

Mining for Development Alumni Forum 2013

Sydney, Australia

22 May

EVENT SUMMARY



International Mining for Development Centre

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The University of Western Australia and The University of Queensland are proud to be partners in the International Mining for Development Centre (IM4DC), with the support of the Australian Government through AusAID.

IM4DC works closely with AusAID and others in building and coordinating mining for development activities. These activities make a lasting difference to resource-rich developing countries seeking to make the most of their natural endowment, for the benefit of their nations and communities.

This summary presents an overview of the Alumni Forum proceedings with full session details available at www.im4dc.org

“IM4DC will continue to work closely with its country partners and alumni on their issues and priorities, and develop our program further to meet their mining for development needs.”
Ian Satchwell, Director, International Mining for Development Centre



“The program was really useful in concretely putting together what was learned, and the sharing of ideas and experiences were invaluable.”



Overview

IM4DC hosted an Alumni Forum on 22 May 2013 for 70 alumni from 18 participating countries, following the Mining for Development Conference in Sydney, Australia.

The Alumni Forum began with a welcome from Mr James Gilling, First Assistant Director General of AusAID, who said mining for development alumni represented a force for considerable change within the countries they worked.

“Your capacity, your insights, your quality, will have a big influence on how things turn out in your countries,” said Mr Gilling, who urged alumni to build a habit of sharing information and ideas. “Training is critical, but almost more important than that are the ongoing networks that you are building now,” he said.

With the benefit of knowledge gained from leaders in mining for development at the conference, energised participants spent the day providing feedback on the IM4DC program and discussing the opportunities and challenges of building mining for development capacity in their home countries. They also discussed and debated their country issues, learned more about the online M4D Link community of practice, and strengthened their regional and global networks.

The feedback provided from participants at the forum is highly valued by IM4DC and AusAID, which are jointly responsible for building and strengthening the strategic education and research program and its wide range of supporting activities. The feedback has been used to plan IM4DC’s 2013-14 program.

“We want you to lead. We want you to change the decisions. Lead and use the network of people you have to support that.” Professor Chris Moran, Director of the Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland

Strengthening the IM4DC program

IM4DC is committed to delivering a high quality, valued and relevant education and research program to its mining for development participants – both now and into the future. During alumni feedback sessions, participants identified their perceived priorities, gaps and what they wanted more of to build their capacity in mining for development.

Combating corruption, management of geo-data, and building capacity of sub-national government, were amongst their highest priorities. Gaps included policy development, training for women, implementation of laws and regulation, and design and management of revenue systems. Participants were also keen to see more capacity building at all levels of government, more web-based learning and peer to peer exchanges, and more events and education opportunities in their home countries.

New approaches, challenges and opportunities

Alumni participated in a roundtable discussion on new approaches, key challenges and opportunities, and how they could create greater impact. Governance, education and training, and greater collaboration were the most common points of discussion. Further details are provided on page 5.

Country issues and priorities

Alumni worked in country groups and identified their key priorities and issues, what needed to be done, and how they would achieve their goals. Common priorities included minerals policy, regulation and agreements, sub-national governance, environmental regulation and management, and greater transparency. Detailed country summaries are provided on page 6.



“Keep conducting such conferences and meetings of alumni. It is good for experience sharing and knowing best practices.”

Reviewing the IM4DC Program

In the facilitated feedback sessions, participants identified the gaps, priorities and what they want more of from the IM4DC program to support capacity building in mining for development. IM4DC sought feedback on its activities related to:

- A** Regional and local socio-economic development
- B** Sub-national governance of the mining sector
- C** Minerals policy, regulation and agreements
- D** Community engagement and consultation
- E** Environmental regulation and management
- F** Delivery methods
- G** The overall IM4DC program

	PRIORITIES	GAPS	IDENTIFIED DEMAND
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish value addition in infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linkages to other sectors Planning and infrastructure development Value addition Distribution of revenues and profits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public private partnership to plan and develop infrastructure
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology transfer Finance assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of resources and capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case studies and simulation from different countries Capacity building at all levels of government
C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic mining, international companies Exchange programs Develop HR capacity Regulation (economic) Regulation of access and implementation of laws Gender (training for women) Financial management of revenue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen institutions in use of tools/equipment
D		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict resolution Cultural vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building in community enterprise Guidelines for stakeholder management
E		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transnational impacts Management of cumulative impacts and data 	
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building eg education, field trips to mining industries for companies and government 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More practical sessions for the Fellowship program Internship in other countries More in-country programs Comparative studies Alumni capacity training in countries Web based learning and consultation Exchange programs Who's Who directory Foster networks between alumni, countries and institutions Capacity building on international trade Country alumni event eg invite mining companies to share experiences
G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value addition Geo-data management Training in enforcement Minerals policy, regulation and agreement Environmental rehabilitation Combat corruption Build a world-wide transparency system involving the capacity to implement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transnational issues Wealth management Petroleum studies Trading and management of intellectual property Small-scale mining Geological data generation and management Cultural vision Value addition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support geological surveying Optimisation of value chain

New approaches, challenges and opportunities

The roundtable discussions saw participants give their feedback on a number of key questions.

What is a new approach or issue you want to implement following the conference?

Governance

- More emphasis on corporate social responsibility policy and legislation
- Strengthen mining legislation, policy and revenue transparency
- Develop a country/regional/local vision about mining
- Develop a country/regional/local vision about activity after mining

Building regional and economic development

- Build capacity for local procurement
- Create sustainable national companies

Conflict resolution/stakeholder engagement

- National dialogue
- Community involvement in mining negotiations

Social and environmental sustainability

- Build a gender strategy
- Social impact and environmental assessments

Technology and knowledge transfer

- Improve collection of geological data and development of databases
- Better linkage with other mining countries

What will, or should, your achievements look like?

Governance

- Develop and implement country mining vision
- Better transparency, disclosure and accountability of information
- Deliver sound legal framework and policy for all stakeholders

Knowledge

- Create a centre for responsible and sustainable mining
- Create knowledge network of professionals
- Training and skills development

Economic

- Improve investment and partnership environment
- Better negotiation and increase government revenue

Social and environment

- Reduction of social conflict and poverty
- Environmental integrity
- Finalise policies on corporate social responsibility and gender
- Community empowerment in decision-making

What are your key challenges?

Governance

- Corruption and poor transparency
- Gaps between policy and implementation, and inadequate law enforcement
- Lack of mining experience and capacity to negotiate within governments

Economic

- Limited alternative economic activities
- Funding for capacity building in host countries

Human and technical

- Lack of finances and skilled human resources
- Lack of coordination between relevant stakeholders
- Education - legal, research, technology development

Social and community

- Community understanding of corporate social responsibility
- Gender issues and inclusive development

What are your opportunities?

Governance

- Revised constitution that places emphasis on rights
- New ministry for mining, ready for new laws/policy

Economic

- Huge deposits and market demand create jobs
- Resource corridor between central Asia and South Asia

Knowledge and technology

- Networking, information and technology exchange
- Educated communities with abundant social capital

Social and environmental

- Use corporate social responsibility and gender policies to improve communities
- Consultation process with indigenous people

What would you like to do to make a greater impact?

Governance

- Share the vision
- Strengthen policy and legal frameworks and enforcement
- Engage ministers and influence policy makers

Social and economic

- Initiate multi-stakeholder forums and collaboration in decision making
- Environmental rehabilitation

Knowledge and technology

- Improve communication and develop expert networks
- Create training programs and knowledge exchange

Country issues and priorities

Participants worked in country/regional groups and identified their key priorities and issues, what needed to be done, and how they would achieve their goals. Country and regional groups included Indonesia, Latin America, Mongolia, Afghanistan, The Philippines, East Africa, West Africa, Zambia and Mozambique.

Common priorities discussed by participants included:

- Minerals policy
- Regulation and agreements
- Sub-national governance
- Environmental regulation and management
- Transparency

Continued capacity building in governance was identified as the pathway forward, supported by continued training, collaborative research and education, and enhanced linkages and networks.

Country summaries

Indonesia

Indonesia's highest priorities include addressing overlapping regulations, conflict resolution, poor transparency, lack of public participation and weak law enforcement. The group identified a number of initiatives that could be undertaken, including training courses, stakeholder forums, better information and funding to boost transparency, policy and guidelines development, a local resources database, and research and institutional collaboration and development. This could be achieved through a M4D alumni association being formed in Indonesia, together with stakeholder forums and joint education, training and research.

Peru and Uruguay

Capacity building in consultation processes, upgrading agreements between stakeholders and companies, and capacity building at regional and local levels, were this regional group's priorities. The group identified the need to develop a program about capacity building in social management to address these priorities, which could be achieved through local training courses with supporting workshops and field work.

Mongolia

Mongolia identified mineral policy and agreements, and local government participation as priorities, which could be addressed through capacity building and public hearings. These actions could be facilitated through in-country courses and exchanging experiences with others.

Afghanistan

Mineral policy law and regulation, governance, and social and economic development are the priorities for Afghanistan. These could be addressed through a review of international best practice, modified laws and regulation, capacity building and infrastructure development. Such initiatives could be achieved through the introduction of international best practices to Afghanistan, and through training, fellowships, scholarships and workshops.

West Africa

This regional group included Ghana, Nigeria, Gambia and Liberia. The group's priorities include sub-national governance, environmental regulation and management, and minerals policy regulation and agreements. Initiatives to address these included capacity building, technology transfer and the establishment of sustainable mining centres. Regional and international peer exchanges, and organising sub-regional training and workshops are activities that could support these initiatives.

Zambia and Mozambique

Mining policy, regulations and agreements, and environmental regulation and management were this regional group's priorities. Actions that could be taken include obtaining technical assistance such as equipment and software, and continued capacity building in governance, monitoring, inspection and technical negotiations. These could be achieved through the enhancement of government and academic linkages, and the promotion of joint initiatives between stakeholders.

The Philippines

Priorities in the Philippines include environmental regulation and management, health and safety, community engagement and developing workforces. Actions to address these include education, development fellowships, tailored education and training, and action research. The establishment of a Philippines Sustainable Minerals Institute, and strong linkages and collaboration with ASEAN countries, could support these initiatives.

East Africa

South Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda formed this regional group. Their priorities include minerals policy regulation and agreements, national and sub-national governance, regulation of artisanal and small-scale mining, better geological skills, mapping and databases, and community engagement and consultation. Actions to address these include long and short-term capacity building, a regional mining forum, and technical support on policy development and review. These initiatives could be supported through in-country education such as workshops, regional conferences, fellowships and training, together with collaborative action research with local industry.

“You’ve got to build the capacities. You’ve got to be the catalysts in your countries for building the critical mass of informed people.”

Professor Paul Collier CBE, Director, Centre of the Study of African Economies, Blavatnik School of Government, The University of Oxford

M4D community of practice

IM4DC is creating a global knowledge network through its Mining for Development community of practice, supported by a purpose-built online alumni support system. The new online forum was launched at the event and warmly welcomed by alumni who are keen to continue their engagement with others beyond the IM4DC program structure.

The network will provide alumni, experts and others with the opportunity to actively support one another to implement their learning, gain ongoing access to leading practice and advice from Australian and international practitioners, and address mining for development issues in their home countries. They can also collaborate to influence policy and effect change through shared problem-solving and expertise. For more information visit <http://m4dlink.org>

Call to action

Professor Paul Collier CBE, Director of the Centre of the Study of African Economies at the Blavatnik School of Government at The University of Oxford, issued a call to action to participants at the Alumni Forum.

Relating his experience in Botswana, Professor Collier said the country had once been an arid, impoverished, land-locked African country. However, it had harnessed its diamond resources so successfully that for a period it was the fastest growing country in the world.

By contrast, he said, Sierra Leone, which was fertile but had access to ports, had fallen to the bottom of the development ladder after the discovery of diamonds.

"The choice between those two outcomes for any nation required certain things being known and done, and capacities had to be built within individual countries," said Professor Collier.

"We want you to use the power of your new international networks to build the information and knowledge that you need to gradually change and improve the way your institutions and policies deliver economic and social benefit to your nation." Tim Shanahan, Director of the Energy and Minerals Institute, The University of Western Australia

