



**OIL REFINERY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**



# **ORRA**

## **Annual Report**

### **2019**

## About ORRA

OIL REFINERY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION is a community-based organization dedicated to promoting sustainable environmental use and human rights of vulnerable communities in the Albertine region of Uganda.

Based in the Albertine region -Uganda, the organization was born out of the need to contribute to efforts of environmental conservation and protection of land rights for the poor and the venerable communities amidst oil activities and developments in Uganda.

Through lobby, needs assessment and community education, ORRA works with oil project affected communities, cultural, religious and local government leaders to ensure that natural resources are utilized in an environmentally conservation manner and land rights of vulnerable communities are protected.

### Our Vision:

A community where environmental conservation and Human Rights of vulnerable communities are given a priority.

### Our Mission:

To promote environmental conservation and protection of human rights of vulnerable communities in the Albertine region.

### Objectives:

- To build community resilience and adaption to negative effects of climate change.
- To promote environmental conservation and community livelihoods amidst oil and gas development activities in the Albertine region.
- To advocate for inclusive participation of communities at all levels in the natural resource's governance through a meaningful consultation.
- To promote and support sensitization initiatives of oil project affected communities in the Albertine region.
- To empower women and youth to take part in decision making for their property during compensation and resettlement.

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## List of Abbreviation

HLG	Hoima Local government
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
HOCADEO	Hoima Caritas Development Organization
EACOP	East African Crude Oil Pipeline
PAP	Project Affected persons
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
LC	Local Council
NRGF	Natural Resources Governance Framework
IUCN	International Union of Conservation of Netherlands
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
UNOC	Uganda National Oil Company
AFIEGO	Africa Institute for Energy Governance
UCO	Uganda Country Office
CNOOC	China National Offshore Oil Company
MEMD	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
CPF	Central Processing Facility
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations

## Word from ORRA Chairperson

In the year 2019, most of you will agree with me that there were a lot of news regarding oil and gas development in Uganda. On June 19 and 21, 2019 you will recall that the Petroleum Authority of Uganda in conjunction with the National Environmental Management Authority organized the Kingfisher environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) in Hoima and Kikuube. This was the third public hearings organized by PAU together with NEMA for oil and gas. The hearings with over 10 thousand people was meant to seek opinions and suggestions from different stakeholders on the proposed project to influence NEMA's decision making during the review process of the ESIA.

Further, in October the fourth, fifth and sixth public hearings for EACOP ESIA were organized in the districts of Kakumiro, Mubende and Rakai. It should be noted that the EACOP is one of the longest oil pipelines in the world covering a distance of about 1,445km from Hoima in Uganda to Tanga port in Tanzania. The EACOP project work is being undertaken by the JVPs, TOTAL E&P which is the lead developer, TULLOW Uganda and CNOOC Uganda limited. The Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) will be the shareholders in the pipeline.

I have decided to highlight some of these developments just to draw your attention on their impacts on the people and the ecosystems in these areas where the proposed projects will be put. As you are all aware that the Albertine rift is endowed with a number of eco-sensitive biodiversity such as lakes, rivers, wetlands, national parks and forest among others, one ought to think about the impact of these projects on these ecosystems. While we appreciate and welcome the projects in our area, we are much concerned about the impact of the projects on the social and environment aspect because one will agree with me that most of these projects if not all are located in and around the fragile ecosystems making the impact on them inevitable.

In this report you will also learn about ORRA's campaign for fair, adequate and prompt compensation. As developments come, you will also realize that there is a huge land acquisition processes ongoing to pave a way for the proposed projects and most people in this region are predominantly crop farmers which means that the land acquisition has a far-reaching impact on their social and economic development activities as it was evidenced in 2012 during the land acquisition process for the proposed oil refinery in Kabaale-Buseruka. Therefore, land acquisition process if not well managed, can lead to huge negative impact on the project affected persons especially women and children.

In light of the above, I want to bring to your attention that most of our work and focus was geared towards promoting environmental conservation and human rights of project affected people amidst oil and gas development to ensure sustainable development.

On my behalf and on the behalf of the executive committee, I want to extend my gratitude to all the ORRA's team who worked tirelessly given the limited resources to ensure that our vision, mission and objectives are achieved and as the executive committee, we shall always ensure that we give you all the necessary support you need to ensure meeting the organization's goals and objectives. We are aware of the many challenges you encounter in doing your work and our prayers is that we shall find a lasting solution to some of these challenges.

I want also in a special way to thank our partners especially Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) for their financial support and building the capacity of our team. We are also grateful to all our other partners for their support and capacity building for our staff, as the executive committee, we are exceeding and profoundly honored to partner with you in the struggle to conserve our environment and promote community livelihoods amidst the oil and gas developments.

Thanks

.....  
Esther Abigaba  
Chairperson ORRA

## Executive summary of our activities

It is true that most of the major oil projects are located in the fragile ecosystem as earlier noted by the chairperson. The Albertine graben is blessed with many ecosystems ranging from protected areas, lakes, rivers, wetlands, national parks among others and thus oil developments pose a big threat on these ecosystems.

Therefore, most of our engagements were focused on environmental conservation and protection of community livelihoods especially for project affected communities. Here are some of the highlights of the activities, achievements and challenges met in our engagement.

### Activities

**Community empowerments:** we organized 10 community sensitization meetings in Kabaale and Buseruka, Hoima district. These meetings were meant to empower project affected persons for the feeder pipeline from Buhuka in Kyangwali and Ngwendo in Buliisa district, oil road affected communities and the refinery project affected communities.

The sensitization was meant to provide communities with knowledge on how to engage government and oil companies to demand for fair, adequate and prompt compensation. Through these meetings, we also met over 400 women and youth who were empowered to take part in the decision-making during land acquisition processes. This was done through exchange experience learning from the refinery project affected persons.

The projected affected persons were also mobilized and empowered to participate in the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) to influence NEMA's decision through the expression of their concerns in order to promote environmental conservation and community livelihoods amidst the oil developments.

**Capacity building for staff:** This year ORRA had an opportunity to attend several trainings with the most significant being the training organized by the IUCN Netherlands and Uganda country office on the "natural resources governance framework (NRGF)". Our staff also had a training on ESIA's and SEAs which imparted them with a lot of knowledge on how to critically analyze and engage with government and oil companies to influence their decisions in the ESIA processes.

We also among others had a chance to participate in the negotiation and conflict resolution workshop organized by AFIEGO and IUCN Netherlands. These among other trainings were very key in enhancing our staff's capacity in executing their work as far environmental conservation and protection of community livelihoods is concerned.

**Access to justice:** ORRA also mobilized and sensitized communities on their constitutional rights to seek for court's redress in case of any violation of the rights especially regarding compensation and resettlement processes. In the same way, we mobilized and represented the refinery project affected persons at the high court in Kampala where the PAPs are asking court to compel government to fulfill the commitments made in the refinery resettlement action plan of 2012.

**Women and youth engagement:** It's in our best interest that we give a special attention to women and youth in our community engagements. This year between April and August, we organized four sensitization meetings for women in the project affected areas to encourage them to take part in the decision-making during land acquisition processes and also start a small saving cooperative union where they can save money as a group to be reinvested into other ventures like crop farming. We also organized five meetings for youth in Kyakaboga and Nyakasenene village which were all aimed at empowering the youth to form environmental youth clubs and also start a saving group to earn a living. A total of 400 women and youth were reached during these engagements in Kabaale and Buseruka sub county.

**Environmental conservation campaigns:** In our efforts to promote clean and sustainable environment and contribute to the efforts to curb down the negative effects of climate change, ORRA mobilized communities to adopt growing of trees especially the indigenous ones which have been proven to be environmentally friendly to reduce on the negative impact of climate change. We mobilized women and youth into environmental clubs to lead the efforts against climate change. ORRA also mobilized and sensitized communities to participate in the environmental and social impact assessment public hearings for Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects.

**Media involvement:** ORRA organized and participated in five radio talk shows in Hoima to sensitize and educate on their land rights and roles in the protection of ecosystems found in their areas. Some of the radio

talk shows were also meant to mobilize and encourage communities to participate in the ESIA processes to influence NEMA's decision in order to protect the environment and community livelihoods. Our staff also wrote 10 newspaper articles on compensation, human rights and environmental conservation which were published in the leading newspapers in the country.

## Achievements

Through the following engagements, allow me to briefly highlight some of our achievements in the year 2019.

1. Communities mobilized and empowered to participate in the environmental and social impact assessment public hearings for the Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects.
- 2.
3. Kyakaboga women mobilized and empowered to form "Tuhendeleye mbele Kyakaboga Women Group"
4. Youth in Kabaale and Buseruka form Kabaale Oil Refinery Area Youth Development Association in July, 2019.
5. In conjunction with HOCADCO, set up a nursery bed for indigenous tree seedlings in Kyakaboga resettlement
6. Over 400 women and youth mobilized and empowered to take part in the decision-making for their property during land acquisition process.
7. Engaged and influenced Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development to install power, construct boreholes and disclose land titles for project affected persons in Kyakaboga resettlement.

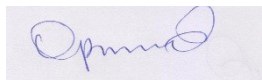
## Challenges

- Despite of the above achievements, the following challenges still remain a stumbling block in our work;
- Financial constraints, we were unable to reach a wide range of communities due to limited funds and human resource.
- Influx of people in our area in search for opportunities in the oil sector thus putting pressure on land and protected areas.
- Shrinking civic space for NGOs and human right activists working in the Albertine region particularly on oil sector
- Rampant sell of land by communities to land speculators in the areas surrounding the proposed Kabaale industrial park.
- Continued land acquisition to pave way for oil projects

## Focus 2020

Our major focus for this year will be mobilizing more funds and possible partnership, mobilizing and educating communities to defend their land from speculators but instead add value to it. We shall also continue to mobilize more women and youth into self-help groups such as saving groups. ORRA will also continue to engage with MEMD to ensure all the commitments in the refinery RAP are fulfilled. We are also going to pay much attention to experience exchange learning with different project affected communities. And finally, we shall continue our environmental conservation campaigns, but this time around through expanding our coverage.

Thanks



.....  
Christopher Opio.  
Programs Coordinator

## Specific activities, achievements and challenges

### Community empowerments.

Since 2012, ORRA has been at the forefront to mobilize and empower oil project affected communities to be able to engage with the government and oil companies to demand for fair, adequate and prompt compensation. However, the empowerment goes beyond demanding for fair, adequate and prompt compensation, but it also covers empowering women and youth to take part in the decision-making during land acquisition processes. The following are some of the activities we undertook in a bid to mobilize and empower project affected communities.

#### **Community engagement meeting with women from refinery project affected persons in Kyakaboga resettlement village.**

For the last eight years, ORRA has been working with the refinery project affected persons especially women and children. We organized a follow up meeting with women from Kyakaboga with the aim of establishing their current status in the resettlement and what can be done in order to restore their livelihoods. The meeting established that there was shortage of water, food insecurity, reduced income and many other challenges were discussed. Therefore, the meeting agreed letters should be written the Hoima local council chairperson five informing the district of the current status of the PAPs in the new place. The women were also encouraged to form a saving group where they would be saving money to borrow to other members at small interest rate to engage in small businesses.



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**Engaging women in Kyakaboga to document their challenges in the new resettlement area. Speaking is Eveline who says she had lost all her sources of income and she now getting hardship in sustaining her family.**

**Empowering oil feeder pipeline affected communities at Kabaale Public school to demand for fair, adequate and prompt compensation.**

ORRA in conjunction with African Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) organized a sensitization meeting with oil feeder pipeline to empower the communities to put pressure on the district land board to compile current district compensation rates. The communities were also asked to task CNOOC to provide them with the copies of the compensation rates that they are using to assess and value their property. The communities were also told to form a taskforce who will be in charge of advancing their concerns to the relevant authorities. The meeting was attended by PAPs from Nyahaira, Kataaba, Kitegwa and Kabaale who are affected by the oil feeder pipeline from the CPF in Buhuka-Kyangwali to the refinery in Kabaale.

**ORRA's mode of operation is that we engage with different stakeholders at different levels to try to resolve emerging community issues.**



**Supporting youth in Kabaale to form self-help groups**

There is a rampant sell of land in the areas surrounding the proposed Kabaale industrial park. The locals are being misled by land speculators that the area is going to develop and therefore, they need businesses to target the workers who will be coming to their area. This has led many people especially youth to sell off their land in exchange for boda-bodas and starting retail shops which are not sustainable.

Therefore, to help and fight this vice and the commonly known "Dutch disease" amongst our people especially the youth, ORRA has been organizing meetings with different youth in Kabaale and Buseruka sub county to equip them with life skills, entrepreneurship skills and improved farming skills to improve on their income and thus prevent them from the Dutch disease and sell of their land to speculators.



therefore, requires trainings to enhance the ability to deliver effectively. Since we work with vulnerable communities, we need all the necessary skills and knowledge to be able to equip the communities with the most relevant information to allow them engage effectively in case of challenge that they might be going through. The following are some of the trainings that our members participated in.

### **The CSO negotiation training; Esella country club Hotel Kampala, Uganda.**

This training took place on February 21-22, 2019 and it was intended to empower and strengthen civil society organizations' (CSOs) negotiations and partnership building skills to influence actors such as government and businesses to secure the International Public Goods (IPGs) of food security, water provisioning, climate change and biodiversity. The training was organized by Africa Institute for Energy governance (AFIEGO) and IUCN NL under the shared resources joint solution (SRJS) programme.

The CSO positioning workshop; Esella country club Hotel

### **The CSO positioning training follows the negotiation training of the civil society organizations (CSOs).**

The training took place on 26 and 27th September, 2019 and it was also organized by AFIEGO and IUCN NL and facilitated by an expert from the dispute resolution of Kenya. The purpose of the training was to develop competencies for collective action and a deeper understanding of how participants and their organizations can address the challenges of working together in coalitions so as to strengthen their organizational goals and engagement with stakeholders in the context of the oil and gas industry in Uganda. Therefore, the training was aimed at equipping participants with different skills on how to harmonize their positions during their work in a bid to influence government and other actors to secure the IPGs in these areas where oil and gas exploration and exploitation activities are taking place.

### **Training on ESIA and SEA at Kontiki hotel in Hoima; April 17-18, 2019**

Between April 17-18 AFIEGO organized a training for key stakeholders, district leaders



**On the right in a dark striped blue T-shirt sharing his experience is Christopher during the training.**

and technocrats to be trained on how to analyze the environmental and social impact assessment reports, strategic environmental assessments and environmental impact assessment in order to be able to engage with NEMA and oil developers to influence the decisions during the ESIA process review to protect the environment and community livelihoods. It should be noted that almost all the major oil projects are located within or near fragile ecosystems which thus require stakeholders to have sufficient skills and knowledge to study and understand the ESIA for effective engagement with the actors.

### **Outcome harvesting training workshop.**



**Training on ESIA and SEA at Kontiki hotel in Hoima; April 17-18, 2019**

### **Training on natural resources governance framework (NRGF).**

This two-day training took place between 13 and 14th September, 2019 at Royal Suit Hotel in Bugolobi. The training was organized by IUCN UCO and facilitated by IUCN-Global program on Governance and Rights (GPGR) using the Natural Resources Governance Framework (NRGF).

The NRGF is a framework that has been developed by IUCN to guide the systematic, coherent and consistent approach to interrogate and strengthen governance and rights in particular contexts and programs. The purpose of the training was to equip alliance partners with coherent, systematic and coordinated skills and understanding of all the elements of inclusive and rights-based natural resources governance that are required to achieve effective and equitable natural resources management that is sustainable.

Secondly, the training was to undertake a participatory analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of achieving inclusive and equitable governance in the current SRJS implementation approach and to reach a consensus on a roadmap of how to strengthen and systematize the governance interventions in the landscapes, which could then feed into a future SRJS or similar interventions in the country.

Therefore, the overall main objective of the training was to develop ways in which the alliance partners could support the strengthening of the voices and decision-making power of local communities, especially women, youth and other marginalized groups in the governance context of the Murchison falls landscape.

The training took place on 3-4 September, 2019 at Royal Suit hotel Bugolobi. The training brought together SRJS core implementing partners together with their partners from Queen Elizabeth and Murchison landscape. The training was organized by IUCN UCO intended to equip participants with skills and knowledge on how to document project outcome by clearly identifying the significant change in the social actor that has been influenced by the program.

Therefore, the training was very key for ORRA since we work with communities it is important to understand our contribution and gauge whether our intervention is causing the desirable change that we ought to achieve and how best we can do work where results are hardly seen.

## Environmental conservation campaigns



Photo taken during the outcome harvest training at Royal suit hotel in Bugolobi.

## Access to justice

ORRA has continued to represent and coordinate the refinery project affected persons' case at the high court in Kampala. In 2014 the refinery project affected people went to court over delayed compensation and use outdated rates among other injustices caused during the land acquisition process in 2012.

Article 50 of Uganda's constitution clearly states that "any person who claims that a fundamental or other rights or freedom guaranteed under this constitution has been infringed or threatened, is entitled to apply to a competent court for redress which may include compensation" and the constitution also gives an opportunity for any person or organization to bring an action against the violation of another person's or group's human rights.

We are committed to pursue this case until it is heard and completed. The case was adjourned to February 21, March 4 and 11, 2020 for the completion of cross examination of the plaintiffs' and defendants' witnesses.

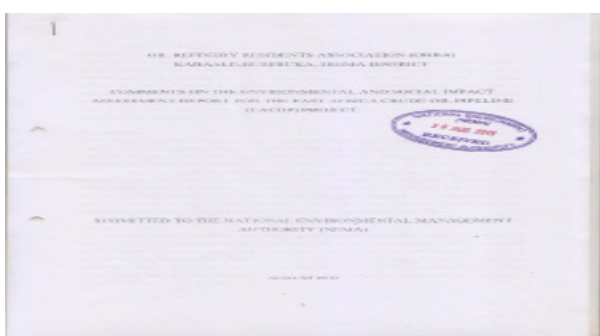


**In the photo are some of the members of ORRA, communities together with their partner and their lawyer during one of the court sessions at high court in Kampala. And on the right is Mr. Innocent Tumwebaze swearing an oath before submitting his witness.**

As you are all aware that Uganda's oil and gas activities are taking place in eco sensitive biodiversity, as a host community we have a lot of roles to play in promoting environmental conservation amidst oil and gas development. Therefore, ORRA has been engaging with government, oil companies and local communities to contribute to the efforts of conserving environment and protecting community livelihoods. The following activities were done regarding environmental conservation campaigns.

### **Submitting comments to NEMA for Kingfisher and EACOP ESIA.**

Following different training and workshop organized by our partners on ESIA, SEA and EIA, we analyzed the reports and submitted comments to NEMA showing the gaps in the ESIA report that need to be addressed before the approve it and award certificate of operation the developers. The comments were a result of different meetings and consultations organized by ORRA with communities from project affected areas of Hoima and Kikuube district.



**On the left is a copy of ORRA's written submitted comments on the EACOP ESIA that was submitted to NEMA and on the right in Red t-shirt is Julius Ocokdhogu and Other ORRA team analyzing the non-technical summary for the Kingfisher ESIA report.**

## Community sensitization on Kingfisher ESIA

ORRA mobilized and sensitized communities on their roles in the environmental and social impact assessment. We convened different sensitization meetings with the oil feeder pipeline affected communities in Kabaale. We also organized and participated in a radio talk shows to enable us reach a wide range of communities in the districts of Hoima and Kikuube. During the sensitization engagements, communities were encouraged to actively participate in the ESIA public hearing to submit their comments on the gaps in the report.

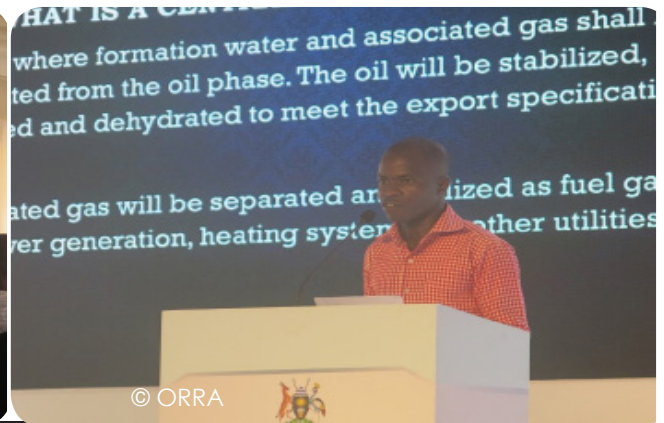
### Participating in the EACOP ESIA public hearing.



On the left is one of ORRA's community engagement meetings in Kyakaboga, and on the right in a red shirt is Christopher Opio in of the radio talk shows at spice FM in Hoima.

### Participating in the Kingfisher ESIA public hearing in Kikuube and Hoima district.

On 19th and 21st June, 2019 ORRA participated in the Kingfisher public hearing that was held in Kikuube at Rwemisanga primary school in Kyangwali sub county and Hoima at Kabaale public school in Buseruka sub county respectively. The objective of participating in the public hearing was to influence the ESIA review processes for environmental conservation and protection of community livelihoods.



In the picture is Mr. Innocent Tumwebaze and Christopher Opio submitting their comments during the Kingfisher ESIA public hearings in Hoima and Kikuube District respectively.

## Participating in the EACOP ESIA public hearing.

On 21, 23 and 25th October, 2019 ORRA mobilized communities and also participated in the EACOP ESIA public hearings held in the district of Kakumiro, Mubende and Rakai. The EACOP is one of the longest oil pipelines in the world covering a distance of about 1,445km from Hoima in Uganda to Tanga port in Tanzania. The project work is being undertaken by the JVPs that is TOTAL E&P which is the lead developer, TULLOW Uganda and CNOOC Uganda limited. The Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) will also be the shareholders in the pipeline. The project will be passing rivers, swamps, people's gardens and businesses among other things and therefore, the report must have clear mitigation plans and measures to protect environment and community livelihoods.



**Speaking is Christopher Opio the ORRA team leader during the EACOP ESIA public hearing in Kakumiro district.**

## Mobilizing and sensitizing communities on tree planting

Between April and August, 2019 ORRA conducted several sensitization meetings particularly in Kabaale and Buseruka. These sensitizations were aimed at mobilizing and empowering people to plant trees especially of indigenous type to reduce the negative impact of climate change and also mitigate against the likely negative impact of oil and gas with its associated infrastructure like the proposed oil refinery in Kabaale.

In 2020, ORRA will continue to mobilize and support communities surrounding the proposed Kabaale industrial park to plant more trees especially the ones with broader leaves which can help in absorption of toxic fumes from the proposed industries. We are also going to set demonstration gardens and necessary beds for indigenous trees in Kabaale and Buseruka which will also act as a learning avenue for communities.

## Media

In an effort to reach a wide range of project affected communities, local government leaders, ministries, oil companies and policy makers, ORRA uses different communication channels such radios, newspapers to reach out to these stakeholders.

## Newspaper articles



**These are some of our media campaigns on the national media.**

## Broadcast media

ORRA also organized and participated in five radio talk shows that were meant to mobilize and empower communities to participate in the environmental and social impact assessment for the Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects. The purpose of these engagements was meant to mobilize and sensitize communities to submit and make comments on the ESIA reports to influence NEMA's decision during the review process to ensure environmental conservation and protection of community livelihoods.



**Mobilizing communities to participate in the EACOP ESIA and sensitizing communities about likely negative impacts oil developments on community livelihoods and fragile ecosystems**

## Outcomes/Achievements

### **Communities actively participate in the environmental and social impact assessment public hearings for the Kingfisher and EACOP oil projects, June and October 2019.**

As part of our continued effort to promote environmental conservation and protection of community livelihoods amidst oil and gas exploitation, we mobilized and empowered groups of women and youth who participated in the Kingfisher ESIA public hearing on 19th and 21st June 2019 in Kikuube and Hoima respectively. The group of refinery project affected communities submitted their comments and made oral presentation at Kabaale public primary school play ground on 21st June 2019 during the second Kingfisher ESIA public hearing.

### **Women in Kyakaboga form a self-help group, July 2019**

Following our repeated engagements with refinery project women in Kyakaboga resettlement village aimed at empowering the women to start self-help groups in order to improve on their income and restore their livelihoods, the women formed a group "Tuhende mbele Kyakaboga Women Group" where members save small money which money is given as a loan to fellow group members at a low interest rate to run their small home economic businesses.

### **Youth in Kabaale and Buseruka form youth groups, April 2019.**

Following our successful mobilization of youth in Kabaale and Buseruka, over 1000 youth were trained to start small and medium enterprises. For example, "Kabaale Oil Refinery Area Youth Development Association and Kyakaboga Resettlement Youth Development" was formed as a platform to bring together the youth to discuss development and environment issues in their areas. These initiatives are inline with our goal of promoting environmental conservation and protecting community livelihoods in the face of oil and gas exploitation activities in the Albertine region.

### **Communities in Kyakaboga take up planting of indigenous trees, August 2019**

In conjunction with HOCADEO a church founded organization in Hoima, we set up a necessary bed for indigenous trees in Kyakaboga and distributed 1000 tree seedlings to Kyakaboga residents. This was done as a pilot project and in 2020 we hope to expand to all the areas of Kabaale and Buseruka to ensure that our environment is protected and we contribute to the efforts of reducing negative climate change impact.

### **Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development responds to the demand of project affected persons in Kyakaboga resettlement**

Due to our increased demand for the fulfilment of the commitment in the refinery RAP of 2012, government installed power in the houses for the resettled communities in Kyakaboga (November 2019), four boreholes were also constructed adding on the one borehole that was provided by Samadhura Company limited that constructed the resettlement houses. In addition, on November 22, 2019 the Ministry of Energy also convened a meeting in Kyakaboga resettlement where project affected persons were made to sign transfer forms for their land titles from Uganda land board to the names of the individual PAPs.



Speaking with the hands up is the chaiperson LC3 Buseruka sub county during the launch of one of the boreholes constructed in Kyakaboga resettlement.

### **Security beefed up in Kabaale area.**

Following our different engagements with local council leaders in Kabaale and security team, security was beefed up in all these areas surrounding the proposed Kabaale industrial park to respond to the community outcry. The number of security personnel at Nyahaira and Kyapaloni were increased and patrol have also increased in the area.

### **Brief highlights of challenges**

**Financial constraints.** Currently, we do not have a direct funding and we get sub grants from other NGOs with similar interest in our work. However, the challenge with the sub grants is that they are unreliable. In addition, we do not have paid staff and all of us in ORRA are volunteers. It is our passion that motivates to work harder. Therefore, we were unable to reach a wide range of communities due to limited funds and human resource. Our hope is that this year we shall be able to secure funds to enable us achieve greater milestones that

### **we ought to achieve.**

**Influx of people.** There has been an increasing number of people in our area in search for opportunities in the oil sector. This is putting our land and protected areas at risk since when these people fail to get the employment, they resort to burning charcoal for survival. In addition, the cases of theft have also increased in these areas surrounding Kabaale industrial park where farmers have been complaining for the loss of their property like crops to thieves.

**Shrinking civic space for NGOs and human right activists.** Civil society organizations and human right activists working in the region are facing a lot of threats and intimidation

from security. NGOs working on these issues like land rights of project affected persons, environmental issues are being named as saboteurs and enemies of government projects.

**Rampant sell of land.** Communities surrounding the proposed Kabaale industrial park are selling out their land to land speculators. This pose a very big social problem in the near few as the number of squatters are increasing these areas. It is very unfortunate that those that are selling their land do not replace them back but instead buy boda-bodas. Therefore, this calls for a serious campaign to encourage the communities to defend their land and instead add values to it by doing commercial agriculture, process customary certificates among other things.

### **Large land acquisition to pave way for oil projects**

There are many land acquisitions for oil development projects taking place in this region. For instance, there is acquisition of land for oil roads, oil pipelines and others. It should be noted that these large-scale land acquisition has some adverse effects on the project affected communities and the ecosystems in these areas and as such there is need for serious engagement of the government, project affected people and the oil companies.

### **Our Focus for 2020**

Fundraising and partnership. For a successful accomplishment of our obligation, we need resources in terms of funds. Therefore, one of our focus in 2020 will be fundraising and lobbying for possible partnership. We want to reach both CSOs and government agencies to seek for partnership to implement our activities and achieve the projected milestones.

**Continue to mobilize and educate communities to defend their land from speculators.** A lot of work is still needed around community land rights. Therefore, this year we shall continue to engage and empower communities to defend their land and also add value to their

### **land instead of selling it to the speculators.**

In addition, we shall also continue to mobilize and sensitize oil project affected communities to demand for fair, adequate and prompt compensation to suffering like for the case of the refinery project affected persons.

**Mobilizing and empowering women and youth.** We also want to continue to mobilizing more women and youth to start self-help groups such as SACCO to improve on their savings and standards of living.

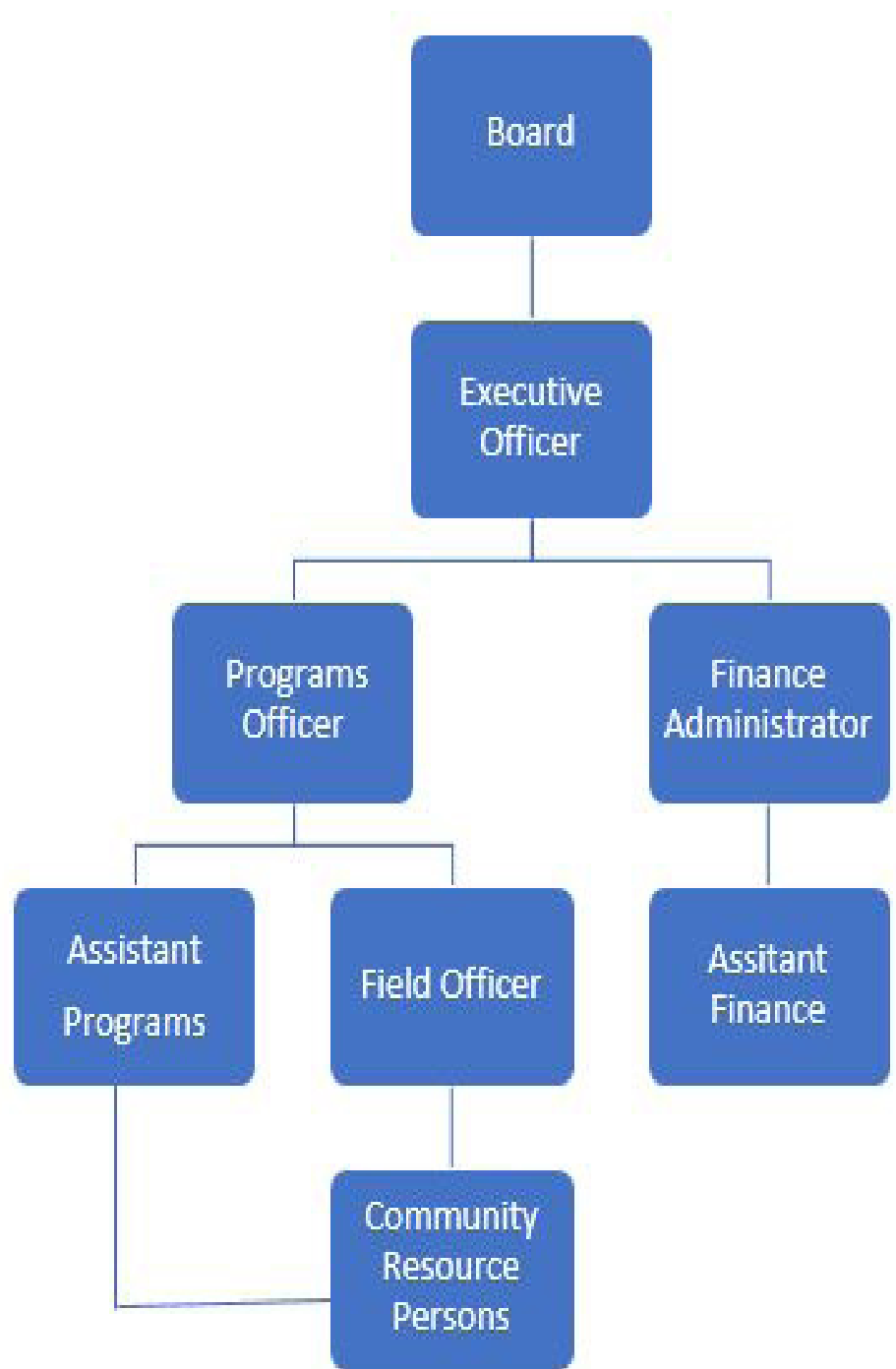
**Engaging HLG and MEMD.** This year we shall also continue to engage HLG and MEMD over the unfulfilled commitments in the refinery RAP for the PAPs in Kyakaboga resettlement. This is aimed at ensuring that all the promises made in the RAP is fulfilled.

**Exchange learning visits.** We are also going to focus much attention on exchange learning visits to share our experiences with other project affected persons in other areas where oil pipelines are passing.

**Environmental conservation campaigns.** We are going to continue with our environmental conservation campaigns but this time put much emphasis on expanding our coverage to reach many communities. Under this campaign, we want to ensure that wherever we go, environmental monitors and clubs are formed to champion the initiative in their areas.

# Appendices

## Organization structure



## Staff Profile

**Christopher Opio.** He is the current team leader and secretary to the executive committee. Chris holds a bachelor degree in Social work and Social Administration from Kyambogo University. Chris has also attained several trainings on, M&E, gender, SEAs among others. Collin Gutu. She is the project Officer of ORRA. She holds a bachelor degree in environmental science from Busitema University. She also holds a certificate in natural resource governance from the same University.

**Brighton Aryampa.** He is our current legal officer. Brighton is a student of law from Uganda Christian University Mukono. He also has a certificate in environmental law from the same University.

**Innocent Tumwebaze.** He is our field coordinator. He holds a diploma in public administration and management from Multitec Business School. He also has other training on conflict resolution, human rights, digital security among others.

**Godfrey Byaruhanga.** He is ORRA public relation officer. He holds a diploma in journalism from Liberty Institute Hoima.

## Volunteers (community focal persons)

**Ocokdhogu Julius.** He is a catechist and he is based in Kyakaboga in Nyakabingo parish Buseruka sub county.

**Mileus Nyamahunge.** She is our resource person based in Kitegwa village Kabaale sub county.

**Wandera John Bosco.** He is our resource person from Nkwaki next to Bugoma central forest reserve.

**Monica Nyangoma.** She is our monitor from Kabaale.

**Jennipher Makune.** Resource person from Nyakasenene.