

Global Study of Resettlement Practitioners in Mining

Snapshot of Findings



KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE

Current state of knowledge	Industry capable in understanding physical or tangible aspects of displacement and resettlement (e.g. housing and infrastructure)
	Industry less capable in understanding the intangible aspects of resettlement (e.g. social networks, local market and livelihood systems, common pool resources, conflict sensitivities and cultural and spiritual aspects)
	According to civil society representatives, companies do not invest enough time, energy or expertise in building knowledge
	Improving the knowledge base is difficult because involuntary resettlement is a complex area of practice
Access to expertise	Companies rely heavily on external expertise when planning or implementing resettlement activities
	Difficult for companies to strike the appropriate balance between building internal capacity and outsourcing
Knowledge building	There are few opportunities for practitioners to engage in a structured process of learning and knowledge exchange
	Companies do not systematically conduct retrospective analysis of resettlement practice

ORGANISATION AND GOVERNANCE

Structural elements of engagement and negotiation	Structural inequalities often put communities at a disadvantage during negotiations
	Companies are becoming more aware of the need to support a fair and equitable decision-making process
	Companies tend to focus on minimising financial exposure instead of listening to people's underlying interests and concerns
Internal influence and organisation structure	Senior leadership often decide on resettlement without consulting specialists or examining available evidence
	Resettlement specialists are often engaged late in the mine design and planning process

Role of government	Developing country host governments lack the capacity, skills and resources to manage or regulate resettlement in the context of large-scale mining
	Most host governments delegate responsibility for resettlement to mining companies and remain largely absent from the process
	Regulatory frameworks do not adequately cover critical aspects of resettlement and, as a consequence, the role of government is unclear
Involvement of lenders and non-government organisations	Lenders insist on compliance with institutional standards , blending loans and investment with support services to help clients comply with standards
	The influence of lenders diminishes after the release of finance
	NGOs face difficulty in gaining access to resettlement expertise and, due to limited resources, are strategic about the cases they pursue
	The best point of leverage for international advocacy organisations is immediately before the launch of a public campaign
CHALLENGES IN POLICY AND PRACTICE	
Livelihood restoration and improvement	The industry's approach to post-relocation livelihood restoration is inadequate
	Many communities feel abandonment in the post-relocation phase because of insufficient effort to help them adapt, adjust and recover post-displacement.
Monitoring and evaluation	Monitoring and evaluation could be vastly improved
	Very few examples of systematic or longitudinal monitoring and evaluation
	Data collection is disparate and difficult to standardize
	Quality of data and information about resettlement outcomes does not provide a holistic picture of people's livelihoods
	Households that are displaced or resettled are generally left worse off than before
Future research... must advance beyond case-specific, site-level studies, and also include comparative and systemic analyses of practice.	