NATURE TALK AFRICA

NATURE TALK AFRICA (NATA)

QUARTER THREE REPORT

SEPTEMBER, 2025

STRENGTHENING PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE FOR GRASSROOTS EHRDS AND ACTIVISTS IN THE ALBERTINE REGION

Group photo of EHRDs after a consultation meeting to develop a Safety and security protocols for Grassroots EHRDs and Activists in the Albertine Region of Uganda.

EXPECTATIONS

- Welcome remarks
- Activities implemented and participated in
- Outstanding moments
- Action points

WELCOME REMARKS

Dear partners and supporters,

As we ended the third quarter, 2025, we are thrilled to reflect on the remarkable milestones achieved by (NaTA) through your solidarity support. This 3rd Quarter report, 2025 offers a glimpse into the impactful activities implemented by NaTA and her partners and also other events/activities by our allies which we participated in. At NaTA, in the last three months, we focused so much on the protection, self-care and general empowerment of our grassroots Environmental Human Rights Defenders and activists for justice and strenhthening capacity of community organizers for climate, social and environmental justice amidst the ongoing oil and gas development projects in our communities.

Through our collective efforts with our partners and supporters like you, we continued to build resilient communities and drive social, climate and environmental justice for our communities in the Albertine region, particularly from the districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Kikuube districts where major oil and gas activities are taking place. Community and grassroots EHRDs and activists as well as the organizers continue to face more challenges, risks and threats. Some of these are recurrent while others are emmergent and need urgent actions.

In this report, you'll discover how solidarity support can lead to positive social change, specific activities we conducted to support the women and young changemakers. In addition, you will also find the opportunities that represented us with capacity building, experience sharing to amplify our community voices, netowrks and solidarity building. At Nature Talk Africa, as we carried out the above, we also identified moments that made us develop our action points and demands as they are well explained in this piece. We hope these updates give you deeper insight into our unwavering commitment to creating lasting environmental, climate and social justices for vulnerable communities where natural resources are being extracted and their sorroundings.

Thank you for being a vital part of this journey. We are excited to explore the new opportunities that the last Quarter of 2025 will bring, as we continue to champion community empowerment, conservation and sustainability together. We remain determined towards building the capacity of our grassroots defenders against all odds and partnering with more like-minded individuals and organization. Together we can.

Kind regards
Emmanuel Ongyeer,
Programs director and partnership lead.
For Nature Talk Africa.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED AND PARTICIPATED IN

1. Consultation from the grassroots EHRDs and activists in the Albertine region of Uganda.

From July 11to 12th, 2025, NaTA conducted a two-day consultative engagements under our ongoing project titled "Strengthening of human rights protection, mental wellness and environmental justice in the Albertine region." A number of emerging issues and challenges faced by community EHRDs and Gendered specific injustices faced by women EHRDs such as social disconnection and name-calling still remain a big challenge. Questions such as "Who will marry you?" to women EHRDs and activists in the community are very humiliative and make some women and young girls fear taking actions for social, environmental and climate justice in our communities. In addition, emerging new grassroots defenders and activists need to be empowered and introduced to local, national and international platforms for like-minded individuals for on-ground experience sharing, evidence-based advocacy and learning among others.

During these engagements, grassroots EHRDs and activists acknowledged the need for periodic convening to share their experiences, updating their protection and safety protocols according to the working environment dynamics.They called for financial capacity building for grassroot defenders among others. Following this engagement, NaTA, reached out to another partner for capacity building support in security and psycho-social well-being for 10 community defenders who most wanted it, we were lucky, the Climate Activists Defenders (CAD) offered to train them online in three sessions as seen below;

Physical security and risk assessments

Digital Security and media safety

Psycho-social well-being

The 10 community defenders were pleased to be introduced directly to CAD, they got a lot of information and safe tools were recommended to use in their community organizing work.

Participants were happy through out the sessions and freely shared their feelings because the trainer was interesting to them. This was captured during the feedback session.

2. The celebration of the 1 year Anniversary of REPowerAfrika Campaign.

On July 18, 2025. Nature Talk Africa partnered with the Oil Refinery Residents Association in the celebration of the 1 year Anniversary of REPowerAfrika Campaign that took place at the Kyakaboga Resettlement Village in Hoima district. This event was organized under the theme "Youth and women leading change: showcasing leadership in renewable energy advocacy.

Youth and women in this community called on stakeholders' corporations and states to invest in community-owned ideas, initiatives and demands for a community offgrid solar systems to power this resettlement as opposed to the national hydro-electricity with high tariffs which resulted in many homes losing their meters and now live in either darkness or with solar-powered bulbs. Investment in solar will enable community energy access since it is cost-effective after initial installations.

Women and youth took various actions in celebration of the 1st year of #RePOWERAFRIKA Campaign. Some carried placards with clear demands whereas others draw their dream energy types; majority draw solar panel lighting their rural homes.

3. The Refinery court case: community update on the court progress.

On August 14, 2025, Nature Talk Africa in partnership with Oil Refinery Residents Association conducted a community engagement to update the Oil Refinery Project Affected Persons on the progress of the Refinery court case processes. The chairperson of Oil Refinery Residents Association, Mr. Tumwebaze Innocent informed the community people about the next date for hearing which was scheduled for August 27,2025. He further called on the community people to keep learning about their rights and legal processes to demand and defend our community rights. Community people were very expectants of the case on compensation to be decided but unfortunately, on that date, the judge was not available and the court was not functional. Our people remain determined and demand for the next date to be at court for their hearing.

During the court update, community people showed resilience and much determination to inform other young people who must interest themselves with the information about this case. This is in building transgenerational solidarity and resilience to remain focused and determined for community justice even when our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters who started the legal battle leave this world.

Community elders including the Chairperson in the photo above questioned progress and called for legal empowerment among the young people who will take lead of this case in future.

4. The community tribunal: the puplic opinion court session against injustices caused the ongoing oil and gas projects under the funding of TotalEnergies.

On August 23, 2025, Nature Talk Africa in partnership with East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities and Oil Refinery Residents Association, organized a community and peoples' tribunal, a Public Court Session where a panel of community judges (elders) led by a Human and Environmental Rights Lawyer, a national coordinator of GreenFaith in Uganda gathered evidences in forms of testimonies from different oil projects affected persons before a community public court. Our elders were honest and demanded for polluters like TotalEnergies to leave our communities, country and Africa at large. This was one of the major activities that took place during the Africa Week of Actions under the theme "Kick Total Out of Africa"

Judge for the Tribunal

Community demanded TotalEnergies to prioritize human and environmental rights, not profits.

Elders also took actions to demand for community justice

5. Capacity building training in Monitoring, Documentation and Reporting (MDR) for grassroots EHRDs and activists in the Albertine Region

On September 25, 2025. Nature Talk Africa organized a capacity building training on Monitoring, Documentation and Reporting for grassroots Environmental Human Rights Defenders (EHRDs) and activists in the Albertine region of Uganda. This was embraced as an important and timely opportunity for the defenders and they asked for a more specific training on Photography and Videography to capture "Talking photos" and record strategic videos that provide real onground evidence to their documentation and reporting work. The EHRDs and activists are more concerned about the increasing reduced civic space, a lot of concerns were about the hostile and militarised political environment, fear of mismatch of their actions with rebels' among others

Trainer in the green and black spotted shirt guided EHRDs well during the MDR training

6. The 2025 Conference and AGM by OilWatch Africa and AFIEGO in Kampala, Uganda.

On August 25, 2025, Nature Talk Africa team members joined other climate activists and environmental Rights Defenders during the 2025 Conference and AGM organized by OilWatch Africa and hosted by AFIEGO in Kampala, Uganda. This year's conference was under the theme "From Exploitation to Restoration: Climate justice, Debt cancellation and Reparations for Africa." This convening developed a communique to the African Heads of States and all the conveners of the Africa Climate Summit 2 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia which took place from the early to mid weeks of September, 2025 with clear demands of what Africans need. The demands were clear, Restorations and Reparations for Africa from the Global North.

In the Photos, Emmanuel represented Nature Talk Africa amongst like-minded African enviromental rights defenders and activists during the conference organized by OilWatch Africa and hosted by AFIEGO in Kampala.

7. Peoples' Agenda: Empowering community organizers in the Albertine region for climate, social and environmental justice amidst oil and gas projects.

On September 25, 2025, Nature Talk Africa participated in an engagement of developing "the People's Agenda", a joint initiative managed by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline Host Communities and AIFEUg in partnership with other organizations. The engagement was to inform the community organizers for social, climate and environmental justice to develop the people's manifestos, and enable them to front community and national leaders who prioritize peoples and environmental rights over profits-oriented Businesses and corporate and state greeds. We are look forward buiding a stronger solidarity and unity for holding stakeholders most importantly our leaders accountable for social and environemental rights amidst natural resources utilization.

Top representatives of community organizers showing vigor to lead their chapter members in collecting facts for developing the peoples' Agenda during the launch of this initiative.

8. The Zero Waste Bank Stories Project implemented by B.Inspired by the Stories from Africa together with Green Africa Youth Organization (GAYO) with funding from UMIFund

On August 29, 2025, Nature Talk Africa team joined other organizations in Uganda under the Zero Waste Bank Stories Project implemented by B.Inspired by the Stories from Africa with her other partners like Green Africa Youth Organization with funding from UMIFund. We were honored with a certificate of participation in building our capacity in impacts storytelling, digital marketing and sustainable advocacy. This Grande Finale event was organized after a series of online training sessions on "Building the Storytelling and Digital Marketing of NGOs and CBOs in Circular Economy, specifically waste management and environmental protection work. This was not training, it was an opportunity giver. We met with like-minded individuals, listened to impactful stories from waste managers and the power of Black Soldier Flies Technology in organic waste decomposition to produce animal feeds and manure and fertilizers for community self-help groups The latter was what we are carried to our self-help groups in agriculture particularly, the Nyakasinina Blue-Green Farmers' Group where we envisioned establishing a BSF technology with decomposition units for local manure and animal feed production. We call for collaboration and support on this. We can build our community resilience to climate change impacts and environmental crises through creative and innovative climate smart agriculture for food security, improved household income and environmental protection.

CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION

BISA Zero Waste Stories Bank PROJECT

AWARDED TO

NATURE TALK AFRICA

In recognition of your organization's representation and contribution to the Zero Waste Stories Bank (ZWSB) Project organized by B.Inspired with Stories from Africa (B.ISA). Your representatives successfully built capacity in storytelling, digital marketing, and zero-waste advocacy, supporting the growth of sustainable narratives across Africa.

AUGUST 29, 2025

Mr. Emmanuel Adjei
Co. Founder & Finance Manager
B.Inspired with Stories from Africa, Ghana

Lydia Gyasi
Project Manager, Zero Waste Stories Bank Project
B.Inspired with Stories from Africa, Ghana

PROJECT FUNDED BY: UMI Fund

CERTIFIED

SUPPORTED BY

Award after the in-person workshop held at Hotel La Grande in Kampala after a series of online training sessions.

OUTSTANDING MOMENTS DURING THIS QUARTER AS WE IMPLEMENTED AND PARTICIPATED IN OTHER EVENTS

Group photo of our team of judges for our community tribaunal. They were a team of professional lawyers, community opinion leader, a religious representative and our LC1 chairperson of Resettlement village.

Tilenga project affected person giving testimony againts the oil project. This is just a representative of over 200 people who attended the community tribunal where only 10 testimonies were listened to. More people wanted to share theirs.

During MDR training, an expert guided participants like this, a community elder who has been in our trusted ally and does perfect watcdog role.

Emmanuel also represented Nature Talk Africa at the Environment Parliament where alot was discussed. Firsttime some political parties joined this conversation with major political parties (NRM, NUP and others) missed in the room.

ACTION POINTS AND DEMANDS MOVING FORWARD

- **Rapid solidarity support for at risk community defenders and organizers for social, climate and environmental justice**. Increasing threats on community organizers needs urgent actions at this moment when political environment have worsened the reduced civic space: Rights defenders and activists can be mistakenly or intentionally arrested as terrorists, government oppositions and can be considered anti-developments among others. In event this happens, it may cause fear and silencing of many grassroots defenders incase of delay of the neccessary supports.

- **Support to enable more community tribunal organizing:** We call for solidarity support to organize more community tribunals that reveal alot of socio-economic and environmental injustices for more other communities in Uganda and beyond where natural resources extractions are taking place as a tool for evidence collection, amplification of community voices and exposing all the injustices for public views and demands for justice.

- **Build more capacity for grassroots EHRDs and activists.** We call for unity in empowering grassroots EHRDs and activists, that is to say women defenders and activssts who are faced with numerous of gender-specific challenges; from community segregations to name-calling, also conduct general support for capacity building in evidence-based reporting for all community organizers through conducting needs-specific trainings such as videography and photography for community EHRDs and activists in the Albertine region.

- **Environment and Human Rights over profits:** We demand that people's agenda is prioritized by all leaders right from community leadership, in all governament offices and Businesses must respect them. We call on neutral leaders like religious and cultural leaders to join this struggle for people's agenda that prioritize people and planet over profits of the greedy coorporattions, states and some selfish individuals.

Conclusion: Partner with us and amplify our community initiatives and actions and support our actions by sharing our work with your networks and donate for our causes. Thank You.

NATURE TALK AFRICA

ABOUT US

Nature Talk Africa (NaTA) is a community youth-led, non-profit organization based in Hoima district, mid-western region Uganda. The organization was founded in 2023 and fully registered as a community-based organization in 2024.

NaTA was founded by young leaders who were directly and indirectly affected by the major oil projects including the Oil Refinery, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), the Tilenga project and the Kingfisher project implemented by TOTAL Energies, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), and the Government of Uganda in Hoima, Kikuube and Buliisa

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Details of our work can be accessed on our X: https://x.com/NatureTalk_A