Informed consent a case of olkaria maasai in kenya
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Informed consent a case of Olkaria Maasai in Kenya

The Olkaria Maasai is a community under siege. They live within the precedents of Hell’s gate national park from where we were violently displaced without compensation to pave away for conservation of wildlife and development of Olkaria geothermal projects which is involved in geothermal mining in Kenya.
Issues

- The community was not consulted during the start of the project and even now when the company is expanding and displacing people consultation is still lacking.
- The community is not involved in decision making regarding the operation of the company.
- The community input is not sought during monitoring and evaluating the activities of the project. No involvement of the indigenous people in evaluating the impact of the project to the indigenous people.
- Our interest is not accommodated in the project.
- Our consent was obtained through fraud, people were forced to accept the company in the area.
Issues at Olkaria Project

- Scientists and environmental organization are not allowed to visit the area. No research can be undertaken in the area this creates more suspicion.
- The requirements relating to environmental input assessment, particularly the publication thereof to all concerned parties home not been complied with.
- The maasai community was not informed of the nature and implication of Olkaria geothermal mining.
- Unbiased information.
- Youth and women have not been taken care of
Community response

• Demonstration
• Barricades
Results of actions

• The Kenya government has condoned and facilitated there violation by placing the legal and police powers at the disposal of the companies.

• Blocking any scientific research and entry of environmental organization.
Recommendation

• Agreement between the indigenous community and mining companies should be regularly be reviewed (if this agreements do exist).

• To educate the indigenous communities on the dangers of this industries both to their lives and their livelihood system

• World bank must investigate before funding any project on how the consent was obtained, what information were disclosed to the indigenous community

• If world bank is genuine on their concern of the indigenous community then they have to work very closely with indigenous civil society organization