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| **Field** | **Example** |
| Serial Number | *GLBKII001 KNTKKII027* |
| Research Activity | *KII* |
| Interviewee Type | *Development Cooperation Agency* |
| Locality Level | *Global* |
| Locality Code | SI |
| Date | *24/01/2022* |
| Age group | *Adult* |
| Gender | *Female* |
| Conducted by | *IDS01* |
| Consent for Audio Recording |  |
| Consent for Video/Photo |  |
| Recordings |  |
| Associated Documents |  |
| Transcriber | *IDS01* |
| Agreed Follow up |  |

1. **How far have extractive industries and fossil fuels comes within your and CIVICUS’s radius of research/action already? How about climate activism in general? In what way? If not why not?**

In monitoring the state of civil society and civic space in different countries around the world and in African in particular, the issue of extractive industries and fossil fuels have featured prominently in relation to the state of civic space in these countries and specifically about the actions taken by governments against human rights defenders, journalists and activists who raise concerns over the state of governance or the human rights violations meted against those who speak about the actions of extractive industries and support by government of the actions of fossil fuel industries.

Our research and monitoring shows that civic space is particularly under threat in Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Countries.  We have observed that in many of these countries civic space freedom are violated through the detention of human rights defenders and protesters, the use of excessive force against protesters, outright prevention and disruption of protests and attacks on journalists and media.  Other violations include the use of restrictive legislation to limit the rights to protest, surveillance of human rights defenders and the imposition of restrictions on online freedoms.  In many cases these actions target those who speak out directly against the environmental effects of the actions of extractive industries and fossil fuel industries.  We have monitored and documented instances where people are protesting over fossil fuel industries in the context of the fact that these industries are the biggest contributors to carbon emissions. While these industries are mostly headquartered in the global north, the effect of their actions is mostly felt at their sites in the global South. In South Sudan for example in August 2020 people who live near the Palouch and Melut oil fields in the Upper Nile regions blocked the entrances of two oil companies and closed roads in the local area to bring attention to the environmental damage being caused by oil operations.

We have also observed trends which indicate that civic freedoms are being systematically violated globally in the context of climate justice.  The CIVICUS Monitor has documented violent attacks, criminalisation and vilification against environmental, land and Indigenous rights defenders as well as unjustified restrictions on the right to peaceful assembly that target climate. At the national and local level, environmental activists, land defenders and Indigenous groups are on the frontlines of the struggle, demanding that their rights are protected and respected by states and corporations. Climate activism, bringing together a diversity of groups, tactics and contexts, has achieved tremendous impacts, such as through pushing for policy and legislative reform, by forcing the media and politicians to acknowledge the importance of climate change and by creating public awareness. As the climate crisis intensifies and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbate social and economic inequalities, the efforts of civil society are fundamental if we want to achieve tangible results and systematic change.

1. **Who is working on civic space and extractive industries, and on civic space and just transitions, in your experience?**

These are mostly individuals or groups working to protect their lands, natural heritage and territories and those advocating to ensure environmental protection.  They include activists and civil society organisations who are contributing to such efforts through supporting or reporting these struggles. They also include Indigenous people, environmental defenders, social movements, journalists, land defenders, climate activists and anyone fighting against state or corporate misuse of environmental resources.2   Environmental activists, land defenders and Indigenous groups are on the frontlines of the struggle, demanding that their rights are protected and respected by states and corporations.

1. **How do factors of closing civic space affect strategies and possibilities of citizen voice and action on extractives and just transition issues?**

One strategy that has been used successfully by human rights defenders protests and direct action to demand accountability from extractive industries and for the protection of environmental, land and indigenous rights.  In certain countries these strategy has yielded some positive results including for example through protests actions and litigation, the High Court in Pretoria ordered the Minister of Mineral Resources to consult communities before handing mining licenses to companies.  Due to the success of protest actions, many governments are seeking to prevent and disrupt them.  Governments and associated authorities are responding to protests against extractive industries and climate justice protests by detaining protesters and using excessive force against them.  For example in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mombulu Boyama Alphonse, chief of the Mwingi community in northern DRC and a leader of advocacy against land grabs by multinational companies, was beaten and arrested by police in September 2019 after a protest was staged by members of the community against the palm oil agribusiness.  In Côte d’Ivoire, human rights defender and journalism student Konan Yao was sentenced to five years and a fine of three million CFA francs (approx. US$4,995) on charges of ‘incitement and disturbance of public order’ and ‘assault and battery of gendarmes on duty’ in March 2020 for organising a 2019 protest for the N’dakouassikro community in opposition to the opening of a goldmine. In addition to arbitrarily detaining protesters and using violence against them, in some countries, anti-protest laws have been passed that directly tackle environmental protests in an attempt to prevent them taking place. Strategic litigation has also been used as a strategy to address actions of extractive industries.  In June 2019 for example a a court in Kenya revoked the environmental licence for the construction of the Lamu coalfired power station after environmental campaigners took Amu Power and the Kenyan National Environment Management Authority to court.  In Senegal, activist Oudy Diallo was arrested for defamation after the territorial administration filed a complaint over a Facebook post in which he commented on land quotas. Cameroonian defender Musa Usman Ndamba, vice-president of the Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, was sentenced to six months in prison for ‘defamation of character’ of a landowner.  In South Africa, the Australian company Mineral Commodities (Ltd) (MRC) and its South African subsidiary Mineral Sands Resources brought a defamation case against six environmental activists – two community activists, two lawyers of the Centre for Environmental Rights, a private lawyer and a social worker – for an amount totalling 14.25 million South African Rands (approx. U$980,000). The lawsuits were brought after three of the activists – Davine Cloete, Christine Redell and Tracey Davies – spoke out in January 2017 against environmental damage and non-compliance with environmental and mining laws by MRC in its Tormin mine. The three other activists – Mzamo Dlamini, Cormac Cullinan and John Clarke – were vocal about MRC’s conduct in the Xolobeni community. Fortunately, the South African High Court ruled on 9 February 2021 that the defamation suits were an abuse of the legal process.  Human rights defenders who campaign against the practices of extractive industries and the effect on the environment have also been targeted and killed in a bid to silence them.

1. **Where are the opportunities for citizens in extractive-affected countries and communities in Africa to engage with others on just transitions at the local, national and global levels?**

There has been the creation of formal and informal coalitions and civil society organisations that facilitate the engagement of human rights defenders and environmental rights organisations as well as those working on social issues and human rights on just transitions making links between local, national, regional and international levels.  The movement Publish What You Pay for example have over 1000 member organizations and dozens of coalitions who campaign for accountability in the extractive sector.   It works to ensure that proceeds from oil, gas and mining are used for the benefits of communities.   In addition, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative also promotes open and accountable management of the extractive sector.  These initiatives link organisations, movements, groups and individuals working to hold extractive industries accountable and connect the local to the regional and global.

1. **What are the possibilities and opportunities for linking these voices across levels – from local to global?**

The organisations mentioned above have done a good job in linking the voices working at local and community levels to key actors working at the global level.  Organisations like CIVICUS also facilitate also facilitate engagements between individuals and groups working on environmental justice with civil society organisations working at the international level and also with decision makers and international for a like the United Nations and others focusing on climate and environmental rights.

1. **Who are the key actors (networks, organizations) who could help to bridge these gaps?  (map them out).**

The main networks and organisations focusing on these issues and who bridge these gaps are Global Witness, Publish What you Pay, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, 360.Org,  Green Peace, Earth Rights while groups like Amnesty, CIVICUS, Human Rights Watch, OMCT, Frontline Defenders etc make connections with other groups working on different thematic areas.

1. **Looking to the future, what are the key issues and trends in civic space that activists on extractives/just energy transitions/climate change should be paying attention to?**

Protest bans and repression, criminalisation and judicial harassment, violence and vilification.