



Uganda Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

THE 6TH GREAT LAKES MINING AND ENERGY TRANSITION

MKUTANO (23RD – 24TH JULY 2026)



JULY 2026

1. Introduction

This report details UGEITI's participation and engagement through the Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Mr. Kanakulya Edwin Kavuma and the Technical Officer- Petroleum, Mr. Patrick Peace Epulu at the 6th Annual Great Lakes Mining and Energy Transition Mkutano, held from 23rd to 24th July 2026 at the Golf Course Hotel, Kampala. The event was organized by the Africa Centre for Energy and Mineral Policy (ACEMP) in partnership with Enabel, UGAASM, and UNDP. The conference attracted approximately 120 participants, including government officials, private sector representatives, mining communities, civil society, and development partners. Among these participants were Mr. John Bosco Bukya and Mr. Emmanuel Kibirige the MSG member and proxy, respectively, representing the artisanal and small-scale minors.

2. Objective of Participation

The primary objective of UGEITI's attendance was to make a presentation on "**Community participation, engagement and implications for EITI Reporting.**"

3. Event Overview and Theme

The Mkutano was held under the theme: *"Applying Business and Human Rights Practices to Improve Community Benefits from Mining Projects."* Discussions were modeled around Business and Human Rights (BHR) principles and the formalization of Artisanal and Small-

scale Mining (ASM). The event emphasized minimizing environmental footprints, improving the well-being of mining communities, maintaining transparent practices, and managing risks in the energy transition sector.

4. Presentation by the UGEITI Secretariat



The Stakeholder Engagement Manager at the UGEITI Secretariat delivering the presentation on Community participation, engagement, and implications for EITI Reporting.

As scheduled on the Day 1 program, the Stakeholder Engagement Manager at the UGEITI Secretariat delivered the presentation on *Community participation, engagement, and implications for EITI Reporting*. The presentation focused on:

- The critical link between meaningful community engagement in the EITI processes under the EITI standard.
- How EITI reporting can empower communities to hold both government and extractive companies accountable.
- The role of EITI reporting in ensuring that communities see tangible benefits from extractive projects in their communities and the rest of the country.

The presentation's insights contributed significantly to shaping the discussions during the subsequent panel session on "Inclusivity, Rights and Community Participation," which featured representatives from Blencowe Resources, local government, and community land associations.

5. Key Highlights and Takeaways from the Mkutano

Focus on Critical Minerals

The Great Lakes Region is becoming increasingly strategic for global energy transition minerals (copper, cobalt, 3Ts, rare earth elements, and graphite). Uganda's specific projects, such as the Orom Graphite Project in Kitgum, were highlighted as major developments requiring robust community engagement.

Community Development Agreements (CDAs)

A dedicated panel discussion explored the application, wins, and challenges of CDAs. It was noted that while Ugandan law provides for CDAs, awareness at the community level remains low, making it difficult for locals to negotiate fair terms.

ASM Formalization

Day 2 heavily focused on repositioning Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining. Formalizing ASMs into cooperatives was recognized as a catalyst for improving sector governance, enforcing safety standards, protecting workers' rights, and bringing miners into the formal economy where they can be better regulated and supported.

Business and Human Rights

With over 835 human rights allegations linked to energy transition minerals globally between 2010 and 2024, applying BHR principles is no longer optional. Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) and mitigating environmental damage are key areas requiring urgent action.



The Technical Officer, Petroleum, at the UGEITI Secretariat commended the UNDP representative on the formalisation of development minerals and encouraged the model to be extended to the broader mineral sector.

6. Conclusion

The 2026 Mkutano was a highly productive forum that successfully bridged the gap between human rights, community engagement, and extractive sector transparency. UGEIT's participation not only elevated the visibility of the UGEITI Secretariat but also ensured that the role of EITI reporting in protecting community benefits was firmly integrated into the conference's key resolutions.