



CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y PLANIFICACIÓN DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE

MINING, MINERALS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development – South America

MMSD NEWS – SOUTH AMERICA

Bulletin No. 2 - July 2001

“This project does not question the sustainability of the industry, but how industry can contribute to the sustainable development of mining regions and countries”

Welcome to the second bulletin of the Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development (MMSD) project in South America. In this second edition we will report on the activities undertaken in the last two months in each country, on important global events of the MMSD project and on other similar global initiatives. We will also reflect on the obstacles and lessons that have arisen from the experience in Latin-America to date, and on the projections of the process for the coming year.

We, the regional and national co-ordinators, are working all-out. The participative process has begun in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Peru, with certain differences responding to the different national contexts. In spite of the short time available for the project, we are doing everything possible in order to effectively facilitate a *process*; that is, a gradual, systematic and coherent sequence of activities. This starts with identification of the diverse communities of interest involved nationally in order to inform them about the purposes of MMSD and conclude with meetings and workshops in the current year, making use of instances and efforts that are active in the region.

As for the research, every country is making progress with the compilation, analysis and systematisation of the available studies and documents. We have a contents index of both national reports and the global report, which can be read on our web page (www.mmsd.la.org).

The survey we announced in the previous bulletin has been answered by over 200 people involved in mining and sustainable development in the Region.

We invite you to circulate it and to reply before 15th August. We will be sending the results of the preliminary analysis to those who have replied. Both the survey and the aforementioned document are available on our Internet pages.

We are aware that this project has many limitations, as does any task of this scale undertaken. The most evident of these are the time and resources available. In this respect, we are doing our best to ensure that the process be respectful, adequately informed and balanced in terms of the participation capacity of the different stakeholders.

Like many of the different groups of people participating in this project, we see in it an opportunity to bring the points of view of diverse people to light, and to boost long-term processes, with the commitment of both industry and the governments.

We would like to thank everyone who has written to us to give us encouragement in the face of this challenge. We wish to invite all our readers to share their viewpoints, concerns and ideas with us and to participate actively in the activities we are developing over the coming months.

Cristina Echavarría
Director of MPRI
Co-ordinator
Participation

Hernán Blanco
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Research

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1. SURVEY ON MINING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Preliminary results of the survey made to people linked with mining and sustainable development in Latin America are presented below. The results correspond to surveys received up until 30th June. The survey closed in August 15th and a final report will be posted in early September.

Objectives of the survey

The objective of the survey is to identify the issues of priority in mining and sustainable development, from the point of view of different stakeholders in the Region.

Due to its nature, this survey does not attempt to constitute THE opinion of stakeholders on key issues. Its main value lies in giving some preliminary indications about what are the priority issues in mining and sustainability for the different stakeholders in the Region.

Methodology

The results have been obtained on the basis of a self-administered survey directed at people with links to mining activity in any part of Latin-America. Although, generally speaking, the methodology can be similar to an opinion survey, there are certain differences that must be established in order to be able to appreciate both the scope and limitations of the results.

Although the replies were mostly sent by e-mail and fax, some were also received through the website and at the workshops. This produced a total of 177 valid replies. We estimate that we will have between 250 to 300 replies by the end of the survey.

In Brazil alone the industry has judged the issues to be too generic and all of importance. IBRAM (Brazilian Mining Institute) has proposed to draft a short document on these issues titled “The position of Brazilian industry” to circulate amongst its members. The best way to make the document reflect the diversity of internal opinion on these issues in the Brazilian industry is being analysed with IBRAM.

With regard to the validity and reliability of information, the final judgement can be more safely made when the study ends, but the initial data suggests that the information is reasonably valid and reliable. This affirmation is sustained by the following points:

- a) the percentage of results obtained in relation to those effectively sent (over 25%, a high proportion for this kind of survey);
- b) the low level of queries by the interviewees concerning specific doubts about the instrument;
- c) the sound nature of replies to the questions asked;
- d) to all appearances, a reasonable level of consistency in the interviewees’ judgements.

Who replied

Preliminary results show that the level of replies varied according to the people involved. Less than a fifth (16.6%) belong to the public sector, a third (33,7%) to the private sector, and a relative majority (49,6%) to the civil society.

According to preliminary results, the five groups of people who most replied to the survey are, in order: international co-operation organisations, national government representatives, independent research institutes, community members of mining regions and multinational representatives.

All this indicates that in this phase the replies have been biased towards the general public at the cost of the public sector.

Preliminary results

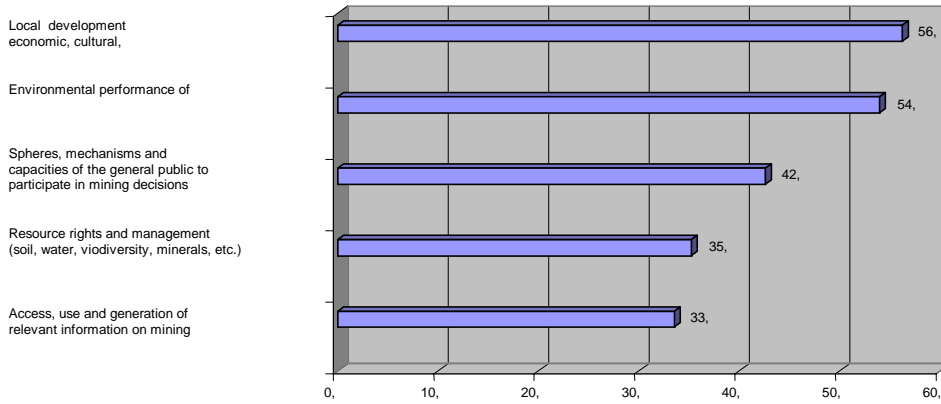
Issues on the agenda

Taking into account all the interviewed parties, there are four issues that were mentioned as matters of great interest by over a tenth of the interviewees:

- environmental performance of mining
- spheres, mechanisms and capacities of civil society to participate in decisions regarding mining
- local development
- public management instruments and capabilities

The subject of access to, and use and generation of relevant information on mining appears when the five most important issues mentioned by the *totality* of the interviewees are analysed (see attached figure).

**Main issues according to sum
Of the first five mentioned**
(% of the total interviewees mentioning the issue)



First view of Opinions

Preliminary analysis of the participants’ preferences shows some differences that could be considered significant:

- The environmental performance of mining shows up as the most important issue for the public and private sectors, and slightly less so for civil society.
- Spheres, mechanisms and capacities of civil society to participate in mining decisions is an important concern of the general public.
- The same for local development, it is an important concern for the general public that apparently does not have the same emphasis for the private sector.
- Public management instruments and capacities are a priority concern for the private sector, and for civil society to a lesser extent; they do not seem to be a focus of attention in for public sector.
- Natural resource rights and management show up as the most relevant issues for the public and private sectors.

- On the other hand, concern for the issue of mining in indigenous territories is only manifested by the public sector.
- Distribution of taxes and mineral rent is a subject that seems to be of priority concern to certain members of the public and private sectors, and of secondary concern to civil society.

The survey suggests that although it is possible to identify some aspects of shared interest amongst the stakeholders, such as the environmental performance of mining, we are still a long way from finding unanimous views about priorities, even within each stakeholder group.

The information presented and analysed above is still in a state of primary elaboration, and the data cannot be considered definitive. The analysis by country was not developed in depth due to the reduced number of cases presented by some of them.

Elaborated on the basis of the report written by Agustín Canzani, of Equipos-MORI, Uruguay. The complete preliminary report can be seen on the project’s Web page.

2. REPORTS FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATORS

As well as the survey and Internet site, progress has been recorded in each of the five countries involved.

Some of the process' main characteristics in each country are detailed below, with priority given to some of the initial findings, lessons learnt and difficulties.



BOLIVIA

By Juan Carlos Enríquez, MMSD Co-ordinator in Bolivia

Research

The chapters regarding economic, institutional and environmental views of mining for the period 1980-2000 have been drafted at a preliminary level.

Research has been made easier by the abundance of economic statistical data and documents, while it has been limited with regard to studies and information on social issues. In the case of environmental issues which have been based on studies and research carried out over the last two decades, it has been interesting to confirm the disorganised but continuous and progressive evolution of environmental management in the mining sector in Bolivia.

Participation

A journey through the western zone of the country was programmed and organised in order to make direct contact with the mining districts and settlements where there is normally no public or private postal service.

This journey was important for inviting and explaining in person what results we were hoping to obtain from the workshops to be carried out within the framework of the participative process of the MMSD Project in Bolivia.

Lessons learnt

Despite reconfirming attendance, it was not always possible to have total participation. 170 invitations to the workshops were sent of which 128 people participated, representing 75% of those called on to attend.

Likewise, difficulties of a social nature and the harsh winter in the Bolivian "Altiplano" to some extent restricted a more widespread participation from different key sectors.

We are currently in the Third Phase of the project, and in consistence with the systematisation of the results of the participative workshops, in the next bulletin we will be able make the results of the Participative Process in Bolivia known in detail.



BRAZIL

By Laura Barreto, CETEM, MMSD Co-ordinator in Brazil

The activities of the MMSD project in Brazil are running as planned. We are close to signing the contracts with CIPMA – Chile, IIED –London and IDRC – Uruguay.

The project in Brazil, in its whole, began in May 2001. The national research report is being prepared with no difficulty. In this phase, we are working with public information. Major difficulties will begin when the need to integrate the participative process with research reports arises, and when we require information that is not available, but will have to be somehow generated. In relation with this second problem, we are trying to identify the gaps and needs as well as trying to create partnerships with institutions like the *Secretaria de Minas e Metalurgia – SMM/MME*, the *Departamento Nacional de Producao Mineral – DNPM* and the *Companhia de Pesquisa dos Recursos Minerais – CPRM*.

The major challenge emerges from the participative process, because of the short time and resources available.

The meeting was convened by the National Coordinator with the organizational support of the *SMM*, where it took place in July 6, 2001. Among the participants was Cristina Echavarría, Regional Coordinator, who gave a presentation on the MMSD Project. This meeting initiated the participative process in Brazil. Depending on the contribution from industry (through *IBRAM*) and from the public sector (through *SMM*). It will include:

- Meeting with Brazilian industry based on position paper by *IBRAM*. Most likely date: July 30, 2001. Belo Horizonte.
- Meeting with national government, local government, based on position paper by *SMM* and *Ministerio do Meio Ambiente*.
- Meeting with NGOs and civil society.



CHILE

By Valeria Torres, CIPMA, Chile. MMSD Assistant Co-ordinator in South America.

Research

The study on the state-of-the-art in mining and sustainable development issues in Chile is at a fairly advanced stage. Work began on the chapters on the economic, institutional and environmental views of mining.

Although obtaining information on large-scale mining has not presented any real problems, in the case of small-scale mining it has been necessary to make more effort and establish contacts with key informants as the available information is more disperse and out-of-date.

Participative process

The participative process in Chile began with meetings with different sectors connected to the field of mining and sustainable development: the private sector, public sector and civil society. These meetings were held in Santiago, Antofagasta and Calama.

Parallel to these meetings, information on the project, the bulletin and the survey were sent via e-mail and fax to over 150 people connected with mining and sustainable development.

A follow-up was made by CIPMA of all the people who received this information in order to support the survey. All these initial activities have permitted us to identify the key people in each sector involved in the participative process and to plan the workshops in collaboration with them.

We learned various lessons in this initial stage of the participative process. One important lesson was the need to explain clearly the objectives of the workshops to be undertaken with the different persons so as to avoid generating false expectations or conflicts.

We are currently dedicated to organising the 14 workshops we will undertake within the framework of the process. The workshops in Santiago will take place in the third week of June. The workshops in the north of the country will take place in the last two weeks of June. Finally, a last informative meeting will take place in the city of Copiapó in the III Region in the first week of August. This meeting will be open to the public and private sector and organisations from the general public.



ECUADOR

By Fabián Sandoval – Fundación Ambiente y Sociedad –MMSD Co-ordinator in Ecuador.

Research

The research has not presented major difficulties in Ecuador, apart from those to be expected, related to the dispersion and, sometimes, inconsistency of the information.

One important aspect has been the reflection that has motivated the entire process and that is, one way or another, allowing the local discourse to be refocused in relation to the role of mining in the sustainable development of the country. In this regard we believe that it is important to disseminate the different studies that are being carried out in the global context of the project.

Participative process

One of the most positive points of the participative process has been the confirmation that there is a potential openness between the key parties from the mining sector in Ecuador to try to overcome the mutual ignorance existing regarding their perception of each other.

Main obstacles encountered:

Dialogue processes in the mining sector have diminished: the inconsistency of some participative processes with similar characteristics has bred mistrust for this kind of activities.

Convening capacity: securing the involvement of each of the key groups has presented difficulties of varying magnitudes.

Methodological focus: each sector of key persons should receive different treatment, in the sense that their perception and focus vary notoriously from one to the next.

Survey: it has been shown that a survey carried out by electronic means has few possibilities of success, even within the “modern” sector.

Perspectives

In order to improve turn-out, it has been necessary to link the MMSD meetings of some of the stakeholders with other ongoing or parallel activities.



PERU

By Juana Kuramoto – GRADE. MMSD Co-ordinator in Peru.

Research

In the research process the statistical information necessary for the report is being collected. Certain inconsistencies and voids have been found in the official statistics which we hope to overcome shortly. Likewise, the compilation of relevant information on small-scale mining is at an advanced stage and writing up has begun.

Participative process

The participative process of the MMSD Peru Project is advancing slowly but in a couple of weeks the workshops will begin.

The first three workshops will take place in Lima and a fourth will be held in the city of Nazca in order to ensure the presence of artisanal and small scale miners. A second group of workshops will be held in both Lima and the city of Huaraz.

The specific circumstances in Peru at this moment mean the MMSD project is being developed in a turbulent atmosphere. Firstly, there has been an upsurge in the conflicts between communities affected by mining and the mining companies themselves.

At the same time, the current political transition has temporarily (June 2001) slowed some mining investment projects. On the other hand, due to confrontations with the local communities and the need to ensure better local benefits, the mining companies and local authorities have taken the initiative of presenting a project to modify the Mining Canon.

Finally, the recent earthquake has caused damages to the mining operations in the south such as Cerro Verde, Southern Peru and Tintaya which will temporarily affect the country's copper production. However, one fact that has not been pointed out by the media is that the earthquake will have a terrible impact on the independent gold-mining labourers. The whole of the Nazca-Ocoña zone, the country's second largest small-scale mining centre, has been one of the most affected areas and the damages suffered there have still not been estimated.

Despite the situation, the persons and groups contacted have expressed their wish to participate in and support this process. They have also expressed their desire to assure that their opinions be respected and adequately expressed in the final reports, both at a national level and in the global report.

The complete reports from the national co-ordinators can be seen on the project's Web pages.

3. HOW WILL THE PERSPECTIVES OF DIFFERENT INDIVIDUALS AND COUNTRIES BE INCORPORATED IN THE MMSD PROJECT?

One of the challenges of this regional process is to make visible the multiple perspectives and opinions of all the participants. The MMSD regional organisers have communicated this to all those taking part in the process. It is of particular concern that the participants' opinions and emphases be adequately represented at every stage of the project. For this reason each document produced within the framework of the project will have its own integrity and value, in accordance with the following points:

Product	Processing and Dissemination
<i>Workshop Reports</i>	A report will be made for each workshop, setting out the participants' opinions and priorities. The participants themselves will endorse the final report, which will be published on the Internet site.
<i>Documents</i>	We offer interested parties the possibility of publishing documents that reflect participants' positions on the Internet site.
<i>National Reports</i>	The reports from Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, Brazil and Peru will be published in their entirety on the Internet site and can be published for circulation in each country. The contents are available on the project's Web pages.

Product	Processing and Dissemination
<i>Regional Report</i>	The regional report will be published in its entirety on paper and on the Internet site, where it is also possible to consult the report's contents. Prior to final publication it will be available for comments on the Internet.
<i>Internet Forum</i>	From July 2001 until completion in March 2002 the regional project's Internet site will include a space to discuss priority issues, documents, and national and regional reports. This space will be open to all interested persons.
<i>Survey</i>	The survey has been sent to close to one thousand people in the Region. Its aim is to identify the key issues for different people and countries and put them into priority. The results will be published in their entirety on the Internet site.
<i>Global Report</i>	A mechanism is being discussed which will ensure that the regional perspectives are duly represented in the global report. The final version of the global report will be published in English on the MMSD – London Web page. The possibility of translating this into Spanish is being negotiated.

4. WHAT IS THE GMI AND WHAT RELATIONSHIP DOES IT HAVE TO THE MMSD PROJECT?

In 1998 a group of nine executives from leading mining companies decided to unite forces to face the issues affecting their sector's reputation. They decided to create an initiative that would contribute to the industry's internal reform and to a rigorous study of the social issues they had to face. The initiative was called: *Global Mining Initiative –GMI* . In order to progress in the study, they commissioned the *International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)*, based in London, to define the scope of such a study for the industry. This was completed and adopted as a plan in October 1999. Since then, the recommendations made by *IIED* changed the initial nature of the *GMI*. *IIED* recommended that: (a) the project's public and private financing be in the proportion of 40:60, (b) a structure be designated to preserve the project's integrity and independence; and (c) the study process be highly participative. Finally *IIED*'s study stretched its scope to include the whole mining cycle of the global economy – the minerals' cycle the exploration and extraction phase up until the use and recycling of mineral products. As a result of this the Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development Project (MMSD) was born. MMSD is an independent component, or descendent of the original *GMI* initiative. At the moment there are 30 company executives involved (who do not necessarily belong to the *GMI*) and 15 non-commercial sponsors, all brought together in the Group of Sponsors. There is an Assurance Group, made up of 25 people from a wide range of stakeholders, and a Work Group under the direction of Luke Danielson.

IIED acts as host to the Work Group and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and as host and "banker" to the sponsors. Moreover, there are a series of regional MMSD partners in Australia, North America, South America and South Africa. Another branch of the GMI task is to establish the vehicle that will serve the mining industry to carry out the transition to sustainable development. The Directorate and members of the current organisation representing the industry, the International Council for Metals and the Environment (ICME), have agreed to broaden the ICME mandate, transforming it into the ICMM (International Council for Metals and Minerals). The ICMM represents a commitment to the generation of new behaviour within the industry, a task requiring a high and consistent degree of leadership. The ICMM's mission is to improve social and environmental performance and to act as a meeting point for the rest of the industry's global bodies. The ICMM's Council will include the presidents and CEO's of the principal mining companies and current representatives of the industry's national and regional associations. Finally, the *GMI* companies are currently organising an industrial conference for May 2002 in Toronto, Canada. By then they hope to have their reply as a sector to the MMSD's proposals. Various industrial and non-industrial participants will be invited to this event to debate the MMSD report. In our next bulletin we will provide further information on this subject.

For further details visit www.globalmining.com.
 Original text in English by Gabriela Flores. IIED.

5. MINING IN THE PURSUIT OF SUSTAINABILITY

The debate over the link between mining and sustainable development is currently growing. It is without doubt a problem involving numerous parties and as such the initiatives regarding it are also numerous.

In this context, it becomes vitally important to boost the synergy between these projects and the MMSD in order to make their results and the objectives they seek to achieve, more powerful.

Below is a list of initiatives linked to mining and sustainable development that are either proposals or in progress. Although the list does not attempt to be exhaustive, it does give an idea of the importance of initiatives and of why we say this subject is being targeted for evaluation at a world level.

Initiatives in progress

- **World Bank. Extractive Industry Review.** This initiative proposes to review the role that the World Bank can play in the extractive industries and the possible contribution of the sector to poverty reduction. It does not propose to impose a loan moratorium on the mining sector whilst the review is carried out nor is it orientated to defining performance standards for the industry. It attempts to produce information on areas of consensus among stakeholders, without pressuring them, and including minority points of view.
- **APELL/UNEP.** Awareness and Preparation for Emergencies at a Local Level is a process which helps people to prevent, adequately prepare for and respond to accidents and emergencies GENERATED IN MINING CONTEXTS. For further information: www.unepie.org/apell.

6. ARTISANAL AND SMALL SCALE MINERS: DIVERSE INITIATIVES THAT MUST BE ARTICULATED

Diverse institutions are working on artisanal and small-scale mining, which has been identified as a key area for the reduction of poverty. The challenge is to articulate these diverse initiatives, maintaining their independence while avoiding duplicating efforts.

- The World Bank, DFID (the United Kingdom's Department for International Development) and the global MMSD project are progressing with the CASM programme (Consultative Group for Artisanal and Small Scale Mining).
- The ILO (International Work Organisation) has a programme for the prevention and progressive elimination of child workers in small-scale gold-mining in South America.
- ECLAC has identified small-scale mining as a key working area.

- **Industry-Led Voluntary Initiatives.** Projects in course INCLUDE: from the WWW regarding mining Certification; from the IIED regarding the Forest Stewardship Council; and from Noranda regarding their Responsible Care Programme. For further information: www.iied.org.

It is important to be up-to-date with the progress of all these initiatives and to explore possibilities for collaboration in order to avoid duplication and to increase the positive impact.

Proposals

- **Global Framework Convention.** This is a global governmental proposal on mining, minerals, metals and sustainable development. A government-ratified international agreement would be its objective. For further information: <http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/camma/>.
- **World Mining Forum.** UNEP proposes to establish a multi-disciplinary forum to continue the MMSD process, including the creation of an international agreement and the building-up of trust between the different stakeholders if necessary. With regard to the issue of funding, it has been proposed that although UNEP does not have funds for this initiative, financing could be obtained from a variety of foundations that could support this secretariat.

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- The work groups and the Americas Mining Ministries' Annual Conference (CAMMA) has identified this as a priority area.
- The Mining Policy Research Initiative (MPRI) has also identified support of research contributing to more sustainable small-scale mining as one of its priority working areas.
- The activities of the GAMA Project (Environmental Management of Small-Scale Mining) will open up new ways to improve the environmental situation of small-scale gold-mining in Peru. For further information: <http://hruschka.com/gama/>.

This in no way attempts to be an exhaustive list. We would like to invite people to contribute information on any other projects or initiatives in progress, or on links to their Internet pages.

7. MMSD NEWS AND EVENTS

A complete report on the public activities of MMSD global can be seen at www.mmsd-la.org/documentos/cronograma.xls.

August

- *Multistakeholder Workshop on Managing Mineral Wealth*, London, August 2001. Its objective is to address Challenges 2, 3 y 5. To this end, diverse case studies will be presented and analysed. Contact: Patricio Leyton, Patricio.Leyton@iied.org.
- *Life Cycle Analysis Workshop*, New York, 9th and 10th August 2001. Contact: Caroline Digby, caroline.digby@iied.org.
- *Corruption and International Transparency Experts' Workshop*. To take place in mid-September – exact date and place to be confirmed. The workshop's objective will be to cover issues related to the corruption faced by the mineral sector. Contact: Bernice Lee, bernice.lee@iied.org.
- *Meeting for Experts in Human Rights*. To take place in mid-September 2001 – exact date and place to be confirmed. The workshop will discuss issues related to human rights and the mining and minerals sector, with reference to the work of Simon Handelsman, commissioned by MMSD. Contact: Bernice Lee, bernice.lee@iied.org.

September

- *Indigenous Peoples Workshop*, Ecuador, 10th and 11th September 2001. Participants will be mostly indigenous persons. It is orientated towards fundamental aspects of relationships between indigenous peoples and mining based on regional work and a base study. Contact: Frank McShane, frank.mcshane@iied.org.
- *Product Stewardship Workshop*. To take place between 25th and 30th September, in Europe – city to be confirmed. This workshop is currently in a detailed planning stage. Contact: Caroline Digby, caroline.digby@iied.org.

OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

- *Preliminary presentation of the results of the Pricewaterhouse Coopers study on environmental performance of the industry*. These were analysed in the Annual Mining Seminar organised by CEPLMLP (Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy) in Dundee University, Scotland on 7th June 2001. To see the MMSD presentation in this seminar visit: http://www.iied.org/mmsd/mmsd_pdfs/dunde_e_pres_5th_june_2001.pdf The final study report will be ready at the end of July. Further information can be found at www.mining-survey.com. For further information contact Caroline Digby caroline.digby@iied.org.
- *Biodiversity and Mining Experts' Workshop*. To take place in London on 11th and 12th June 2001. The workshop objective was to generate ideas on subjects being covered by MMSD to help define the scope and focus of the MMSD mining and biodiversity research, and to become familiar with the possible paths to foster and complement the existing initiatives. For further information contact Libby Wood, libby.wood@iied.org.
- *International Congress on the environmental impact of mercury used in small-scale gold-mining in Latin-America*. Co-organised by the Latin-American Network on Precious Metals (CYTED XIII.B) and the Environmental Management in Small-Scale Mining Project (GAMA), to take place on 24th and 26th September 2001 in Lima, Peru. For further information: jornada-hg@gama-peru.org

FOURTH MEETING OF THE GLOBAL ASSURANCE GROUP

Cristina Echavarría (MPRI) and Valeria Torres (CIPMA) participated as South American regional partners to the Fourth Meeting of the Assurance Group of the MMSD project, which took place in Johannesburg from 6th to 8th May 2001.

The CEOs of four mining companies were present along with other representatives from the MMSD Sponsor Group, the MMSD Work Group and representatives from all the project's Regional Partners. A certain number of observers interested in the project also participated in the discussions which took place over the two days.

This meeting – with over 100 people attending – presented a unique opportunity for the exchange of ideas. As a matter of fact,

the discussions were enriched by the different opinions around the table.

In the discussion regarding some of the main challenges facing the mining sector everyone was asked to express their expectations of the MMSD project. The issues discussed varied from national mineral wealth management to fluvial elimination as a form of waste disposal.

The possible results and mechanisms that could be adopted to deal with some of these challenges were also discussed. The dialogue concentrated mainly on the speed at which change could be brought about and the kinds of decision-making processes that could be implemented when MMSD is completed.

MMSD REGIONAL PARTNERS MEETING – JOHANNESBURG, MAY 2001

Participants: Marie Hoadley and Daniel Limpitlaw (Southern Africa), Bren Sheeny (Australia), Cristina Echavarría and Valeria Torres (South America), Mark Halle (North America), Libby Wood, Frank McShane, Gabriela Flores and Caroline Digby (MMSD London).

One of the main issues arising in the meeting was the co-ordinators' interest in reviewing the MMSD project's final report in order to ensure an adequate representation of the regional perspectives, especially regarding the south's viewpoint in a project whose final report will be written in the north. Each of the regional members referred to their Region's activities within the framework of the project:

Australia: www.ameef.com.au/mmsd/

Various preliminary documents have been prepared which will serve as a basis for the terms of reference of the research contracts. A preliminary exercise was done to identify the main issues and then a workshop was held to discuss and refine these issues. There are two issues that cross the rest: the indigenous issue and employment.

Southern Africa: www.mining.wits.ac.za/mmsd.html

The issues identified as of priority were defined in a multi-disciplinary workshop carried out at the start of the process. In this workshop the following issues arose: economy, environment and society, AIDS, and small-scale mining and artisanal and small scale miners. Once the issues had been identified a workshop with research experts was held.

North America

Various stages were distinguished in the process:

- To draw up a sustainability profile for North America from a historical perspective.
- Future scenarios for different interest communities of interest.
- To carry out a practical test for sustainable development.
- Proposal for a dialogue on mining in North America to contribute to the existing dialogue between the different groups.

South America: www.mmsd-la.org

The delegates presented the activities that had been carried out in the Region, the participation and research work plans, the composition of national teams and their co-ordinators, Brazil's limited funding problem, structuring of the Advisory Group and the priority issues in South America.

The GMI's presentation to the regional members of MMSD

Peter Eggleston (of Rio Tinto), John Groom (of EHS Anglo-American), Tom Burke (BP and Rio Tinto consultant) and Hugh Leggat (responsible for Rio Tinto communications) made a presentation on the conference of the *Global Mining Initiative* to take place in May 2002 in Toronto, Canada. The objective was to exchange ideas on the participation of MMSD and its regional members in the conference.

What will happen to the project after January 2002?

One of MMSD's objectives is to clearly identify a group of options to progress with once the project comes to an end in 2002. MMSD has begun to consult different stakeholders on the processes they believe to be the most appropriate. A workshop to be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, U.S.A, will be the next step in this process.

Many people think some kind of structure is needed to implement actions in a transition towards a more sustainable society and they ask what significance this will have for the mineral industries. At different levels, the existing proposals involve new codes of conduct for the industry and for those related to it. They imply the management of administrative structures to give life to these rules and give incentive to those adhering to them.

MMSD defined some of these options with precision and is currently evaluating their benefits and disadvantages in an effort to:

- identify the main options for progress and the degree to which they would be possible based on the comprehension of key challenges facing the mining and minerals sectors;
- identify the main options for progress in co-ordination with other stakeholders
- carefully define and evaluate these options
- search for some kind of agreement on which is the most viable option

MMSD is currently reviewing two different levels of options. One of these implies specific attempts to tackle the problems.

Among these problems are included those affecting one sector of the industry (for example, the use of mercury by artisanal and small scale miners, the so-called "conflict diamonds") or a group of stakeholders (for example, health problems in mining communities, mine safety). Geographically focused efforts are also included in this category, such as the Australian Code of Mines, for example.

The second group of options deals with initiatives at a global level that could virtually create an international structure to improve the performance of the mining and minerals sector as a whole and to face the range of problems presented by sustainable development.

These options could be directed by governments or international agencies.

They could also be based on a voluntary initiative headed by the industry or by a coalition of stakeholders including industry. These options are not mutually exclusive and could even strengthen and support each other.

Several of the options that governments or international institutions could or have taken have been detailed above.

Some governments and international institutions are already developing these ideas. Some of them have been undertaken in preparation for the Earth Summit programmed for September 2002. In South Africa.

On the other hand, there is a wide range of possible models in which the mining and minerals sector, acting alone or together with other parties, could take the initiative to create a more efficient system to promote more sustainable models for the sector. Some examples are:

- the mediator model (based at the International Financial Corporation)
- industry codes of conduct (such as the *Australian Mining Council* or the *Letter for Sustainable Development* of the ICMM and ICME)
- the chemical industry's 'Responsible Care' model
- the 'Forest Stewardship Council' model, based on the clients' desire to acquire certified products
- a finance-linked certification (which broaches the difficulties implied by tracing the origin of mineral prime materials in finished products)

One fundamental matter in any proposal aimed at sustainable development is to identify the levels at which it is necessary to act and decide what actions are appropriate for each of these levels.

There are important differences in ecosystems, economic development levels, cultures and national priorities that can indicate that a "multi-use" global system would be inappropriate.

For further information see: www.iied.org/mmsd.

DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED ON THE INTERNET SITE

Some documents have recently been published on the MMSD – South America Internet site which may be of interest to our readers. You are invited to send us documents for publication at: cquintana@idrc.org.uy

- Nota Conceptual - Cierre de Minas (Conceptual Note – Mine Closure); (in Microsoft Word, 68K).
- Nota Conceptual - Minas Abandonadas (Conceptual Note – Abandoned Mines); (in Microsoft Word, 69K).
- Nota Conceptual - Grandes Volúmenes de Desechos (Conceptual Note – Large Volumes Waste); (in Microsoft Word, 77K).
- Eventos Públicos de MMSD (MMSD Public Events); (in Microsoft Word, 44K)
- Cronograma de Eventos Públicos de MMSD (MMSD Public Events Schedule); (in Excel, 32K)
- Desafíos y Oportunidades que Enfrenta el Sector de los Minerales en su Aporte a la Transición hacia el Desarrollo Sustentable (in Microsoft Word, 90K). MMSD Global.
- Danielson, Luke and Lagos, Gustavo; The Role of the Mineral Sector in the Transition to Sustainable Development, (in pdf, 40K, English version of previous document). MMSD Global.
- Normas Ambientales de Perú (Peru's Environmental Laws); (in Microsoft Word, 134K)
- Indacochea Álvarez, Clara and Juep Bakuants, Victor; Participación de Pueblos Indígenas Amazónicos en las Actividades de Hidrocarburos (Participation of Indigenous Amazonian Peoples in Hydrocarbon Activities); (in Microsoft Word, 70K)
- Indacochea Álvarez, Clara; Estado-Comunidades-Empresa: Trinomio Base del Manejo Ambiental en actividades de Hidrocarburos (State – Communities – Company: Trinomial Base of Environmental Management in Hydrocarbon Activities); (in Microsoft Word, 366K)

PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTRONIC FORUM ON MINING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In the coming days the Forum on Mining and Sustainable Development will begin to function. This Forum has been opened as a space to exchange ideas on the project's progress, its findings, difficulties and challenges. We invite you to participate as your opinion is key to achieving the project's objectives.

The Forum can be accessed through our Internet site <http://www.ems-sema.org/cgi-bin/foros-sema/wwwthreads.pl>.

The Forum is structured in such a way that it is possible to open new discussion themes along the way (the state of the process in a specific country, discussion on the subject contents, etc.). It is an instrument that contributes to the transparency of the process and the participation of all people involved in the project.

PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY ON MINING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – THE DEADLINE IS 15TH AUGUST

The survey's objective is to prioritise the key issues on mining and sustainable development in our Region, classified by country and by stakeholders.

The contribution of each person is invaluable and indispensable for the survey's results to reflect the diversity of viewpoints existing in the Region.

We particularly invite indigenous peoples, workers, small-scale miners, local and regional public authorities and parliamentarians to reply, since these groups are not well represented in the surveys received to date.

It is possible to complete the survey on the Internet site www.mmsd-la.org/encuesta up until 15th August. The survey is available in Spanish, Portuguese and English.

8. MMSD SOUTH AMERICA UPDATE

Throughout June, July and the beginning of August national workshops with different stakeholders will be developing in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Peru. The objective of the workshops is to:

- Identify the key issues for each of the stakeholders based on their own priorities and opinions.

- Comprehend the diverse perspectives of each group or sector.
- Contribute to the extension and construction of networks and relationships.

Therefore, the intention is not to reach a consensus, nor to resolve conflicts, but to identify problems and potential areas of collaboration between the stakeholders.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 18	La Paz, Bolivia	Workshop with representatives from the civil society
June 20	La Paz, Bolivia	Workshop with national, regional and local government and parliamentarians
June 22	La Paz, Bolivia	Workshop with representatives from mining industry associations and national and multinational mining companies
June 26	Quito, Ecuador	Workshop with representatives from civil society
June 26	Bolivia	Workshop with indigenous peoples and organisations, local communities from mining zones and mining worker unions
June 28	Oruro, Bolivia	Workshop with representatives from small-scale mining
July 12		Opening of Internet site for discussion forums
July 12	Lima, Peru	Workshop for independent consultants and mining professionals
July 13	Machala, Ecuador	Workshop with representatives from small-scale mining
July 14	Machala, Ecuador	Workshop with local communities
July 14	Illapel, Chile	Workshop with artisanal and small scale miners
July 15		Circulation of the initial results of survey
July 15		Placement of workshop reports on the Internet site
July 16	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with representatives from multinationals
July 17	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with representatives from mining unions
July 17	Lima, Peru	Workshop with national mining companies
July 18	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with representatives from mining unions
July 19	Lima, Peru	Workshop with foreign mining companies
July 20	Cuenca, Ecuador	Workshop with local governments
July*	Quito, Ecuador	Workshop with mining companies and chambers of mines
July 20	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with representatives from civil society
July 22	Nazca, Peru	Workshop with artisanal and small scale miners
July 24	Antofagasta, Chile	Workshop with regional government representatives
July 24	Antofagasta, Chile	Workshop with national and multinational mining companies
July 25	Antofagasta, Chile	Workshop with academics, researchers and consultants
July 27	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with small and medium-sized national companies
July 23*	Machala, Ecuador	Workshop with indigenous peoples
July 26	Tena, Ecuador	Workshop with indigenous Amazonian Kichwa peoples
July 28	Machala, Ecuador	Workshop with artisanal and small scale miners
July 29	Calama, Chile	Workshop with representatives from indigenous communities
July 30	Calama, Chile	Workshop with mining unions
July 30	Calama, Chile	Workshop with national mining companies and local government
August *	Bomboiza, Ecuador	Workshop with indigenous Shuar peoples
August *	Ecuador	Workshop with indigenous Sierra Kichwa peoples
August *	Quito, Ecuador	Workshop with representatives from national government
August 1	Santiago, Chile	Workshop with representatives from national government
August 6*	Copiapó, Chile	Informative meeting with representatives from civil society
August 15		Closure of possibility to complete survey on the Internet site
August 30		Publication of final survey results on the Internet site
Sept. 1		Publication on national reports on the Internet site
Sept. 6-7	Lima, Peru	Second meeting of the Regional Advisory Group, National Co-ordinators and Observers
Sept.15		Bulletin 3 of MMSD South America Project

* Date to be confirmed

This Bulletin was created by the co-ordinating team of the MMSD South America Project and illustrated and edited by María Inés Altesor, translated into English by Joanna Coghill. We would like to thank all those who have collaborated in this bulletin with notes and contributions.