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Bittersweet Relationships: Renewable Energy, Integral Agroecology and Climate Action in Uganda

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Abstract:

This study examines the integration of renewable energy solutions into agroecological initiatives to enhance climate adaptation and mitigation in Uganda. Using a qualitative case study conducted across 17 districts, data were collected through focus groups, interviews, and document reviews. Findings show that organizations within the civil societies' network of Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) in Uganda promote renewable energy solutions, empowering women and youth as key actors. These innovations aim to reduce deforestation and strengthen local resilience, although barriers such as policy gaps and financing persist. By aligning ecological sustainability with social equity and community agency, the study reflects the principles of integral ecology, emphasizing the interdependence of environmental, social, and economic systems. The study recommends that scaling renewable energy within agroecological systems requires strengthened community leadership, enhanced institutional support, and coherent policy alignment to achieve equitable, sustainable, and climate-resilient rural development.

Date of Publication: September, 2026

Publisher: Springer, Cham

Book Title: Integral Ecology in the Anthropocene: Africa and Beyond, Volume 49, 2026

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-32125-1_3

ISBN: 978-3-032-32125-1

Item Type: Book Chapter

Keywords: Agroecology, Renewable energy, Climate adaptation, Community empowerment, Uganda

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