

Artisanal diamond mining, governance and development in Sierra Leone



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I-SEE Seminar. April 16th 2019

Welcome

- My own research has engaged with these debates for many years!
- Today's presentation and the film, based on a two-year study funded by Humanity United – local level governance in the artisanal diamond mining sector in Sierra Leone and Liberia
- Linking research to impact – shaping minerals policy in Africa
- Film - important global impacts, having been screened to policy-makers in the UK, US, Japan and Africa – upcoming UN screening
- For further information on the film or research, please email us!
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Structure of the presentation

1. Brief background: Artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM)

- What are we talking about here?
- Scope and scale
- An important livelihood activity
- Challenges of an informal sector

2. Screening of film (33 minutes)

3. Reflection and discussion

- Why are local people not getting a fair share?
- Is a formalised sector part of the solution?

Artisanal and Small-scale mining (ASM)

- Low-tech, labour intensive mineral extraction and processing of precious metals and stones – rudimentary tools
- Low barriers to entry – little capital required, easy, no university degree needed!
- ASM employs at least ten million people directly, and many millions more indirectly
- Rural livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa – being rapidly transformed by the growth of informal ASM
- Despite risk, supplies start-up capital for other economic activities
- Spawns the growth of downstream industries
- Nourishes smallholder agriculture
- The most important non-farm activity in SSA?



ASM: An Africa-wide Phenomenon

Country	Directly Working in ASM	Estimated Number of Dependents	Main minerals mined on an artisanal and small scale
Angola	150,000	900,000	Diamonds
Burkina Faso	200,000	1,000,000	Gold
Central African Republic	400,000	2,400,000	Gold, diamonds
Chad	100,000	600,000	Gold
Côte d'Ivoire	100,000	600,000	Gold, diamonds
Democratic Republic of the Congo	200,000	1,200,000	Diamonds, gold, coltan
Eritrea	400,000	2,400,000	Gold
Ethiopia	500,000	3,000,000	Gold
Ghana	1,100,000	4,400,000	Gold, diamonds, sand
Guinea	300,000	1,500,000	Gold, diamonds
Liberia	100,000	600,000	Gold, diamonds
Madagascar	500,000	2,500,000	Coloured gemstones, gold
Malawi	40,000	-	Coloured gemstones, gold
Mali	400,000	2,400,000	Gold
Mozambique	100,000	1,200,000	Coloured gemstones, gold
Niger	450,000	2,700,000	Gold
Nigeria	500,000	2,500,000	Gold
South Africa ²	20,000	-	Gold
Sierra Leone	300,000	1,800,000	Gold, diamonds
South Sudan	200,000	1,200,000	Gold
Tanzania	1,500,000	9,000,000	Coloured gemstones, gold, diamonds
Uganda	150,000	900,000	Gold
Zimbabwe	500,000	3,000,000	Gold, diamonds, coloured gemstones

What has driven the rise of ASM?

1. Structural Adjustment – 1990s

- ‘Conditionalities’ – currency devaluation, removal of tariffs and subsidies, privatization, loss of social programmes – ‘earn more, spend less’

50,000 civil servants in Tanzania retrenched

85,000 civil servants in Ghana retrenched

2. Global demand for minerals and resources, rising prices

3. Reform of the mining sector – open up markets for privatization and liberalization...

The informality of ASM: A blessing or a curse?

- Alongside the rise of large-scale mining – growth of informal artisanal mining
- Low barriers to entry
- Benefits of ASM often come at a cost
- No regulation, remote areas, poor governance
- Exploitation, poor working conditions, host of social problems, elite capture and corruption
- This sets the stage for our project...




The Project

- 2 years
- Concerned with natural resource-governance, community participation and understanding local voices in Sierra Leone and Liberia
- ‘Good governance’ agenda – often focuses on transparency and accountability - KPCS and EITI
- But also concerns how power is exercised and how decisions made at the local level
- How can governance of the ASM sector be more effectively employed to address conflict and yield more sustainable development outcomes at the local level?
- How can more effective ‘spaces’ for meaningful stakeholder participation in governance be created?
- How can we better understand how power shapes relationships between stakeholders and how does this have bearing on how local actors participate in the process of extractive-led development?

The Sites



Film – Voices from the Mine



VOICES FROM THE MINE: ARTISANAL DIAMONDS AND RESOURCE GOVERNANCE IN SIERRA LEONE

tinyurl.com/artisanaldiamonds

International Conference on Artisanal and Small-scale Mining & Quarrying

11-13 September, 2018,
Livingstone, Zambia



ASMP

World

ダイヤモンド採掘国のシエラレオネの現地住民が豊か
になれない理由とは

Jun 17 2018



Roy Maconachie and Simon Wharf, Author provided

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アフリカ西部の国、シエラレオネ
でダイヤモンドが見つかったのは
1930年代のことだ。それ以降、ダイ
ヤモンドは同国の社会や政治、そし
て経済に大きな影響を及ぼしてき
た。その一因として、ダイヤモンド

の採掘方法が関連している。