

Message from the Director

It was wonderful to see so many old friends and to meet new ones at the Mining for Development Roundtable on Monday 27 August. Many participants also attended the Africa Australia Research Forum on 28 August and some went onto the Africa Down Under Conference later in the week.

The frank and challenging keynote address by Dr Mamphela A Ramphele set the tone for open discussion throughout the day at the Roundtable, leading to identification of priority needs by speakers and our African participants.

[Read more]

Inaugural Mining for Development Roundtable hailed a success

The first international Mining for Development Roundtable was recently held at The University Club in Perth, Western Australia.

Hosted by the IM4DC, as part of its commitment to building international relationships and exchanging best practice mining approaches and technologies, the one day invite-only Roundtable was designed to review the performance of mining in generating economic benefits and facilitating social progress in developing countries, and to identify the themes and principles required to guide future policy and practice.

The event held a unique place on the international mining calendar and provided a forum for developing countries, industry, civil society and the international donor community to talk frankly about the challenges and opportunities that the mining sector poses to developing countries.

With an audience of over 100 people, the Roundtable provided a valuable opportunity for participants to strengthen networks and share knowledge and experience of both shortcomings of and leading practice in mining for development, and how mining can help to achieve broad based economic growth and poverty reduction in developing countries.

[Read more]

Photo: Dr Mamphela A Ramphele.



Mine Closure Program

The major IM4DC activity in September is a study tour to Australia focused on the management of mine closure.

The Mine Closure two week program will involve a group of 15 to 20 representatives from governments and academic institutions from around the world.

The aim of this program is to provide an overview of key concepts, methods and case study examples of mine closure including regulatory approaches, mine covers, water management and key risk issues with important implications to mine closure.

[Read more]

Foreign Minister visits the IM4DC

On 10 August, Australia's Foreign Minister Bob Carr visited The University of Western Australia, to meet international students who have benefited from AusAID tertiary funded programs and hold talks with staff from the IM4DC.

The IM4DC program includes scholarships for students from developing nations to study advanced mining related sciences at research intensive universities – The University of Western Australia and The University of Queensland, both of which are located in Australia's two main resource rich states.

The Minister actively engaged in the IM4DC briefing and spoke positively about the Centre and its potential.

He highlighted that it was Australia's work in mining that was providing a critical part of our relations with African countries.

Through its programs, the IM4DC is assisting to develop Africa's minerals sector in a way that is sustainable and transparent, in a way that yields benefits for the entire population.

[Read more]

Photo (from left): Javier Gonzalez-Garcia, Sam Summerville, Catherine Nyakecho, Foreign Minister Bob Carr and Lamin Manneh.



Course in Corporate Community Relationships

A course focused on Corporate Community Relationships and on how best to work with companies and communities will be presented by the IM4DC in October.

The four week program, scheduled to be held from 8 October to 2 November 2012 in Brisbane, will involve a group of 15 to 20 representatives from governments, civil society and academic institutions from around the world.

The program will acknowledge the complexity of issues surrounding the governance of mining projects and the many social challenges faced on the ground by all stakeholders.

[Read more]

Study Tour on Consultation and Agreement-Making Processes with Indigenous Peoples for Mining and Resource Projects

A two week study tour to Australia, focused on Consultation and Agreement-Making Processes with Indigenous Peoples will be held from 10 September to 21 September 2012.

Hosted by the IM4DC, the tour will involve a group of 15 to 20 representatives from governments and Indigenous communities in Latin America.

The aim of the tour is to provide an understanding of the Australian framework for negotiating agreements between resource companies and Indigenous communities.

[Read more]

Life of Mine Program

During the first two weeks of July, the IM4DC organised the Life of Mine program, focused on the management of large volume waste facilities including tailings dams and waste rock dumps.

16 participants from 9 countries across 4 continents came to Brisbane to take part in a short course led by Professor Andy Fourie from The University of Western Australia (UWA), with input from Professor David Mulligan and Dr Mansour Edraki from The University of Queensland (UQ) Centre for Mined Land Rehabilitation.

[Read more]

Photo: Life of Mine participants inspecting waste management facilities at Newcrest's Cadia operations in NSW.



The IM4DC announces new Deputy Director - Operations and Business Development

The IM4DC has appointed Richard Slattery as the Deputy Director – Operations and Business Development with responsibility for the operational management of the IM4DC's financial, human and infrastructional resources.

Previously, Richard worked with AusAID in a number of high level roles since 2001 advising government on a broad range of issues. Most recently, Richard has been based in Papua New Guinea as a Development Specialist for AusAID's Sub National Program where his work has been focused on engaging with the aid program that looked at Papua New Guinea's decentralised system and sub national levels of government and administration.

His other roles with AusAID has included working as a Provincial Development Program Specialist where he was responsible for establishing the AusAID office in Provincial Papua New Guinea. He has also worked with a number of units within AusAID including the Strategic Policy and Coordination Unit and the Civil Society Unit. In these roles, Richard has been closely involved with liaising with local stakeholders and developing, managing and monitoring development assistance activities. [Read more]

Photo: Richard Slattery.



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

Partners





