

# International Mining for Development Centre

## eNews

June 2013

### Message from the Director

Congratulations to the Hon Melissa Parke MP, Australia's first Minister for International Development. Minister Parke is very well qualified for this role, having served with the United Nations as a lawyer for eight years, including service in Kosovo and Gaza as well as in the UN headquarters. Minister Parke has also served on the Joint Standing Committees of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, and Treaties.

From previous discussions with Melissa Parke, we are well aware of her keen interest in development in Africa and Latin America, and links to mining. IM4DC looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Minister's agency, AusAID, in delivery of positive outcomes from the Mining for Development Initiative.

[\[Read more\]](#)



Photo: Ian Satchwell, Director, IM4DC.

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### Higher Education Study Tour to Australia

A group of 26 university leaders from eight countries participated in the IM4DC Higher Education Study Tour to Australia in June.

Participants included representatives from Mozambique, Zambia, Ghana, Mongolia, Indonesia, Peru and the Philippines.

Higher education institutions have played a critical role in contributing to the development and understanding of the resources sector in Australia from a number of perspectives. These include delivery of undergraduate programs in key disciplines; delivery of postgraduate education and professional development courses for industry and other stakeholders; articulation with the VET sector; research into new technologies that promote increased efficiencies in the sector; and research that addresses broader impacts of mining, particularly in the social and environmental areas.

[\[Read more\]](#)



Photo: Higher Education Study Tour group at The University of Queensland.

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### Assessment of mineral potential and geological aid in developing nations

The Minister for Resources and Energy, The Hon Gary Gray AO, MP, recently released a report on how Australia could assist overseas countries to sustainably develop their mineral and energy resources.

*The Assessment of Mineral Potential, Geoscience Survey Capacity, Risk and Geological Aid in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific* has been prepared by Geoscience Australia.

The report assesses the geoscience capability of 138 developing countries in four continent regions identified by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The report provides background and baseline information for the Australian Government's Mining for Development Initiative, announced in October 2011.

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### Capacity-building in Occupational Health and Safety Auditing course in Mongolia

An IM4DC course in Mongolia has helped to build understanding of occupational health and safety internal auditing processes within the inspectorate.

Previous IM4DC work in Mongolia with the General Agency for Specialised Inspection (GASI) identified the need for up-skilling of the mining inspectorate in the areas covering inspections and auditing. With the rapid expansion in mining in Mongolia, IM4DC has recognised the need for additional skills and procedures to ensure adequate inspection and monitoring of this expansion.

Ms Carmel Bofinger, Principal Research Fellow from the Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre at the Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland and Mr David Reece, Director of The Safety Managers Pty Ltd travelled to Mongolia from 19 May to 8 June 2013 in order to take part in a number of activities relating to occupational health and safety, inspections and auditing.

[\[Read more\]](#)



Photo: Rehabilitation area for Altone Dornod Mine, Zaamar District.

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### **Africa Progress Report: Equity in Extractives**

African countries have a “unique window of opportunity to convert natural resources wealth into a catalyst for poverty reduction, shared prosperity and accelerated human development”, says the Africa Progress Panel.

Releasing its annual Africa Progress Report, the panel, chaired by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, said that it rejects the view that Africa is blighted by a ‘resources curse’. Instead, the problems in natural resources management stem from wrong domestic policies, weak investment partnerships and failures in international cooperation.

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### **Mongolian Integrated Water Management Study Tour**

In June IM4DC hosted a delegation of seven officials from the Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Green Development, as part of the Mining Infrastructure Investment Support Project (supported by the World Bank). The group were examining integrated water management and supply by pipeline to mining and agriculture regions.

Representatives in the visiting delegation included a senior official Mr Jamsran Batbold, State Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Green Development, and a number of department heads.

[\[Read more\]](#)



Photo: Delegation from the Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Green Development at The University of Western Australia.

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### The 2013 Resource Governance Index

The Revenue Watch Institute (RWI) published its annual Resource Governance Index (RGI) to coincide with the EITI and Mining for Development Conferences in May.

The RGI measures the quality of governance in the oil, gas and mining sector of 58 countries. These nations produce 85 per cent of the world's petroleum, 90 per cent of diamonds and 80 per cent of copper.

[\[Read more\]](#)

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### Mining equipment, technology and services: a major economic contributor

The economic contribution of the Australian mining equipment, technology and services (METS) sector demonstrates how important upstream or backwards linkages are to generating sustainable and broad-based economic growth from mining.

A study, released in May by the METS Association, Austmine, shows that the Australian METS sector contributes 6.4 per cent to GDP and is one of Australia's largest export sectors.

Based on a survey of 860 METS companies, the study found that the sector generates \$90 billion in revenue and 84 per cent of METS companies are Australian owned. The surveyed companies export a total \$27 billion with an estimated \$15 billion component being generated specifically from METS related activity.

[\[Read more\]](#)

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### Upcoming events

This section highlights events presented by other organisations that may be of interest to mining for development practitioners.

#### **Mining, agriculture and development: bread from stones?**

**What:** The Crawford Fund Parliamentary Conference on Food Security, which has been held annually for more than 20 years in Parliament House Canberra, will for the first time be held in Perth, preceding the Africa Down Under conference. The conference will explore how to achieve positive, sustainable outcomes from mining and agriculture for food security and development.

**When:** 26 and 27 August 2013

**Where:** Novotel Perth Langley Hotel, Perth, Western Australia

**How:** Registration at <http://www.africadownunderconference.com/aarf>

**Go to:** [www.crawfordfund.org](http://www.crawfordfund.org) for conference information

[\[Read more\]](#)

### International Mining for Development Centre

IM4DC has been established by a joint venture between  
The University of Western Australia and The University of Queensland  
and funded by the Australian Government through AusAID

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