Mining Dialogue in Latin America with a linkage to the E axis

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Conga Project - Copper porphyry deposit in Peru

Considering UNFC 2009

2008: E1 F1 G1

2013: E3 F1 G1
HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF MINING

• Pre-columbian mining
• Mining during the colonial period
• Mining in the XIXth. Century
• Mining in the XXth. Century
• Mining after the 90s’
MINING IN LATIN AMERICA

- 15% of the Earth’s land surface
- 9% of the world’s population
- 8.7% of the GDP
- The region is the world leader in the production of silver, copper, rhenium, nitrates, lithium, iodine and other minerals
- Investments in mining exploration in 2011: US$ 4,500 million (25% of the global mineral exploration)
- Investments estimation for the development of mining projects during this decade: US$ 300,000,000,000
CONFLICTS

• The strong growth in mining investment in exploration and exploitation in Latin America has been accompanied by an increase in conflicts associated with those projects
CONFLICTS

• Conflicts are the normal result of human interaction

• They may be constructive as a social change engine

• Their solution should not imply an effort to suppress them but an effort to focus such conflict energy through constructive channels
STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN MINING CONFLICTS

- The Government
- Mining Companies
- Communities and indigenous peoples
- Non-Government Organizations
- Academic institutions and professional education centers.
- National and international development and cooperation agencies
- Communication media
- Suppliers of goods and services
- Consumers
- Corporate and professional trade unions
- Military, religious, cultural organizations

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CONFLICTS IN LATIN AMERICA

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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Source: OCMAL

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CONFLICT DISTRIBUTION

Operation 42%

Prospection and exploracion 58%

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CAUSES: LATIN AMERICAN OVERVIEW

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Latin American Dialogue Group

“Mining, Democracy and Sustainable Development”
National Dialogue Initiatives

• Civil society organizations with expertise in conflict transformation and democratic dialogue, decided to create spaces for multi-stakeholder dialogue related with mining activities.

• The first one was the Peruvian initiative almost ten years ago.

• Over the past three years, similar national initiatives started in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador.
National Dialogue Initiatives

- Argentina: Dialogue Group “Mining, Democracy and Sustainability”
- Brazil: Initiative of the Brazilian Dialogue Group
- Colombia: Permanent Dialogue Table
- Ecuador: Initiative of Mining Dialogue
- Peru: Dialogue Group “Mining and Sustainable Development”
Genesis of the Latin American Dialogue Group

- The Promoter Group of the Latin American Dialogue Group was created in Lima in November 2011
Recent activities of the Latin American Dialogue Group

• In 2012 the Promoter Group of the Latin American Dialogue Group (GLD) participate in Rio+20
• The Second Meeting of GLD was held in Quito in October 2012, with more than 200 people representing 11 Latin American countries
• In early March 2013 a delegation of the Promoter Group present the GDL in PDAC 2013, in Toronto, Canada
What do the Latin American Dialogue Group propose

• Dialogue between leaders of all the stakeholders involved in the mining activities: government, mining companies, NGO’s, local communities, indigenous peoples, academia, etc.
How to do it?

• Making possible that different stakeholders listen to each other exchanging credible and accessible information related with mining activities

• Sharing experiences about prevention and transformation of social, economic and environmental conflicts
Principles

• Active listening
• Empathy: to stand in the other’s place
• Respect
• Tolerance
• Cooperate in forming a peaceful environment
• Secure the primacy of human rights
• Reach agreements through dialogue
• Proper use of information
• Transparency
• Cooperation culture
• Free and voluntary participation
• Recognize differences
• Equity and inclusion
• See both sides of the issue
CONCLUSIONS

• Conflicts allow us to "measure" the status of projects in the social, economic and environmental issues
• Conflicts involve not only communities but also the other stakeholders previously identified
• Social, economic and environmental assessments are essential to classify a project on the "E“ axis
• The dialogue groups are a key tool to prevent and resolve conflicts
• It is essential that governments, at various levels, to be engaged in dialogue groups
CONCLUSIONS

• Most mining conflicts are related to prospection and exploration activities

• Mining conflicts reflect, based on anti-mining NGOs reports, that they are basically motivated by pollution and the use of water

• The lack of consultation, human and indigenous rights and health come second

• There is in general lack of confidence on the capacity of governments to regulate mining activities
Thank you

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