

## Oil for Development project summary

Under the extractives component, we are implementing the third phase of the Oil for Development Programme with financial support from Norad, through WWF Norway. Under the project named “**Limiting Negative Impacts of Oil and Gas Development on Nature, People and Climate in Uganda through Civil Society Engagement and Advocacy**” the phase of implementation runs from 2016-2018 with an overarching goal, “*As petroleum resources are exploited in Uganda, the affected ecosystems maintain their integrity, and products and services provided by these ecosystems, particularly to the vulnerable and the poor, maintain their value, while petroleum revenues support a transition to sustainable renewable energy.*” The design of the project follows the discovery of commercially viable oil and gas deposits in the Albertine graben and the need to strengthen Civil Society Organizations to engage government and oil companies to ensure protection of nature and citizen concerns in the development of the discovered resources.

The project is implemented in the Albertine graben with three CSO networks<sup>1</sup> composed of more than 96 individual CSOs working on oil and environment, and in close collaboration with 13 District Local Governments and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development. Over the three years, we have sought to achieve the following three outcomes:

- 1) The government of Uganda has improved governance in the oil & gas sector;
- 2) Petroleum companies in Uganda have improved their environmental performance according to international best practices<sup>2</sup>
- 3) Government of Uganda commits to use petroleum revenues to support a transition to sustainable renewable energy future as part of climate change commitments<sup>3</sup>.

The Albertine graben hosts over 70% of Uganda’s protected estate, characterized by natural forests, national parks, fresh water bodies, game reserves, World Heritage Sites as well as biosphere reserves. Petroleum development has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity, tourism and human life in the absence of good governance, consideration of compliance with international best practices and well thought through investment paths for the revenues generated from petroleum resources. Based on this, WWF-UCO would appreciate greater partnerships in action, research, policy advocacy, civil society capacity strengthening, campaigns for company compliance with environmental standards, documentation and communication of the nexus between petroleum development, environmental management and enhancement of human lives.

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<sup>1</sup> Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas in Uganda (CSCO), Bunyoro Albertine Petroleum Network on Environmental Conservation (BAPENECO) and Northern Albertine Network on Environment and Petroleum (NANEP)

<sup>2</sup> Elements of ISO 14001 Standards 1 – 8, IFC Performance standards 1 and 6 and appropriate environmental laws and regulations of the country

<sup>3</sup> In 2015, the governments of Uganda published its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) and submitted it to the UNFCCC as a sign of commitment to undertake policies and measures to support a low carbon energy development pathway by 2030, including investments into renewable energy.