

RECOGNIZE COMMUNITIES AS DECISION-MAKERS!

The Akiira 1 Geothermal Power Plant Project in Kenya

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is preparing a

€155 million

(USD 192 million) loan package for the

Akiira 1 Geothermal Power Plant project

The project involves the construction of a

70 megawatt geothermal power plant

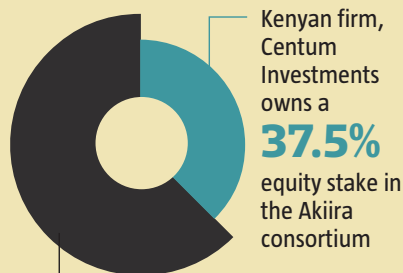
located outside Naivasha, Kenya and adjacent to the existing Olkaria Geothermal Power Project.

The project is estimated to cost

€310 million

(USD 380 million dollars)

The project will be implemented by **Akiira Geothermal Limited**



62.5%

is owned by American firms Ram Energy and Marine Power, and the Danish company, Frontier Markets.

Benefits according to the Company



Provide renewable energy to bridge the existing demand gap between potential demand and supply in Kenya.



Contribute towards combating climate change.



Contribute to poverty reduction and to inclusive economic growth by improving access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services.

Likely Negative Impacts for Communities



Loss of land



Loss of livelihood for pastoralists



Local communities unlikely to directly benefit from the project



Adverse impacts to environment, natural habitats and wildlife



Loss of housing

Quotes



“I did not feel safe to speak my mind about the project because I was afraid that when these people (company officials) come here, I might be jailed because I was complaining.”

“Our community has not been considered as part of the affected communities. We have been left out in committee representation and any negotiations involving the communities and the company despite our village being within the project affected area.”

“The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment was not shared with us. What we know is through word of mouth. We want this information shared with us.”

“The company should give us more information about the project; we are currently unable to fully participate in the project process.”

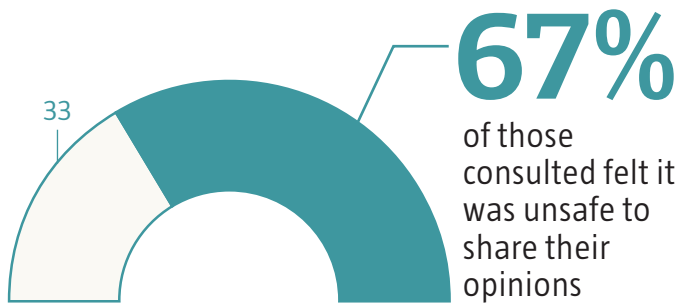
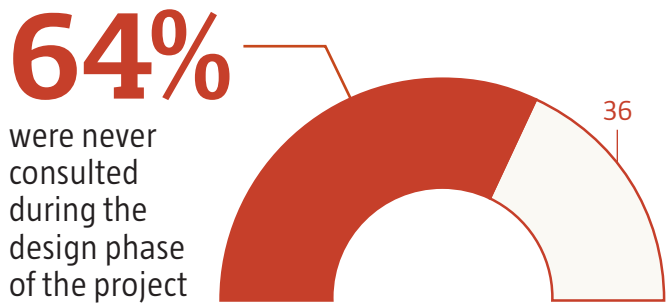
“When the company came into the village for exploration of the geothermal resource, no one knew what was going on. The company did not get consent from the villagers, let alone inform us of their planned activities.”



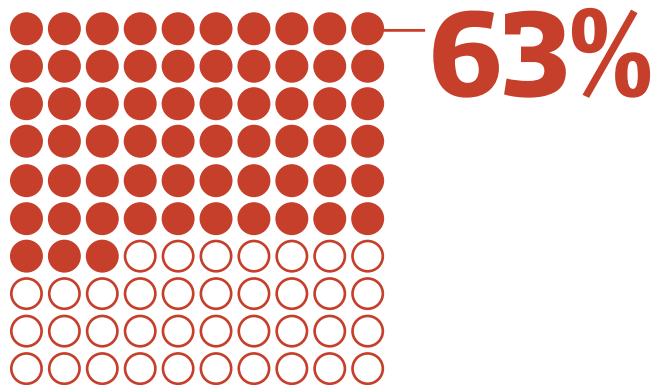
STATISTICS

The International Accountability Project and Narasha Community Development Group, through the Early Warning System initiative, surveyed 350 community members about their knowledge and engagement in the project processes, and to seek recommendations for mitigating harm. The survey was validated in partnership with the Kenya Human Rights Commission and Jaama Resource Initiative.

This is what they had to say:



Didn't know who would be implementing the project



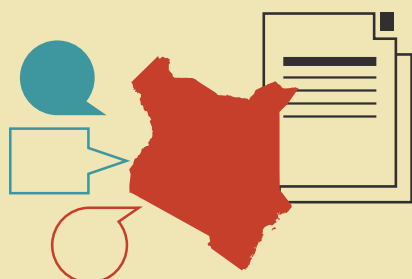
Didn't know where to file complaint



Didn't know how to file a complaint



NEXT STEPS



Using the survey findings, **communities are asking Akiira Geothermal Limited, EIB and the government of Kenya to respect, protect and fulfill their indigenous peoples' rights, involve them in the project** process as decision-makers and to address their concerns about the potential loss of land, homes, livelihood and harm to the environment.