Civil Education is the Solution to Poverty and Environmental Management (CESOPE)

URANIUM MINING TANZANIA REPORT

ACTIVIST REPORT BY ANTHONY B. LYAMUNDA

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Since 2009 when first information about uranium exploration in Tanzania became public

CESOPE successfully risen awareness among local communities

Due to low uranium prices currently the uranium plans in Tanzania are stagnating, but as prices might raise situation may change

Currently CESOPE aims to enlarge its anchors by promoting methods of using the natural resources in a sustainable way to create reliable sources of income for people (visit our web site for more info. www.cesopetz.org)

Success Story of Cesope opposing uranium mining

Since 2009 when first information about uranium exploration in Tanzania became public CESOPE started a campaign to stop uranium mining plans and has successfully risen awareness among local communities. Due to low uranium prices currently the uranium plans in Tanzania are stagnating, but as prices might raise situation may change. Therefore uranium mining remains a looming threat and CESOPE needs to continue with its activities. CESOPE conducted a wide variety of activities ranging from classic campaign tools like seminars and radio spots to innovative approaches like distributing videos to rural micro-cinemas. Especially CESOPE was always present when there was an urgent challenge in a village. Currently CESOPE aims to enlarge its anchors by promoting methods of using the natural resources in a sustainable way to create reliable sources of income for people.
Proposed farkwa Dam

- CESOPE has been following up Farkwa Dam Project in Chemba district since 2012
- Environmental impact assessment (EIA)
- Compasations to the villages of Bubutole and

Farkwa Dam - new (old?) challenges
CESOPE has been following the development of the Farkwa Dam Project in Chemba district since 2012. This dam would block the river Bubu as the main tributary of Bahi swamp and therefore is a potentially existential threat for the wetland – like uranium mining plans. Similar as in the anti-uranium campaign CESOPE raises awareness among people and advocates for peoples rights. It is mysterious why this project pops up exactly when uranium plans seem to disappear. CESOPE is still suspicious that drying Bahi swamp could be method to drive out people to pave the way for uranium mining.

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CESOPE is undertaking a strategic ecological research on Bahi wetland. The research focuses on the feasibility of the Bahi wetland to become an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

CESOPE will involve the following on this study:

- NABU (Nature And biodiversity conservation union)
- University of Dodoma
New mining law

For many years the Tanzanian government received complaints that Tanzania as a nation as well as local population would not take enough(any profits in the mining boom. The new mining law could be seen as a tool to tackle this challenge. However critical voices also warn that the new legislation could be used to slash and silence complaints by civil society.
European Union through European Commission give Tanzania Government Support of 2.2 million €

- Enhancing the legal and regulator framework related to Uranium mining and milling
- The use of the Dar es Salaam seaport for uranium transport and
- Regional outreach program on uranium regulatory framework and nuclear/radiation safety (education and training)

Where the specie of the civil societies in Tanzania have been involved on this process?
Uranium mining with a new Government

- so far not made specific announcements referring uranium mining,
- They promote mining projects which seem to promise a positive contribution to the national economy
- Therefore future developments are still open and civil society needs to remain on alert
- There is no political resistance against uranium mining to avoid uranium mining

Uranium mining with a new Government.
The Tanzanian leadership under the new president Magafuli has so far not made specific announcements referring uranium mining, but is generally keen to promote mining projects which seem to promise a positive contribution to the national economy. Therefore future developments are still open and civil society needs to remain on alert.