ORRA 2020:
ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

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women empowerment sensitization meetings
ORRA, in 2020 amidst the challenge caused by covid 19, we managed to meet and empower 2,000 women in the oil project affected areas of Hoima and Kikuube.

Challenge
There is increased land transactions in the region both for oil projects and individual businessmen.
Promoting women land rights through publication

To be able to reach out to a large number of our targeted audience, ORRA disseminated 3,000 copies of stickers with messages on women and girl children land rights.

Challenge

There is a high level of illiteracy among the women in the region. Majority of the women do not know how to read and write.

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Through our staff, we conducted media campaigns in both broadcast and print media sharing our opinion with relevant stakeholders in the country. This was also aimed at sending our message to the relevant government authority to take appropriate actions against women land rights abuses and violations.

Challenge

Limited resources in terms of money to ensure consistency of the media engagement.
Representation of women

In 2020, ORRA met with different government departments and ministries to present the plight of women in the Albertine region amidst oil and gas developments.

Challenge

Slow response from government to address some of the issues affecting women in the region, for instance, there is still delayed compensation of project affected persons where women are suffering additional injustices.
Advocating for clean and safe drinking water
In 2019 after our consistent engagement with government to provide clean water for refinery project affected people in Kyakaboga resettlement, the people were provided with three (3) boreholes in the settlement.

Challenge
Kyakaboga area is very dry and during dry seasons, the boreholes are dry themselves and women have to move over 5 kilometers to river Rwamutonga to fetch water. Therefore, there is need for piped water.

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Installation of electricity in Kyakaboga resettlement


Challenge

While we appreciate MEMD, our priority was solar as it would be cheaper for these communities who lost their livelihood due to delayed resettlement. We still appeal to MEMD to provide solar panels for the PAPs in addition to the electricity.

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Construction of access roads
One of our biggest engagement with MEMD was to provide access road for the Kyakaboga resettlement residents. In October 2020, government started the construction of the access roads within the settlement.

Challenge
Women still move long distance to access the health Center in Buseruka. We appeal to government to open the shorter route from the resettlement to the health center.

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Mobilizing school going children in Kyakaboga

The compulsory land acquisition for the construction of oil refinery led to school dropout among the children of project affected persons. ORRA has since 2018 been mobilizing parents and children to send their children to school, but above all we have managed to provide scholastic materials to the children.

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Livelihood restoration

We have advocated for livelihood restoration for the project affected people. The PAPs in Kyakaboga resettlement received cows and goats from government.

Challenge

Loss of property due to theft, the project affected people have suffered losses as their animals, crops, etc. are being stolen by outsiders.
Youth engagement
We are also happy to report that in 2020, ORRA managed to interact with about 1,000 youth and also formed environmental clubs of youth in Kabaale and Buseruka sub county.

Challenge
Massive sale of land among the youth to start businesses targeting oil and gas opportunities. A lot of work is needed to change the mindset of the youth from only focusing their attention on oil and gas opportunities.
Training women paralegals

In 2020, ORRA trained 20 women paralegals on basic legal knowledge to be able to mediate women land rights abuses in their communities, but also make referrals where they fail to handle.

Challenge

Many women need to be trained to help the emerging cases of land rights abuses in the oil region.

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Stakeholder engagement
In 2019 ORRA through its staff participated in the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) for both Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects. This was intended to influence NEMA’s decisions and also promoting environment conservation.

Challenge
The ongoing oil and gas activities are located in critical biodiversity area. 8 of 15 of the protected areas in Uganda are found in the Albertine region.