company had engaged a community in Buhuka parish to plant trees and collect solid waste, an initiative that collapsed with the suspension of field activities during the days of COVID-19.

Almost half (48%) of the respondents reported that there are policies/by-laws in place for environmental protection. In relation to access to the natural environment,

almost half (49.5%) of the respondents reported that there is restricted access to certain parts of the lake/river. This could be attributed to the fact that some of the oil discovery sites are at the shores of the lake in these regions. In addition, two-thirds (64%) of the respondents reported that there is restricted access to certain parts of the wildlife reserve, as reported in Buliisa (64%) and Kikuube (47%) respectively.

Some respondents (34%) in Hoima, (28%) in Kikuube and Buliisa (41%) confirmed that they had been involved in environmental Impact Assessment processes, although the majority (89%) indicated that this was at the consultation level. A minority (11%) had participated in public hearings and thought this was an effective forum for assessing information about the project. In interviews with environmental officers, it was revealed that quite a number of meetings were organized to discuss the EIA process and findings with project-affected communities in Buliisa and Hoima. Environmental officers in the region reported that they are involved in the process of developing the terms of reference and field assessment of the EIA, although they opined that the process leading to the environmental impact statement was generally less consultative and participatory.

Important to note, respondents reported that there is limited access to environmental information and over 63% of the respondents at the village level were not aware of the implications of oil activities on the environment. They indicated that the only source of environmental information were non-government organizations, whose operations slowed down with the double tragedy of covid-19 pandemic and the suspension of the operations of the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF), their main funder.

5.0 Conclusion and recommendations

Petroleum development has a direct impact on the economic, social, environmental and cultural dimensions of the resource host community. These impacts require regular monitoring, based on an articulate and comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

The importance of independent monitoring by capable CSOs in Uganda cannot be overstated. As companies publish their annual performance reports and government agencies make monitoring data public, CSO observations will be a critical input in as far as deepening the factual depth of data is concerned. The following indicators will be key to monitor as UCCA and BIRUDO seek to guide the sector to a socially acceptable future, an economically viable path and an environmental sound approach to sustainable development. The indicators are based on the findings of this baseline survey and can change as the sector progresses: They include:

- Respect of human and property rights
- Efforts to ensure compliance
- Strategies to foster fairness in land acquisition and resettlement processes
- Approach to ESIA studies - undertaken according to the Act and The National Environment (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1998 (SI No. 153-1)?
- Licenses or permits have been obtained as required under subsidiary regulations for activities in wetlands, riverbanks, hilly areas, emissions and waste management

- Existence and implementation of waste management plans
- Assessment of workforce health, safety and welfare impacts
- Implementation of labour management plans
- A human rights assessment is undertaken
- A resettlement strategy is developed and implemented
- The project and its components developed and implemented labour management plans
- There are measures to identify and protect cultural heritage
- Anti-corruption policies and code of conduct are being implemented
- An ESIA study has been undertaken
- Developers have obtained approvals to abstract water and discharge treated wastewater
- Baseline surveys and a water supply study been undertaken to identify sustainable water sources
- The contractors and sub-contractors are compliant with tax requirements
- Impacts on fishing and livelihoods have been assessed
- The resettlement is being undertaken and PAPs compensated according to the land Act
- There is a programme of consultation with relevant stakeholders
- There is strict compliance with the provisions of the Land Act
- There is a predictable mechanism for continued engagement in the planning and implementation of oil activities
- Impacts of waste and air emissions on community health have been assessed and mitigation measures identified

Accordingly, the survey team calls upon central government to demonstrate intentionality to enhance the lives of communities hosting oil activities as envisaged by the National Oil and Gas Policy in 2008. This calls for practical strategies to guard against disenfranchising local people, protect their human and property rights, enhance environmental quality and implement social safeguards based on international industry standards.

We call upon civil society organizations to invest more in sustained awareness campaigns targeted at equipping local people with empowering information and awareness with which to demand the respect of their rights and a fair share of the proceeds from the resources.

To oil companies, the survey recommends going beyond the Community Liaison Officers to establish a more structured way of improving stakeholder engagement and grievance management for a more solid social license to operate and maximum community benefits from the operations of international oil companies (IOC).

Finally, the survey invites all stakeholders to pay attention to the monitoring indicators suggested above to enhance the status of community development fields while at the same time guarding against declining trends in natural resources, respect of human rights, transparency and accountability in oil operations and improved community-company relations.

Annex 1: The legal framework and relevance to CSO work on petroleum development in Uganda

Legislation	Summary of requirements	Relevance to UCCA/BIRUDO work
<p>Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995</p>	<p>The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 is the supreme law and forms the basis for national laws. Constitutional objectives and articles relevant to the protection and management of natural resources and land are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective XIII: The state will protect important natural resources, including land, water, wetlands, minerals, oil, fauna and flora on behalf of the people of Uganda. • Objective XXIV obliges the state to promote and preserve those cultural values and practices which enhance the dignity and wellbeing of Ugandans. • Objective XXV obliges the state and citizens to preserve and protect the culture of preservation of public property and Uganda's heritage. • Objective XXVII (i) obliges the state to promote sustainable development and public awareness of the need to manage land, air and water resources in a balanced and sustainable way for present and future generations. • Objective XXVII (iii) stipulates that energy policies, implemented by the state, should ensure that people's basic needs and those for environmental preservation are met. • Article 26 enshrines the right of every Ugandan to own property and specifies the conditions under which these rights may be waived in the public interest. • Article 36 states the right of minorities to participate in decision-making processes such as national plans and programmes. • Article 39 enshrines the right of every Ugandan to a clean and healthy environment. • Article 237 (2b): the government holds in trust for the people, and is required to protect natural lakes, rivers, wetlands, forest reserves, game reserves, national parks and any land to be reserved for ecological or tourism purposes for the common good of all citizens. • Article 237 (3) defines land tenure systems: customary, freehold, mailo and leasehold. • Article 237 (2a): The government or a local government may acquire land in the public interest. • Article 244: Parliament is mandated to pass laws for regulating the exploitation of minerals and petroleum; the sharing of royalties arising from oil exploitation; the conditions for payment of indemnities arising out of the exploitation of petroleum and minerals; and the restoration of derelict lands. • Article 245: Parliament is mandated to pass laws for: (a) protecting and preserving the environment from abuse, pollution and degradation; (b) managing the environment for sustainable development; and (c) promoting environmental awareness. 	<p>The project will be large-scale with the potential to negatively affect community welfare, especially during the development stage.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Look out for:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Respect of human and property rights</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Efforts to ensure compliance</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Fairness in land acquisition and resettlement processes</i></p>
<p>National Environment Act, 2019</p>	<p>The National Environment Act provides a framework for environmental management. Amongst many other provisions, the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishes the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) as the principal government agency for environmental management (see Table 4.2-4) • establishes requirements for project briefs and environmental impact assessment of 	<p>The project will be large-scale with the potential to negatively affect community welfare, especially during the development stage.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Look out for:</p>

	<p>activities listed in the Third Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prohibits a range of activities in a lake or river unless the requirement is waived by NEMA (Section 34) provides for the establishment of protected zones along riverbanks and lakeshores and for obtaining consent for sustainable uses in such zones (Section 35) prohibits a range of activities in wetlands unless written approval is obtained from NEMA (Section 36) establishes a framework for the management of hilly areas sets requirements for waste management objects and sites in the natural environment which are of cultural importance to the various peoples of Uganda provides for licensing of activities that cause pollution in excess of prescribed standards. sets a framework for conservation of biological diversity, including specification of national strategies, plans, and programmes for conservation and sustainability. requires NEMA, with the assistance of local environment committees, district environment committees and the lead agency, to identify those elements, objects and sites in the natural environment which are of cultural importance to the various peoples of Uganda 	<p><i>Respect of human and property rights</i></p> <p><i>Efforts to ensure compliance</i></p> <p><i>Strategies to foster fairness in land acquisition and resettlement processes</i></p>
<p>Petroleum (Refining, Conversion, Transmission and Midstream Storage) Act No. 4, 2013</p>	<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a legal framework to ensure that midstream operations in Uganda are conducted in a sustainable way. The objectives of the Act are to regulate, manage, coordinate and monitor midstream operations; to enable the construction, placement and ownership of facilities; and to provide for third-party access to facilities and to regulate tariffs for facilities. outlines the duty of the licensee to comply with environmental principles under the National Environment Act, including management of transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of waste arising from midstream operations (Section 3) promotes state participation and national content in midstream operations (Sections 52–55). 	<p>The oil project involves large-scale developments such as the EACOP, a transmission pipeline that traverses communities, environmental resources and has the potential to affect community livelihoods</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Existence and implementation of waste management plans</i></p> <p><i>Implementation of labour management plans</i></p>
<p>Occupational Safety and Health Act No.9, 2006</p>	<p>The Act provides for the general safety, health and environmental requirements for the workplace to be applied during the construction and operational phases of a project, including obligations to inspect statutory equipment and register workplaces.</p> <p>The Occupational Safety and Health Act consolidates, harmonizes and updates the law relating to occupational safety and health, and repeals the Factories Act, Cap 220.</p>	<p>Accordingly, the petroleum industry should employ skilled and unskilled labour and is responsible for their health and safety.</p> <p>Of interest:</p> <p><i>Has the assessment of workforce health, safety and welfare impacts been undertaken?</i></p>
<p>East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) (Special Provisions) Act, 2021</p>	<p>Enacted by Parliament in December 2021 to enable the implementation of the East African Crude Oil Project. The law pays special attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Content regime for the pipeline project; Insurance and Reinsurance regime for the pipeline project; Fiscal regime for the pipeline project; and other regulatory requirements for contractors and sub-contractors. 	<p>The pipeline traverses 11 districts in Uganda and has implications for land ownership, local content, taxation, and financial management, which are of keen interest to civil society work.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Compliance with land acquisition regulations.</i></p> <p><i>Opportunities for local businesses to benefit from the project</i></p>
<p>Equal Opportunities Commission Act No. 2, 2007</p>	<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes the Equal Opportunities Commission mandates the Commission to investigate 	<p>The industry ought to employ skilled and unskilled labour thus providing equal opportunities.</p>

	<p>practices that undermine equal opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> defines as an offence the refusal of employing a person based on the ground of sex, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability. 	<p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have the Act's provisions been adopted in the labour management?</i></p>
<p>Uganda Human Rights Commission Act (Cap 24 of the Laws of Uganda)</p>	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the establishment of the Uganda Human Rights Commission witness attendance and immunities application of High Court Rules and appeals. 	<p>The oil project is required, by law, to project and enhance the rights of the people affected by its operations</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Has a human rights assessment been undertaken?</i></p> <p><i>Has a resettlement strategy been developed?</i></p> <p><i>Has the project and its components developed and implemented labour management plans that respect and protect the human rights of workers?</i></p>
<p>Illiterates Protection Act (Cap 78 of the Laws of Uganda)</p>	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the protection of illiterate persons in relation to writing and signing of documents on behalf of such persons the proponent to ensure adherence to this Act during any writing, signing or endorsement of documents pertaining to land acquisition or compensation related to the project. 	<p>The petroleum industry will affect vulnerable people including illiterate persons during land acquisition, resettlement, employment and other project activities.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Are the Act's provisions adopted in the RAPs, LRPs, labour management and occupational health, safety and security plans?</i></p>
<p>Anti-Corruption Act No. 6, 2009</p>	<p>The Act provides for the prevention of corruption in public and private sectors. Bribery of public officials is a criminal offence. The Act addresses such areas as tendering, conflict of interest, loss of public property and illicit enrichment.</p>	<p>The oil project will require public sector approvals and in the private sector involves resettlement, employment and the purchase of goods.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Are anti-corruption policies and code of conduct being implemented?</i></p>
<p>National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, No.8, 2003</p>	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the conservation, sustainable management and development of trees and forests for the benefit of the people of Uganda any person intending to undertake any project or activity that is likely to have significant impact on a forest will need to undertake an environmental impact assessment (EIA) (Section 38). <p>The Act requires the proponent to acquire a licence before undertaking activities in a forest reserve. The Act also defines central forest reserves in two main categories: for production and for protection, although there may be an overlap between actual activities in some forest reserves.</p>	<p>Components of the oil project traverse forest reserves and commercial plantations</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Has an ESIA study been undertaken?</i></p> <p><i>Have biodiversity baseline surveys and an impact assessment been undertaken?</i></p>
<p>Water Act (Cap 152 of the Laws of Uganda)</p>	<p>The Act's objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote the rational management and use of water resources of Uganda promote the provision of a clean, safe and sufficient supply of water for domestic purposes to all persons allow for orderly development and use of water resources for purposes other than domestic use 	<p>The project will use water resources, particularly for construction camp water supply, hydrostatic testing and operation of aboveground installations (AGIs).</p> <p>Some project components such as the pipeline route will cross water courses and water supply infrastructure.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> control pollution and to promote the safe storage, treatment, discharge and disposal of waste that may pollute water or otherwise harm the environment and human health. <p>Section 18 stipulates that the necessary permits will be obtained before any abstraction of water from natural surface waters (lake, river or stream) and groundwater (aquifer, spring).</p> <p>Section 31 prohibits the discharge of waste into any natural waters unless authorised under the Act.</p>	<p>The project will discharge treated waste water.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have developers obtained approvals to abstract water and discharge treated waste water?</i></p> <p><i>Have baseline surveys and a water supply study been undertaken to identify sustainable water sources for the oil project?</i></p>
Public Finance Management Act No. 3, 2015	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> government revenues from the petroleum industry to be paid into the Petroleum Fund. From this fund, the revenues may be transferred either to the Consolidated Fund to support the national budget or to the Petroleum Revenue Investment Reserve. royalties arising from the Petroleum Revenue Investment Reserve; the government retains 94% and local governments in the petroleum exploration and production areas share the remainder. 	<p>When operational, the oil project will generate government revenue through taxes on profits and the Government's equity share of tariffs and profits from operations.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Are the contractors and sub-contractors compliant with tax requirements</i></p>
Fish Act (Cap 197 of the Laws of Uganda)	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the control of fishing, the conservation of fish and purchase, sale, marketing and processing of fish Section 12 (4) stipulates that "except where otherwise expressly provided by any written law, no person shall divert the waters of any lake, river, stream, pond or private waters in which fish, their eggs or progeny have been introduced with the consent of the chief fisheries officer" the proponent to liaise with the chief fisheries officer to obtain approval for the designs of proposed water abstraction facilities. 	<p>The project may affect fishing at watercourse crossings during construction.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have impacts on fishing and livelihoods been assessed?</i></p> <p><i>Have the operators obtained the required approvals?</i></p>
Wildlife Act (Cap 200 of the Laws of Uganda)	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the conservation of wildlife throughout Uganda so that the abundance and diversity of their species are maintained at optimum levels commensurate with other forms of land use to allow for sustainable utilisation of wildlife for the benefit of the people of Uganda and the global community the protection of rare, endangered and endemic species of wild plants and animals the enhancement of economic and social benefits from wildlife management by establishing wildlife use rights and the promotion of tourism. <p>The ownership of every wild animal and wild plant existing in its wild habitat in Uganda is vested in the government, on behalf and for the benefit of the people of Uganda.</p> <p>Any developer desiring to undertake a project that may have a significant effect on any wildlife species or community needs to undertake an EIA according to the National Environment Act.</p>	<p>The oil project has potential impact on wildlife, especially in Buliisa district.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have biodiversity baseline surveys been undertaken?</i></p> <p><i>Has a biodiversity impact assessment been undertaken, and mitigation measures developed?</i></p>
Land Acquisition Act (Cap 226 of the Laws of Uganda)	<p>The Act provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes and for other matters incidental thereto adequate compensation to project affected persons (PAPs) in the case of compulsory acquisition for a project 	<p>The oil project will land for its various components and this may be acquired by compulsory purchase. Resettlement is required to make the leased land available to the project</p> <p>Look out for:</p>

		<p><i>Has a resettlement strategy been developed?</i></p> <p><i>Is the resettlement being undertaken and PAPs compensated according to the Act?</i></p> <p><i>Is there a programme of consultation with stakeholders?</i></p>
<p>Land Act (Cap 227 of the Laws of Uganda, as amended in 2010)</p>	<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides for the tenure, ownership and management of land. establishes a number of land administration institutions provides the valuation principles for compensation. <p>The 2010 amendment aims to enhance the security of occupancy of lawful and bona fide occupants on registered land according to Article 237 of the Constitution (Section 43).</p>	<p>The project-affected persons expect full observance of the provisions of the Act across the different tenure types for the security of their land.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Is there strict compliance with the provisions of the Land Act?</i></p>
<p>Local Governments Act (Cap 243 of the Laws of Uganda, as amended in 2010)</p>	<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a decentralized form of government based on the district as the main unit of administration. Districts are given legislative and planning powers, including land administration and planning, and planning for the conservation of the environment within their boundaries. requires District Environment Committees, established under Section 15 of the National Environment Act, to guide the district authorities in matters relating to the conservation of the environment specifies functions and services of the Government and local governments (Second Schedule). These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government responsibility for the national monuments, antiquities, archives and public records as Parliament may determine district council responsibility for aiding and supporting the establishment and maintenance of social amenities such as art galleries, museums and tourist centres. 	<p>The oil project will need to consult and cooperate with local government administrations, giving them an opportunity to play their mandatory roles</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have districts and lower local government authorities been engaged?</i></p> <p><i>Is there a predictable mechanism for continued engagement in the planning and implementation of oil activities?</i></p>
<p>Physical Planning Act No. 8, 2010</p>	<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> makes it mandatory for any person undertaking development in a planning area to obtain development permission development permission is subject to obtaining an EIA certificate according to the National Environment Act stipulates that the Minister may, on the recommendation of the National Physical Planning Board, declare an area (such as the Albertine Graben) with unique development potential or problems as a special planning area and require the preparation of a physical development plan (PDP) (Section 24 (1)) 	<p>The entire country of Uganda is declared a “planning area” and therefore this Act applies to the entire country.</p> <p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have ESIA's been undertaken according to the requirements of the Act?</i></p>
<p>Public Health Act (Cap 281 of the Laws of Uganda)</p>	<p>The main objectives of the Public Health Act are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> safeguard and promote public health provide a general prohibition of nuisances or conditions liable to be hazardous to health (Section 54). 	<p>Look out for:</p> <p><i>Have impacts of waste and air emissions on community health been assessed and mitigation measures identified</i></p>

References

AmanigaRuhanga, I. (2010); Seeking benefits and Avoiding conflicts: A community-Company Assessment of Uganda's Hydrocarbon Industry. LSE, UK.

Bainomugisha, A. et al (2006); Escaping the oil curse and making poverty history. A review of the oil and gas policy and legal framework for Uganda.

Buliisa District Development Plan 2020-2025

Government of Uganda, the Oil and Gas Policy, 2008.

Heum, P. et al (2011); Enhancing national participation in oil and gas industry in Uganda.

Hoima District Development Plan 2020-2025

International Alert (June 2009). Countering regional, National and Local Conflict Impacts of Oil Discovery in the Albertine rift of Uganda. A report of a Qualitative field Survey in 5 districts (Hoima, Bundibugyo, Kanungu, Arua and Amuru).

Jason Hicker(June 2011). Saving Uganda from its Oil. The Epoch Times 22-29 June 2011.

Kakonge. J.O, (2011). Challenges of managing expectations of newly emerging oil and gas producers of the south. Journal of World Energy Law and Business, 2011, Vol. 4, No. 2

Kikuube District Development Plan 2020-2025

Manyindo, J. et al (2104); The Governance of Hydrocarbons in Uganda: Creating opportunities for Multi-Stakeholder Engagement. Maendeleo ya Jamii. Kampala.

National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), (2012). The Environmental Monitoring Plan for the Albertine Graben 2012 – 2017. NEMA House, Kampala

National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), (2009). Environmental Sensitivity Atlas for the Albertine Graben. NEMA House, Kampala