



TOWARDS A PEOPLE CENTRED MINING AGREEMENT

Woman panning for gold.

Empowering women leaders in mining-affected communities to strengthen their collective voice

Project overview:

ActionAid's research into the impact of mining on women's lives has shown that this industry has profound and adverse effects on women's land rights, food security, health, levels of unpaid care work, likelihood of experiencing violence, and sexual and reproductive rights.

Undertaken with support from the Australian Government as part of the Australian NGO Cooperation Scheme, this project works to empower women leaders from mining-affected communities in Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, to engage with and influence government officials and mining companies on policies, laws and strategies that will protect their rights.

This project seeks to ensure women's and community leadership in the extractives industry, enabling women to demand better practice within the mining industry. The project also supports women to learn from each other and strengthen their collective voice to influence and engage with institutions involved in mining, and establish road maps to achieve their vision and obtain their rights.

Key project activities and outputs:

This project is supporting women in Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe to lead their mining-affected communities to develop a collective vision that places them at the centre of development efforts, though:

- Coordinating subnational and national meetings to develop an understanding of women's rights, values, aspirations and discuss challenges associated with mining;
- Strengthening 4 women's groups to engage locally, nationally and regionally;
- Hosting a regional workshop to identify recommendations towards a People's Mining Charter;
- Convening a regional assembly of mining affected communities and civil society to adopt the Charter and establish action plans;
- Sharing stories and news articles to raise awareness on mining and local aspirations of women.

Project duration:

July 2017 – June 2020

Supported by:

The Australian Government under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)

Location:

Uganda and Kenya, with involvement of women from Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe in regional activities.

Project objectives:

- Empower women to lead their mining communities;
- Strengthen the collective voice and vision of women;
- Increase engagement with government officials and mining companies on policies.

Impact:

The project works with women and their communities to increase their capacity to claim and protect their human rights by articulating their aspirations and developing people-centred mining charters. Our goal is to see women and their communities in Eastern and Southern Africa having greater decision-making power and control over natural resources.

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