

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 <u>announced</u> 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. <u>Seven</u> people, including two children, were reported to have died from the floods.

In addition, a <u>baby</u> in Nameere-Kampala and a <u>boda-boda</u> (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



whose full value chain carbon <u>emissions</u> 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 livelihoods in the agricultural, business and tourism among sectors.

It is not too late. The EACOP Company, whose pipeline could be used to transport oil from the DRC and South Sudan, can reconsider the project.

The financiers listed by the EACOP Company as participating in the first tranche of financing for the project have also previously only committed to provide very little of the funds needed for the pipeline project. The project proponents, including TotalEnergies, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) as well as the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments, need to acquire more financing for the 1,443km pipeline that will cross Uganda and Tanzania.

Financiers who are yet to commit and are considering participating in the project should desist from doing so. Instead of funding East Africans' destruction, they should finance their prosperity through investing in green industries.

Should financial institutions continue to prioritise profits over the lives and wellbeing of East Africans, legal and other actions could be considered against them.

SIGNED

- Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO), Uganda
- Environment Governance Institute Uganda (EGI), Uganda
- Center for Environment Research and Agricultural Innovations (CERAI), Uganda
- Women on Environment Mission (WEM), Uganda
- Initiative for Green Planet (IGP), Uganda
- Youth for Green Communities (YGC), Uganda
- Center for Conservation and Ecoenergy Initiative (CCEI), Uganda
- Strategic Response on Environment Conservation (STREC), Uganda
- Liberty Pro Bono initiative (LPI), Uganda
- Activists for Climate Justice Initiative (A4C), Uganda



- 11. Africa Initiative on Food Security and Environment (AIFE), Uganda
- 12. East African Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities (EACOP HC), Uganda
- Youth Concern on Environment and Development, Uganda
- Buliisa Patience Alliance Group (BUPAG), Uganda
- Community Voice and Planning Organization, Uganda
- Buliisa Natural Climate Conservation Advocacy, Uganda
- Association of Greater Masaka EACOP PAPs Petitioners, Uganda
- Women for Green Economy Movement (WOGEM), Uganda
- 19. Environmental Conservation Alliance Group, Uganda
- 20. Organization for Community Engagement, Tanzania
- Earth Care Foundation, Tanzania
- 22. Kigoma Development Organization, Tanzania
- Green Conservers, Tanzania
- Climate Justice Coalition, Tanzania
- Alerte Congolaise pour l'environnement et les droits de l'homme (ACEDH), DR Congo
- Fédération des Comités des Pêcheurs du Lac Albert (FECOPELA), DR Congo
- 27. Cadre de Concertation sur les Ressources Naturelles (CdC/RN), DR Congo
- Forum des Engagés pour le Développement Durable (FORED), DR Congo
- Coalition des Organisations de la Société Civile pour le Suivi des Réformes et de l'Action Public (CORAP), DR Congo
- 30. Initiative Bonne Gouvernance des Ressources Naturelles au Kivu (IBGRN/K), DR Congo
- Femmes cerveau vert pour un avenir assumé FCVA, DR Congo
- Fondation VISEKE (FOVISK), DR Congo
- Association des Filles Mères (AFM), DR Congo
- Association d'Entraide pour le Développement Intégral de le Femme (AEDIF), DR Congo
- Association pour le Relèvement Communautaire (ARC), DR Congo
- 36. Centre for Environmental Research and Agriculture Innovations (CERAI-Uganda)
- Association des Maman pour la Lutte contre les Traumatismes (AMALUT/Ituri), DR Congo
- 38. Kick Polluters Out Network, Africa-wide
- Magamba Network, Zimbabwe
- 40. Laudato Sí Movement, Uganda
- Bercail des Enfants et des Mères, Dr Congo
- 42. Mouvement Laudato Sí, DR Congo
- 43. Programe Greenfaith, DR Congo