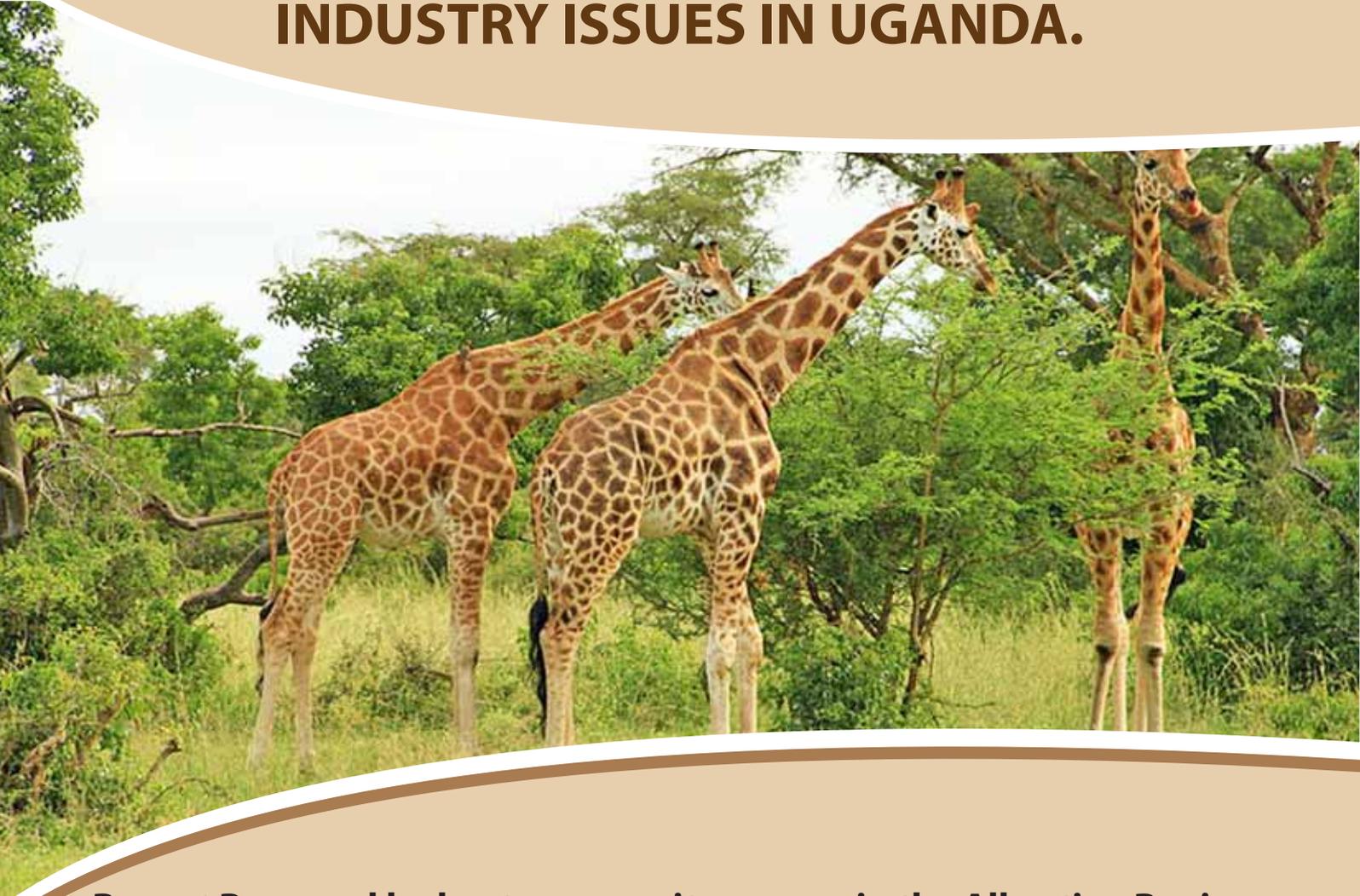


ACTION ORIENTED RESEARCH FOR ENHANCING CIVIL SOCIETY ADVOCACY STRATEGIES ON PETROLEUM AND GAS INDUSTRY ISSUES IN UGANDA.



Report Prepared by host community groups in the Albertine Region:

- **Educate Uganda-Hoima**
- **Buliisa Catholic Womens Association-Buliisa**
- **Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development**
- **Lake Albert Children and Women Development Organization-Buliisa**
- **Hoima Environmental Project-Hoima**
- **Butiaba Red Scorpion Youths Association**
- **Kakindo Orphans Care –Buliisa**
- **Grace Family Nutrition and Income Initiative**

Co-ordinated by National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)
with financial support from Revenue Watch Institute (RWI)



January 2011



Acknowledgement

This report on Action-oriented Research for Enhancing Civil Society Advocacy Strategies on Petroleum and Gas Industry issues in Uganda has been prepared by host community groups in the Oil region of Uganda under the coordination of National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) and with Financial Support from Revenue Watch Institute (RWI).

The preparation of this report was facilitated by a technical committee comprising of Frank Muramuzi, Dennis Tabaro, Rajab Bwengye, Dickens Kamugisha and Alex Muhwezi (lead facilitator).

Field data collection was carried out by a Community Research Team comprised of Alice Kazimura, Fred Kandole, Richard Kajura, Julius Mugungu, Rev. Fred Musimenta, Opira Geoffrey Nkuba Isaac and Birigenda Hussein who are all members of the host community network in the oil region operating under the umbrella -Oil Watch Network – Uganda, which is coordinated by NAPE and AFIEGO.

NAPE would like to acknowledge all individuals and institutions who have contributed to field research and the production of this report. NAPE extends its appreciation to Revenue Watch Institute, which provided financial support for carrying out research and for preparation of this report.

All along local and indigenous communities have been sources of knowledge and information, which the elite (i.e. academics, consultants, researchers politicians etc) use to claim ownership of the research enterprise. NAPE believes that this is theft of the intellectual property of the local and indigenous communities. Time is now to empower the communities to regain power over and own the research enterprise for their own good. This is one way communities can ensure that they are resilient and sustainable.

We urge all those who have unfairly claimed the power and knowledge of the local and indigenous communities and, hence, disempowered them, to agree to relinquish them. We also call upon the local and indigenous communities to resist imposed docility, fear and complacency and reclaim w their power and knowledge.

Finally, NAPE looks forward to fulfilling its lead role in implementing the findings and recommendations of this action-oriented research report and urges all its partners and other stakeholders to use this report in advocating for good governance in Uganda's oil and gas industry.

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Acronyms

AFIEGO	Africa Energy Governance Institute
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EIAs	Environmental Impact Assessments
NAPE	National Association of Professional Environmentalists
NGOs	Non Government Organizations
RWI	Revenue Watch Institute

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1 INTRODUCTION ABOUT THE ACTION RESEARCH

This is report on the findings and conclusions of Action Research commissioned by NAPE in July 2010 in Albertine Region, western Uganda. The overall objective of this research was to generate information that would strengthen the advocacy capacity & strategies of the local Civil Society groups operating in the oil region on the impact of the Petroleum and Gas industry on the livelihoods of the communities they represent.

1.1 Action Research

According to Wikipedia (*October 2010*), Action Oriented research is a methodological approach for doing collaborative Research with practioners and community partners that can inform practice, programs, community development, and policy while contributing to the scientific knowledge base. It is also referred to as “an undertaking by teams that is flexible and iterative with the aim to solve a problem in order to improve the way processes are performed and services are delivered”. Therefore, Action Research is a **reflective process** of progressive **problem solving** led by individuals working with others in teams or as part of a “**community of practice**” to improve the way they address issues and solve problems. Action Research is sometimes assisted or guided by professional researchers, with the aim of improving their strategies, practices, and knowledge of the environments within which they practice. In this study the terms action oriented research, Action research, collaborative research, applied research will be used interchangeably.

1.2 Rationale

NAPE designed the Action Research purposely to address the practical concerns of CSOs and Communities in Albertine in relation to the Petroleum and gas industry. NAPE employed action research as a flexible approach or tool for involving community participants to generate action to address social problems or issues due to Petroleum and Gas Industry that need systematic planning and analysis. The Action Research targeted to generate information that would strengthen the advocacy capacity & strategies of the local civil society groups operating in the oil region on the likely impacts of the petroleum and gas industry on the livelihoods of the communities they represent. Information generated has been analyzed for purposes of developing advocacy messages to support the above key areas of concern. The advocacy messages have been translated in usable forms, including translation into local languages for ease of use and dissemination by the Community Research Team members.

1.3 The process

NAPE commissioned Action Research undertaking in July 2010 in the Albertine region of western Uganda principally to generate information that would inform civil society programmes that support community advocacy work on Petroleum and Gas activities in the region. The undertaking targeted civil society groups in the region to carry out the research, analyze the information and generate advocacy messages based on this information. The process of this research underwent the following steps:

Step 1: Diagnosis Stage: which involved conducting a series of planning actions initiated by NAPE and Technical Research Team who coordinated this research. The principal elements of this stage included a preliminary diagnosis of the issues at hand, identification of data needs and data collection methodology. A Community Research Team (Change agents) was identified and commissioned to undertake data gathering, development of advocacy messages and, action planning on advocacy actions to be undertaken. This Community Research Team (Annex 1: Research Team) represented the following areas of interest: Oil Advocacy; Land tenure and access, Community Empowerment, Environmental management, Human rights.

Step II: Commissioning Action Research: The undertaking was preceded by training the Community Research Team members in the Action Research theory and the methodology to be applied. Community Research Team

was trained in the following areas.

- a) Identifying Research areas.
- b) Formulating Research questions using Conceptual Framework approach.
- c) Investigative skills.
- d) Data analysis and interpretation.
- e) Advocacy Skills.
- f) Problem solving in research undertaking.
- g) Reporting.

Step III: Action Research: involved data collection by the Community Research Team, data analysis and interpretation by the Lead Facilitator in collaboration with the Technical Research Team, development of advocacy messages and tools for delivering the messages.

Each Community Research Team member was assigned research area/theme chosen from the above topics. Each member was availed facilitation to conduct the research. The assigned research topic/themes were based on individual interest (e.g., environment) and or competence (e.g., investigative skills) (Table 1).

Table 1 Research locations, sample size and main feature of the community.

Location	NO. of People	Observation
Kakindo Cell, Buliisa Town Council, Buliisa District	165	Urban setting
Bitiaba, Piida Parish, Butiaba Sub-county, Buliisa District	66	Per-urban, Lake Site Port, Fishing Community
Sebigoro Landing Site, Nkondo Parish, Kabwoya Sub-county, Hoima District	45	Fishing Community
Kaiso-Tonya , , Buseruka sub county, Hoima District	112	Fishing community Traders
Kizongi Cell, Buliisa Town Council,	87	Mixed farming
Butimba Village, Kidoma parish, Kizirafumbi Sub-county, Hoima District	103	Dominated by “immigrants – <i>Bafuruki</i> ”-Peasant farmers
Bikongoro and Wanseko Village, Butiaba sub-county, Buliisa District	151	Fishing community
Kakindo cell, Northern Ward, Buliisa Town Council	15	Women Groups

The field research was supervised through physical meetings and field visits. The NAPE Programme Officer maintained contact with the Community Research Team members and also visited the Oil region purposely to assess the research progress and provide onsite support and advice to the individual Community Research members.

Step IV: Feedback and application: Data collected from the field was analyzed and interpreted by the community research team with support from the Lead Research Facilitator and technical team members. The analyzed data forms the basis for this report. Nonetheless, the individual reports with raw data from the field have been compiled and filed separately at NAPE Offices to serve as future references.

Based on analyzed data, advocacy messages and information were jointly developed and discussed and final editing was done by technical team members.

The analyzed data, and the advocacy messages and tools were fed back to the CSOs through action planning and synthesis workshop. This aimed at identifying and ranking specific problems, devising methods for tackling their real causes, and practical approaches towards carrying out advocacy.

Tools and strategies for disseminating the advocacy messages both by NAPE and the Community Research Members were generated. These tools and dissemination strategy were refined by the Research Technical Team prior to introducing them to the Community Research Members for their understanding and testing their

applicability.

1.4 Outputs of Action Research undertaking

This Action Research has generated commitment and enthusiasm among the targeted CSOs to work together with NAPE to address the prioritized social issues using the advocacy messages and tools developed through this undertaking. Further, through the Action Research, priority social and environmental concerns have been identified and practical advocacy solutions to address them proposed.

As indicated in section 1.3 above, data collection was undertaken by Community Research Team members using simple research tools and methodologies. Therefore, the quality of research methodology and data analysis reflects the capabilities of the Community Researchers. NAPE appreciates the dual benefit or outcome of the process and intends to build on this success story to continuously update and refine the social issues when they arise.

1.5 Participation and sample size

NAPE worked with host community groups of Oil Watch Network Uganda operating in Hoima and Buliisa Districts in the Albertine region. Approximately, 750 respondents from 8 host community village areas were interviewed.

1.6 Research challenges

The following challenges were encountered during data collection in the field:

- a) Hesitation or absolute refusal to participate in research interviews due ongoing political processes or because of their positions. For instance, Immigration Officers at Butiaba did not grant permission to be interviewed. Some Government Officials in Buliisa town were uncooperative and refused to give responses to the interviews and information requests. Some respondents were un cooperative to give information in expectation of money such as in Zongi village and Butiaba –Buliisa district. Other respondents in Kakindo village were not willing to give information on oil due to fear of repercussions or harassment from security operatives.
- b) Logistics and facilitation to move around the research area. Resources availed to Community Research members were not adequate to cover all field costs such as transport. (Language barrier in translating the research questions to various local languages).

However, these challenges did not hinder successful completion of the research undertaking.

1.7 Oil Industry in Uganda.

The first oil discovery in Uganda was made in 2006 by a UK-listed Tullow Oil Plc and to date is estimated that Uganda has commercial Oil deposits amounting to 2 billion. This rich Oil resource has attracted several Oil multinational companies to engage in the further explorations and production¹. It is estimated that oil production could yield 150,000 barrels/day with a projected increase to 350,000 per day in 2018 depending on the selected development plan. Based on the oil price of \$75 per barrel, the revenue peak production is estimated at over \$ 2billion per year.

The discovery of oil in commercial quantities has raised high expectations among Ugandans. People from both local communities and town centres expect that the oil resource will spur sustainable growth and development in Uganda. This requires prudent management of Oil business in a transparent and accountable manner.

The presence of oil in significant quantities in the Albertine region particularly in Uganda will have important

¹ The Multi-national Oil companies active in Uganda since 2006 are: Dominion Uganda Ltd, Tullow Oil Plc, Heritage Oil and Gas Ltd and Neptune Petroleum (Uganda Limited). Since 2010, ENI, Exxon, and Total and CNOOC have expressed interest to invest in Uganda Petroleum

economic, developmental and strategic consequences however it may also have some political challenges. In addition, translating this crude resource into marketable crude oil will require investments and effort and the proceeds from it should be utilized efficiently. In order to benefit from this, the government needs to invest in domestic real assets, which will pave way for a competitive economy before, during and after the oil. Proper infrastructure planning of the roads, energy, water, health, education among others should not be developed at the expense of other sectors thus succumbing to the famous "Dutch" disease.

Every effort needed to make Uganda's Oil a blessings should address the following among others:

- a) The **legislative and policy framework**: The Oil and Gas Policy for Uganda depicts a strong pro-development approach to manage the issues arising from oil production to use the country's oil and gas resources to poverty eradication and be valuable to society.
- b) **Risk associated with exploration and development**, especially
 - i. Revenue management
 - ii. Environmental Management
 - iii. Social safeguards
 - iv. Off- shore and Trans-border trade issues
 - v. Infrastructure access
- c) **Capacity to manage Oil resources**: Oil and petroleum exploration and development require specialized, high technical equipment and skills and these are either not available or are limited in quantity. Therefore this calls for public-private partnerships and efficient policies that promote local content.
- d) **Employment opportunities**: Oil and gas activities tend to be capital intensive and direct employment effects in other countries have often been disappointing nonetheless there are other significant opportunities coming from the provision of goods and services to the oil and gas sector.
- e) **Infrastructure**: Infrastructure is very crucial in the oil and gas industry and the government must promote infrastructure projects in a timely and efficient manner and support the projects with an enlightened policy.

2. RESEARCH FINDINGS

The research findings are presented under each theme in subsequent sections.

2.1 Land (tenure, access)

Land tenure and access to land are reported crucial factors for ensuring community sustainability in all locations where research was conducted. Land in Oil region is variously owned. The major forms of land ownership in all the locations are: Customary Land², Leased land and Freehold. However, the proportion of each tenure from varies from locality to locality. Customary land is most common in Hoima District. In Buliisa, oil fields are mainly situated on land reserved for wildlife conservation (Murchison's Falls National park and Kabwoya Wildlife Reserves) and other protected lands such as lakeshores of Lake Albert and associated wetlands.

The major areas of concern regarding Land tenure are:

- a) **Pressures** to buy land by speculators who targeted to amass big chunks of land expecting to either sell them or lease them at profitable rates in future. Land grabbing pressures are reported in locations between Wanseko and Kityanga villages along lake Albert in Buliisa district and in Kyangwali subcounty in Hoima district.
- b) **Land ownership or boundary disputes** among family members and or neighbours, including disputed "eviction" of people from their land as in Kyagwali sub county-Hoima district where new claimants to land ownership are evicting people from these lands under unlawful means. Disputes related to land ownership or boundaries were reported to be on increase in Bugana in Buliisa subcounty, due to speculation for high price compensation when petroleum infrastructure crosses or occupies such land.
- c) **Displacement of people** in favour of development infrastructure related to Oil industry e.g., this has been reported in Kabaale parish in Buseruka sub county where it is proposed to construct Oil Refinery and Power Plant. Displacement is going on at new Tullow site camp at Kiso Tonya that has been located in the community area.
- d) **Unfair compensations** for land or damage to development on land (crops, buildings) due to lack of

² Customary land is sometimes referred to as "Communal" land.

participation and transparency in negotiating compensation values. Although there appears to be no specific case reported, there is concern that local people are unfamiliar to procedures for valuing such land or property and neither are the processes transparent since government “agents” hired to carry out valuation sometimes fail to incorporate views of property owners or are compromised by influential members of the community. Land compensation values are biased to valuing developments on the land instead of valuing developments on the land and the land itself as has been the case in Kabaale parish of Buseruka sub-county and in Buliisa Sub-county. It is further noted that compensation for damage to crops or other land values are low compared to actual value of the damaged crops or values. Also, restoration costs after use of land is rarely met by the Oil Companies.

- e) **Management and use of land** belonging to absentee landlords by “squatters” whose presence and actions have caused ethnic tensions as is the case in Bugana-Buliisa sub-county in Buliisa sub-county. This location has highest incidences of ethnic tensions due to immigrants who use idle land but has for many years before been used as common property.
- f) **Illegitimate claimants** to land ownership e.g., the pastoral groups in Bugana sub-county. Other examples are in Kabwoya sub-county in Buliisa district where their owners of land titles suspected to have acquired them through unlawful means.

With respect to **access to land**, the following are the major concerns:

- a) Improved road infrastructure connecting Oil fields has improved access to hitherto marginal lands and attracted illegal users of the land, especially targeting customary or communal lands. This is reported along Hoima road through Kabala, Kizirafumbi to Kaiso Tonya in Buliisa district.
- b) **Restricted or regulated access to land** formerly communally used e.g., grazing lands, because of their proximity to Oil explorations activities or installations. This phenomenon is reported in Tullow Site camp in Kaiso Tonya area.

There are ongoing efforts by various players (Central Government/Central Government Programmes, District Administration, NGOs/CSOs, Oil companies and Land owners/farmers) to address these issues. The following are the ongoing efforts:

- a) **Sensitizing people about land tenure** in relation to oil activities (e.g., by Hoima Environment Project-HEP) through seminars and exchange visits in Sebigoro.
- b) **Training CSOs in advocacy for land rights** and land protection as is Sebigoro.
- c) **Sensitizing people about the process and benefits of registering land** in order to obtain land title. This is an ongoing action by CSOs in Kizirafumbi (Hoima) and in Buliisa under the district Environment Office.

However, there remains likely impacts of Petroleum and Gas industry activities on land based livelihoods, especially, the issue of access to land for food production (e.g., in Kabaale in Buseruka sub-county-Hoima, Ngwedo sub-county in Buliisa district) hence affecting food security.

There is concern that arable land will reduce in size due to Oil industry associated infrastructure such as pipelines and power line that will take up part of the arable land e.g. in Kabaale in Buseruka sub-county and in Kakindo village in Buliisa where Tullow is planning to develop a processing plant in the 4th quarter of 2011.

2.2 Access to natural resources

The peoples of the region have traditionally and continue to depend on land for greater portion of their livelihood needs and means. Land has been used for homesteads, crop agriculture and livestock grazing and as social security. These benefits have varied depending of the richness of the said land in terms of natural resources (quality of soil, vegetation types and accessibility). For example, in Kaiso Tonya area in Hoima District and Wantembo and Booma area in Butiaba sub-county in Buliisa District land is mainly used for livestock grazing due to poor soils not suitable for crop agriculture.

In Butiaba Sub-County, Lake Albert has been used for fishing and other water based uses such as watering livestock including transport to DRC. Access to Lake Albert is being restricted in due its proximity to the Oil exploration activities and for “security surveillance” purposes.

In Hoima district, a unique resource – privately owned forests – have been targeted for supply tree/wood products (Timber and Charcoal) and Cultivation resulting into degradation of affected forests. The most affected forests

are located in Kizirafumbi, Kabwoya and Kyangwali all in Hoima district.

With respect to access to natural resources, the research findings reveal that:

- a) There is growing concern that access to some of the natural resources is increasingly being restricted thereby denying communities a right and access to use the resources as the case has been before. The specific resources whose access is restricted are: fisheries in Butiaba, grazing land/pastures in Wantembo, cultural sites in Buseruka where Tullow Oil has got Waraga wells and arable land in Kizirafumbi.
- b) Increased demand for resources due to increase in consumers (labour immigrants and other categories of people e.g., business people) into the region will result into scarcity of some of the resources (e.g., wood/tree resources, food) or over utilization of others (e.g., fisheries), unless measures for sustaining supply to the demand are put in place. Measures for promoting efficient energy use, tree planting, alternative sources of animal protein, sustainable land management (land productivity) have been proposed by respondents.

2.3 Community empowerment and development

The Constitution of Republic of Uganda (amended 2005) and subsidiary legislations provide for community participation in determining development priorities and implementation of programmes in their locality. Specifically, the Local Government Act (1997) empowers the communities and sub county(s) to plan for and manage development programmes in the sub county. The Environment Act provides for community participation in planning and managing the environment, including participation in the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) processes and monitoring the implementation of environmental mitigation measures. The Oil and Gas Policy provides for community participation in decisions regarding investments of Oil revenues. There are efforts to involve communities in meetings through their leaders or representatives (e.g. at Butiaba Land site) although the level of participation is deemed unsatisfactory.

However, this research has revealed that although there are sufficient legal and policy provisions for community participation, the actual practice is unsatisfactory. This is attributed to:

- a) **Community capacity** to engage in technical issues such as EIAs, Oil industry, etc. In all locations, the community capacity to engage in technical issues is hampered by low levels of education, (hence low capacity to comprehend issues), limited access to information and, confidence to engage with leaders.
- b) **Failures** on the part of leaders to engage people/communities as required. It is found out that in all locations except Kidoma parish, Community leaders and extension workers have not been good at reaching out to engage the people, even under situations where such engagement is warranted e.g., in case of Environmental planning.
- c) **Docility and poor consciousness** on the part of community and not being able to rise up to press for participation or accountability. This is attributed to intimidation from leaders or rich people whereby communities/local people opt to keep out of active engagements for fear of reprisal.
- d) **Inaccessible information** about Oil activities. The research findings reveal that local people do not have access to the information about the ongoing or planned oil activities. For example, radio based programmes sponsored by Oil companies in Buliisa and Hoima air out pro-investor information and do not necessarily give information on the other side of the coin, e.g., risks and implications to the community. The research further attests to the fact the people feel they do not access balanced information, including that from NGOs and government.

Further, research findings reveal that:

- a) **Local people are concerned that influx of foreigners** (immigrant labours) will introduce new cultures and distort the traditions and norms of the host communities. This is reported from all researched areas. The Anticipated Social transformation may introduce undesirable behaviours (such as prostitution) and other social problems e.g., disease, crime, etc. There are reported cases on increased presence of sex workers in Hoima and Buliisa towns and other trading centres.
- b) The **quality of investments carried out as Social Corporate Responsibility** has been poor e.g., the Wooden Classrooms at Kyehoro and Kaiso Primary Schools constructed by Tullow do not reflect quality service to the Community. Likewise, the maternity centre also at Kyehoro constructed by Tullow has developed cracks in its 2 years life span.

On the positive side, the research findings reveal that there are some benefits to the communities and local people now or in future. They include:

- a) Communities have an opportunity to develop due to the businesses and income generating activities associated with the Petroleum and Gas industry. These businesses have created market for locally produced products – agriculture, livestock, labour, etc. and are influencing growth of other business/ income generating activities such as artisan businesses in towns. It is further reported that the ongoing sensitization by NGOs, Oil companies and Government about opportunities in the region is geared towards exposing the people to pursue such opportunities
- b) Communities expect to benefit from investments arising from Social Corporate Responsibility, as is the case already with Education/schools facilities, health facilities, etc. For example, schools have been built in Kyehoro, Kyangwali, health facilities in Kyehoro in Hoima and roads have been greatly improved along routes to the exploration areas. There is also a resource Center in Kizikya in Buliisa and a health centre in Kigoya –Buliisa Sub County. Renovation of Buliisa primary school in Buliisa town council with new roofing sheets.
- c) **Investments or development programmes** sponsored by Oil revenues through Bunyoro Kingdom. Communities are optimistic that the ongoing negotiations for sharing on Oil revenues will conclude positively in favour of the kingdom requests and that the shared revenues will therefore be used by the Kingdom for community development.
- d) **Income from employment** in Oil industry or associated businesses and sectors. Already, some of the local people have been employed in the oil activities in transport, artisan and community mobilization, among others. This expectation is however not uniformly shared as there are sections of community e.g., fishermen at Butiaba who feel that their businesses are at risk due to restricted access to all fishing waters in order to empower the communities to actively participate in decision making processes, the research recommends the following actions aiming at uplifting community capacity and opportunities to participate in these important processes.
- e) **Training** and exposing community members to recognize their roles and responsibilities. This training would target empowering and give them confidence to exercise their roles and responsibilities in the society. The most common area of interest is their role and entitlements in Oil policy formulation and enforcement of Oil policy and artisanal and other skills.
- f) **Training** and exposing communities about the opportunities for tapping into the Oil industry. The communities indicate that information gotten about the development opportunities should be backed with the “how” they access and utilize these opportunities. Alongside this is need is the desire to access microfinance to start businesses.
- g) **Facilitating access to information** about the ongoing and planned developments in the locality. The respondents are desirous to access reliable and easy to understand information about ongoing and planned Oil development activities. Their confidence to seek information from Government and NGO offices, let alone the Oil companies is negligible; leave alone, the capacity to understand the information in its raw form.

2.4 Environmental management and sustainability

The Albertine Rift is globally recognized biodiversity hotspot. Indeed, the region houses all categories of protected areas in Uganda in form of National Parks, Forest Reserves, Wildlife Reserves, Ramsar Sites (Wetlands of International significance) and World Heritage sites Table 2.

<p>Burundi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bururi Forest Nature Reserve • Kibira National Park • Rusizi National Park <p>Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kahuzi-Biéga National Park • Maiko National Park • Marungu Mountains Reserve • Massif d'Itombwe Nature Reserve • Mont Kabobo Nature Reserve • <u>Virunga National Park</u> <p>Rwanda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mukura Forest Reserve • Nyungwe National Park • Volcanoes National Park <p>Tanzania</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gombe National Park • Mahale National Park 	<p>Uganda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budongo Forest Reserve • Bugoma Forest Reserve • Bugungu Wildlife Reserve • <u>Bwindi Impenetrable National Park</u> • Echuya Forest Reserve • Itwara Forest Reserve • Kagombe Forest Reserve • Kalinzu Forest Reserve • Karuma Wildlife Reserve • Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve • Kibale National Park • Kitechura Forest Reserve • Kyambura Wildlife Reserve • Maramagambo Forest • Matiri Forest Reserve • Mgahinga Gorilla National Park • Murchison Falls National Park • Queen Elizabeth National Park • <u>Rwenzori Mountains National Park</u> • Semuliki National Park • Semuliki Valley Wildlife Reserve
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Source: World Database on Protected Areas, Wildlife Conservation Society.

Geographically, Protected Areas in Albertine Rift are spread as shown in Figure 1.

- b) **Environmental degradation** due to disturbances arising from increased access (e.g., road construction) to “pristine” areas and increased flow of people and machinery in such areas as is the case in Kizirafumbi.
- c) **Over-use** of certain resources to meet the growing demand and changes in consumption patterns, e.g., increased demand for charcoal in towns, trading centres and Oil Workers camps has put pressure on trees on public and customary lands in Buliisa as well as forests on private in Hoima to provide charcoal to meet this demand. Equally affecting the localities is grazing pressures due to restricted access to the entire range of grazing lands and now livestock restricted to specific locations e.g., in Kaiso Tonya.
- d) **Land and water pollution** arising from poor waste management and “dumping” e.g., from Butiaba/Boma Camp site.

These effects have started to affect of the livelihoods of the people in various ways including:

- a) **Conflicts over resources control and access** have emerged as witnessed in 2009 when ethnic tensions rose regarding immigrant pastoralists in Buliisa district.
- b) **Increased hardships** to access resources e.g., it takes more effort and time to collect firewood in Kizirafumbi.
- c) **Human safety** on major routes e.g., Long Kaiso –Tonya due to heavy volume of traffic.

Communities and other stakeholders have responded to these situations by:

- a) **Raising awareness and sensitizing** people about environmental abuses and principles of good environmental management e.g. Sebigoro near Hoima town
- b) **Sensitizing people about sustainable use** of resources, especially; fisheries, energy conservation/charcoal production
- c) **Demonstration nurseries for trees** with support from Tullow in Kaiso Tonya and Sebigoro areas of Hoima. in Ngwedo, Kigwera and Buliisa sub counties, Tullow is supporting existing community groups with fruit tree seedlings.

Therefore, in terms of environmental sustainability, there is concern that measures such as effective law enforcement, compliance to environmental laws and policies, mitigation actions against environmental abuses, etc, need to be effectively implemented in order to address the current situation and prepare for the future scenarios as well. Specifically, the following activities are recommended by the respondents

- a) **Carrying out advocacy** for good environmental management to sensitize the people about the good practices of environmental management.
- b) **Sensitize** people environmental issues related to Oil industry.
- c) **Facilitate Tree planting** through increase access to tree seedlings (establish nursery beds).
- d) **Promote energy** efficiency technologies and use to minimize levels of use of wood biomass (Charcoal/Wood) for fuel.

2.5 Human rights

Human rights are an integral component of human development, community development and as such, community sustainability as well. In light of the governance practices with respect to ongoing Oil developments in the Albertine region, there is concern among the communities that human rights may be suppressed or violated altogether.

The information from this research reveals that the following human rights are not secure in the long run.

- a) Freedom of association, expression, assembly and movement. The ban on access to Oil exploration fields or to convene meeting without express permission from Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Mineral development undermines this provision of human right.
- b) The right to health is at risk from pollution of water, air and land.

There are less visible efforts on the ground seeking to address these abuses or violations.

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The major conclusions and recommendations from this research are presented in following sections. These conclusions and recommendations target NAPE and the Oil Watch Network as possible respondents to take action. In addition, these conclusions and recommendations will benefit CSOs member of the Oil Watch Network actively engaged in advocacy work in the Albertine Region.

3.1 Conclusions

3.1.1 Land tenure and Access

The magnitude of impacts of Petroleum and Gas industry activities on land based livelihoods, especially, the issue of access to land for food production hence food security is unknown but of great concern. Arable land will be reduced in size due to infrastructure associated with Oil industry e.g., pipelines and access roads or conflicts associated with land ownership and control. This situation could be made worse by continued influx of "land speculators" who may succeed to displace people having offered unfair prices of compensations to buy off land which would not be utilized for agriculture.

To be able to respond to this likely situation, local people need to secure titles to their land and to have capacity to handle land disputes and land purchase transactions. These actions are suitable for support by the Oil Watch Network and other actors.

3.1.2 Access to natural resources within Protected Areas and Lake Albert

Resources such as pasture and fish are increasingly becoming inaccessible due to restriction on access to "zoned" areas which are close to the oil wells or housing oil exploration infrastructure and operations.

Considering that the Pastoral people of Kaiso Tonya and fisher people of Butiaba the region have traditionally depended and continue to depend on these resources for their livelihoods needs and means, continued restricted access affects their livelihood being. This calls for action to reinstate access. However, these actions could be complimented by implementing Sustainable Land Management innovations such agro forestry and fish farming, in order to increase land production whilst conserving the soils and environment. This will add value to land by enabling people to produce and earn more from their land and address issues of food security.

3.1.3 Community empowerment

There are sufficient legal and policy frameworks empowering communities to participate in development processes in their localities. The expected participation is somewhat hampered by barriers such as access to information, docility etc. Therefore, communities need to be assisted to overcome these barriers so that they can exercise their right and obligations to participate and influence decisions on development in their locality. It pays more to proactively engage development processes than sit back and wait for invitation to participate.

3.1.4 Environmental sustainability

The perceived environmental impacts (pollution, environmental degradation, resources depletion, etc.) are in effect 'environmental effects' associated with exploration activities and their impacts will be realized in longer term. When Oil production phase starts, more effects will be witnessed and these will accumulate into further long term impacts.

The known incidences of pollution due to poor waste management, depletion or degradation of some resources,

etc, point to the need to develop and apply strong measures that address today's effects and prepare for the future impacts. The role of communities in promoting good environmental management through own practices and advocacy should be emphasized.

3.1.5 Human Rights

The research confirms incidences of violation of human rights e.g., on freedom to assemble. This notwithstanding, it evident that majority people are unaware of their rights associated with Petroleum and Gas Industry and also do not have capacity to pursue these rights. Effort to address this aspect ought to apply multiple approaches to address knowledge and capacity simultaneously.

3.2 Recommendations for advocacy

The following are the general recommendations for advocacy effort. They are presented under each theme.

3.2.1 Land tenure

The advocacy work should target the following among others:

- a) Sensitize people about land related policies and laws in reference to tenure, ownership and procedures for handling land transactions.
- b) Sensitizing people about the process and benefits of registering land in order to obtain land title.

3.2.2 Access to natural resources

The advocacy work should target the following among others:

- a) Advocate for continued access to land resources and water/fish resources from Lake Albert that continue to support livelihoods.
- b) Advocate for alternative options for supplementing livelihoods, including value addition to natural resources.
- c) Advocate for Sustainable Land Management Technologies to increase land production.

3.2.3 Community empowerment

The advocacy work should target the following among others:

- a) Access to relevant information about the Oil activities using a variety of avenues, including radio, meetings, local leader's forums, etc.
- b) Sensitizing communities about the likely benefits, impacts and consequences of Oil in the region on to the communities and individuals.
- c) Sensitizing people on Oil and Gas Policy, ongoing debate on Petroleum law and proposals on benefit sharing.
- d) Sensitizing communities on provisions within the Land policy and Land Act that provide for land tenure, access, compensations, land transactions, land valuation, land conflict management/resolution, processing land titles, etc.
- e) Advocate for fair, equitable and sound Social Corporate Responsibility budgets and activities.
- f) Facilitate communities to adapt to social changes likely to arise due to influx of foreigners.
- g) Advocate for pro-people legislations and policies regarding oil activities and management/investment of oil revenues.
- h) Strengthen community capacity to pursue accountability from leaders and programmes of government, CSOs and Private sector.

3.2.4 Environmental sustainability

The advocacy work should target the following among others:

- a) Sensitizing communities and households about energy efficiency and scarcity (energy saving stoves, tree planting, conservation).
- b) CSOs/Community participation in EIA processes, including understanding/interpreting the EIA Studies, recommendations and mitigation measures.
- c) Community/CSO participation in monitoring implementation of mitigation measures.
- d) CSO/Community capacity to carry out advocacy on environmental abuses.

3.2.5 Human rights

The advocacy work should target the following among others:

- a) Sensitizing communities about human rights in relation to Oil activities.
- b) Facilitate access to information (including translations into vernacular).

3.3 Key Advocacy messages

A number of advocacy messages have been derived from the findings and recommendations of this Action Research. These messages are described hereunder alongside their corresponding targets, mean of delivering these messages as well as lead institutions to assist carry out the advocacy work. (Table 2)

Table 2: Advocacy messages for addressing issues identified by Action Research.

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Land Tenure/Access					
What: Land tenure and access are vulnerable to Oil industry yet majority of people in the Albertine region derive their livelihood directly from land and land resources.					
Headline Message: Land tenure is a constitutional guarantee to all Ugandans.					
This message aims at providing information to communities about the legal rights to land and how to secure and safeguard ownership under various forms of land tenure. It emphasizes messages that assure communities that restricting access to ones land is illegal but one can negotiate compensation for restricted or denied access. Message will seek to give information on land transactions and negotiation processes.					

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Land speculation	Bargain for best value of your land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize people on land transactions and value of land ➤ Sensitize communities of entitlement for restricted access and use of own land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings ➤ Campaign messages on Radios, TV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders ➤ Clan leaders ➤ The Kingdom Officials ➤ District Land Board ➤ Political leaders at Local Government levels ➤ Uganda Land owners Association ➤ Community and Community leaders ➤ District Land Board ➤ Political leaders at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE in Collaboration with specialized NGOs such as Uganda Land Alliance, AFIEGO, Green Watch and others ➤ ➤

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Disputes arising out of land ownership	Ugandans have right to their land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize people about how to acquire, secure and safeguard their land and rights to land ➤ Sensitize people on land transactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings ➤ Awareness messages through Media (TV, FM Radio Stations, News papers) ➤ Brochures and Fact sheets translated in local languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders (Elders, Opinion leaders, Bunyoro Kingdom officials, Cultural leaders, Judiciary, Religious leaders) ➤ District Land Board ➤ Political leaders at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners (host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as Green Watch.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Management of land disputes or conflicts arising out of contested ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders ➤ District Land Board ➤ Political leaders at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners (host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as AFIEGO
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize communities on procedures for land acquisition for “public good” by government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings ➤ Posters ➤ Brochures ➤ Stickers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders ➤ District Land Board ➤ Political leaders at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as Uganda Land Alliance
<p>Access to Natural Resources</p> <p>What: <i>Natural Resources of Albertine Region are essential for livelihoods of the peoples of the region yet they risk destruction by oil exploration and production activities.</i></p> <p>Headline Message: <i>The life system of the peoples of Albertine Region is fuelled by “natural energy” and not “fossil” energy.</i></p> <p><i>This message aims to get communities to appreciate that access to natural resources is regulated by Law and not OIL business. It also proposes campaign slogans such as “The unpalatable source of human energy takes over - human engine fails”, “What is the alternative to human body fuel?” which are intended to portray the fact that Oil is not substitute to natural resources in as far as livelihoods of the peoples of Albertine Region are concerned.</i></p>					

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Restriction to access land in proximity to Oil Exploration activities and installations	Restricting access to land undermines Constitutional right to own land Restricting access to land undermines livelihoods and economic emancipation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitive communities on legal provisions for land access ➤ Sensitize people on relationship between access and livelihoods/ economic emancipation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings ➤ Awareness and Publicity materials such as Posters, Fact Sheets ➤ NAPE Lobby Magazine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community leaders ➤ Oil Companies ➤ Political leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE in Collaboration with specialized NGOs such as AFIEGO and Green Watch
Restriction to access Lake Albert water in proximity to Oil Exploration activities and installations	Restricting access to water for fishing purposes undermines livelihoods and economic emancipation of fishery dependent communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitive communities on legal provisions for water access ➤ Sensitize people on relationship between access and livelihoods/ economic emancipation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community meetings ➤ Awareness and Publicity materials such as Posters, Fact Sheets ➤ NAPE Lobby Magazine ➤ Other Magazines, Newsletters and such publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders such as the fisher folk ➤ Fisheries Department/ Beach Management Units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners (host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as AFIEGO and other Oil Watch Network –Uganda Member Organizations
Competition for dwindling resources	Increased consumption of natural resources (e.g., fish, wood biomass) results into scarcity and could lead into conflicts relating to control of these resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize people on relationship between consumption and sustainable supply of resources ➤ Sensitize people measures for sustaining supply or for development of substitutes ➤ Promote the use and adoption of energy saving technologies such as energy saving stoves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Posters ➤ Fact Sheets ➤ Community meetings for sensitization and demonstration ➤ FM radios ➤ News papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community & Community Leaders ➤ Extension workers ➤ District Officers in charge of Environment, Forestry, Energy and fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners (host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as AFIEGO among others.

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
<p>Community Empowerment and Development</p> <p>What: Information is Power yet communities in the Albertine Oil region are denied information regarding ongoing oil and gas developments.</p> <p>What: Security Organs in the Oil rich Albertine region continue to disrupt or prevent convening of community mobilization platforms organized by CSOs to purposes of disseminating information about OIL activities in the Region.</p> <p>Headline Message: Our dilemma is 'knowledge and information', our hope is "participation". This message is a wakeup call that aims at increasing access to information about OIL activities and the development programmes in the region. Slogans such as "Give me the information, you receive wisdom", "Keep out me out, stay awake" would be considered as they convey the message about consequences of non-participation in matters of OIL in relation to Community and social development.</p>					

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Capacity to undertake advocacy and demand accountability	Lack (or inadequate) information about OIL industry or activities undermines community capacity to advocate for good practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase access to information through availing available information and translation into vernacular or simpler language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish Village library/resources centres ➤ Package information to become user friendly –posters, brochures/fact sheets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners (host community network groups operating in the oil region) in collaboration with specialized NGOs such as Uganda Land
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Publish the rights e.g., in form of fact sheets, brochures, posters, community meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE ➤ CSOs (Host community groups in the oil region)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Legal action ➤ Memorandum /petitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Government ➤ Oil Companies ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advocate for access to information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Empower communities to actively engage in oil debates and to pursue accountability through provision of information and coaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)
	Communities are not “docile”, they are incapacitated by knowledge and information base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Empower communities to actively engage in oil debates and to pursue accountability through provision of information and coaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fact Sheets ➤ Seminars and trainings ➤ Information sharing meetings ➤ Field learning visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Officers ➤ Politicians at Local Government levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
	Communities are incapacitated by lack of knowledge and means to tap into opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Empower communities to be able to identify and pursue business and other income generating activities associated with Oil industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seminars and trainings ➤ Fact sheets ➤ brochures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Community Development Programmes of Local Government /District and sub-county Community development officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advocate for access to micro-finance and other resources for boosting local investments and businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lobbying Micro-finance Institutions (both government and private sponsored) ➤ Training and equipping communities or individuals skills in enterprise development and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Microfinance Institutions ➤ Communities /Individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSOs (Host community groups operating in the oil region)
Environmental management and sustainability					
<i>What:</i> Oil and Environment are not good bedfellows. Mitigation measures for avoiding or minimizing negative impacts on environment should be developed and compliance to these measures enforced. The No-Harm principle with regards to access/acquisition of highly fragile ecological zone should be applied.					
<i>Headline Message:</i> Twenty-five years of Oil business to illogically surpass 10 million years of natural existence. The key message is that whereas the Oil deposits will be exhausted within 25 years, environment in Albertine region has been in existence for millions of years and will for sure remain in existence much longer. Slogans such as “ Built in 10 million years, consumed in 25 years! ”, “ Cry Albertine ”, “ Cursed to fuel and lubricate man pockets ” would be considered.					

Issue to be addressed	Advocacy message	Action needed to develop and deliver the message	Mode of delivery	Target	Lead
Likely impacts of Oil industry on Albertine environment are unknown	The livelihoods of the peoples of Albertine rift will face hardships if they remain "kept in the dark" on the actual impacts of the oil industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize communities and Local leaders on likely impact of environmental degradation, pollution, resources depletion on the future livelihoods of the peoples of the region ➤ Sensitize communities and local leaders on mitigation practices/actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seminars ➤ Exchange visits ➤ Information sharing meetings ➤ Posters ➤ Fact Sheets ➤ Films and other audio visual tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Protected areas managers ➤ District Officials in charge of Environment, Forestry, Wetlands, ➤ Government ➤ Oil companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partner CSOs (host community groups operating in the oil region) ➤ Oil Watch Network-Uganda
<p>Human Rights</p> <p>What: The right to assemble, move, associate and freely talk/express on any issue of community concern including oil is a Constitutional Right to all Ugandans. Continued harassment over these rights by denying Communities to assemble or CSOs to express themselves on matters of OIL a violation of their rights and sign of BAD governance. .</p> <p>Headline Message: <i>People are entitled to their rights as Oil companies remain entitled to their profits. This message aims at assuring people that their rights cannot/should not be suppressed by Oil profit motives. Slogans such as "The amazing Albertine Rift mathematics: One plus One = One!", "Left abandoned and frightened"</i> would be considered.</p>					
Rights of the people in Albertine Rift are insecure amidst expanding oil operations in their localities	<p>You have right to assemble, express and talk freely on any issue of community concern including oil and move within your locality.</p> <p>You have right to healthy and clean environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sensitize people about legal provisions for the right to assemble, express and move in Uganda/Albertine/oil region/locality ➤ Sensitize people about legal provisions for the rights to healthy and clean environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seminars ➤ Fact Sheets ➤ Articles in lobby magazines ➤ Petitions ➤ Seminars ➤ Fact Sheets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Law enforcement agencies/personnel e.g. police ➤ Human rights commission ➤ Parliament ➤ Community and Community Leaders ➤ Law enforcement agencies/personnel ➤ Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NAPE and partners CSOs (host community groups operating in the oil region) ➤ NAPE and partner CSOs (host community groups operating in the oil region)

1. Composition of the Community Research Team

Name	Affiliation	Interest	District	Contact
Alice Kazimura	Bulisa Catholic Women Association	Oil Advocacy Land tenure and access	Buliisa	0782 306875
Fred Kandole	Educate Uganda	Oil advocacy Community Empowerment	Hoima	0774 416975
Isaac Nkuba	Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development	Oil advocacy Land rights Environmental management	Buliisa	0772 338657
Richard Kajura	Lake Albert Children and Women Advocacy and Development Organization	Oil Advocacy Women and Children Land Rights Environment	Buliisa	0782 615236
Julius Mugungu	Kakindo Orphans Care	Children Rights Community Empowerment	Buliisa	0784 863842
Rev. Fred Musimenta	Grace family nutrition and income initiative	Environmental Conservation	Hoima	0772 945954
Opira Geofrey	Butiaba Red scorpion Youth Association	Poverty eradication, Water and sanitation, Environmental conservation and sports	Buliisa	0777211777
Birigenda Hussein	Hoima Environmental Project	Environmental Conservation, Oil advocacy	Hoima	0772 957703

2. Description of Research Team and their relationship with NAPE.

The research team was composed of host community groups operating in the Oil region. These groups operate specifically in Hoima and Buliisa and have been collaborating with NAPE since October 2008 when NAPE formed Oil Watch network, a network of civil society to advocate for good governance of the Oil resource in Uganda.

30 local groups has since been mobilized and formed into a host community network in the Albertine region. Oil Watch Network has more than 50 other civil society and community groups operating in other parts of the country beside the Albertine region.

In June 2010, NAPE sampled out an 8 member research team to participate in an action oriented research. The

research targeted to generate information that would strengthen the advocacy capacity & strategies of the local civil society groups operating in the oil region on the likely impacts of the petroleum and gas industry on the livelihoods of the communities they represent. Ultimately, this information would be analyzed for purposes of developing advocacy messages to support the above key areas of concern. The advocacy messages would be translated in usable forms, including translation into vernacular for ease of use and dissemination by the Community Research Team members.

The 8 member research team comprised of the following groups;

1. Educate Uganda (EU).

Educate Uganda is a local community based organization located in Hoima one of the Oil rich districts. The goal of this local group is to sensitize communities on their rights and environmental and social challenges related to Oil. This group has been a grass root partner of NAPE since October 2008 especially in mobilizing and educating communities in rural Hoima on environmental and legal outreach education especially those affected by Oil exploration activities thus building their capacity.

2. Lake Albert Children and Women Development Organization-Bulisa (LACWADO).

The goal of this local group operating in Buliisa One of the Oil rich districts is to promote the rights of men and children living in the areas adjacent to the shores of Lake Albert.

The group has worked closely with other members of the Oil watch hosted by NAPE to bring to light the Social challenges Oil companies pose to children, men and women living in the Oil drilling sites such as pollution, land grabbing, food insecurity among others. This group also started collaborating with NAPE and partners in October 2008, the time the Oil Watch Network was formed by NAPE with support from OSIEA.

3. Hoima Environmental Project (HEP)

This Organization based in Hoima one of the Oil rich districts promotes environmental education as its broad goal.

It has worked with NAPE and the entire Oil watch network to raise awareness on environmental challenges associated with Oil in the district of Hoima. The partnership started as early as 2006.

4. Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development (BURD)

This local group operating in Buliisa district began partnering with NAPE in October 2008 when Oil watch network was formed. The group whose core activities is community awareness on varies issues of concern has since then worked with NAPE to organize sensitization and information sharing meetings for raising community awareness

on environmental issues related to Oil exploration in the region such as Pollution of water bodies such as river Nile and lake Albert. It has also worked as a key mobilize of other local groups in the region in close collaboration with NAPE. This group currently chairs and coordinates activities of Publish What You Pay-Bunyoro Chapter.

5. Bulisa Catholic Women's Association (BUCAWA)

This group was formed in 2005 in Nyapea village with an operational office at Nyapea cell Bulisa Town council -Buliisa District to front needs of rural women. The aim was to uplift the living standards of local women through capacity building and education on issues such as income generation and education on issues that improve the livelihoods of women headed households. The group has since worked with NAPE to sensitize locals on issues of human rights, environmental conservation. The group has also played an active role to mobilize and organize education meetings in conjunction with NAPE in Buliisa Town Council to train community sustainability school educators on issues related to Oil.

6. Butiaba Redscopion Youth Association (BURYA)

BURYA is a community based association based in Butiaba sub county, piida parish –Buliisa district. The Association was aimed to stir development amongst the youths. The association has got the following clubs; football, handball, drama, debates and carries out activities such as community sensitization and awareness on HIV/AIDS, corruption, water and sanitation, conservation and environmental education, civil education on human rights ,democracy and community participation in development activities. NAPE started working with this group in October 2008 when it formed a network for promoting good governance on oil resource in Uganda. This group also was also involved when NAPE was conducting a research on the current status of oil exploration activities in the Albertine region in October 2009. The group currently is an integral part of NAPE's sustainability school educator's team in the Oil region.

7. Kakindo Orphans Care (KOC)

This group is somehow new and was formed on 14th October 2008 after realizing the needs of orphans were on an increase in Buliisa District. The group has since also shown much interact in collaborating with NAPE to promote good governance on Oil in the district by sensitizing communities on the likely negative impacts of oil on people and the environment. The group is also a member of the host community network and jointly works with NAPE just like other groups mentioned above to mobilize communities and educate them on pertinent issues of concern related to Oil.

This group's staff is part of NAPE's sustainability school educators in the Oil region having been trained on the sustainability school concept in June -July 2010.

8. Grace Family Nutrition and Income initiative

This community based association operates in Hoima district mainly in the sub counties of Kizirafumbi, Kabwoya, Kyangwali and Buseruka. The association also operates in Butimba parish. The group's partnership with NAPE was

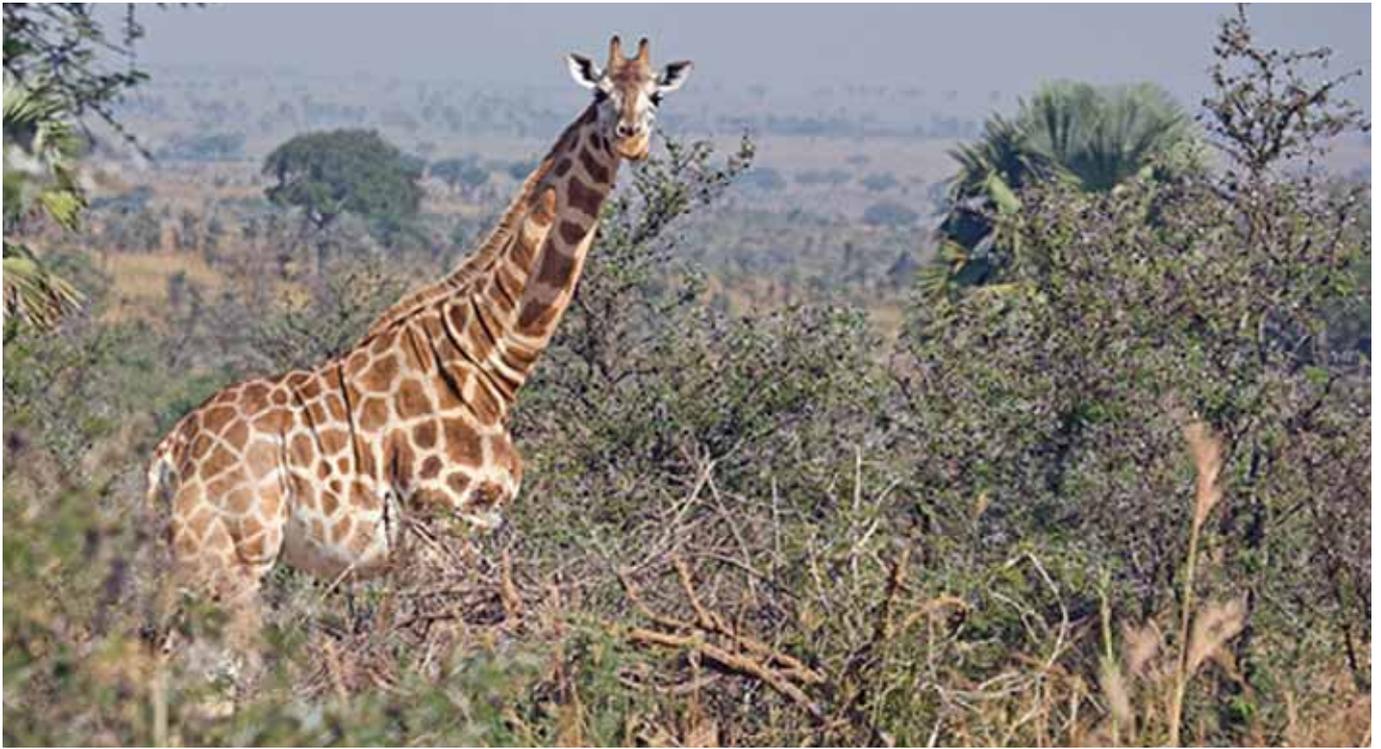
in 2009 mainly on promoting good governance on oil .The group is a member of Oil watch network which NAPE coordinates and has been instrumental in mobilizing communities and educating it on issues of environmental conservation and food security.



Ngasa Oil well near the shores of Lake Albert



Fishing community in Kaiso Tonya, at the shores of Lake Albert



Giraffes in Murchison Falls National Park. Oil wells have been drilled in the national park



Oil pipe running through a forest, Nigeria



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