



YOUTH FOR GREEN COMMUNITIES

YGC June Newsletter 2025

Youth and Community Collaboration for Sustainable Social change



YGC staff , activists, oil-impacted communities and partners during the press conference

WELCOME TO YGC'S JUNE NEWSLETTER

We are excited to share our latest updates on our youth-led initiatives to influence better environment and natural resource governance that benefits all. The insights herein focus on sustainability and respect of human rights through our focus on environmental literacy, civic engagement, social media, other media outreach, community development training, youth capacity building, and empowerment labs for social sustainable change. In this month's newsletter, we bring you our pictorial section through which we share the activities that we have implemented.

On 5th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities (YGC) supported the legal representation of 9 climate activists who were arrested on 21st May 2025. The activists were peacefully marching to the headquarters of KCB Bank in an effort to physically deliver a petition urging the bank to withdraw its financial support for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). The said Activists were charged with the offence of Common Nuisance. The lawyers managed to secure for them cash bail and we shall continue to offer legal representation to the Activists until the charges are dismissed. On the 1st July, the hearing of the case kicked off and the Prosecution presented one witness. The matter was then adjourned to 29th July, 2025 for further hearing of the Prosecutions case.

Between 10th to 21st June ,2025. One of the staff was part of the Human Rights Defenders (HRD) program, a program that engages with United Nations mechanisms to protect and support those advocating for human rights. Through the program, we built contacts with the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders to raise individual cases and systemic issues in our communities. In the program, our colleague was to have access UN human rights bodies, such as the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies, to amplify the voices of the embattled defenders and ensure international oversight in monitoring reprisals against environmental defenders and oil-impacted communities in the oil region. We shall continue to engage UN mechanisms to strengthen international accountability and promote a safer environment for human rights work.

On 12th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities organized a press conference to draw public attention to the unlawful detention of 11 environmental defenders were arrested in Kampala while peacefully attempting to deliver a petition to KCB Bank. The petition called on the bank to withdraw its financial support from the East African Crude Oil Pipeline mentioning its destructive impacts on communities, ecosystems and the climate. Through the press conference, we highlighted the concerns of the embattled defenders and called for their immediate and unconditional release.

Between 13th and 14th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities in partnership with the StopEACOP Coalition, Solidarity Uganda and East African Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities organized a strategic assessment training for climate activists at The Sparrows Hotel in Soroti. The two-day workshop brought together youth leaders, university student activists and CBO representatives from Kampala to reflect on past organizing efforts, share lessons learned and explore safer, more strategic approaches to resisting the harmful impacts of the EACOP project. The training focused on strengthening solidarity, building innovative resistance strategies and developing a collective action plan for the next phase of climate justice organizing in Uganda.

On 19th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities provided community legal representation to individuals affected by oil-related land ownership and compensation disputes cases that had remained inactive for over four years. The matter was adjourned to 27th August due to the judge's absence. Youth For Green Communities continues to stand with oil-affected communities, ensuring their voices are heard and their land rights defended through legal action and advocacy.

On 25th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities in partnership with the East African Crude Oil Host Communities organized a press conference at Streamside Hotel to stand in solidarity with the 11 arrested environmental defenders. It aimed to amplify calls for their immediate and unconditional release and to condemn the continued criminalization of peaceful climate activism in Uganda. The press conference also served as a space to reaffirm support for communities affected by the pipeline and to call on financial institutions to take responsibility for the environmental and social harm associated with fossil fuel projects. YGC remains committed to defending civic space, upholding the rights of environmental defenders and building solidarity across movements and communities impacted by extractive activities.

On 26th June 2025, Youth for Green Communities provided legal support to 11 StopEACOP activists who continue to face unjustified long detention for delivering a petition highlighting the concerns of KCB Bank recent banking towards the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project. The petition raised serious concerns about the pipeline's impact, including the displacement of communities, destruction of ecosystems and wildlife, and the worsening effects of climate change. In the next hearing of their case set for 11th July, the activists will have spent 79 days in detention. . Their prolonged pattern of imprisonment raises questions about due process and reflects a broader pattern of shrinking civic space for environmental defenders in Uganda. Through legal support, public engagement and collaboration with civil society partners, Youth for Green Communities continue to stand in solidarity with the detained activists and remains committed to advocating for their rights.

Throughout June, Youth for Green Communities participated in social media and communication campaigns promoting sustainability and inclusive, just climate solutions. Through creative storytelling, publications, and online engagement, YGC amplified grassroots voices, challenged harmful fossil fuel narratives and spotlighted community-driven approaches to climate justice.

As we move forward, Youth For Green Communities remains deeply committed to fostering sustainable solutions, supporting marginalized communities, promoting gender equality and empowering and connecting youth with local communities to advance eco-friendly initiatives, defend human rights and drive social sustainable change in their communities.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

EDITORIAL TEAM

1. Eva Kakuuma
2. Brian Wasswa
3. Kato Tumusiime
4. Caroline Kinkuhaire

Pictorial of our activities

YGC supports legal representation of 9 Youth Activists



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Our staff participates in the Human Rights Defenders (HRD) program in Geneva



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Legal representation of 11 Environmental/Climate defenders



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Training of climate activists in Soroti



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The two-day workshop brought together youth leaders, university student activists and CBO representatives from Kampala to reflect on past organizing efforts, share lessons learned and explore safer, more strategic approaches to resisting the harmful impacts of the EACOP project.

The training focused on strengthening solidarity, building innovative resistance strategies and developing a collective action plan for the next phase of climate justice organizing in Uganda.

Supporting communities to access justice through Courts of Law.



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Press conference in solidarity with the KCB11 Climate/Environmental defenders.



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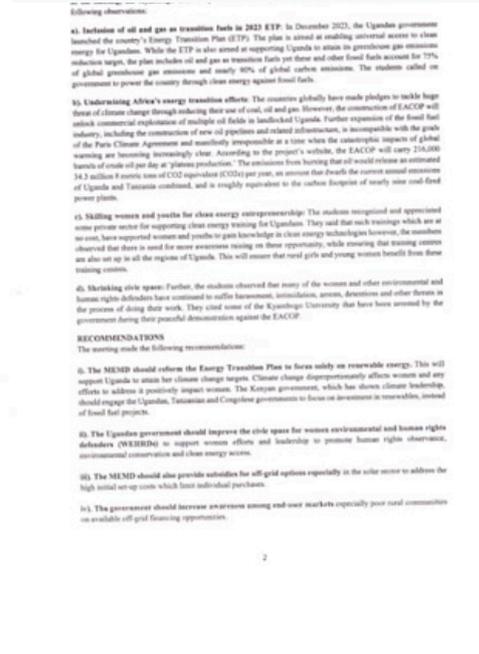
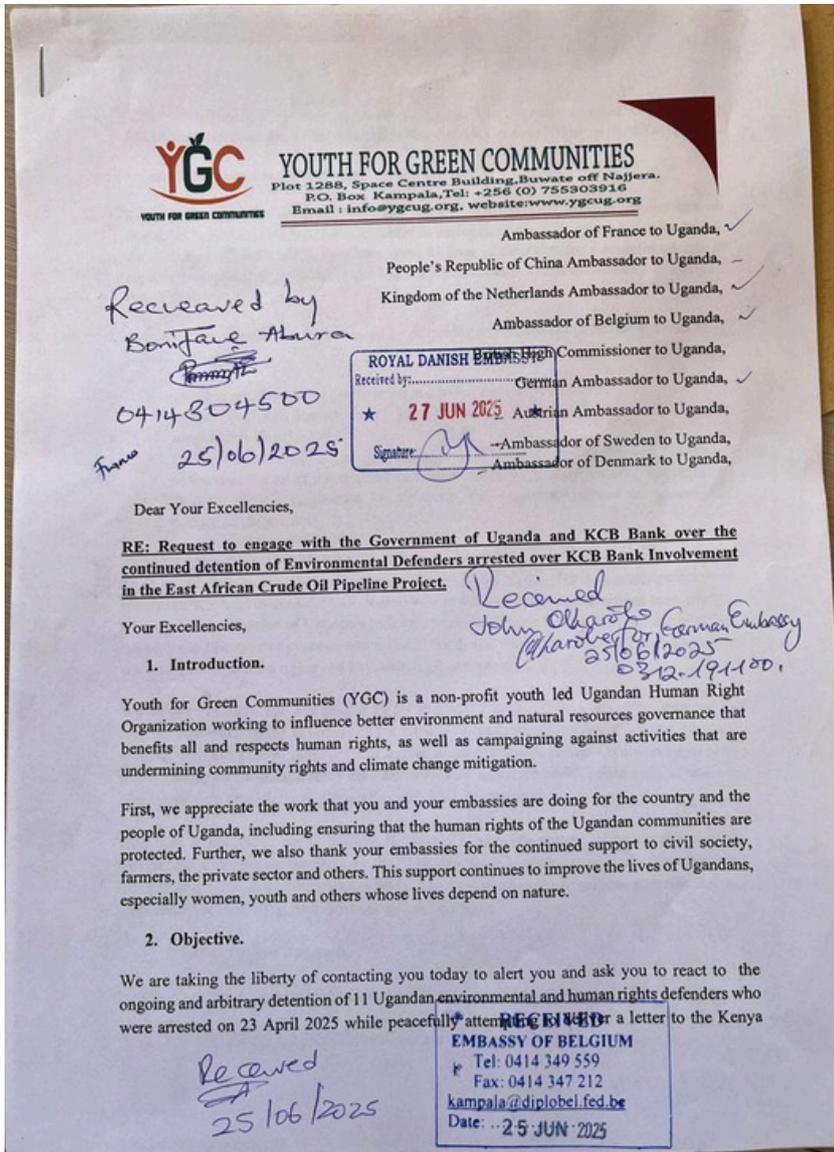
Social media and other Communication campaigns to promote sustainability

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LOBBYING

Social media and communication campaigns



YGC staff and youth wrote articles that were published in the mainstream media calling for climate action and social sustainability



Upcoming events

2nd and 11th July, 2025: Kampala Legal Representation of Environmental Human Rights defenders

7th -12th July: Members gathering to strengthen collective vision of community led development

9th-10th July, 2025: Documenting and sharing stories in solidarity with Environmental defenders in detention

11th July , 2025 : Kampala Legal representation of 11 environmental defenders activists in Uganda

17th July, 2025 : Engaging government and Universities over memorandum of Understanding between High Institutions of learning and Oil Corporations

29th July , 2025 : Kampala Legal representation of 9 youth activists in Uganda

July : Social media campaign, responsible media out reach and publications on social issues

About Youth For Green Communities(YGC)

Youth for Green Communities (YGC) is a youth-led public policy research and advocacy non-profit organization based in Kampala, Uganda. Committed to influencing better environment and natural resources governance for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable while mitigating climate change impacts, YGC was established to secure the future by promoting sustainable management of the environment and natural resources for socio-economic development. The organization collaborates with educational institutions, communities, government, cultural, and religious leaders to ensure that natural resources are utilized in an inclusive, equitable, and environmentally sustainable manner, while upholding human rights.

Vision

A society where natural resources are utilized in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Mission

To promote and advocate for sustainable management of environment and natural resources for the present and future generation