

SAY NO TO HUMAN AND OTHER RIGHTS ABUSES, PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS

Deepening grass root Women rights, participation and Livelihood opportunities in the era of Oil and Gas Extraction and the Covid 19 pandemic in Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa Districts

Success Stories 1st Dec, 2021 to 30th Nov, 2023

2024

Introduction:

On 1st December 2021, National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) with financial Assistance from the European Union (EU) began to implement a two Year project to champion food and income security in grass root households, strengthen collective action through movement building, fight Sexual and Gender based violence and other human rights abuses and strengthen community food sovereignty in the face of expanding oil and gas extraction developments and the Covid 19 pandemic.

Why the Project

To respond to a series of social disruption challenges specifically to oil host communities by the Oil and gas industry developments in the target active oil districts mainly in form of human rights abuses, lack of adequate compensation, massive land displacements, crop destructions, destruction of learning institutions for youths and young children, degradation of key livelihood supporting ecosystems that has accelerated a state of landlessness, food insecurity, animal human conflicts, and Gender based violence.

The above challenges were further worsened by the emergency of the deadly COVID 19 pandemic that first struck world economies in December 2019 and Uganda in March 2020. The Pandemic control measures such as the lockdowns, limited access to public transport, and restrictions on gatherings further increased vulnerabilities to GBV by hiking poverty in homes, food insecurity, loss of employ

ment thus complicating lifestyles. According to the Mid-year Uganda police annual crime report January to June 2020, the emergency of the covid 19 pandemic led to a high spike of sexual and gender based violence with a total of 2,707 cases being reported monthly. The police report released on 14th September 2020 further indicated that up to 6,888 cases of defilement and in April 2021, 418 murder cases in April 2021 were a result of domestic violence.

Planned interventions

The action was to spearhead lobby and advocacy to mobilise 12,000 grass root women and build their knowledge and engagement capacity to collectively demand for their rights and entitlements, establish and furnish a community Green radio platform to give victims of human, environmental rights abuse and GBV a voice, identify and build capacity for 21 radio listener clubs with 420 members, establish 20 safe and operational community based spaces/shelters for victims of GBV and human rights abuse, boost community household food and incomes built on indigenous knowledge systems by doing action research, identifying and training 30 grass root farmer groups with at least 450 members on agro ecological farming practices and providing them with farming tools and equipment to boost their household food and incomes.



Drilling operations progress at key multiple fields, that include Kingfisher and, Jobi Rii, Ngiri, Kasamene-Wahrindi, Gunya, Nsoga, and Kigogole of the Tilenga discovery. These came along with Social, environmental and economic challenges to the locals.



Frank Muramuzi (left) Executive Director of National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) and Bwengye Rajab (EU Project Manager) addressing the Media on Oil and gas concerns raised by communities and EU parliament sept 22nd 2022 emphasizing that Government and oil companies should focus on addressing the raised Concerns by the European Parliament (Photo by Nancy Nanyonga). Accountability should be a must. [DailyMonitor,https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/govt-asked-to-address-eu-concerns--environment-NV_143567](https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/govt-asked-to-address-eu-concerns--environment-NV_143567)



Bwengye Rajab Yusufu of NAPE –the project Manager of a 2 Year European union funded project promoting Human rights observance and Gender equality in the face of Oil and gas developments and the Covid 19 pandemic in the districts of Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa stressed while meeting representatives of the European parliament on 25th July 2022 that “ There is no law in Uganda that provides that Once Valuation of community land is done, the community loses legitimacy to use the land in any way they want. He pointed to article 26 of the Uganda constitution that gives communities exclusive rights over their land until they are fully compensated faulting oil companies and government bodies that reject any future valuation beyond the cut off date, and take years and years to fully compensate or resettle the Project Affected People (PAPS) giving an example of the EACOP and Tilenga Oil and gas Projects in Uganda.



The cost of Covid 19 pandemic lockdowns, oil & Gas social and economic disruptions in communities



EUROPEAN UNION

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Boosting Household food and incomes

Empowering target grassroots communities in Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa District to grow food for household and income security in the face of Oil and Covid 19 pandemic disruptions based on Agro ecological farming methodologies. 30 grassroots women led farmer groups with a total of 1831 household members have been identified, better organized, and trained and supported to set up 30 mother gardens, grow food and boost household incomes in the villages of Gwedo, Butimba, Kakindo, Kigwera, Kismo, Kyakatemba, Kaiso, Kabaale, Kigaga, Kyabigambire among many others.

A total of 929 households have shown home gardens of good quality during the rainy seasons during our past progress monitoring visits. These are engaged in food growing, soap making, millet value addition, Apiary, handcraft making, mushroom growing, piggery, goat keeping among others. The number could have been more but the project was very limited in provision of farm tools and equipment support.



Kichen gardening Mother garden for Tomatoes -Kigaga village kikuube District



Women in kigaaga are engaged in bee keeping and making bi products like propolis, jelly, wax candles



Supported Household farmer -Egg plants in Kyakatemba village -Kikkube district



Indegenous food varieties grown using agro ecological knowledge systems



Kamusiime Thomas- EU Delegation representative visiting mother gardens in Kikuube district



Mushroom growing boosting income of women in Kabaale-Buseruka.



Craft Making has boosted household incomes



Even with some plots, women have been taught to do kitchen gardens of especially vegetables. This is kaiso at the landing site



Rev. Fred Musiimenta and Canon Ruhindi (last 2 photos above) at the established mother garden in Kikuube District for community seed multiplication.

01 JANUARY 2024						
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01st New Year's Day 26th Liberation Day						



02 FEBRUARY 2024						
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16th Archbishop Janani Luwum's Day						



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Providing Farming tools and equipment

Targeted farmer groups and households were supported with farming tools and equipment to enable them put the acquired agro ecological farming knowledge and skills into practice and better supervise and support their individual household group members.

Supplied hoes have eased land tilling, wheel barrows instrumental in farm yard manure carrying into gardens, carrying harvested products from gardens while bicycles help easy reach out to group members. However the number was limited amidst overwhelming demand from grass root farmers.



NAPE supported community partner farmers with farming tools including wheel barrows and hoes to boost their household food and incomes.

03 MARCH 2024						
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08th Woman's Day 29th Good Friday 31th Easter Sunday						



04 APRIL 2024						
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01st Easter Monday 10th End of Ramathan(Eid al- Fitr)						



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Establishing Safe and Operational Spaces and supporting hand washing equipment against GBV and Covid 19 spread.

20 safe and operational spaces to handle issues of Sexual and Gender based violence have been established in 20 locations in 3 districts. These safe spaces/shelters were equipped with trained community-based care takers, sets of hand washing equipment, soap and detergents, sitting equipment (desks and tables), case registration books, publicity and outreach advocacy materials and help lines/contacts and linked to the Family protection Units of the Uganda Police for achieving maximum coordination, easy case follow ups, capacity support and continuity after end of project support. As of 10th September 2023, a total of 1,186 cases had been recorded at the 20 safe spaces out of which 953 cases had been successfully resolved in villages of

Kabigambire, Kigaaga A, Kigaaga B, Kaiso, Buseruka 1, Buseruka 2, Kyakagabo, Kabaale, Butimba west, Kijayo, Kyabataka, Buliisa T/C, Kakindo, Gwendo, Ajigo, Bikongoro, Concord, Kiboga at the community green radio. Additionally, the supplied hand washing hygiene equipment at the safe space sites have not only been instrumental in the control of the covid 19 pandemic but also other hygiene related diseases such as chlorella, Ebola among others. Hand washing has now become a tradition at these safe space community location sites and every visitor or rights abuse victim including local leaders at the site has to first go through a hand washing modality as a requirement and we think this is a good practice to embrace by both adults and children. These however were few compared to demands on ground.



Sarah Nakitende, Kiboga district woman councillor speaking at the launch of the safe spaces.



Revland Fred Musimenta of Butimba Kiziranfumbi-Kikuube district has joine hands with safe space care takers to champion a fight against GBV.



Sarah Nakitende, Kiboga district woman councillor speaking at the launch of the safe spaces.



A care taker Lucy Mbubi emphasizes a point to a visiting family protection unit office of police at butimba established safe space .



Sets of hand washing equipment handed to Bullisa United women with disability group safe space site



Sets of hand washing equipment stationed at selected safe space locations for effective hand washing to control Covid 19.



Sets of hand washing equipment stationed at selected safe space locations for effective hand washing to control Covid 19.



Sets of hand washing equipment stationed at selected safe space locations for effective hand washing to control Covid 19.



Peruth of NAPE handing over tools of work to the care takers of Concord safe space in Bulisa District.



Sergent Apera Ben, unit heaf for child and family protecton Bulisa police checking the registry book for cases of GBV at a safe space in Kakindo-Buliisa.



Sergent Apera Ben, unit heaf for child and family protecton Bulisa police checking the registry book for cases of GBV at a safe space in Kakindo-Buliisa.



some of the care takers of the safe spaces handling issues of GBV and other human rights violations

05 MAY 2024						
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01st International Labour Day						



06 JUNE 2024						
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3rd Martyr's Day 21st Father's Day						
9th National Heroes Day 16th Eid al-Adha						



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Grass root Movement building for collective actions against GBV and other HR abuses

A strong and well coordinated grassroots women’s movement has been mobilized, trained, and supported to execute collective actions in form of petitions and demonstrations on issues of Gender Based Violence, Environmental rights protection, land rights campaigns, sanitation and hygiene and human rights abuse among others. As of August 2023, a total of 9413 had

been mobilized and recruited into the movement while by October 10th, the number recorded in the recruitment books at various community sites had risen to 9937 members. This is a success rate of 82% of the project target of 12,000 members in 2 years.



Grassroot women solidarity action against GBV



Grassroot Women cement a collective move against GBV and HR abuses.



Grassroot women and Male comrades stand in Unity against GBV in Kikuube District.



Women members of the grass root women movement from Kikuube after a training on mobilisation and organising



Grassroot women members demonstrating against Bugoma forest degradation



Grassroot women members demonstrating against Bugoma forest degradation



Grassroot women and Male comrades say No to GBV



some members of the grass root women movement after a training

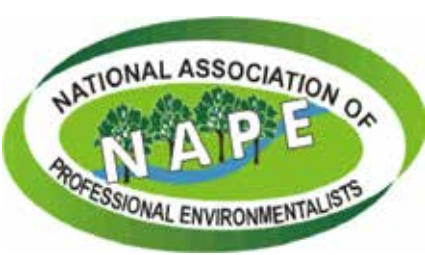
07 JULY 2024						
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08 AUGUST 2024						
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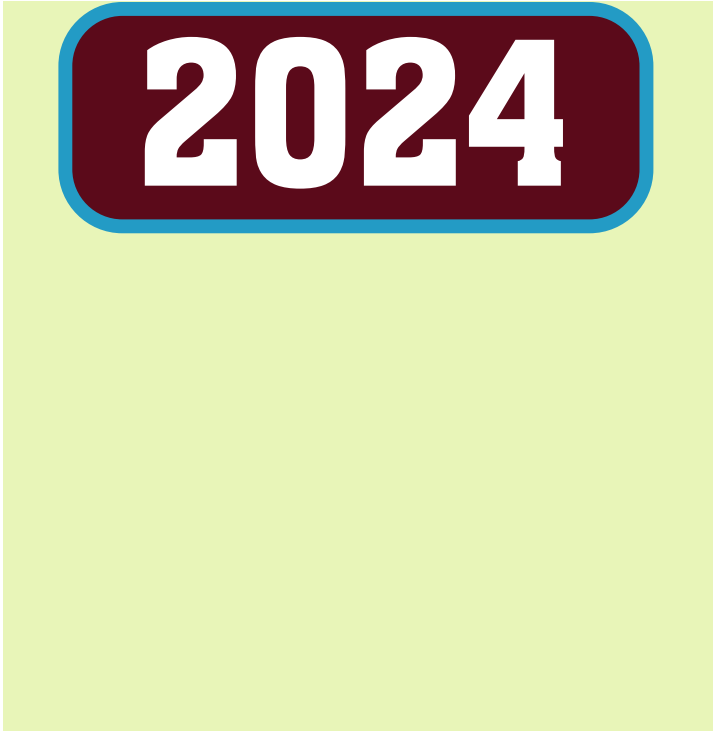
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Strong Community Green Radio Platform to continue amplifying community voices

With the support from the project, a fairly furnished community green radio platform has been put in place to act as a voice of the voiceless and ensured that communities with issues are hosted as a means of extending their voices and concerns on the faced abuses to a wider audience. Through the project, the radio station and studio have been painted, equipped with furniture, some computers, and microphones, speakers, lights and is fairly in good shape. All 21 radio listener clubs with now 547 members as of September 2023 have been mobilised and 420 of these fully trained. Overall, the radio has got a listenership of more than 3 million people from a reachable geographical coverage of 10 districts.



09 SEPTEMBER 2024						
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10 OCTOBER 2024						
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9th Independence Day



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Collaborations with Media, District Local Governments, Grass root CBOs, farmer groups, the Police, local leaders for continuity and project Sustainability.



DO NOT SUFFER IN SILENCE.

Report GBV Now Get Help Today!

Report GBV Now

To report any form of violence against women, girls and children call:

Uganda Police **0800199033** Sauti GBV service **0800200600**

Child and family protection unit of Uganda Police from the 3 districts

i) Hoima **+256 782555612**
ii) Kikuube **+256 782877264**
iii) Buliisa **+256 757809944**

To confidentially report incidents of Sexual Violence:

Use the SAFE PAL app today. SafePal is an online platform that connects survivors of GBV to essential services including psychosocial, legal and medical services.

Download Safe Pal from your Google Play Store or visit www.safepal.co.

Click on the report icon, and start the reporting process.

When a case is submitted, SafePal will instantly notify the relevant service provider, who will respond to your case as soon as possible.

Your incident report will usually be attended to within 72 hours.

Get Help Today

For free counseling, legal advice and referrals, reach out to the following:

Safe spaces: (Hoima, Kikuube & Buliisa) **+256 781 065995**

Uganda Network on Law, Ethics and HIV AIDS - UGANET **0800333123/0800333122**

Sauti GBV services **0800100150**

National Association of Professional Environmentalists - NAPE Gender Office **+256775602065**

Strong Minds Uganda Dial *252# YES, then select option 10 This service is free for MTN and Africell users. (Airtel users incur a network charge of 160 UGX)

Airtel users text or dial **0759849222**

To chat on Whatsapp **0323200666**

NAPE Uganda @NapeUg

As communities recover from the social and economic shocks due covid 19 , from 2021,NAPE with support from the European Union focused on boosting food security,household income improvement and fighting GBV as need priorities for achieving peace in homes in Bunyoro region

atukwatse peruth and 2 others

5:33 PM · Sep 20, 2023 · 32 Views

media links

[-https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/project-to-unite12-000-women-to-fight-violence-3892216](https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/project-to-unite12-000-women-to-fight-violence-3892216)
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11 NOVEMBER 2024						
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12 DECEMBER 2024						
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30	31	25th Christmas Day		26th Boxing Day		

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