

## Media Release

15 May 2013



Mining for  
Development  
Conference 2013  
Sydney, Australia

### Women leading the way in Mining for Development

A contingent of extraordinary women from around the world are headlining the 2013 Mining for Development Conference being held in Sydney next week, 20 and 21 May.

In what is often considered a male-dominated industry women in several countries are leading the way. Three female Mining Ministers: HE Dr Esperanca Bias, Minister of Mineral Resources, Republic of Mozambique; HE Sinkinesh Ejigu, Minister of Mines and Chair of the Bureau of African Union Ministers, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; and Hon Irene Muloni, Minister of Energy and Mineral Development, Uganda all taking to the stage across the two days.

In addition, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany, Ms Gudrun Kopp MP will speak about how their government supports developing countries in developing capacities by creating framework conditions that allow these countries to benefit from their resource wealth.

Amongst the key themes being discussed is '*Addressing gender issues in mining for development*' and how the industry can have different impacts on men and women, together with how women should be engaged in all aspects of mining for development in order to ensure the benefits and impacts are managed well.

This session will feature speakers Ume Wainetti, Program Coordinator, Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee from Papua New Guinea, Katherine Heller, Specialist in Social and Community Development, World Bank and Helen Szoke, Chief Executive, Oxfam Australia.

Further speakers will include The Rt Hon Clare Short, Chair, Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) International Board (and former UK Minister) and Dame Meg Taylor DBE, Vice President and Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO), World Bank Group.

With an over-arching theme of 'Maximising Benefits' the Conference will provide a unique opportunity for developing countries, private industry and the international donor community to discuss the challenges and opportunities these countries face as they commercialise their resources sectors.

For a full list of sessions and speakers at the 2013 IM4DC Conference, visit [www.im4dc.org](http://www.im4dc.org)

**Media are invited to attend the two-day conference - please register online.**

**All media enquiries and interview requests please contact:**

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