Mining, Human Rights, and Development

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Images of Mining
Challenges to Mining Companies

- Activities of mining companies are criticized heavily for
  - I. having destructive impact on the environment
    - Open pit or surface mining
    - Tailings dam
    - Failure to rehabilitate
2. rendering host and affected communities more vulnerable to human rights violations
   - Situated in areas where the State is invisible/weak/ compartmentalized
   - Presence of armed groups
   - Absence of basic services
   - Absence of the rule of law
3. No genuine after mine community development
   - Companies become transactional due to being vulnerable to extortion
   - Companies have a business framework but not development framework
Re-Imagining Mining Practices

- A mining company is also engaged in the business of community development.
- Mining companies are not patrons but partners of the community.
- How the community is affected is considered in the company’s decision making.
- The company endeavors to progressively implement the human rights of the employees, managers, and community folks.
- Transparency in the conduct of its affairs is required
Benefits of Human Rights Approach to Mining Practices

- It will help companies avoid unnecessary costs.
- It will help companies manage risks brought about by the “soft issues”.
- It will make companies dispel bad publicity against the mining industry thereby making social license more secure.
- It will help companies avoid criminal liability that might be made possible in the future due to human rights issues arising from its operations.
- It will help companies avoid industrial (labor) unrest.
- It will help companies from being hampered by security and conflict issues and other nuisance.
Sustainability Framework

- Environment
- Sustainable Development
- Community and Indigenous Peoples
- Risk Management
- Human Rights
- Occupational, Health and Safety
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Ethics and Corporate Governance
- Materials Stewardship and Supply Chain Management

Sustainable Development Through World-class Responsible Mining

Your partner in Sustainable Development