

# IM4DC

# Action Research Report

## SUMMARY

**Researchers:**

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**School/Centre:**

School of Civil, Environmental and Mining Engineering

**University/Institutions:**

University of Western Australia  
Latin America Mining Monitoring Program

**Key themes:**

Community and environmental sustainability  
Operational effectiveness

**Key countries:**

Peru

**Completion:**

April 2015

**Research aims:**

This research project entailed:

- engaging with mining industry, government and NGO representatives to study their approaches to listening to communities and their responses to what they hear
- formulating suggestions to enact the guiding principles in order to facilitate the development of a mutual understanding of company-community interests
- presenting a summary of a previous report on community perspectives to the individuals and groups interviewed for that report
- creating two short films to be used in teaching about the impact of mining on communities

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

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**Short films/pedagogical tools:**

<https://vimeo.com/122399156>

<https://vimeo.com/122321445>

**Companion reports on IM4DC website**

<http://im4dc.org/action-research-reports/> :

'Mining and Community Engagement in Peru: Communities Telling Their Stories to Inform Future Practice'

'Mining and Communities: a Simulation Game as an Educational Tool for the International Mining for Development Centre'

## Translating Values into Action: Guiding Principles for Improved Community Engagement

This report builds on a previous project\* which presented the perspectives of a selection of community members at two mine sites about their experience of social conflict with the Peruvian state and with mining companies. The experiences of these men and women are varied but have given rise to a common belief that neither the government nor the companies hold any respect for the values, beliefs and needs of community members. The results of the first project were presented as a set of guidelines which laid out the key areas for improvement needed to create equitable negotiations in the future. The current project aimed to deepen the context of these guidelines by gaining feedback about the guidelines from the same communities as well as exploring how companies and Governments who have positive relations with communities, appear to have applied them, or from the perspective of the communities, could do so in the future.

The objective of this report is to provide some meaningful direction about what needs to change in the values and behavior of companies, governments, communities and non-government organisations (NGOs) to develop more equitable approaches to community engagement in the future; it aims to "develop translation and mediation tools for helping make visible the difference of interests, access, power, needs, desire and philosophical perspective" of those people at the center of mining economies.

Along with the results of interviews and identification of key change areas, recommendations on how strategies could be implemented and a set of Guiding Principles are provided.

Two short films have been made by filmmaker Eric Feinblatt, intended for use as pedagogical tools in teaching and learning for engineering students, government personnel and mining companies.

\* The companion report 'Mining and Community Engagement in Peru: Communities Telling Their Stories to Inform Future Practice' is available on the IM4DC website or from the authors (see left).