



THE TERRA WATCH

STREC Quarterly Newsletter



Mr. Cirrus Kabaale, CEO of STREC, empowers EACOP host communities by educating them on land rights and their critical role in resisting harmful financing of the controversial EACOP project

THEME: Guardians of the Land: Uplifting Communities, Defending Forests, and Resisting Fossil Fuels.

Dear Reader,

Welcome to this edition of The Terra Watch, STREC's quarterly newsletter dedicated to promoting the sustainable management of natural resources and environmental justice in Uganda and the Greater Lakes Region.

In this issue, we are excited to share key highlights from the first quarter of 2025. Our collective efforts continue to support grassroots communities and amplify voices resisting the harmful impacts of oil and gas developments.

One of the major moments this quarter was our peaceful demonstration in Kampala, where citizens gathered to denounce the partial financing of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). This act of solidarity was a powerful reflection of the growing public opposition to

fossil fuel expansion and our shared commitment to a just energy future.

You'll also find thought-provoking blog stories that emerged from our ongoing work strengthening the capacity of grassroots communities. These stories reflect the resilience and determination of communities in Hoima, Buliisa, and Kikuube districts who are standing up against oil exploitation and advocating for a clean, just energy transition.

Additionally, we are excited to showcase progress from our capacity-building programs with communities living around Bugoma Forest. Through training in alternative livelihood options such as climate-smart agriculture and beekeeping, we are helping reduce forest encroachment and promoting conservation of this vital ecosystem.

In celebration of International Women's Day, we honored the incredible women who continue to defend the rights of oil-affected communities. Together with partners under Green Synergy Uganda, we called on the government to prioritize clean energy access for women, especially those in oil-host communities who are disproportionately affected by energy poverty and environmental degradation.

Thank you for your continued support in advancing environmental and social justice.

Enjoy the reading!

Editorial Team,
Nakalyowa Winnie
Namome Suzan
Kumbuga Dennis

Organized training for youth activists to strengthen their advocacy:

In March 2025, Mr. Cirrus Kabaale, CEO of STREC, led youth activist training in Kampala, boosting resistance to EACOP financing and advancing climate justice across Africa.



Following the recent announcement of the partial financing of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project, a deeply troubling development for climate justice in Africa, STREC organized a timely and strategic training to strengthen the advocacy skills of youth activists. The training aimed to empower young leaders with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to actively speak out and mobilize against financial institutions backing the controversial pipeline.

Held in Kampala in March 2025, the training brought together youth activists from oil-affected regions, urban centers, and university networks. These young leaders are among the most passionate and vocal in the fight for climate justice, and STREC recognized the urgent need to support them in sharpening their advocacy strategies particularly in light of the recent commitments by financial institutions to back EACOP. Banks such as Afreximbank, Standard Bank of South Africa, KCB Bank Uganda, Stanbic Bank Uganda, and the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD) have recently made headlines for endorsing or facilitating financing

for the pipeline, despite its well-documented environmental and social harms.

During the training, participants were taken through the impacts of EACOP ranging from biodiversity loss and displacement of communities, to the worsening climate crisis it threatens to accelerate. With peak production of oil from EACOP expected to emit over 34 million metric tonnes of carbon annually, youth were equipped with scientific data, campaign messaging, and storytelling skills to amplify their voices in opposition.

The training also focused on nonviolent protest methods, digital organizing, and strategies for engaging both national and international stakeholders. Youth learned how to write petitions, organize peaceful demonstrations, prepare policy briefs, and leverage social media campaigns to challenge the narrative being pushed by project supporters. Special sessions were dedicated to understanding the role of banks in financing fossil fuel infrastructure and how young people can hold them accountable through peaceful but strategic

activism.

Importantly, the training created a platform for youth to connect, collaborate, and form a united front. Many participants shared how the space helped them feel less isolated in their climate work, offering emotional and strategic solidarity. It was a space to reflect, recharge, and reimagine what an inclusive and just energy transition could look like.

By organizing this training, STREC reaffirmed its commitment to building a strong, youth-led climate justice movement that resists destructive development models and pushes for a clean, inclusive, and community-centered energy future. The participants left the training energized and equipped, pledging to take action in their communities and beyond.

The fight against EACOP and the banks supporting it is far from over. But with a new generation of skilled, informed, and passionate youth activists taking the lead, the future of climate justice in Uganda and across the region looks increasingly hopeful.

STREC distributed tree and fruit seedlings to support women headed families:

In March 2025, STREC took a significant step toward supporting climate action, environmental conservation, and community resilience by distributing over 25,000 tree and fruit seedlings to women-headed families in the tourism host communities of Buliisa and Hoima districts. This initiative is not only a testament to STREC's ongoing commitment to sustainable development but

also a powerful demonstration of how environmental action can be inclusive, community-driven, and responsive to the needs of those most impacted by climate change.

The distribution of seedlings was preceded by a series of community trainings designed to equip beneficiaries with practical knowledge and tools to understand and respond to climate change.

Participants, largely women from households around Murchison Falls National Park and Bugungu Wildlife Reserve, were introduced to key concepts such as the drivers and effects of climate change, the importance of biodiversity, the role of forests in sustaining ecosystems, and how individual and collective action can make a difference in climate resilience.



STREC empowered women-headed families in Buliisa and Hoima districts with 25,000 tree seedlings, advancing inclusive climate action, food security, and ecosystem restoration.

STREC's training sessions also focused on alternative livelihoods and sustainable land management. With growing pressure on natural resources due to population growth, oil development, and deforestation, many rural households especially women-headed families are left vulnerable to food insecurity, poverty, and environmental degradation. Through these trainings, women learned about agroforestry, climate-smart agriculture, beekeeping, and eco-tourism as viable alternatives to environmentally harmful practices like charcoal burning or illegal logging.

By providing fruit tree seedlings such as mangoes, oranges, jackfruit, and guavas, alongside native tree species like mahogany, musizi, and tamarind, STREC ensured that the support was both economically and ecologically meaningful. Fruit trees not only provide nutritious food and a potential source of income but also play a crucial role in reforesting degraded areas, improving soil health, sequestering carbon, and providing shade and habitat for local wildlife.

Women-headed families were prioritized in this initiative because they often face structural barriers in accessing land, finances, and climate adaptation resources. These women are also more likely to rely on natural resources for survival and are often at

the frontline of managing household food security and health. Supporting them with seedlings and training strengthens household resilience, enhances food sovereignty, and amplifies women's role as custodians of the environment.

The decision to focus on tourism host communities was deliberate. These areas are not only ecologically significant but are also directly impacted by the changing climate and unsustainable development practices especially those related to oil extraction and infrastructure development. By investing in tree planting and climate education, STREC is building a foundation for sustainable tourism where communities can thrive alongside healthy ecosystems.

The impact of this initiative will be felt not only in the coming planting seasons but for decades ahead. As the trees grow, they will help to restore degraded landscapes, stabilize riverbanks, and moderate microclimates. They will also serve as living evidence of what locally-led, gender sensitive climate action looks like in practice. By supporting local women with tangible resources and the knowledge to use them effectively, STREC is contributing to a more equitable and resilient future.

In addition to the seedlings and training, STREC provided participants

with basic tools and guidance on planting and tree maintenance. Field teams continue to follow up with the beneficiaries to ensure survival rates are high and provide ongoing technical support. Community members were also encouraged to form local conservation groups to collectively monitor tree growth, share lessons, and mobilize additional support from local governments and partners.

This initiative aligns with Uganda's broader climate adaptation and reforestation goals and directly contributes to the restoration of biodiversity hotspots around protected areas. It also reinforces STREC's long-standing advocacy for integrating environmental justice with social equity particularly in oil-affected and marginalized communities.

As climate change continues to present complex challenges for communities across Uganda and the Greater Lakes Region, initiatives like this offer hope. They show that even small actions when rooted in local knowledge and led by communities, can have far-reaching impacts. The women who planted these seedlings are not just recipients of aid; they are leaders of a growing movement to restore Uganda's natural heritage and secure a better future for their families.

Empowering Youth to Lead Advocacy Targeting Financial Institutions:



STREC empowered youth to lead bold advocacy efforts urging banks and insurers to drop EACOP and support sustainable, climate-friendly financing alternatives.

The seedlings in Buliisa and Hoima will grow into fruit-bearing trees, shade-providing canopies, and vital carbon sinks. But more than that, they represent a shift in how communities approach climate resilience not as a burden, but as a shared responsibility and an opportunity for empowerment.

In January 2025, STREC, in collaboration with its partners, undertook significant advocacy efforts to discourage financial and insurance institutions from supporting the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project. Recognizing the critical role of youth in driving change, STREC

implemented targeted initiatives aimed at empowering young people to lead these advocacy campaigns.

The program focused on equipping youth with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to effectively engage financial institutions and raise awareness about the environmental, social, and economic risks associated with the EACOP project.

Through workshops, training sessions, and mentorship programs, the youth were educated on the impacts of fossil fuel investments and the importance of promoting sustainable and responsible financing practices.

As part of these efforts, young advocates engaged with key stakeholders, including financial and insurance institutions, urging them to reconsider their involvement in the project. They utilized petitions, media campaigns, and direct dialogues to amplify their message and advocate for the transition to cleaner and more sustainable energy solutions.

This initiative underscored STREC's commitment to fostering youth leadership in environmental advocacy and advancing the fight for climate justice. It highlighted the power of collective action in driving meaningful change for future generations.

Organised a community meeting on community-led conservation and sustainability of Bugoma forest:



STREC united Kikuube communities to defend Bugoma Forest, championing conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and local leadership in the fight against deforestation

In February 2025, STREC organized a vital community meeting in Kikuube district, bringing together forest-edge communities, local leaders, environmental activists, and other stakeholders to discuss community-led conservation and the long-term sustainability of Bugoma Forest. The meeting was convened in response to growing concerns over deforestation, illegal land grabbing, and the rising pressure from industrial agriculture and infrastructure developments threatening the integrity of one of Uganda's most critical biodiversity hotspots.

Bugoma Forest, located in western Uganda, is home to hundreds of plant and animal species, including endangered chimpanzees and rare birds. It plays a key role in climate regulation, water protection, and cultural preservation for the surrounding communities. However, over the past years, the forest has come under increasing threat from large-scale land conversion, logging, and oil-related developments. Recognizing the urgent need for local engagement, STREC sought to create a space where communities could reflect, strategize, and recommit

to sustainable, community-led conservation approaches.

The meeting focused on empowering local residents with knowledge and practical tools to take an active role in protecting Bugoma. Key topics included the importance of indigenous knowledge in forest conservation, the role of forest resources in local livelihoods, and legal frameworks protecting natural forests in Uganda. Participants discussed how unsustainable land use practices and weak enforcement of environmental laws had contributed to the gradual degradation of Bugoma Forest.

To support sustainable alternatives, the meeting also introduced community members to conservation-friendly livelihood options such as beekeeping, eco-tourism, and agroforestry. These practices not only reduce pressure on the forest but also help generate income for families, especially for youth and women. Testimonials from community members already practicing these alternatives helped inspire others to consider shifting from destructive to sustainable practices.

Local leaders expressed strong support for the initiative and called on all stakeholders to stand united against those encroaching on the forest. They emphasized the importance of empowering community forest monitors and creating more awareness, especially among young people, about the value of the forest and their role in safeguarding it.

The meeting concluded with a joint community declaration to increase vigilance against forest encroachment, report illegal activities, and engage in collective reforestation efforts. STREC committed to follow-up engagements, provision of seedlings, and continuous training in sustainable livelihood practices.

This community meeting marked a significant step forward in placing Bugoma's conservation in the hands of those who live closest to it. By centering community voices and promoting locally-driven solutions, the meeting laid the groundwork for a long-term, sustainable future for Bugoma Forest where conservation is not just a project, but a shared way of life.

Honoring Women Defending Oil-Affected Communities on International Women's Day:



Honoring resilience: On International Women's Day 2025, STREC celebrated women like Ms. Patience Atukunda leading the fight for justice in oil affected communities.

In celebration of International Women's Day 2025, STREC took time to recognize and honor the courageous and resilient women who stand at the forefront of defending the rights and dignity of oil-affected communities in Uganda. Across districts like Hoima, Buliisa, and Kikuube, women have been disproportionately impacted by the ongoing oil and gas developments, yet they continue to rise as vocal leaders, organizers, caregivers, and protectors of both their communities and the environment.

This year's celebration was more than just a day of recognition. It was a powerful platform to amplify women's voices, celebrate their struggles and achievements, and call for more equitable and inclusive energy and environmental governance. The day brought together women leaders from oil host communities, grassroots organizers, environmental defenders, and allies to share their stories, raise awareness, and strengthen solidarity.

Many women shared deeply personal testimonies of how oil activities have disrupted their families and livelihoods, stories of land grabbing, forced displacement, loss of farmland, and threats to clean water. In spite of these challenges, these women continue to organize community meetings, participate in advocacy campaigns, and speak out against the injustices tied to the extractive industry. Their leadership is not only crucial for community resilience but is also essential for advancing a just and sustainable future.

As part of the celebration, STREC organized a roundtable discussion on "Women's Leadership in the Just Energy Transition," highlighting the need for clean energy solutions that respond to women's realities and priorities. Women called on the Ugandan government and international actors to prioritize access to affordable and renewable energy for households in oil-affected areas, noting that lack of clean

cooking alternatives and electricity continues to place a heavy burden on women and girls.

Participants also emphasized the importance of investing in alternative livelihoods, especially those led by women, such as climate-smart agriculture, beekeeping, and eco-tourism. These initiatives not only contribute to environmental protection but also support economic independence and resilience for women-headed households.

The event also included creative expressions poetry, dance, and storytelling through which women shared their experiences, hopes, and aspirations for their communities. These performances highlighted the power of culture in sustaining resistance and nurturing healing in the face of environmental and social injustices.

On this day, STREC reaffirmed its commitment to supporting women-led movements, advocating for policy reforms that protect land and environmental rights, and ensuring that women have an equal seat at the table in decision-making processes affecting their lives.

International Women's Day 2025 served as a reminder that true progress in climate justice and community empowerment cannot be achieved without recognizing and supporting the central role of women.

As we honor their contributions, we are also called to action to listen, to stand in solidarity, and to build systems that value people and the planet above profit.

Youth, Climate Action, and Green Jobs: Insights from Kyambogo University Public Lecture:



STREC's public lecture at Kyambogo University empowered youth to tackle climate change and unlock green job opportunities through innovation, education and sustainable career pathways.

In a bold step to bridge climate awareness and economic opportunity, STREC held a dynamic public lecture at Kyambogo University in March 2025 under the theme **"Climate Change and the Environment: Can Students Tap into Green Jobs?"** The event brought together over 100 students, university faculty, environmental activists, and green entrepreneurs to explore the urgent realities of climate change and the immense potential for youth to drive solutions through green innovation and sustainability focused careers.

The lecture opened with a deep dive into the science and impacts of climate change, particularly in Africa where countries like Uganda are experiencing disproportionate effects. The speaker emphasized how rising temperatures, extreme

weather events, and environmental degradation are not just environmental issues but pressing social and economic challenges. Uganda's vulnerability, combined with its youthful population, presents both a crisis and an opportunity that must be seized through education, awareness, and action.

A major highlight of the event was the panel discussion on green jobs. Experts from environmental NGOs, clean energy companies, and sustainable agriculture sectors shared powerful insights into what constitutes a green job and how students can position themselves to enter this growing field. Careers in renewable energy, environmental education, waste management, eco-tourism, sustainable farming, and conservation were discussed as key avenues for meaningful work that

aligns with both climate goals and economic resilience.

The panelists urged students to embrace innovation, entrepreneurship, and skills development.

They emphasized that green jobs aren't just about planting trees or working for NGOs, they are about finding sustainable solutions in every sector, from architecture and engineering to IT and finance. Green jobs, they noted, are not just good for the planet, they are the future of employment.

During the Q&A session, students asked thoughtful questions on how to access internships, how to start small-scale green enterprises, and how to hold institutions accountable for climate commitments. There was a strong desire among attendees to not only learn but to act to become environmental leaders in their communities and changemakers in their chosen professions.

The event concluded with a call to action: for students to be bold in pursuing environmental advocacy and to explore green job opportunities as both a moral and professional pathway. STREC pledged ongoing support through mentorship, training, and collaboration with universities to ensure the next generation is equipped to lead Uganda toward a just and sustainable future.

The public lecture at Kyambogo University was more than an academic dialogue. It was a powerful platform for youth empowerment, climate education, and the shaping of a green economy.

Organised a Community Dialogue in Buliisa District to Tackle Rising Human-Wildlife Conflicts:



STREC convened a crucial community meeting in Buliisa District to tackle the rising human-wildlife conflicts near Murchison Falls National Park. The gathering empowered local voices, farmers, women, youth, and leaders to seek sustainable, community-led solutions for peaceful coexistence with wildlife.

In January 2025, STREC organized a vital community meeting in Buliisa district to address the growing challenge of human-wildlife conflicts. The meeting brought together local leaders, farmers, youth, women representatives, and civil society actors to discuss the root causes, impacts, and possible community driven solutions to the escalating tensions between residents and wildlife.

Buliisa, located near Murchison Falls National Park and the Bugungu Wildlife Reserve, is experiencing increasing incidents of crop destruction, livestock attacks, and occasional injuries caused by wild animals, particularly elephants, baboons, and buffaloes. These incidents have not only caused fear and frustration among the community but have also worsened poverty and food insecurity for families whose livelihoods depend heavily on farming and small-scale agriculture.

During the meeting, community members shared personal experiences and raised concerns about the lack of effective response from authorities. Many lamented delayed compensation processes and limited protective measures such as fencing or deterrents. Women, who are often more vulnerable to these encounters while collecting water or firewood, shared how their safety has been compromised and how this has affected their daily routines and responsibilities.

STREC facilitated a discussion on the ecological importance of wildlife and how sustainable coexistence can be achieved through dialogue, awareness, and community-led conservation. Participants called for more proactive strategies, including the introduction of community scouts, improved surveillance systems, buffer zones, and sustainable livelihood alternatives that reduce dependency on

activities that bring people into conflict with wildlife.

The meeting also introduced the idea of wildlife-friendly farming practices, agroforestry, and conservation agriculture as long-term strategies to mitigate human-wildlife conflict while improving food production and income generation. Youth were encouraged to participate in conservation efforts and to use their creativity to promote coexistence, such as through environmental clubs, awareness campaigns, and innovation challenges.

By the end of the session, community members agreed to form a local task force to follow up on the issues raised and coordinate with relevant authorities. The meeting ended with a renewed sense of collective responsibility and determination to find peaceful and sustainable solutions to human-wildlife conflicts in Buliisa District.

STREC IN MEDIA

OIL DISASTERS: WHY MAN IS THE REAL THREAT TO LIFE ON EARTH

May 16, 2020 Written by: Earth Finds Published in: Opinion 0 comments

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INTERNET PHOTO

Oil companies continue claiming that the adoption of these practices is too expensive to guarantee their profits from their investments.

By Cyrus Kabaale

As we mourn the outbreak of global crisis COVID 19, thousands of people have been displaced by rising water in Lake Victoria, Lake Kyoga and swept away from their homes by riotous floods.

Oil project will increase Uganda's vulnerability to climate change

The discovery of commercial oil deposits in Uganda was made in 2006. It is anticipated that government will earn significant revenue from the inflow of oil money if collected and utilised responsibly. Generated revenue have the potential to uplift Uganda's economic growth and development. The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) will be running from the oil fields in Hoima, western Uganda to Tanga port in Tanzania transporting crude that will be electrically heated throughout the pipeline. However, government is ignoring related climate impacts that will arise even when it thinks that oil is a blessing to the country. For instance, an understanding of EACOP must begin with the nature of the material the pipeline would transport, a waxy variety of crude oil

that solidifies at ambient temperatures and has to be heated to at least 50 degrees Celsius throughout the 1443km length of the pipeline to arrive at a port for international export, vastly increasing the environmental and economic costs of exploit-

ing Lake Albert area crude oil reserves.

An understanding of the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline must also begin with the fact that world's temperature has increased by an estimated 0.90 C as atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide (CO2) have risen from 290 parts per million (ppm) in pre-industrial times to more than 415 ppm in 2019, an atmospheric level of CO2 that has not been experienced since at least three million years ago.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is warning that a further increase

of world temperature by more than another 6.60 C, a consequence of CO2 levels exceeding 450 ppm, would have far-ranging catastrophic consequences on humanity including food security and livability of cities.

Section 8.22 of the EACOP ES-IA is titled: 'Climate' and sub-section 8.22.2 of the ESIA is titled: 'Project Greenhouse Gas Emissions'.

This section of the ESIA confines its assessment to only the operational emissions of CO2 and reaches the following conclusion (on page 9-370):

"The key conclusions related to the EACOP project's impact on climate include 'Direct operational emissions in Uganda once the bulk heaters begin operation will range between 11-18 MtCO2e/a, which represents around 0.014-0.029% of Uganda's total GHG emissions in 2030; the contribution of EACOP to national emissions is therefore low and will not affect Uganda's ability to meet its emission reduction target published as part of the UNFCCC's Paris Agreement.'"

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PRIME

Train tourism host communities to live in harmony with wildlife

Like in the past, this year, as every year, the world commemorates the International Wildlife Day under the theme: Forest and Livelihoods: Sustaining people and planet. This seeks to enable communities to adopt

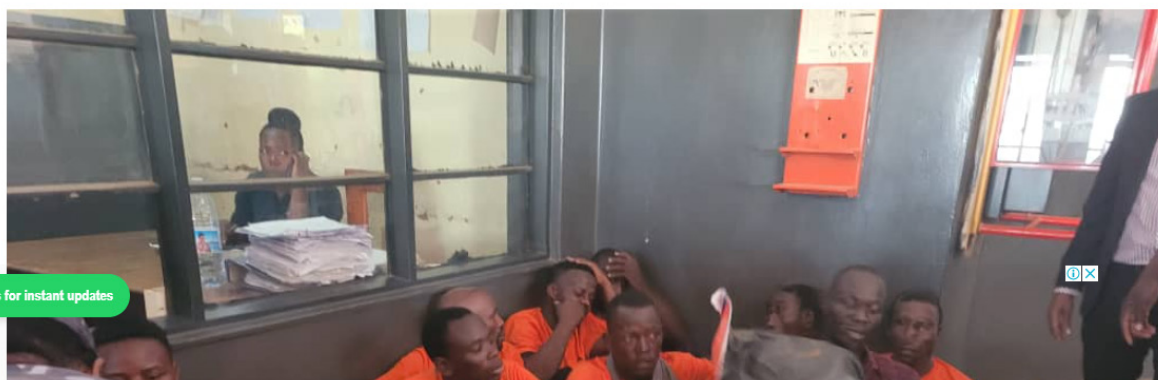
and embrace alternative livelihoods and promote environmental conservation. The call comes amid the increasing birthrates of the elephants population in Uganda's protected areas. There have been

concerns of rapid loss of habitats, which have increased incidences of human wildlife conflicts in the protected areas. [more](#)

NEWS BUSINESS EDUCATION HEALTH CRIME POLITICS OPINIONS SPORTS #DISMISS @LOGIN

Kampala Police Arrest 11 Students Protesting East African Crude Oil Pipeline

By Hakim Kanyere | Wednesday, February 26, 2025



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LOBBYING



UGANDAN, TANZANIAN & DR CONGOLESE CIVIL SOCIETY STATEMENT ON THE REPORTED FINANCIAL CLOSE FOR THE FIRST TRANCHE OF EACOP FINANCING

27/March/2025

It is a shame that on the day (March 26, 2025) that many Ugandans came face-to-face with the dire impacts of the climate crisis, including death, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Company Ltd [announced](#) that the company had reportedly secured the first tranche of financing needed for the EACOP.

In the wee hours of March 26, 2025, unrelenting rainfall battered the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area (GKMA), and the city experienced immense flooding. [Seven](#) people, including two children, were reported to have died from the floods.

In addition, a [baby](#) in Nameere-Kampala and a [boda-boda](#) (motorcycle taxi) rider in Namasuba-Kampala survived death following the heavy downpour. Several man-hours of work were also lost, as Ugandan citizens struggled with the traffic gridlock that made several roads within the GKMA, especially in the capital Kampala impassable.

In Tanzania, landslides in Hanang District, one the EACOP-affected districts, on December 2-3, 2023, killed at least 89 people. The landslides are a devastating consequence of climate change. In towns such as Katesh and Gendabi, homes and infrastructure were completely buried, entire neighborhoods were destroyed, displacing hundreds of residents and disrupting access to essential services like schools and hospitals, with economic losses compounding the human toll. The disaster left survivors grappling with grief, loss of livelihoods, and the daunting task of rebuilding in a region already strained by climate variability and limited resources.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), dry weather conditions in January and February 2025 affected parts of the country with effect on agricultural investments and fishing production. Various climate change scenarios note that East Africa is expected to experience drier-than-normal and wetter-than-normal conditions.

Before East Africans are yet to recover from the above immense climate crisis losses, the EACOP Company reported it had closed the first tranche of external financing for the EACOP, a pipeline

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whose full value chain carbon [emissions](#) over a 25-year period are estimated at over 379 million metric tonnes of carbon.

The five banks that the EACOP Company says are part of the deal to provide the first tranche of financing include the African Export and Import (Afrexim) Bank, Standard Bank from South Africa, and Stanbic Bank Uganda. Others include KCB Bank Uganda and the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector.

It is unfortunate that banks, which claim to be working towards the prosperity of African people, are financing projects such as the EACOP that will worsen the climate crisis, have caused the displacement of tens of thousands of people, stand to worsen biodiversity loss, and are a threat to

March 3, 2025,

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said,

The Sultan of Oman,

Government of Oman.

Urgent Concerns Regarding Potential Omani Involvement in the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project

Your Majesty,

We, the undersigned, are environmental and human rights civil society organizations dedicated to promoting environmental conservation, a just transition away from fossil fuels, and the protection of human rights in Uganda, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), both within our countries and beyond.

We appreciate your leadership and the enduring trade benefits our countries have shared since the 17th century. In the same spirit, we acknowledge recent efforts toward realizing [Oman's Vision 2040](#), which aims to enhance state investments both locally and internationally by strengthening investment ties between the Sultanate of Oman and the global business community.

Unfortunately, these efforts risk being undermined, as we have recently [learned](#) that the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) has been in discussions with the government of Oman to secure significant investment to address funding deficits in the oil and gas sector, particularly for the [East African Crude Oil Pipeline](#).

Your Majesty, according to international [expert reports](#), there is no room for new oil developments if the world is to uphold the Paris Agreement and avoid catastrophic

About STREC

Strategic Response on Environmental Conservation (STREC) is a youth led community-based not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the sustainable management of the environment and natural resources in Uganda. We started in 2018 as University environment group to protect Bugoma Central Forest Reserve from destruction for sugarcane plantation.

In 2020, we registered with the National NGO Bureau as not for profit organization. STREC monitors government actions, conducts research, provides educational materials, develops science-based strategies, organizes affected communities, rallies other civil society organizations and international organizations to common causes, and engages government officials at all levels to ensure that natural resources are utilised in a way that leads to equitable development, environmental conservation and respect for human rights.



Our Vision: A society that promotes equitable utilization and sustainable governance of natural resources for socio-economic development.



Our Mission: To promote the sustainable management of the natural resources in Uganda and the Great Lakes Region.

Upcoming events

April 2, 2025: Kampala: A public lecture on understanding the Energy Charter Treaty in Uganda: Implications for a Just Energy Transition and the role of University students.

April 16, 2025: Buliisa and Hoima District: Radio talk show on training tourism host communities to live in harmony with wildlife.

May 05-08, 2025, Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa Districts: Facilitate an exchange learning visit for Kingfisher communities to the Oil Refinery and Tilenga project areas to enhance their lobbying and advocacy skills.

May 22, 2025: Online: Regional Webiner of Oil Projects Financed by Export Credit Agencies on Host Communities in East Africa.

June 04-05, 2025: Hoima and Kikuube Districts: Engaging youth and Women on oil impacts and their roles in championing Just Energy Transition