

The Why and How of Mining and Biodiversity

Andrew Parsons
Programme Director: Environment, Health and Safety



ICMM
International Council
on Mining & Metals

Introduction: “Miners don’t care about biodiversity, do they?”

- In the past year, the following has been said to me:
 - CEO of a junior mining company in London: “My business is extracting minerals. I get the necessary environmental permits. Why should I care about biodiversity?”
 - Environmentalist in New York: “You work for a mining association and you work on biodiversity. Why?”
- Biodiversity is under threat:
 - uncontrolled economic growth
 - invasive species
 - pollution
 - over-exploitation of natural resources
- Sustainable development is the key: poverty alleviation with environmental and social protection

Good biodiversity management should have many benefits:

- Increased investor confidence and loyalty
- Easier access to finance
- Better relations with regulators
- Shorter and less contentious permit cycles
- Preferred developer status
- Improved community relations
- Strong, supportive partnerships with NGOs
- Attracting and retaining the best employees
- Reduced risks and liabilities
- Strong credentials for products
- The moral imperative

The mining industry should (MMSD):

- Engage in equitable and diverse partnerships to build trust
- Improve coherence of and accessibility to information on biodiversity
- Continue reviewing and improving protected area categorization and classification systems
- Work towards developing more effective land-use planning systems
- Pull together and disseminate best practice experience
- Institute more rigour and independence in environmental impact assessment processes
- Ensure that finance agencies apply better practice criteria consistently

Ten principles that address:

- Corporate governance
- Risk management
- Health and safety
- Human rights
- Social, economic and institutional development
- Environmental performance
- Biodiversity protection
- Materials stewardship
- Engagement and verified reporting arrangements

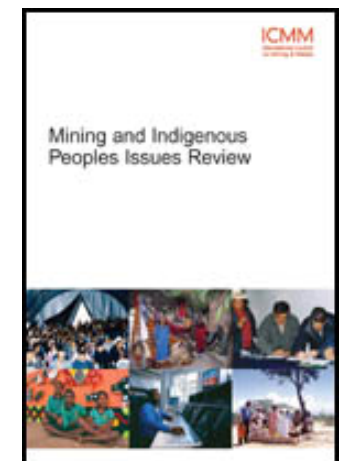
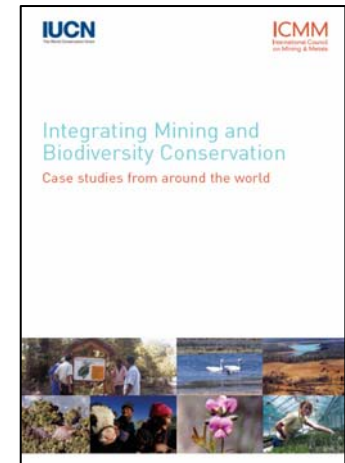
- ICMM is the largest industry group to commit to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Reporting against Principles will be done by:
 - GRI 2002 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines
 - Pilot GRI Mining and Metals Sector Supplement:
 - developed by a multi-stakeholder working group
- ICMM members have agreed to report “in accordance with” GRI within two reporting cycles

- Aims:
 - Improve performance of the mining industry in biodiversity conservation
 - Raise awareness and understanding between conservation community and industry, so both can contribute to improved outcomes for conservation and development
- 3 - 5 year objectives:
 - Exploring more strategic and participatory approaches to planning and management at the land/seascape level as a tool for achieving balanced development and conservation outcomes
 - Strengthening IUCN Protected Area Management Categories System
 - Exploring options for addressing related issues:
 - legacy sites
 - prior informed consent
 - empowerment of indigenous peoples and local communities

Biodiversity Work Programme



- World Heritage commitment in 2003
- Successful participation in WPC and WCF
- Case studies published November 2004
- Land use planning with UNESCO, IUCN and others
- Review of IUCN protected areas category system
 - IUCN process – ICMM is one contributor
- Round table on mining and Indigenous Peoples issues
 - Identify, discuss and scope out the issues
 - Build consensus on relevant fora and processes to pursue them further



Good practice guidance document



- Overseen by IUCN-ICMM Advisory Group
- Written for technical and environmental managers at mines
 - Assumes some technical ability
 - Not a biodiversity textbook
- Captures what is currently understood to be good practice
- Will be guidance for ICMM members (and others who wish to use it), not mandatory
- Covers entire mining life cycle
- Case studies will provide practical examples
- Previous version put out for public consultation in June-August
- New version is a complete overhaul of the previous one

- Offsets are “sustainable conservation actions intended to compensate for the residual, unavoidable harm to biodiversity caused by development projects, so as to aspire to no net loss of biodiversity.”
- First seek to avoid and minimise harm to biodiversity
- 2 papers prepared by FFI under IUCN-ICMM dialogue:
 - Synthesis paper summarises offsets for ICMM members
 - Proposition statement describes key issues for debate
 - Available at www.icmm.com
- Being used to contribute to national and international debate
 - Workshop on Tuesday
 - Convention on Biological Diversity meetings
 - Others in 2006

On extractive industry companies' management of biodiversity:

"Overall, we believe that mining companies, particularly those that are members of the trade body International Council on Mining and Metal (*sic*) (ICMM), are leading the way".

www.icmm.com

ICMM
19 Stratford Place
London W1C 1BQ
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7290 4920
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7290 4921
Email: info@icmm.com



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