



REF: EACOP-2025-09-09-UNHR-01

Office of the High Commissioner
United Nations Human Rights
1211 Geneva 10,
Switzerland.

9th September 2025

Dear Madam,

We confirm reception of your letter dated July 3rd, 2025, and are pleased to provide you with the information below about the EACOP Project.

The purpose of EACOP (East African Crude Oil Pipeline) is to transport the oil produced by Tilenga and Kingfisher projects from Kabaale, Hoima district, in Uganda, to the port of Tanga on the Indian Ocean coast in Tanzania by constructing a fully buried pipeline. More details are available at <https://eacop.com/overview/>.

This pipeline will be constructed and operated by EACOP Ltd, a company whose shareholders are TotalEnergies, UNOC (Uganda National Oil Company), TPDC (Tanzania Petroleum Development Company) and CNOOC. In addition to abiding by the Laws of Uganda and Tanzania, the projects comply with international best practices including the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards, the Equator Principles IV, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP) and the UN Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR).

Referring to your letter, please find below our specific responses:

1. Human Rights

Regarding your concern to *"respect the human rights of all people involved or affected and help guarantee the safety of climate justice activists in Uganda and Tanzania"*.

EACOP Ltd is committed to respecting the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, among other international standards on human rights including Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHRs). EACOP Ltd has both adopted and published its Code of conduct alongside with its Human Rights policy which describe its commitments to the respect of the rights of the Human Rights Defenders (HRDs): *"In particular we recognize the important role of Human Rights Defenders (as defined in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders of 1998) in the promotion and protection of Human Rights. We do not tolerate any threats, intimidation, harassment or violence against those exercising their Human Rights to freedom of expression to protest peacefully against our business or activities. We take seriously any allegations of reprisals"*.

Please refer to the link (<https://eacop.com/human-rights-policy/>)

The Project communicates with relevant government officials on Human Rights and advocates for professional conduct of police and army units. In particular, the Project has organized sensitization of law enforcement officers and security officers on VPSHR and internationally recognized human rights. To mitigate the risks linked to the use of force during protests by community members or students, VPSHR training of field officers on this topic have been held. Those trainings cover themes related to the protection of human rights, particularly those of HRDs.



Furthermore, whenever the Project is alerted of allegations of threats, intimidation, harassment, or violence against HRDs in relation to their activities, it follows up on the cases with the relevant authorities to recall the importance of respecting the human rights of the arrested protestors.

For more information, please see <https://eacop.com/human-rights>

2. Land acquisition process

The land acquisition is carried out on behalf of the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments in close collaboration with specialized partners and local stakeholders and done in accordance with national laws and aligned with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and IFC Performance Standards.

Independent experts have also assessed performance and implementation against these standards, and a summary of their findings is published on EACOP website. <https://eacop.com/report/environment-and-social-due-diligence-esdd-non-technical-summary-nts/>

Resettlement action plans were developed in collaboration with relevant authorities and local stakeholders. These plans outline the procedures and measures to be followed to mitigate potential negative effects, compensate for losses, and provide development benefits to individuals and communities affected by the projects. Again, they are made public. <https://eacop.com/land-acquisition>.

The Project required the acquisition of about 5,200 hectares of land, impacting 13,686 households. Of these, 539 households (4% of the total) had their primary dwelling on the affected land and were thus offered a choice of replacement housing or cash compensation. The other 96% were 'economically impacted' meaning that the project footprint impacted their land, crops, trees and structures, and were thus entitled to compensation at full replacement cost.

As of end of June 2025, 99% of compensation agreements have been signed, 99% of households have been compensated and 97% of the grievances received were closed. All the new residences have been built. Activities are now focused on post-acquisition support as required under IFC PS5, namely: distribution of food to eligible households known as 'transitional support' and typically provided for a period of 6-12 months, delivery of 'Livelihoods Restoration Programs' to eligible households.

3. Environmental and Social Impact Assessments

Detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) were conducted for Uganda ([ESIA Report – Uganda – EACOP – East African Oil Pipeline](#)) and Tanzania ([ESIA Report – Tanzania – EACOP – East African Oil Pipeline](#)) in compliance with national requirements and international standards. Potential environmental and social impacts were assessed and mitigation measures identified. The mitigation measures were subsequently incorporated in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) providing the required guidance for the construction contractors. Contractor oversight, self-audits and regulatory audits are conducted on a regular basis to ensure the mitigations are effective and comprehensive and the ESMP is updated accordingly optimizing environmental and social management.



4. Biodiversity

EACOP social and environmental management is compliant with the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards (PS) including PS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural resources.

As a result, EACOP conducted a Critical Habitat Assessment (CHA) that started by conducting additional detailed biodiversity studies to augment the baseline studies conducted during the ESIA phase. In addition, habitat mapping for a large area, extending beyond the construction footprint was completed. Based on this data, residual impacts on Natural and Critical Habitat were identified and associated offsets developed in close collaboration with the independent CHA consultant Committed-Environment-biodiversity-090525-DS WORLD-CLASS-BIODIVERSITY-PROGRAMME-Resized.pdf.

More specifically in reference to your concerns, a large number of studies have been carried out to examine the impacts of the Project and made public or shared with conservation organizations. In addition to the publication of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for the project in Uganda and Tanzania some examples are:

- Project funded studies will be presented at the 2025 Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) symposium. The studies include a 2-year study of the endangered Indian Ocean humpback dolphin and telemetry for Tanga waders allowing for an understanding of their local movements and trajectory of the West Asian East African Flyway.
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is organizing a workshop for journalists aimed at deepening their understanding of the Blue Economy and the project's seagrass restoration project that is implemented by the University of Dar es Salaam will be visited.
- The project is collaborating with the IUCN Primate Specialist Group Avoid Reduce Restore Conserve (ARRC) Task Force on the development of a landscape chimpanzee action plan for the Northern Albertine Rift that aligns with Uganda Government's National Chimpanzee Conservation Plan.

EACOP also has signed a term of reference with the Independent Biodiversity and Livelihood Advisory Committee (IBLAC). This committee consists of national and international biodiversity and livelihood experts that meet on a regular basis with EACOP and visit the project on an annual basis. Based on their reviews of documentation and findings from their in-country visit, an annual report is compiled that includes recommendations to be implemented by the project.

Regarding the pipeline route, it is important to note that the EACOP project pipeline route was finalised based on a rigorous review of environmental, biodiversity and social constraints. As a result, the final pipeline corridor minimised its impact on protected areas in Uganda and Tanzania as far as possible.

The Project's route does not cross any Ramsar sites nor International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categorized sites. The pipeline's right of way traverses mainly the edges of protected areas that have been encroached upon and farmed. Upon completion of route selection micro re-routes were identified to further minimize the impacts on Natural and Critical Habitat. The pipeline will not traverse either of these two lakes which are vital water sources for the region. Once trenched, installed and buried, topsoil will be placed back, vegetation restored and in sections of Natural Habitat restored to its natural state. People and animals will be free to cross the RoW unimpeded.



East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd

In summary EACOP publicly commits to respect National Laws, IFC Performance Standards, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and VPSHR standards in the conduct of its activities in Uganda and Tanzania.

We thank you for your attention.

Regards,



Guillaume DULOUT
MANAGING DIRECTOR