

# IM4DC

# Action Research Report

## SUMMARY

**Researchers:**

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**School/Centre:**

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**Key themes:**

Governance and Regulation

Community and environmental sustainability

**Key countries:**

General application

**Completion:**

August 2014

**Research aims:**

The aim of this Handbook is to provide advice to assist officials and their governments to achieve all that is possible in negotiating mining contracts, as a catalyst to transformational change.

**For further information on this action research:**

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## 50 Pieces of Advice to an Official who is Engaged in the Negotiation of Mining Contracts – a Handbook

The governments of resource rich countries have a responsibility to be well prepared and knowledgeable in contract negotiations for natural resource extraction and long-term land leases; not just for the sake of securing a balanced financial deal, but to promote high standards in labour and human rights, environmental protection, health, safety, transparency and fiscal management. If well managed, the exploitation of minerals can improve the livelihoods of many people in countries around the world. In that regard, a good negotiation of the mining contract with the developing company is the key. In this Handbook, advice is provided to ensure good governance, capacity building and sustainable development.

The basic tenets provided in this Handbook include:

- Be prepared
- Ask questions
- Seek assistance
- Engage community
- Be as transparent as possible
- Look for added and shared value