Mining and Agriculture for Development: Exploring the Nexus

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Presentation Outline

- Interaction between mining and agriculture
- Identify national and international practices and policies that provide benefits to communities and improve food security.
- How policy, investment and research and development can be better used to provide pro-poor benefits
About ATPS

Our mission, unchanged since 1994, is building Africa’s STI capabilities for sustainable development.
Introduction

- What are the Common Features?

- **Common Inputs**: Dependence on mined inputs, land, and water resources, and human capital (workers).

- **Common Outputs**: – Food Security and Livelihoods

- **Common Externalities**: – social and environmental impacts – violation of fundamental human rights
Mixed Outcomes – Symbiosis or competition?

Agriculture depends on mined minerals

Infrastructure development

Land Use (Mining <<<< Agriculture)

Human settlements - Displacement and resettlement of farmers from mining areas

Water Use and water pollution
Total Amount of Land Used in Mining

- United States
- Canada
- Australia
- Peru
- Brazil
Potential Benefits

- Improved Infrastructure
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Mining revenues – indirectly making bread from stones
- Employment and Income generation
Challenges for Africa

- Weak policy environment and low enforcement
- Non-inclusive growth – “commodity boom?”
- Artisanal & Small Scale Mining (ASM) - Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) and pollution
- Labour Mobility
- Science, technology and innovation capacity
- Market imperfections & rent seeking
- Weak governance institutions
- Historical path dependence – Marikana example
- Media hype & unfair criticism for LSM feeding perceptions and attitudes
- Cross-ministerial collaboration and stakeholder engagement in policy scoping and design stage
- Education
"Getting agriculture and mining (to) work together in that part of the country that I'm coming from is difficult, I've never seen it happen,"

Sierra Leone's Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, Marie Jalloh.

Coal and gas mining spark protests

COMMUNITY groups kicked off a National Week of Action against coal and gas mining on the weekend, with events held in Victoria, Perth and NSW.

Events commenced on Saturday with a rally and forum in Perth.
Knowledge Gaps

- Evidence on the Impact of Mining on Agriculture, poverty alleviation is sparse
- Independent researched documentary evidence on good practices needed
- Beyond environmental impact assessments: - social ad economic impact assessments of new and closed mines required
Policy Pointers

- **Create Awareness**

- **Community Participation** - Engaging local communities before, during and after the contracting and development of large-scale operations is a pre-requisite for sustainable mining

- **Research for development** required, especially to document good (and bad practices) practices, and learn lessons for policy making

- **Integrated community development** approach required – identify and develop agricultural opportunities in mining corridors
- Environmental Policies, Regulations, Standards and Certification

- Endogenous Technology and Innovation Capability Strengthening is a pre-requisite. Mining contracts should include an endogenous technological and innovation capacity needs assessment along the value chain.

- Need to Support SM Innovation Incubation Centres

- Policy Coordination
“In 1848 Sam Brannan shouted “gold, gold, gold” in the streets of San Francisco. It is reported that he went on to become the city’s first millionaire. He was not a prospector or miner but he did sell the miners and prospectors shovels and everything else they needed. America did not stop there. The U.S has built formidable endogenous capacity in the manufacturing and financial services sectors, …, etc., and has been a leading country in this century.

Source: http://africaupclose.wilsoncenter.org/governing-and-harnessing-natural-resources-for-development-can-africa-take-the-lead/
"In developing countries, resource wealth should make it easier to make investments that underpin steady growth, and with less short term sacrifice than is normally the case. However, that is not how it usually plays out". (Michael Spence, Nobel Laureate Economist).

Source: http://www.crawfordfund.org/conference/conf2013.html
Recommendation

- More In-depth Study Required - A holistic Mining Systems for Development Perspective Required

- “Reversing the Resource Curse to Resource Blessing: What Can We Learn From Each other?”
Failing to act now carries a cost.

And it short term profits are not always what they seem.
Issues for Discussion

- Policy coordination for better systems of innovation in the mining and agricultural sectors

- Capability enhancement at all levels (mining contracts – the good and the bad deals, policy making, implementation, value addition, M&E;

- Development of mining corridors: what roles for government and private sector?

- Sustainable mining technology cooperation: what are the possible models that will benefit the African poor?
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