Australia's current assistance in mining for development: making a real difference

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Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

EITI is a coalition of governments, companies, civil society groups, investors and international organisations that supports improved governance and transparency in resource-rich countries. It does so by setting and managing a global standard for the full verification and publication of company payments and government revenues from the oil, gas and mining sectors.

Extractives companies and institutional investors play a key role in supporting EITI. A number of large companies, with Australian roots, have endorsed the coalition, including BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Santos and Woodside.

Australia has pledged \$12.7 million to EITI to support activities in and operation of the World Bank-administered EITI-Multi Donor Trust Fund, which promotes EITI adoption and provides advice to countries on how to implement EITI compliant reporting processes.

By 2011, 10 developing countries had achieved and maintained full EITI compliance (Azerbaijan, Central African Republic, Timor Leste, Ghana, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Niger and Nigeria).

Candidate developing countries are: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Peru, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zambia. A country that has fully and to the satisfaction of the EITI Board met the five sign-up requirements becomes a Candidate country. Once a country has obtained Candidate status it has two and a half years to be validated as a Compliant country.

In 2011 Solomon Islands announced its intention to implement EITI.



HIV/AIDS

AusAID is supporting the Asia-Pacific Business Coalition on AIDS (APBCA), comprising a range of multinational and Australian companies with major business interests in the region.

APBCA supports the establishment and coordination of country-based business coalitions throughout the Asia-Pacific, including Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Some of these coalitions, particularly those in Papua New Guinea and Burma, work with companies in extractive industries to help them develop and implement HIV-workplace policies. To date, AusAID has provided over \$500,000 to assist APBCA's work.

Gender and Women

AusAID is partnering with the Minerals Council of Australia to undertake a research project that focuses on how land-use agreements with traditional owners and communities for natural resource development can facilitate sustainable outcomes for women and their families. The research will be based on case studies of agreement making between local communities and Australian mining companies in Australian Indigenous communities, Ghana, and Papua New Guinea.



Combat HIV/Aids, Malaria and other diseases



Promote gender equality and empower women