

IM4DC

Action Research Report

SUMMARY

Researchers:

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School/ Centre:

School of Earth and Environment

University/ Institutions:

The University of Western Australia

Key themes:

Community and Environmental Sustainability

Key countries:

General application

Completion:

April 2013

Research aims:

The development of this training module (coursework and study tour) for government, private sector, academia and civil society participants focused on how developing areas can enhance the economic and social benefits from mining. It gave explicit consideration to: regional investment; employment generation; enterprise development; local firm integration into resource projects; infrastructure and service development; landholder management; and regional governance.

For further information on this action research:

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Regional Development and Mining: Training Module

The first Mining and Regional Development Training Module was conducted in March, 2013, addressing key issues focused on how developing areas can enhance the economic and social benefits from mining. Following the two-week training session at the University of Western Australia, the participants undertook a one week study tour in Kalgoorlie-Esperance.

A total of 19 participants attended the training session; 13 of these came from six African countries and 6 came from three Asian countries. In terms of gender representation, there were six females and 13 male participants. Ten of the 19 participants worked in either national or local government bodies. Five participants represented the NGO sector and four participants were from the academic and private sectors.

The nine training units presented were:

1. The framework of mining and economic development
2. The macroeconomic context of mining
3. The political context of mining and the need for governance
4. Mining, employment generation and labour migration
5. Business formation, linkages and mining companies' participation in regional development
6. The social dimensions of mining and regional development
7. The environmental dimensions of mining and regional development
8. Economic and social infrastructure
9. Mining and uneven regional development

An evaluation form was designed to gather feedback from participants on the training module, and on the organisation and relevance of the various meetings and activities included in the study tour. Recommendations are provided for future presentations of the module.