

IM4DC

Action Research Report

SUMMARY

Researchers:

Isabel Buitrago, PhD Candidate

School/ Centre:

Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining

University/ Institutions:

Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland

Key themes:

Governance and Regulation
Community and Environmental Sustainability
Operational Effectiveness

Key countries:

Colombia

Completion:

June 2013

Research aims:

This research was aimed at increasing our understanding of the processes of multi-stakeholder collaboration governance dynamics for human capital capacity-building, as integral parts of the 'sustainable livelihoods framework' in mining regions of developing countries. The research focused on the apparent contradiction between skilled labour shortages in the minerals industry and a lack of employment opportunities for the local population in Colombian mining regions. Two case studies were conducted in Antioquia and Risaralda, two mining regions of Colombia.

For further information on this action research:

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The Global-Local Interface: Governance Dynamics for Sustainable Human Capital Capacity-Building in Colombian Mining Regions

This project was aimed at increasing our understanding of governance dynamics that can limit or foster multi-stakeholder collaboration for sustainable human capital capacity-building in mining regions in developing countries. This research also addressed mining development issues in Colombia.

The fieldwork for this project, funded by IM4DC, focused on two case studies in Colombia: Antioquia and Risaralda. The selected mining regions are actively engaged with the notion of human capital capacity building, but the results so far are mixed. Based on the case study as a methodological approach, this research implied the use of face-to-face and group interviews with stakeholders at the national, state and local levels. A total of 50 stakeholders were interviewed in both case study areas.

Group interviews were also conducted with key civil organisation leaders and community members participating in capacity-building initiatives in both case study areas. Data collected will be applied to map and explore the potential of existing capacity building initiatives and their implications for community members. Similarly, data collected from focus group interviews will help us evaluate the roles of stakeholders and forms of collaboration (and the possibility of tension) for forging sustainable livelihoods in the case study areas. Fieldwork participants and other university and government representatives expressed their interest in establishing potential alliances with the IM4DC programme and the Sustainable Minerals Institute and these are listed in the report.