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Innovative Awareness Raising in the Oil Sector to improve governance of Kenya's emerging extractives sector

Photo



To increase county and community level influence on policy, systems and practice to reduce conflict and investment risk in oil and gas sector.

Logos (KEXPRO, DFID, ILEG)

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Context

The emerging extractive industry in Kenya has significant potential to lift people out of poverty and contribute to the country's sustainable development. At the same time, the sector has been associated with extensive social, economic and environmental impacts on local communities, workers and even nationally.

This has prompted a demand for greater stakeholder engagement to discuss, share information and concerns, plan together and implement strategies to promote sustainable investments in the sector while minimising adverse impacts on the people and environment.

In response to this demand, Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG) and its partners have created the Extractives Sector Forum (ESF), a uniquely tailored quarterly multi-stakeholder convening of companies, communities, national and county governments, civil society and academia that are actively involved in the extractives sector in Kenya. The forum provides a safe space for the different players to discuss critical legal and policy concerns and challenges for the sector.

The Project

Institute for law and environmental governance is implementing a project titled 'Innovative Awareness Raising in the Oil Sector to improve governance of Kenya's emerging extractives sector'.

This project seeks to devolve the ESF to the Turkana county level for all key stakeholders to discuss and engage on the critical issues as the full field design and development take shape.

With the oil discovery in Turkana moving into full field development, it is imperative that specific issues such as community land

rights and 'free, prior and informed consent' are considered at the community and county levels. As such, it is important that community voices and concerns are deliberately sought and heard so that they can not only be addressed but they also inform key strategic and policy decisions as well as the general policy discourse concerning the development phase of the oil cycle

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Objectives

The goal of the project is to increase county and community level influence on policy, systems and practice to reduce conflict and investment risk in oil and gas sector.

Specifically, the project seeks to:

- To promote meaningful public participation
- To fill the existing knowledge gaps in the extractives sector
- To coordinate county level and national level dialogues on extractives
- To strengthen the ESF brand, information management and dissemination.

Key Partners

Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG)

ILEG is a leading not-for-profit public interest policy research and advocacy organization based in Nairobi, Kenya. It seeks to enlarge policy choices for sustainable development in Kenya through policy and legal research, advocacy and training in the field of environmental governance. ILEG uses governance tools and principles to foster sustainable and equitable management of natural resources and subscribes to the view that laws and policies must be developed and implemented with the active participation of

those who will be most directly affected by them. Towards fulfilling its mission, ILEG has formed partnerships with governmental agencies, private sector, universities, research institutions, community-based organizations (CBOs) as well as national and international, non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These partnerships and affiliations help ILEG to effectively deliver on its mission

For more information, visit www.ilegkenya.org.

Oxford Policy Management (OPM)

OPM is a leading international leading consultancy which enables strategic decision-makers to design and implement sustainable solutions for reducing social and economic disadvantage in low- and middle-income countries.

It is committed to helping low- and middle-income countries achieve growth and reduce poverty and disadvantage through public policy reform.

For more information, visit www.opml.co.uk

Kenya Extractives Program (K-EXPRO)

The K-EXPRO aims to contribute to poverty reduction in Kenya through inclusive and sustainable economic development within the extractive industries. We seek to address the social, political and environmental challenges associated with the sector, and ensure that the benefits from extractive industries are used to directly and indirectly improve the lives of Kenyans.

For more information, visit www.opml.co.uk/projects/kenya-extractives-programme-k-expro