



Mining, Minerals and  
Sustainable Development

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## MMSD Draft Report for Comment 4 March 2002

# Appendix MMSD History and Process



International  
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## Appendix: MMSD History and Process

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### **Project Evolution and Strategy**

In 1998, nine of the world's leading mining companies held a meeting during that year's World Economic Forum to discuss the challenges of sustainable development for the mining and minerals sector. They agreed that they were failing to respond adequately to some of the pressing issues of the day, and that the reputation of their industry was at risk. The companies launched a program of internal reform, a review of the various associations they belonged to, and a rigorous study of the societal issues they had to face. They called this the Global Mining Initiative (GMI).

The group commissioned the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) to design and evaluate the scope of a study on how this industry could improve its social, environmental, and economic performance. A team of researchers reviewed existing initiatives and materials and consulted a range of stakeholders to develop a more detailed framework for the project. It became clear that anything financed and designed primarily to meet the needs of the business community would fail to win the wide support required to transform the sector in a way that would maximize its contribution to sustainable development. The team's October 1999 report recommended that a structure be designed to uphold the independence and integrity of the project, that the study process be highly participative, and that public and private financing for the project be in the ratio of 40:60.<sup>1</sup> Finally, the IIED study extended the scope to include the full mineral cycle in the global economy – from mine to waste and reuse. This led to the creation of the Mining, Minerals, and Sustainable Development (MMSD) Project.

Encouraging stakeholder participation in the project was considered critical not only to better define the issues at stake, but also to ensure that the results had credibility and weight, so the scoping team proposed that the project be based on a partnership approach. The concept of the project grew beyond a straightforward study of the issues into a process that combined independent analysis, a sharing of perspectives, and the building of consensus between often conflicting stakeholders on a definition of the priority issues and a description of the concrete ways forward.

Arriving at an appropriate structure and governance system for the project emerged as the most sensitive issue. In order to fulfil three critical objectives, the final structure should:

- inspire the confidence of as many stakeholders as possible in order to encourage their participation, noting that the integrity and independence of the process requires transparency;
- ensure its contractual and management relations keep the project accountable to sponsors and the wider community; and
- ensure its overall result is practical and workable.

In December 1999, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) appointed IIED to manage the project. Three months later, a discussion draft of the Project Strategy was published.<sup>2</sup> The strategy built on the major concerns raised in the scoping report and drew from earlier experiences. These experiences, gleaned from processes such as the World Commission on Dams and others, were key in influencing the design of the MMSD process,

Several main lessons informed the MMSD Project:

- The project should build on past achievements and existing efforts in order to maximize cooperation from the many government, corporate, academic, and civic bodies with specific expertise in the production and consumption of minerals.
- The project must make great efforts, early on, to broaden its contacts with existing centres and networks of research, analysis, and policy formation and to seek their active collaboration.
- The project must decentralize, conferring the responsibility for managing most of the work to regional institutions in the principal centres of mineral production and consumption.
- The project must integrate the element of planning for implementation from the start to ensure that its efforts result in more than just a documentation of issues.

The strategy identified four main functions to be fulfilled by MMSD: research and analysis, stakeholder engagement, information and communications, and planning for outcomes. Interconnected as they are, these constituted the 'MMSD approach' and aimed to ensure the relevance of the research topics selected and the action plans derived from stakeholder input and the project's analysis, as well as the effectiveness with which they could be implemented.

The broad areas for research and action were considered in more detail in May 2000 at a meeting of 45 individuals – MMSD’s Strategic Planning Workshop. This gave major stakeholders an opportunity to question the priority of issues selected and the means by which MMSD should address them.

The main areas discussed were:

- concerns about project organization and regional processes,
- plans for carrying out the four inter-connected project functions, and
- project governance.

## **The Global Process**

### ***Work Group, Assurance Group, and Sponsors Group***

Following the suggestions of the scoping study and the Strategic Planning Workshop, a structure was designed to support the independence and integrity of the project, and initial terms of reference for three groups were defined. Some shortcomings and gaps arose once the project became operational, so the terms of reference were replaced by charters. These were finalized by a Charter Working Group under the leadership of Dr Jay Hair, then Chair of the project’s Assurance Group.

The three groups established were the following:

- *Work Group*: responsible for executing MMSD at the global level and for coordinating regional activities under the leadership of a Project Director. The Group’s main duties were undertaking research, commissioning and supervising research projects, convening workshops, communicating with stakeholders, and disseminating information about the project. The Work Group, a multidisciplinary team of 17 people from 10 countries, was headquartered at the IIED in London. Members of the Work Group are listed at the end of this Appendix.
- *Assurance Group*: an independent international panel of 25 individuals from key stakeholder groups representing diverse areas of expertise in the mining and minerals sector. The members offered advice and guidance to the Work Group and met seven times to discuss progress. Initial members were appointed by the Project Coordinator in consultation with the Project Director. Subsequent members were selected and approved by the Assurance Group through its Nominations Committee, which assessed under-represented stakeholder clusters, held independent consultation to identify candidates, and selected individuals. A list of Assurance Group members and a description of their backgrounds appears at the end of this Appendix.
- *Sponsors Group*: convened by the WBCSD to represent the organizations supporting and financing the project. Its members represented 28 of the world’s largest mining companies as well as a variety of government and international institutions and foundations. The Sponsors Group did not have any influence over the project’s conclusions but contributed information and contacts. Members of the group also

actively participated in MMSD workshops and meetings. The Sponsor Group members are listed at the end of this Appendix.

A Project Coordinator worked on behalf of the WBCSD and facilitated communication and coordination among the three groups.

## **Research**

MMSD's research programme was based on extensive consultation achieved through workshops, meetings, interviews, and surveys. After identifying the major themes of research, MMSD began collaborative work with key experts and institutions already working in these areas throughout the world.

**Research Fellows.** Ten fellows from the principal mineral-producing regions with a variety of backgrounds worked on baseline assessments, literature reviews, and participatory research projects as members of the Work Group.

**Partner organizations.** These included the World Bank, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Council for Metals and the Environment, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Conservation International, as well as a number of institutions and researchers based in developing countries.

**Research contracts.** Distinguished academics and other experts in a number of different countries undertook specific research.

**Research workshops.** Participants at research workshops brought background papers and made presentations that described their work and experiences.

**Regional Partners.** The partnerships established in four regions are described later in this Appendix.

A total of 221 reports on global and regional issues were commissioned by the project. A list of reports and authors can be found at the MMSD website.

## **Consultation: MMSD Global Workshops**

MMSD convened a number of workshops on specific themes. These served to gather stakeholders from mining companies and labour, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research institutions, academia, community groups, and international organizations from throughout the world. They provided valuable opportunities for sharing perspectives and played an important role in informing the project report. A total of over

600 participants attended MMSD workshops organized at the global level:

- *Preparing for Implementation*, 24–25 July 2000, Geneva, Switzerland
- *The Role of Financial Institutions in Sustainable Development: The Case of Mining*, 10–12 January 2001, Washington DC, United States, jointly organized by MMSD, World Bank, and UNEP

- *Small-Scale Mining in South America*, 24 January 2001, Santiago, Chile
- *Planning meeting for research regarding for the dialogue on Access to Information in the Mining Sector* – 14 March 2001, Toronto, Canada
- *Finance, Mining and Sustainability*, 8–9 April 2001, Washington DC, United States, jointly organized by MMSD, World Bank, and UNEP
- *Long-run Minerals Availability*, 22–23 April 2001, Washington DC, United States
- *The Role of Public Participation*, 25–27 May 2001, Woodstock VT, United States
- *Mining and Biodiversity I*, 11–12 June 2001, London, United Kingdom
- *Armed Conflict and Natural Resources*, 11 July 2001, London, United Kingdom, co-hosted with the International Institute for Strategic Studies
- *Large Volume Waste*, 15–17 July 2001, Vancouver BC, Canada
- *Voluntary Initiatives for the Mineral Sector*, 18 July 2001, Santa Fe NM, United States
- *Life Cycle Analysis*, 9–10 August 2001, New York, United States
- *Managing Mineral Wealth*, 15–17 August 2001, London, United Kingdom
- *Meeting of the MMSD/GRI multistakeholder Advisory Panel on Public Reporting in the Mining and Minerals Sector* –23-24 August, 2001, Boston, United States
- *Human Rights Issues in the Mining and Minerals Sector*, 6 September 2001, Transparency International, Berlin, Germany
- *Corruption Issues in the Mining and Minerals Sector*, 7 September 2001, Transparency International, Berlin, Germany
- *Worker and Community Health in the Mining Sector*, 10 September 2001, London, United Kingdom, co-hosted by MMSD and the Environmental Epidemiology Unit of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine’s Department of Public Health and Policy
- *Indigenous Peoples and Relationships with the Mining Sector*, 27–28 September 2001, Quito, Ecuador
- *Corporate Social Responsibility – From Words to Action*, 15–16 October 2001, London, United Kingdom, jointly organized by the Royal Institute of International Affairs
- *Mining and Biodiversity II*, 25–26 October 2001, London, United Kingdom
- *Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining*, 19–20 November 2001, London, United Kingdom
- *Second Meeting of the MMSD/GRI multistakeholder Advisory Panel on Public Reporting in the Mining and Minerals Sector* – 27 November 2001, Vancouver, Canada
- *Dialogue on Access to Information in the Mining Sector*, 28–30 November 2001, Vancouver, Canada
- *Financing, Mining and Sustainability – Exploring Sound Investment Decision Processes*, 14–15 January 2002, Paris, France, jointly organized by MMSD, World Bank, and UNEP
- *Indigenous Peoples and the Mining Sector*, 4-6 February 2002, Melbourne, Australia

MMSD's Global Workshops were not the only avenues for consultation. The project met with representatives from various stakeholder groups, participated in external events, sought preliminary insights stemming from its activities, and made itself available to any organization or individual interested in the mining and minerals sector and sustainable development.

## **Communications**

MMSD's goals required the project to be able to communicate its objectives, activities, and outcomes very clearly to large, diverse audiences. The principal aims of the communications element were to ensure:

- that there was a high degree of openness and transparency in the project,
- that people and institutions potentially interested in this work were aware of MMSD and its activities, and
- that input from interested stakeholders, researchers, and other actors reached and affected the project and its outcomes.

MMSD aimed to maintain a continuous, transparent flow of information about its overall objectives and activities. A project website was regularly updated and contained all documents generated by the project. A monthly news bulletin – in English and Spanish – was disseminated through the project's database to at least 5,500 contacts. Efforts were also made to reach stakeholders without access to electronic communications.

## **Regional Partnerships**

One of MMSD's most important elements was the regional partnerships established in four of the world's principal mineral-producing and -consuming regions: MMSD AUSTRALIA, MMSD NORTH AMERICA, MMSD SOUTH AMERICA, and MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA. The Regional Partners undertook parallel research and engagement activities reflecting priority areas of concern, existing capacity, and ongoing initiatives. They fundamentally increased the ability of MMSD to address regional issues and to include regional stakeholder perspectives in global workshops, the research programme, and the final report. They also enabled MMSD to tap into research and analysis already done in each region and, in many instances, into research networks and organizations at the local level.

All four Regional Partners had regional work groups and multistakeholder review bodies. These groups undertook the same types of activities across regions, although the characteristics and scope of their work differed according to regional priorities. As regional workshops, meetings, and other events took place, all documentation and meeting records were posted on the partners' websites. All publications – including draft and final regional reports – were made available for public review.

At the end of the project, some of the partners expected to continue providing a network of strong, regionally based centres that are broadly acceptable to stakeholders and capable of doing quality research on issues of sustainable development affecting the minerals industries.

## **MMSD AUSTRALIA**

The Australian Minerals and Energy Environment Foundation (Ameef) was MMSD's Regional Partner in Australia. MMSD AUSTRALIA had a Regional Reference Group providing strategic direction, supervision, and representation from industry, government, NGOs, research organizations, trade unions, and professional bodies. The Reference Group established its own terms of reference, which identified its role in providing a critical overview of MMSD AUSTRALIA's project direction, activities, and outputs. MMSD AUSTRALIA also had a full-time coordinator responsible for managing day-to-day operations.

MMSD AUSTRALIA began its consultation process at an initial conference in December 2000 in Melbourne, where a broad-ranging research programme related to priority issues identified by stakeholders was set. Following this, research was commissioned on a baseline assessment of the Australian minerals industry response to sustainability drivers, specific studies on mining and biodiversity, community consultation, stakeholder engagement, the establishment and operation of mining company agreements with indigenous communities, the management of mineral wealth, and the operation of voluntary industry initiatives.

The research programme was fine-tuned through a series of MMSD AUSTRALIA workshops and conferences (in Perth in July 2001 and Brisbane in September 2001). In addition, most of the individual research projects held their own participatory processes.

The conferences helped move the research programme forward and established contact between a diverse range of groups interested in mining and sustainable development. The average attendance was about 70 participants. In addition to MMSD AUSTRALIA's research coordinators, outside speakers were included in order to provide a broader perspective. The conferences brought together individuals from industry, state and federal government, research institutes, community and environmental NGOs, organized labour, and indigenous groups. The feedback received suggests that this has been unique in Australia – in the past there was no neutral space where these groups could come together to address sustainable development issues within a broader framework – and was appreciated by participants.

The research was completed in November and presented at a December 2001 conference – where the goal was to identify the key themes emerging from the research and to agree on the broad outline and content of MMSD AUSTRALIA's regional report.

MMSD AUSTRALIA also focused on maintaining the process beyond March 2002. The experience to date suggested that the process had added significant value and that there was a strong demand for it to continue.

Ameef, the Australian partner developed a database of contacts, a regional website ([www.ameef.com.au/mmsd](http://www.ameef.com.au/mmsd)), and a regional newsletter during the course of the project.



## **MMSD NORTH AMERICA**

MMSD's activities in North America were carried out by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) in Winnipeg, Canada. MMSD NORTH AMERICA covered Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

MMSD NORTH AMERICA began its consultation process through an initial regional 'scan' reaching out to individuals and organizations across the United States and Canada. These were followed by workshops involving participants from both countries. The discussions led to the identification of a series of issues of regional concern, including abandoned mines, workers' rights, worker and community health and safety, indigenous peoples' concerns, recycling, and the offshore implications of North America-based industry operations elsewhere in the world.

Five tasks were identified: a profile of North American mining and minerals, a test for sustainability, a North American mining dialogue, scenarios for the future, and a regional report aiming to synthesize these activities. Multistakeholder work groups of about 25 members each were formed around each task.

MMSD NORTH AMERICA and the Centre for Dialogue of Simon Fraser University hosted and led a North American Mining Dialogue in Vancouver, Canada, in November 2001. This event brought together about 150 individuals from diverse stakeholder groups, including companies (junior, intermediate, major, and service), First Nations/Native Americans, NGOs, labour, mining-dependent communities, researchers, and government (federal, state/provincial, and local). The meeting aimed to provide an opportunity to build a basis for informing subsequent discussions, decisions, and actions within each of these stakeholder groups. MMSD NORTH AMERICA is looking into ways of generating an on-going mechanism for periodic North American Mining Dialogues.

The MMSD NORTH AMERICA website is located at [www.iisd.org/mmsd](http://www.iisd.org/mmsd).

## **MMSD SOUTH AMERICA**

MMSD SOUTH AMERICA was led by the Centro de Investigación y Planificación del Medio Ambiente (CIPMA) in Santiago, Chile, and the Mining Policy Research Initiative (MPRI) in Montevideo, Uruguay. The South American process had two components: research (coordinated by CIPMA) and participation (coordinated by MPRI). Both components were carried out in close coordination to produce a final regional report that addressed a research agenda supported by the participatory process. The Partners relied on an Advisory Group for guidance and information.

The process was carried out in a decentralized manner, focusing on Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru, where national teams concurrently conducted research and participatory activities. These national-level processes worked in close cooperation with one another and with the regional coordinators.

Stakeholder profiles were developed for each country. The groups involved included regional, national, and local government; multinational companies operating in the region;

national companies; labour unions; artisanal and small-scale mining organizations; indigenous peoples; local communities adjacent to mining projects; NGOs; consultants and academics; and international cooperation agencies. This identification of interest groups was an important first step for the planning of the engagement process. A survey was designed, applied, and completed by 345 individuals from 15 Latin American countries. The results helped establish priorities on the main issues of concern for different groups in the various countries and refined the regional research and participatory agenda.

Some 50 workshops, attended by more than 700 participants, were conducted. These were carried out at the national level and. MMSD SOUTH AMERICA held two regional meetings with the Advisory Group, Regional Coordinators, National Coordinators, and interested observers, where preliminary findings were presented and feedback and advice were received.

A combination of these activities and the research process led to the identification and validation of 17 key topics for the research programme and participatory activities: mining in indigenous lands; mining in protected areas and high biodiversity areas; tools and capabilities for public-sector resource management; spaces, mechanisms, and capabilities for the participation of civil society in decision-making processes related to mining; access, use, and generation of relevant information on mining; royalties and taxes; distribution of royalties and taxes among the federal, provincial, and municipal levels; artisanal and small-scale mining; environmental performance; employment; local development; rights and management of natural resources; technological and scientific development; mine closure; abandoned mines; market access and competition; and the incidence of international agreements, treaties, and standards.

The Partners communicated with regional stakeholders through a bi-monthly news bulletin and a regional website, [www.mmsd-la.org](http://www.mmsd-la.org).

### **MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA**

The University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in Stellenbosch, South Africa, were responsible for MMSD activities in Southern Africa. This process covered members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC): Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. A regional Steering Committee was established early in the process to appoint and oversee the regional Working Group, which was responsible for the overall co-ordination of the project.

Southern African stakeholders were identified as academia, government, industry, labour, NGOs, and small-scale miners. The first major outcome of the stakeholder engagement process was identification of the critical issues in the region, which were then given priority for research. This was done by means of questionnaires, followed by a multistakeholder meeting in November 2000. The areas identified by stakeholders for research were: small-scale mining, HIV/AIDS, mining and society, the biophysical environment, managing mineral wealth, and a baseline survey.

One of the practical objectives that MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA set itself was to ensure a continuous flow of information to stakeholders. Newsletters reported on progress, and papers, news items, and special interest articles were sent to specific stakeholders. MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA also contributed to the regional knowledge base by providing information about websites and newsletters from organizations working in related fields. MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA was used as a resource centre.

Focus group meetings were held in Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The Working Group also addressed the Technical Committee of the SADC Mining Ministers' Forum in Angola. Stakeholders had the opportunity to gain clarity about the MMSD process and to articulate the priority issues in their countries. MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA believes that there is a strong possibility of establishing country chapters if these early efforts are followed up vigorously. These visits will be continued to discuss with stakeholders the implementation of recommendations arising from MMSD.

In addition to national focus group meetings, meetings were also held with specific stakeholder groups. The 'one-on-one' contact facilitated the expression of concerns and provided MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA with valuable insights into the different issues confronting stakeholders.

Southern Africa is a vast region, and to engage satisfactorily with stakeholders in a short space of time was not possible. Many stakeholders do not have access to the Internet, telephone connections are unreliable, and the postal services are slow. Further factors complicating stakeholder consultation are the multilingual nature of the region, the difficulties in identifying key players and the unsettled conditions in countries like Angola and the DRC. In spite of these drawbacks, MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA now has over one thousand names of individuals and organizations on its mailing list. A continuous flow of information has been one of the successes of the stakeholder engagement process.

Regional issues were central to the MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA process. The Steering Committee was drawn from across the region. Members came from Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and SADC Mining Coordinating Unit. One of the criteria for appointing researchers and reviewers was a good regional and demographic representation, and they were also required to have a sound knowledge of and wide experience in the region. The process has resulted in an inclusive regional MMSD report.

MMSD SOUTHERN AFRICA held a multistakeholder workshop in September 2001 where the first results of the process were presented to about 100 participants, drawn from eight SADC countries.

The Partners distributed a regional newsletter and posted information on a regional website, [www.mining.wits.ac.za/mmsd](http://www.mining.wits.ac.za/mmsd).

## Other Regional Activities

### *Europe*

An initial scoping meeting in December 2000 explored how MMSD might work at the regional level in Europe. Rather than representing a formal multistakeholder consultation exercise, the meeting sought the advice of leading individuals knowledgeable about some of the critical dimensions of the minerals cycle in Europe.

In February 2001, a meeting was held in Brussels with members of Eurometaux and Euromines. It aimed to develop an understanding of their perspectives on priority issues, inform MMSD of ongoing initiatives of Eurometaux and Euromines, and gather their perspectives on what MMSD could contribute to existing activities in Europe.

Following these meetings, it was concluded that in Europe MMSD should focus on reviewing:

- key issues facing the industry, including the 6th EU Environmental Action Programme, recycling policy, risk assessment methodology, and the EU chemicals policy;
- the main drivers behind European developments, exploring the dynamics of regulatory initiatives (especially those influencing the production and use of metals), identifying key players or groups in governments, academics, environmental groups, and others, and understanding the importance and the role of public opinion; and
- existing models of dialogue and other initiatives.

A Research Fellow based in Brussels was recruited to address these questions.

### *Former Soviet Union*

MMSD held some 20 meetings in Moscow and in Astana and Almaty, Kazakhstan, in March-April 2001. These were attended by representatives from a broad range of stakeholder groups operating in the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan: industry, local and national government, NGOs and other civil society organizations, and academic institutes.

In a second trip to the region, MMSD staff visited Moscow, the Republic of Khakassia, and Kyrgyzstan, where they held a further series of meetings. A considerable number of issues were raised. These included the diversity of regional priorities in the vast territory covered by the former Soviet Union; privatization, foreign investments, and the distribution of rents; strengthening infrastructure; mine closure and abandoned mines; small-scale mining; environmental protection and preservation; and legacy issues.

Based on the findings of these meetings, MMSD commissioned three baseline studies – on the Russian Federation, the Republic of Khakassia, and Kyrgyzstan – drawing on existing research and on stakeholder consultation and review.

### ***South-east Asia***

Based on communications with some organizations in the Philippines and Indonesia, including those from industry, government, and civil society, a visit to these two countries was arranged. The purpose was to broaden the network of project contacts and to address the feasibility of conducting an MMSD regional process in South-east Asia.

MMSD realized that the model used elsewhere was inappropriate in South-east Asia. First, it took the project longer than it had elsewhere to establish a network of regional contacts on which it could build partnerships; this meant a reduced time frame for the work. This was in part due to the intense suspicion of MMSD by many NGOs in both countries, based on the fact that funding had come in part from an industry that was deeply mistrusted. Second, a local preference for discrete national processes was expressed during early communications with organizations.

During meetings in Manila and Jakarta, it was decided that there was value in convening a workshop to solicit feedback on acceptable and appropriate ways to conduct the MMSD process. The workshop was hosted by Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC), based in Manila, and attended by approximately 10 delegates from Indonesia and the Philippines. There was a clear expression of interest in, at the very least, conducting baseline studies of the issues associated with the sector and examining the potential for further work.

It also became clear that the best organizational framework was a national, not a regional one. Workshop delegates agreed that Economin, an Indonesian consultancy, working with others, would manage the baseline study in Indonesia and that ESSC would undertake the work in the Philippines. Unfortunately, due to the tense political crises that surfaced at this time, ESSC was unable to carry out the study. In turn, MMSD requested that a group of experts from the Department of Energy and Natural Resources provide a background paper on the current state of the industry in the Philippines. A second study was commissioned on human rights issues in Indonesia associated with the sector.

### ***Papua New Guinea (PNG)***

PNG was another country that could not be assigned to a regional process. Due to the close links between the Australian mining industry and the sector in PNG, it was initially concluded that PNG and Australia could conduct work and participatory engagement on a joint basis. Observers – in particular from the Australian NGO sector – expressed concern, however, that this would result in an emphasis on Australian issues at the expense of PNG and a perception of paternalism. The Australian process then moved forward on its own momentum.

As MMSD progressed, there was serious doubt as to whether there were enough resources to conduct a full-scale national process in PNG. Nevertheless, the project also recognized that there were significant issues and lessons to be learned from the sector in this country. Two expert studies were therefore commissioned in PNG – one as a background paper on issues, current status, best practice, and ways forward, and the other focused on mine closure, an important issue, as several mines in PNG are near the end of their project lives.

### *Other Countries*

Research on small-scale mining was also undertaken in a number of other countries, including Burkina Faso, China, Ghana, India, and Mali.

## **Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> IIED (1999).

<sup>2</sup> MMSD (2000).