

# COMMITTED TO RESPECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

# Committed to Respecting the Environment

EACOP is committed to world class environmental and social performance in compliance with national and international regulations and standards.

## Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

EACOP has Regulator approved Environment and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) for both the Ugandan and Tanzanian sections. Certificates of approval were issued on 21 November 2019 (Tanzania) and 30 November 2020 (Uganda).



After initial route selection and screening, the first step in the ESIA process was to undertake baseline surveys to understand the environmental and social context of the project. Potential impacts were then assessed in order to develop suitable mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to the extent possible. These mitigation measures, and any additional techniques to manage residual impacts, are then captured in an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

From initial route selection, EACOP worked with environmental and social experts on the ESIA in compliance with national regulatory requirements and international best practice including the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards (PS). The ESIA process progressed interactively with project planning, route selection and design. During the ESIA process, impacts that could be avoided during the design phase were identified iteratively through interaction with engineering. The identification of additional avoidance opportunities will continue through the construction phase.



The ESIA baseline surveys confirmed that the vast majority of the selected route traverses areas already under severe human pressure. The project's commitments to minimize and offset impacts on the environment and biodiversity translate into an opportunity to implement initiatives that benefit both biodiversity and communities.

Engagement with national, district and local stakeholders (including non-governmental organizations) was undertaken throughout the ESIA process and results were used to support impact assessment and to identify mitigation measures.

# EACOP Applies the Mitigation Hierarchy

**EACOP's aim is clear:** To minimize impact on environment and biodiversity throughout the entire life of our project. Several elements are central to EACOP's approach, which is based on national requirements and International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards.

Inline with the IFC Performance Standards, EACOP adopts the mitigation hierarchy to anticipate and avoid impacts to the extent possible. Where avoidance is not possible, impacts are minimized and restored and finally any residual impacts are offset.

**EACOP route selection:** The EACOP pipeline will be buried along its entire length. The route was selected during a multi-year process based on comprehensive feasibility studies aiming at avoiding environmentally and socially sensitive areas and areas of high population density. EACOP has defined the minimum requirements for environmental monitoring and reporting during the construction and operations phase in line with EACOP commitments, obligations and good international industrial practice. In addition, EACOP has a robust audit, assurance and oversight program to assure contractor and company environmental performance.

This includes internal and external audits, for example via the national environmental authorities and the Lenders Environmental and Social Consultant (LESC).

### **Environmental and Social Management**

EACOP has established a suite of documents that collectively form the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). It sets out how EACOP will achieve sustainable environmental and social management with the overall objective of minimising environmental and social impacts and maximising positive effects while continuously improving environmental and social performance across Uganda and Tanzania.

The ESMP outlines the key processes implemented by EACOP to manage defined environmental, social, health, safety and security (collectively H3SE) aspects and implement the commitments identified in the Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).

The ESMP describes how these processes are organised into the EACOP Integrated Management System (EIMS) and includes the roles and responsibilities of EACOP as an organisation and of contractors who will undertake the construction.

#### The elements include:

- An overarching EACOP Health, Safety, Security, Environment & Social Policy that is applicable to all project activities and all personnel working on the Project.
- Commitment registers that summarise the H3SE commitments included in the ESIAs that need to be incorporated into the EACOP Integrated Management System (EIMS).
- Detailed Environmental and Social Management Plans (DMPs), a suite of topic - and country-specific Environmental and Social management documents that define the Company's plans and strategies to implement the Project.
- A suite of topic and country-specific Contractor Control Plans (CCPs) that define contractor management controls and the Company's Environmental and Social expectations of the contractors (including requirements for each contractor to develop their own suite of Environmental and Social Implementation Plans, e.g., Contractor Implementation Plans and Procedures (CIPPs).



10km corridor 2km corridor 100 to 500m corridor 30m ROW 10m Operation PIPELINE 10m Operation

We continue to conduct additional studies to further refine and deepen our understanding of the diverse environmental and social elements along the pipeline route.

Engagement also continues as the project continues to monitor and capture new developments in the social landscape.