

## Lesson 6

### Suggestions for possible alternative solutions

1. Offer tribal communities a higher % of profits of mining
2. Offer the tribe some ownership of the mine
3. Use some of the profits for education of local people
4. The land which has been destroyed for mining could be planted with fast growing and useful plants where plausible
5. Ensure the legality of the process; e.g. deep mining instead of open cast mining (has greater polluting effect on health of soil, water, air).

### REDUCING CONFLICT: EXAMPLE ONE

#### Reducing Conflict through Community Resource Mapping (May 2014)

Garissa program officer Hassan Shukri Gama (in blue) leads the elders in mapping natural resources around Maalimin, Lagdera in Garissa.

Conflict over natural resources has increased in Kenya especially among pastoralist communities. In Garissa County, where many pastoralist communities reside, population increases are leading to higher need for water, pasture and fuel wood. These needs, coupled with the lack of an organized way of managing natural resources, have led to many incidents of conflict. Because of these difficulties, Adeso's Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands – Improving Resilience (REGAL-IR) project is working with the community to map their natural resources and agree on how to manage them. This will contribute to reducing conflict in the area.



In May 2014, the project facilitated a two-day meeting among community elders in Maalimin, Garissa. The participants' discussed how to map and set aside grazing zones – locally referred to as *sharmat* – to reduce conflict over grazing areas and provide backup pasture during dry seasons.

“At the moment, people graze as they wish, we get pastoralists from neighboring communities coming to graze here

along our *lagga* (dry river bed). If you organize them as you are doing here, we will have less conflict,” says Mohamed Korane, an elder from a pastoralist settlement of 400 households.

Maalimin settlement itself was formed after conflict broke out in 2004 over resources in their former home in the neighboring Dujis constituency.

“We want to come up with an action plan, strict by-laws and even approach the County to gazette the reserves or even ask the Kenya Forest Service for support in protecting our trees and pasture along the dry river bed,” explained Somane Salan.

During this meeting, joint mapping of community resources was initiated. Once the wider community validates these maps, with support from REGAL-IR the community will begin setting up structures for coordinating and managing the use of their natural resources.

<http://adesoafrika.org/reducing-conflict-through-joint-community-resource-mapping-2/>

## REDUCING CONFLICT: EXAMPLE TWO

### Early community consultation & engagement

Mining can bring **economic** and social benefits to communities, through local **job creation** and resource revenues, but it can also create social changes that can lead to or worsen social conflicts.

The causes of social conflict include lack of sufficient consultation and community engagement, lack of accurate information on mining impacts, differing expectations of social and economic benefits, environmental concerns, disputes over land use and economic compensation, **Artisanal and Small Scale mining activities**, migration to mining areas, and differing acceptance of large-scale mining. Canadian mining companies increasingly consider the social impacts of their projects, and seek to reduce or mitigate such conflicts.

It is essential to establish good relationships between governments, large-scale mining companies, and local communities at the earliest stages of mining projects. This is especially important in countries that have a history of colonialism, where governments have neglected local communities and indigenous people, and where distrust of governments or other groups in society are common. Local communities may also oppose mining operations if they perceive that projects have been imposed on them without sufficient consultation.

Since mining operations may affect nearby communities socially, economically, and environmentally, communities expect to participate in decision-making and to share in the benefits of mining. It is therefore important to take these expectations into account and to address the concerns of local communities as early as possible. If community concerns are incorporated into mining projects (e.g., to prevent, control, and reduce environmental impacts) and if local communities see that they are receiving a fair share of benefits (e.g., through **employment opportunities**, construction of public infrastructure, **CSR programs**, etc.), then local communities are more likely to welcome mining projects.

## REDUCING CONFLICT: EXAMPLE THREE

### Case Study: Reducing Conflict in North Mara Mine (Tanzania)

In 2008, African Barrick Gold (ABG) launched an ambitious program called the “Artisanal Mining Initiative” in North Mara Mine (Tanzania). This US\$ 2.5 million pilot project targeted 200 ASM miners in an attempt to transform ASM activities into regulated, productive, and sustainable small-scale mining operations.

Despite this initiative, in May 2011 a group of 1,500 people trespassed to steal ore from the mine’s stockpiles. This resulted in a confrontation between Tanzanian police and trespassers that left five intruders dead and a number of police officers injured. Subsequently, ABG partnered with the international NGO Search for Common Ground (SCG) in order to improve its relationship with the villagers. Various measures have been implemented to avoid future conflicts. These include:

- Providing training on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights to Tanzanian police;
- Developing a conflict reduction, resolution and negotiation training program for community members (including leaders, traditional authorities, youth and women);
- Creating culturally-appropriate educational materials to inform community members about the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights;
- Designing an external grievance mechanism to deal with community concerns;
- Facilitating a negotiation process between the company and the communities on a range of issues of concern; and
- Designing alternative sources of economic development to help reduce poverty in the area and, as result, reduce the number of intruders in the mine.

Of special importance have been the meetings between villagers and representatives of ABG. These meetings have allowed people to speak freely and to express their frustrations in a non-confrontational way. The participation by North Mara Mine General Manager Mr. Basie Maree in these meetings has been “greatly appreciated” by villagers. This has led to his being called “Basie Marwa, which means first-born boy child in Kurian, the local language spoken by most villagers”.

Other important measures taken by ABG include hiring additional female security officers and installing additional CCTV cameras in sensitive areas at the mine. These efforts are contributing to a better relationship between ABG and the villagers. Chief Marwa Gabogwe, head of the Nyamongo clan, one of the biggest and most prominent Kuria clans in the region, hopes to resolve differences through dialogue and states that “together, we can find amicable ways of resolving the existing conflicts so that we rebuild peace for the community to co-exist with the mine.”

<http://www.miningfacts.org/Communities/Does-mining-cause-social-conflict/>

## REDUCING CONFLICT: EXAMPLE FOUR

### DR Congo minerals: Most mines 'conflict free' since US law



Many electronic companies are now sourcing their minerals from "conflict-free" mines

### DR Congo Seeks Democracy

More than two-thirds of mines in eastern Democratic Republic Congo which produced "conflict minerals" four years ago are no longer run by warlords, a report by US-based Enough Project says.

It follows a US law implemented in 2010 which required firms to determine the origin of minerals used in products. Tin, tantalum and tungsten, used to make computers and mobile phones, used to generate \$185m (£110m) a year for armed groups, the report said. This fuelled decades of conflict.

The US law was brought in under the Dodd-Frank Financial Reform Act that requires any company that might be using conflict minerals register with the US Securities and Exchange Commission and then disclose its supply chain.

This, together with other reforms and the recent defeat by UN troops of two powerful rebel groups, has helped significantly in reducing the number of mines run by militias, the Enough Project said.

However, artisanal mining of gold was still funding army commanders, its report said.

This rare good news from DR Congo illustrates how a consumer campaign in the rich world can impact positively in an under-developed country. The hi-tech US companies making laptops and smart phones simply did not want to be associated with warlords committing atrocities - and more to the point, perhaps, knew that campaigners in the US would expose them if they did.

So pressure from US consumers, working with the new US law which required companies to guarantee a "clean" supply chain, has forced change.

Of course, a more robust military campaign by the UN's Intervention Brigade against some of the armed groups has also helped.

The next stop for the campaigners, after the computer companies, will be jewellers. It will be interesting to see if they can pull off the same effect in DR Congo's gold mines. Many of these are still controlled by warlords operating with impunity.

The Enough Project said its report was based on five months of field research which showed that 67% of tin, tantalum (refined from coltan) and tungsten in North Kivu, South Kivu and Maniema provinces were no longer in the hands of the armed groups or the Congolese army.

It said this contrasted with a 2010 UN group of experts report which stated that "In the Kivu provinces, almost every mining deposit [was] controlled by a military group".

For the first time in DR Congo's history there is now a validation process to evaluate whether mines are conflict-free, the Enough Project said.

The reforms have also meant that wages have gone up for miners - in some areas threefold - and more workers now receive safety equipment, it said.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-27782829>