

CASE STUDY

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Country:
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IM4DC Program:

1. Minerals Policy
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Since Indonesia has implemented new mineral laws, local governments have had more authority in managing mineral resources. This requires them to have adequate capability and responsibility in understanding the principles of good mining practices when approving mining licenses and permits. To be able to implement these principles the local governments and stakeholders should be able to analyse the gaps in the current situation, especially with respect to human rights, environmental protection, transparency and accountability practices, and revenue management. Yesi reports that this has created some challenges, such as how to prevent overlapping permits, environmental degradation, corruption and social problems.

Through my involvement with the IM4DC, I understand better about the principles and standards, as well as practical experiences of good mining practices and how to work with some stakeholders. The results of my work are increasing awareness of stakeholders, especially the local governments and civil society organisations (CSOs) of the principles of good mining practices and why these are important not only for extracting the resources but also for other aspects of mining such as social and economic implications.

So far what I have achieved is a better network with other CSOs, such as the Mining Advocacy CSO, which are not quite familiar with the issues of good mining practices and governance or who tend to be against mining activities. Representatives of these coalitions are willing to come and be involved with some discussions, which have included developing the assessment toolkit principles and transparency in mining revenues. The coalition of Publish What You Pay Indonesia and the coalition of freedom of information are very supportive of this work, along with some figures in the local governments.

Yesi hopes the resource-rich local governments in Indonesia will use the analysis tool being developed to assess the principles of promoting human rights, environmental protection, practices of transparency and accountability and revenues management, before they decide to release any permits for extraction and development. By using this they will understand how to derive the maximum benefits for their people from mining.

I will continue to work closely with local CSOs, universities and research centres as well as the local media to influence and achieve my ultimate goal.