

Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) in Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework (LARF) engagements

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) and the Joint Venture Partners (CNOOC-TOTAL-TULLOW) have been involved in the disclosure of the draft Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework (LARF).

Disclosure meetings started on 12th November 2016 and are expected to end on 27th November 2016.

LARF is supposed to provide a guide to land acquisition in the Albertine Graben for Oil and Gas activities. This encompass key stakeholders such as District Leadership, Civil Society Organizations, Cultural Leaders, Members of Parliament and Communities.

During the disclosure meetings, two presentations are made: One by the Directorate of Petroleum, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development updating stakeholders on the progress in the petroleum sector in Uganda and planned oil and gas-related infrastructure that would require land. It emphasized that land acquisition may result into displacement of people and as a result it was important to prepare adequately.

The JV Partners presented the draft LARF which encompasses the following among others; upstream oil and gas project components and scope of potential impacts during construction and operations; principles of resettlements and key steps of the resettlement process; legal frameworks; resettlement and administrative frameworks; land access (approach and agreements involved); resettlement and compensation strategy and livelihood restoration; anticipated impacts; roles and responsibility of resettlement planning, and; land acquisition challenges.