



PROJECT BRIEF

About MIRAC

Mid-western Region Anti-Corruption Coalition (MIRAC) is a coalition formed to address corruption in Uganda's mid-western region, with the aim of promoting transparency, accountability, and improved service delivery in public offices. Through advocacy, anti-corruption campaigns, and empowering communities with knowledge of their rights, MIRAC contributes to enhancing social justice and deepening democracy.

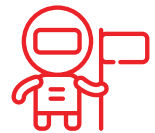
MIRAC's network spans 28 active member organizations across the districts of Hoima, Masindi, Kagadi, Kakumiro, Kibaale, Buliisa, Kiryandongo, and Kikuube.



Vision

To realize a corruption-free, equitably developed society.

01



Mission

To create platforms that amplify voices of the community and like-minded agencies to fight against corruption, ensure transparency and accountability among all service providers

02



Our Strategic areas and the projects implemented



Good and democratic governance:

Under the good and democratic governance program area, we have implemented the following projects;



GENDER EQUALITY AND RIGHTS PROJECT

Together with Forum for Women in Democracy, MIRAC implemented the Gender Equality and Rights (GEAR) Project funded by EU in Hoima and Kikuube Districts. The project achieved in civic education and engagement as it trained community civic educators who carried out civic education and reached over 1000 participants. In addition, we trained model men to carry out sensitization against domestic violence and gender-based violence.

We also reached 15 public service delivery points (schools and health centres) with monitoring activities and dialogues about the state of their services. Changes on these public services delivery points were realized such as improvement in supplies, staffing and attendance as well as infrastructures.

The project reached 12,000 people in Hoima and Kikuube districts, monitored 23 primary schools and 16 health centres.



CONTRACTS MONITORING SYSTEM PROJECT

MIRAC in partnership with PPDA is monitoring government projects through the Contract Monitoring System (CMS) funded by GIZ in Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Kaku-miro, Buliisa, Masindi, Hoima city and district. 23 active CMS monitors have been trained on how to monitor and report through the system.

MIRAC uses these reports for advocacy and engagements during dialogues. Unresolved issues are escalated to PPDA for further engagements. 96 reports have been submitted by monitors through the CMS and these have been worked on and others positive responses were received from the duty bearers.



ACHIEVEMENTS

We have monitored and reported on 126 projects being done by local governments of Hoima, Buliisa, Masindi, Kiryandongo, Kagadi, Kibaale, Kakumiro, Kikuube districts and Hoima City.

We have caused contractors to redo 3 projects that had not been done well or where shoddy works were realized for them to save their image, government resources and improve infrastructure.

We have held 08 district level dialogues on contracts and procurement in eight district local governments involving local leaders, contractors, opinion leaders and citizens. These have enhanced communication among parties and resolved contracting and procurement issues.



Figure 1: MIRAC ED (on the left), receiving tools of work for use in the PPDA/MIRAC Partnership from the PPDA Executive Director at the PPDA Offices.



Figure 2: A duty bearer from Hoima district local government responding to procurement and contracts issues reported by Monitor through the CMS.



Oil and gas resources governance:

Under this program theme, we have implemented the following projects;



EXTRACTIVES FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Extractives for community development project is implemented in Hoima and Kikuube districts. This project focuses on tackling Land compensation and Local content issues in extractives. MIRAC envisages to;

- 1.** Enhance collaboration between local, central governments and communities
- 2.** Strengthen negotiation capacity of citizens
- 3.** And enhance the citizens capacity to monitor, report and use the data for advocacy in the extractives industry.

MIRAC believes that citizens' action in fighting corruption to increase duty bearers' responsiveness and commitment is an effective means of increasing transparency, accountability and participation in fighting corruption. MIRAC has used citizen empowerment in the previous programs.

Effective monitoring and civil society actions require access to government and company-led information and using it for the best interest of accountability. In order to ensure social accountability and transparency in Uganda's nascent petroleum sector, rights and demands of local communities must be respected, local governments and leaders should be reminded and strengthened to perform their respective constitutional mandate and ordinary citizens must be empowered to meaningfully engage through monitoring, dialogue and interface meetings which will act as checks and balances for curbing corruption in the extractives sector.

The project targets 10,000 direct beneficiaries, men (4,000), women (6,000), youths and persons with disabilities. The project is estimated to reach 50,000 people directly through talk shows, social media, website and television.

The project is implemented in Hoima district(Kabaale,Buseruka and Kigoroby sub-counties) and Kikuube district(Kiziranfumbi, Buhimba and Kyangwali sub-counties)



Project goal

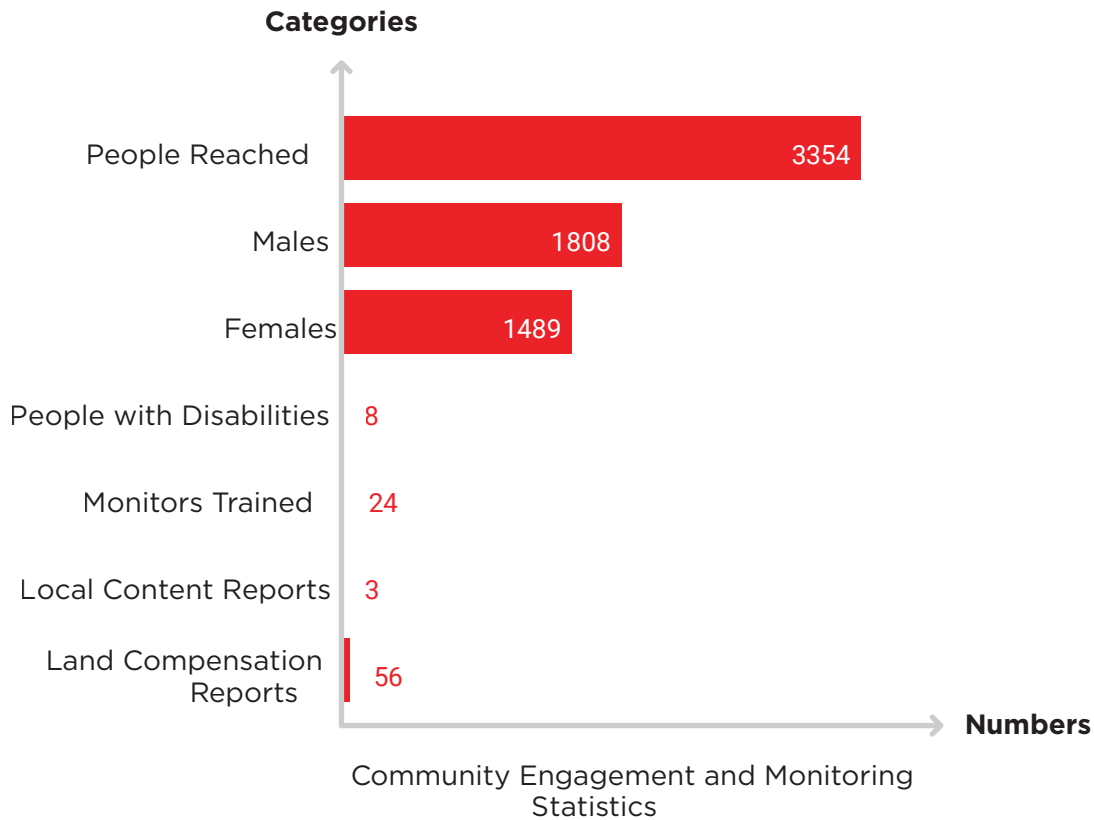
Citizens voices in extractives for community development strengthened

Objectives

To strengthen collaboration between local, central government and communities.

To enhance local communities' capacity to monitor land compensation and local content

ACHIEVEMENTS



* 3,354 people reached, including; 1,808 males and 1,489 females among these included 8 people with disabilities.

* 24 Community monitors identified and trained in land compensation and local content issues.

* 59 community monitoring reports received; 03 on local content and 56 on land compensation.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

MIRAC conducted 06 radio talk shows on land compensation and local content. These were from civil society, local government and oil companies. These helped People now know the steps in land acquisition by the government, how much they will be compensated for their property. People also know that joining the NSD requires a business to be formally registered under Ugandan laws. This is important for their credibility, enjoy priority during bidding processes and stand legal recognition.

MIRAC has conducted 18 community sensitization meetings through the use of forum theaters. These were about land/ property compensation and local content with oil and gas project affected communities. The affected communities now know that the compensation rates are approved by government chief valuer but not oil companies. At the moment PAPs are also aware that they should sign on documents they have read and understood to avoid land grabbers

MIRAC conducted training of community-based monitors who were selected from oil and gas affected communities to monitor and report issues of land compensation and local content. Monitors can now identify and report land compensation and local content issues using the online reporting tool and a smartphone. Monitors have reported 56 issues on land compensation and 3 issues on local content.

MIRAC conducted 4 information sessions on local content to local business people in Kikuube and Hoima districts. Business people now know that the national local content act benefits and protects businesses that are formally registered and owned by citizens of Uganda. They also know the process of registration with URSB and join the NSD.

12 community dialogue sessions have been conducted at sub county level. These created a platform for Project affected persons to air out their issues and have government leaders respond to them. Government leaders committed to seek more information and clarifications on some issues and revert with proper feedback to the PAPs. Additionally project affected persons can now reach out to government leaders on some other issues that affect them in their communities.



Figure 3: MIRAC staff in a group photo with the Senior Stakeholder Management Officer of PAU, Mr. Didas Muhumuza (Second right) after an engagement with PAU at MIRAC Offices.



BENEFICIARY PROFILE

Bijampora Business Venture limited.

The group is located in Kikuube district, Kiziranfumbi subcounty with Nyamaizi Teddy the chairperson telephone number 0782084981 participated in the information session on local content and business registration processes under the extractives for community development project implemented by MIRAC funded by USAID/CSSA.

The training equipped the group members with knowledge about the requirements of business registration which is done by URSB and PAU (NSD & NOGTR). And also, business people about the National Local Content Act,2022 where the local business/companies are offered priority to offer services/goods which have got the qualifications. Where a business name, National Identity Cards for directors, Contact address, Email Address and a fee of 24,000Ugx only.

With the knowledge gained, the group registered with URSB at Kasigo the one stop center near Hoima district headquarters and Petroleum Authority of Uganda on the National Supplier Database which has enabled the business to get one contract so far supplying Agro inputs.



Figure 4: Group Chairperson, Nyamaizi Teddy narrating how the group registered with URSB and NSD which had enabled them to secure one contract to supply agro-inputs



Kabaale women's group

Asha Fambe the chairperson of Kabaale women's group was involved in an information session that took place at Hoima resort hotel whereby she learnt about the steps being followed to register a business and how best can one access opportunities in the oil and gas industry. As a group, they were facing a challenge in registering their business and also could see it not so important to register it. However, with the knowledge gained from the session organized by MIRAC, they have been able to start on the registration process and have so far registered the business at both sub county and district level. They are at a stage of registering with URSB and later the National Suppliers' Database.



Figure 5: Asha Fambe explaining the procedures that her business group followed to register their business.



Figure 6: Project affected persons and government leaders in a dialogue on land compensation and local content issues in Kyangwali sub-county.



Figure 7: One of the affected persons reacting to the drama during community sensitization session in Kiziranfumbi sub-county, Kikuube District.





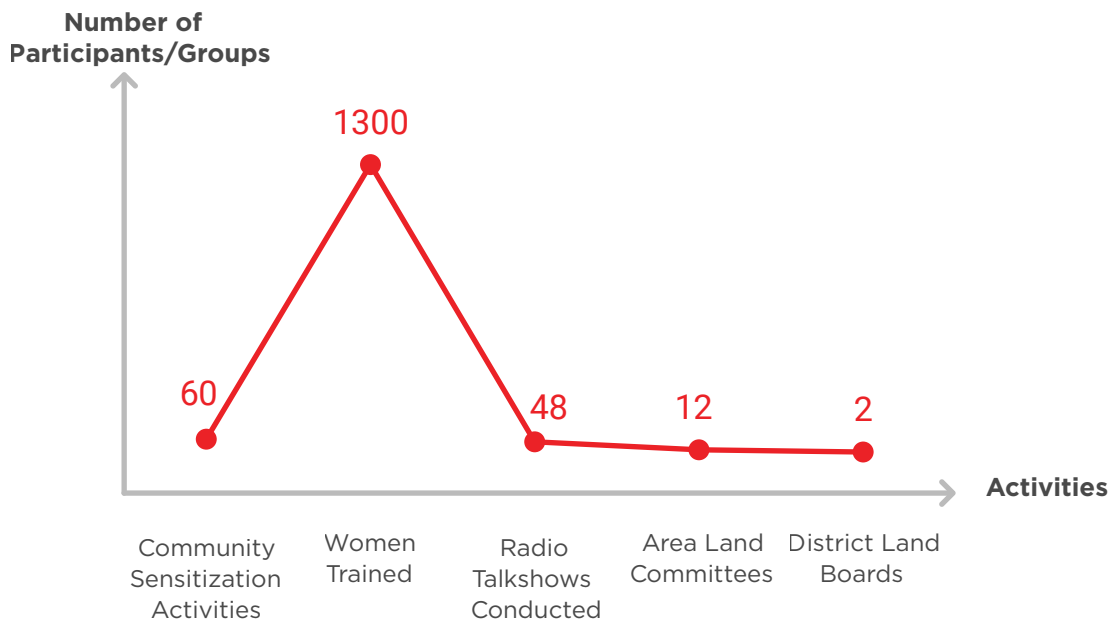
LAND CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION PROJECT

The land conflict prevention and resolution project aims at supporting women to be at the centre of land conflicts resolution.

It has three parts;

1. Community led land conflict monitoring for advocacy and documentation of land conflicts.
2. Engagement with local and central government on policy implementation and change in relation to land conflicts
3. Capacity building of local government institutions in identifying and mitigating land conflicts
4. Creating awareness among citizens through use of drama and communications to change behaviour in favour of reduced conflicts arising out of land.
5. Working with women groups in understanding the rights of women and girls on land.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Conducted 60 community sensitization and awareness raising activities through the use of drama in 12 subcounties of Hoima City and Hoima District.

Trained 1300 women through 50 women groups. These were trained in laws that guarantee women rights to access, use and manage land for economic development.

Conducted 48 radio talkshows with 121 panelists hosted, offering knowledge on land rights, women access to land use and management, reduction of land conflicts and findings of land conflict monitoring.

Built capacity of 12 area land committees and 2 district land boards. These were given knowledge and skills in identifying land conflicts and mitigating them plus mediation. They were reminded of the law protecting women and children property rights. They were also taken through the succession act.

MIRAC creates a platform for civil society organizations to come together and joint advocacy. MIRAC is a coalition of 28 member organizations that are CSOs and CBOs, these have been brought together to do joint advocacy under different programs. In the same length, we have hosted the regional social accountability platform under which accountability CSOs come and plan together, share experiences and support each others advocacy initiatives. We have also hosted the regional Bunyoro Albertine Petroleum Network on Environmental Conservation and together implemented actions in joint advocacy for environmental conservation and climate action as a result of petroleum impacts in the Albertine Region. This was supported by World Wide Fund for Nature Uganda Country Office.



Figure 8: Citizens of Kapaapi s/c participating in a community sensitization meeting through the use of drama on land laws and policies with support from WPHF.



Figure 8: Local council leaders of Kigorobyia s/c during a capacity building session on land laws, policies and frameworks.

