

Mining in the Andean Region

Enhancing Access to Information, Community Engagement, and Environmental and Social Performance through IRMA



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About the Project Collaborators

The Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources in the Andean Region (MinSus) is a German Cooperation Programme by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development that aims to promote responsible mining practices. It is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Geosciences and Natural Resources Federal Institute (BGR) of Germany. Learn more at: minsus.net.

The Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) is a coalition of NGOs, affected communities, purchasers, investors, mining companies, and labor unions who have established a high-bar standard to drive more responsible mining: the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining*. IRMA oversees the standard and the related system for independent third-party audits and public reporting. Learn more at: responsiblemining.net.

CooperAcción is a Peru-based non-governmental organization (NGO) working since 1997 to address injustice, inequity, discrimination, poverty, environmental degradation, risks, and manipulation, with the aim to contribute to the improvement of society and the planet. Learn more at: cooperaccion.org.pe.

Cover photo: Shahuindo mine, Peru courtesy of GIZ
Report design by CreativeGeckos.com

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Introduction

As the international community rapidly increases action on climate to meet targets under the Paris Agreement and other international frameworks, there is focus on multiple levels to speed up the transition to low-carbon energy production. This renewed vigor for green energy production is increasing pressure for industrial scale mining to produce materials used in batteries, wind turbines, solar panels, transportation, technology, and other low-carbon energy production infrastructure. Extraction of other materials, like gold for jewelry, also continues and economic uncertainty drives gold prices and profits higher.



The mining of these materials impacts communities, workers, and the environment on a vast scale that is felt across mining communities in the Andes.

There is increasing recognition that the transition to a green economy must include addressing social and environmental impacts where raw materials are sourced, and include materials reuse, recycling, and greater durability of products. Modern life and the green economy so widely desired depend on mined materials. The mining sector has potential to generate economic opportunities for communities. In order to realize this potential and address environmental justice issues, mined materials must be extracted and produced more responsibly, maximizing benefits to affected communities and reducing harm. Environmental and social impacts must be addressed across the entire supply chain.

A basis for broader understanding

In 2020, CooperAcción and the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) came together with the support of the German Development Cooperation to assess the level of access to information on environmental and social impacts of the mining sector in Peru, and share information regarding how IRMA as a voluntary sustainability standard could help fill current gaps in access to information and help a wide range of stakeholders in the Andean Region improve environmental and social performance of the mining sector. This brief report summarizes the lessons learned from our collaboration. While this project initially focused in one region, it serves as a basis for broader understanding of how collaborations between NGOs, multi-stakeholder standards, and international institutions can support greater environmental and social responsibility where mining happens around the world.

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Lessons Learned

1

There are significant gaps in availability of environmental and social information on the mining sector in Peru

In May 2021, CooperAcción produced the report “Identification and Analysis of Multidimensional Information Available for Copper Governance in Peru.” The report, conducted between January to April 2021, focused on the level of transparency of information regarding governance of the mining sector in Peru. It summarizes an in-depth review of information available on web portals of mining companies, state agencies, civil society organizations, and others, as well as interviews with professionals in the industry and government. The report categorizes information as:

- (i) open: information available for free public access through web portals,
- (ii) closed: information available to government but not directly accessible for public access through web portals (some, but not all, of this information is available through public access to information requests), and
- (iii) private: information that is only available to industry but may be of public interest for mining governance.

The report draws two major conclusions about access to information regarding environmental and social management of mines in Peru:

1. Where information is made available it is often administrative in nature, is not organized in a manner that is easy to navigate and is often provided only at an aggregate level.
2. The greatest gap in transparency arises when attempting to access information related to environmental management of the mining sector. While some information regarding environmental studies and plans related to mine sites is available in open government records, the level of detail is not sufficient. Other records that may contain greater detail and more timely information, such as Consolidated Annual Statements, and Quarterly Monitoring Reports, are closed to civil society. In sum, the data is not made available in a manner that allows for citizen oversight.

Photo: La Rinconada, Peru. Stock.Adobe.com / E.Michael James





Lessons Learned continued

The report reviewed access to information under existing legal frameworks in Peru, including the National Environmental Information System, established in 1998; the National System of Environmental Impact Assessment, established in 2001, and the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information of 2002. CooperAcción also reviewed the newly created National Open Data Platform and Single Digital Platform for the Peruvian State. All information portals for government and companies were assessed under the study.

Although the legal frameworks reviewed create transparency portals for all public entities, much of the information provided by these portals related to the mining sector was found to be administrative in nature. The Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information also distinguishes “reserved” from “confidential” information. “Reserved” information is subject to access to public information requests that are difficult to navigate.

As an illustration of the practical difficulty of requesting access to public information, researchers made requests to the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINEM) for a consolidated annual declaration, to the National Water Resources Information System (ANA) for information related to discharge permits and water quality monitoring, and to the Environmental Assessment and Enforcement Agency (OEFA) for quarterly monitoring reports. The researchers did not receive a response from MINEM; they received a notice from ANA that a “concrete and precise expression of the request for information” had not been made, adding that specific numbers of resolutions and administrative specifications should be included in the request; and they received from OEFA an initial reply similar to ANA’s, noting that the request did not reference “auditable units” but when this was remedied in a new letter, OEFA agreed to produce the information in monthly installments. The researchers categorized reserved information as “closed” given the overall difficulty of civil society access to the information.

The report identified opportunities for IRMA to be utilized as a tool to improve access to information and fill gaps in availability in information at a mine site level. These options for use of IRMA are discussed in Lesson Three.

Photo: Marcona Mine, Peru courtesy of GIZ





Lessons Learned

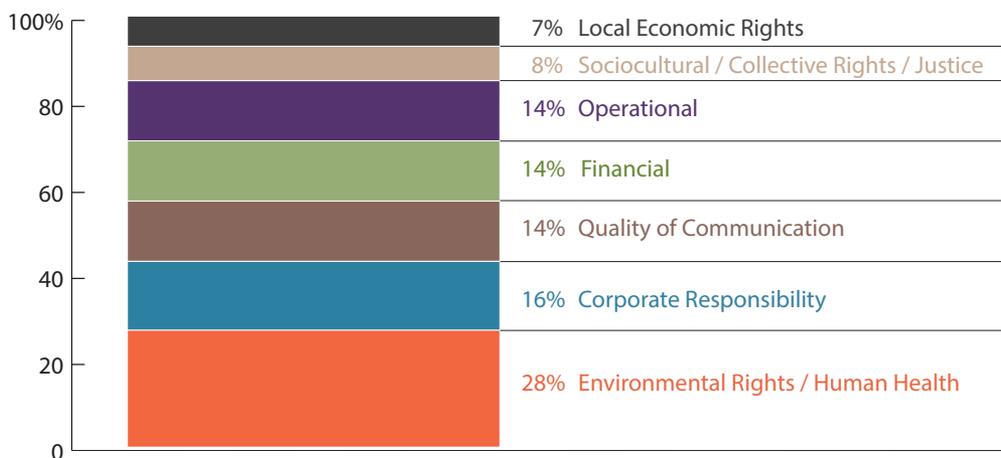
2

Community Priorities for Mining Information in Peru

In August and September of 2021, CooperAcción surveyed 34 local male and female leaders in Espinar and Cotabambas, industrial copper mining regions in Southern Peru, to better understand perceptions related to access to environmental and social information on the mining sector.

82% of the interviewees were leaders from communities and indigenous organizations representative of the provinces of Cotabambas (Aurimac) and Espinar (Cusco). Former authorities and representatives of local public and private institutions were also interviewed.

65% of the interviewees have represented their communities in dialogue roundtables—an appointment process that requires delegation by the population, indicating that these leaders are representative of their communities. Dialogue roundtables have been a very active instrument used by the Peruvian government in recent decades to address social conflicts. In the case of mining activities, the dialogue roundtables are tripartite spaces that bring together civil society, government, and companies. The topics discussed at these roundtables typically fall into four areas: environment, human rights, local development, and corporate social responsibility.



SURVEY RESPONSES FROM THE 34 LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS



Lessons Learned continued

The topic of environmental rights and human health was a popular response. CooperAcción's access to information study discussed under Lesson One above found that little information was available on this important topic through government and business web pages. Survey responses supported this conclusion and noted that little information is shared on this topic through dialogue processes. Corporate social responsibility, financial information, operational information, and quality of communication were also prominent survey responses.

On the topic of financial information, survey responses requested increased monitoring of tax evasion and correct calculation of tax and royalties. On the topic of operations, responses indicated a desire for third-party verification to confirm presence of secondary minerals.

Participant replies also indicated demand for information on proposed mine expansions and new mineral exploration to understand future impacts of the mining operation. Socio-cultural impacts and gender issues were also of concern.

Survey participants were asked two related questions

What types of information would:

1. reduce conflict, and
2. achieve good dialogue?

Many of the responses to these questions 1 and 2 were the same and are noted on the next page.

Photo: Patricio Crooker





Lessons Learned continued

QUESTION: What type of information do you consider to be important about the mining company to achieve a good dialogue?

ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS / HUMAN HEALTH

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution/contamination indicators • Environmental impact • Mitigation projects • Socialization/discrepancies in environmental management instruments • Environmental monitoring • Impacts on water resources • Human health • Animal health | <p>ADDITIONAL RESPONSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental history of the company (includes other operations)</i> • <i>Fulfilment of commitments: human health</i> • <i>Fulfilment of commitments: environmental remediation</i> • <i>Access to specialized technical assistance (external)</i> |
|---|--|

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures of social commitment, agreements, guarantees • Corporate social responsibility program • Community relations plan • Intervention in the direct area of influence • Framework agreement • Agreements with communities | <p>ADDITIONAL RESPONSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Guarantees to avoid “clientelistic” behavior of the company</i> • <i>Open, detailed and updated information on corporate social responsibility projects</i> • <i>Open, detailed and updated information on projects related to the framework agreement with the company</i> |
|--|--|

FINANCIAL

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial statements • Income • Utilities • Taxes | <p>ADDITIONAL RESPONSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Operating costs</i> • <i>Finance costs</i> • <i>Invested capital</i> • <i>Cost effectiveness (Internal Rate of Return)</i> • <i>Cash flow</i> |
|--|--|

OPERATIONAL

- Production
- Control over type of metals extracted
Expansion projections
- Operations detail



Lessons Learned continued

QUESTION - cont.: What type of information do you consider to be important about the mining company to achieve a good dialogue?

QUALITY OF COMMUNICATION

- Truthful information (control)
- Precise information
- Accessible, open information
- Local mother tongue (Quechua)

ADDITIONAL RESPONSES

- *Good faith in the communication and information shared (supporting documents)*
- *Clear definition of the terms of participation*
- *Equal treatment of the actors involved in the dialogue*
- *Impartiality (observation directed to the State)*
- *Clear definition of commitments and responsibilities*
- *Agreement socialization process*

SOCIOCULTURAL RIGHTS / COLLECTIVE RIGHTS / JUSTICE

- Sociocultural impacts
- Communal rights
- Gender
- Justice (processes)

ADDITIONAL RESPONSES

- *Information and legal analysis on land purchases*
- *Civil rights guarantees (before fiscal and judicial processes and states of emergency)*
- *Specific and detailed information on community benefits (in direct and indirect area of influence)*

LOCAL ECONOMIC RIGHTS

- Economic impacts
- Local projects
- Local labor

ADDITIONAL RESPONSES

- *Dates (approximate year) of beginning of delivery of the canon (the canon is the equivalent to 50% of the income tax that is transferred to the region)*
- *Information on closing social gaps*
- *Detail of economic investments with funds from the framework agreement*



Lessons Learned

3

IRMA as A Tool to Enhance Transparency and Improve Mine Performance in the Andes

While the research presented above focused on Peru, we also held conversations with community representatives based in other countries from the Andean region and found that common across these countries are gaps in access to information and a desire for improvement of environmental and social performance in the mining sector. The *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* is a tool that communities in Peru and across the Andes may use to fill gaps in access to information and to improve management of the mining sector.

IRMA provides opportunities for mining-affected communities, labor unions, NGOs, and governments to access information on mine performance, engage with mining companies, and seek improvement in mine performance based on independently verified information. For the private sector, IRMA's program incentivizes mining companies to share independently verified reports on their work to protect environmental and social values and allows purchasers and investors to improve supply chains and create market value to advance responsible practices.

IRMA hosts the *Standard for Responsible Mining*, the world's most comprehensive and rigorous definition of best practices for industrial-scale mining. Mine performance is measured against the Standard using independent third-party assessment, and community members are encouraged to engage and share concerns directly with auditors. IRMA's multi-stakeholder governance model gives equal voting rights to directly affected communities, NGOs, labor unions, companies, investors, and purchasers and maintains the integrity of the IRMA system.

Photo: Aruntani Mine, Peru courtesy of GIZ



The IRMA Standard

The *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* covers a broad range of social and environmental issues, including four major Principles and over 400 individual criteria. The four Principles and 26 topics assessed in an independent third-party IRMA audit are listed below.

1 Business Integrity

- Legal compliance
- Stakeholder engagement
- Stakeholder complaints process
- Human rights due diligence
- Revenue transparency and anti-corruption

2 Social Responsibility

- Labor rights
- Worker health and safety
- Community health and safety
- Conflict affected areas
- Security arrangements
- Cultural heritage protection
- Artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM)

3 Planning for Positive Legacies

- Environmental and social impact assessment and management
- Free Prior and Informed Consent
- Community support and benefits
- Resettlement
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Planning and financing reclamation and closure

4 Environmental Responsibility

- Water management
- Waste (tailings) management
- Air quality
- Greenhouse gases emissions
- Noise management
- Biodiversity, ecosystem services, protected areas
- Cyanide management
- Mercury management

Photo: Shahuindo Mine, Peru courtesy of GIZ

DOWNLOAD
The Standard for Responsible Mining v.1.0 — PDF

How the IRMA Standard Addresses Community Concerns

In the survey, community leaders identified many topics of importance to reduce conflict and foster good dialogue in the mining sector. Two of those were 1) *Environmental and Social Disclosures and Reporting* and 2) *Water Resources*.

Environmental and Social Disclosures and Reporting

IRMA STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING 2.1.10.

2.1.10.1. The ESIA report and any supporting data and analyses shall be made publicly available. Detailed assessments of some issues and impacts may be reported as stand-alone documents, but the ESIA report shall review and present the results of the full analysis in an integrated manner.

2.1.10.2. The operating company shall make publicly available an anonymized version of the ESIA record of stakeholder comments and its own responses, including how each comment was taken into account.

2.1.10.3. The environmental and social management plan shall be made available to stakeholders upon request.

2.1.10.4. Summary reports of the findings of the environmental and social monitoring program shall be made publicly available at least annually, and all data and methodologies related to the monitoring program shall be publicly available.

2.1.10.5. The existence of publicly available ESIA and ESMS information, and the means of accessing it, shall be publicized by appropriate means.¹

ESIA
Environmental
and Social
Impact
Assessment

ESMS
Environmental
and Social
Management
System

Data Sharing, Communications and Reporting on Water Management Performance

IRMA STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING 4.2.5.

4.2.5.1. The operating company shall publish baseline or background data on water quantity and quality, and the following water data shall be published annually, or at a frequency agreed by stakeholders from affected communities:

- a. Monitoring data for surface water and groundwater points of compliance; and
- b. Monitoring data for water quantity (i.e., flows and levels of surface waters, springs/seeps and groundwater), and the volume of water discharged and extracted/pumped for mining operations.

4.2.5.2. The operating company shall develop and implement effective procedures for rapidly communicating with relevant stakeholders in the event that there are changes in water quantity or quality that pose an imminent threat to human health or safety, or commercial or natural resources.

4.2.5.3. The operating company shall discuss water management strategies, performance and adaptive management issues with relevant stakeholders on an annual basis or more frequently if requested by stakeholders.

The *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* also requires that mining companies take a range of actions when there is any material change in the mine plan. This includes updating risks and impact assessments related to human rights, security-related risks and impacts, cultural heritage, and noise and vibration; obtaining Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from indigenous people where there are increased impacts on Indigenous Peoples' rights or interests; and reviewing and updating reclamation and closure plans and related financial assurance.

¹ "Appropriate means" refers to the need to publish information in formats and languages that are culturally appropriate, accessible and understandable to affected stakeholders. For example, appropriate means could include local radio announcements, leaflets, announcements at local meetings, etc.

IRMA Independent Third-Party Audits and Public Audit Reports

To be IRMA certified or make claims about IRMA achievement levels, mines must undergo independent third-party audits by IRMA-approved auditors to measure their performance against the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* requirements.

IRMA audits are publicly announced when they commence with outreach to local stakeholders throughout the process. The audits include desk-based review of materials such as policies, plans, reports, and meeting minutes, as well as mandatory on-site visits and interviews with community members, mine workers, and other stakeholders. Audits include scoring of performance. An Issues Resolution System procedure is available to communities or anyone who disagrees audit results.

Audit reports are focused on a particular mine site, providing a scoring of mine site performance and detailed, disaggregated data, including a wide range of environmental and social data. Audit reports must be made public, with all scores transparently released and rationale for scores provided by the auditor. Audits and public audit reports must be completed every three years. A surveillance audit and public report must be completed within 12 to 18 months of each full audit. IRMA audit reports help address the need for public access to timely, accessible, disaggregated data by providing regular, user-friendly information at the mine-site level.

The audit process requires community engagement and presents opportunities for citizen oversight.

The *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* requires mining companies, throughout the life of the mine (not just during audits), to engage with stakeholders on wide range of topics, including risk and impact assessments, development of mitigation measures, and development of monitoring programs. Examples of these requirements are on page 16.

In IRMA, mines are scored on whether they provide access to necessary information, capacity building, and access to independent experts. For example:

- The Unki Mine scored 15.5 of 16 points (97%) on Community and Stakeholder Engagement and 3 of 4 points (75%) on Community Support and Benefits in the mine site's 2021 audit.
- The Carrizal Mine scored 18 of 26 points (69%) on Community and Stakeholder Engagement and 3 of 14 points (21%) on Community Support and Benefits.

Examples of basis for rating statements for criteria under Community and Stakeholder Engagement are on the next page.

Full audit reports with detail across each IRMA criteria are available at <https://responsiblemining.net/what-we-do/certification/mines-under-assessment/>.

[Read full audit reports
across each IRMA criteria](#)

Excerpts from IRMA Audit Report

Chapter 1.2—Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Unki Mine (Zimbabwe) Audit Report, 2021

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1.2.2.1. Stakeholder engagement shall begin prior to or during mine planning, and be ongoing, throughout the life of the mine. (Note: existing mines do not need to demonstrate that engagement began prior to mine planning)</p> |  | <p>Stakeholder engagement has been consistent and ongoing with the community as evident through the 2019 Stakeholder engagement plan, Community engagement perception survey report 2019, CEF procedure 2015, newsletters (e.g. newsletter first quarter 2018), CEF quarterly meetings, minutes of issue-based meetings with communities (e.g. meeting of 14 February 2019 on gravel extraction), interview with SP team, meetings with the communities of Rietfontein, Village 17, Pasimupindu, and interviews with chiefs Nhema, Ndanga and Banga during the audit.</p> |
| <p>1.2.2.4. Engagement processes shall be accessible and culturally appropriate, and the operating company shall demonstrate that efforts have been made to include participation by women, men, and marginalized and vulnerable groups or their representatives.</p> |  | <p>CEF members and local community stakeholders interviewed during the audit agreed that the stakeholder engagement mechanisms were culturally appropriate and generally inclusive (men, women and vulnerable groups are included). A comment was made however that minutes of meetings are in English and should also be made available in the local language, and the results of the air pollution and the water pollution were not well explained to the Pasimupindu community.</p> |

Carrizal Mine (Mexico) Audit Report, 2020

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1.2.2.1. Stakeholder engagement shall begin prior to or during mine planning, and be ongoing, throughout the life of the mine. (Note: existing mines do not need to demonstrate that engagement began prior to mine planning)</p> |  | <p>Carrizal has, since October 2019, engaged in regular meetings with the affected communities, and have a plan for continued engagement. At least one of the visited communities reported that they had been given specific dates as to when the company would return to speak with them again, and almost all communities (even those that were more critical of the mine) stated that they were able to approach the company at any point in their offices to discuss issues of interest. Most but not all of the communities felt that the attention they received from the company was adequate.</p> |
| <p>1.2.2.4. Engagement processes shall be accessible and culturally appropriate, and the operating company shall demonstrate that efforts have been made to include participation by women, men, and marginalized and vulnerable groups or their representatives.</p> |  | <p>Carrizal has conversed with the communities concerning their cultural / organizational structures and habits, and what is most appropriate for engagement purposes. This includes requiring the consent of the local delegate to approach the community, meeting on Sundays when and where it is most convenient for the communities, and allowing community members who do not support the delegates to directly approach them directly for support (in this latter case, they act as intermediaries to contact the delegate to receive support / affirmation that the project benefits the community). They define 'vulnerable' populations at the community level, based on their level of marginalization from the mine. In this respect, they make efforts to reach the most marginalized communities. They do not, however, make any specific arrangements that facilitate the participation of the most vulnerable individuals within affected communities.</p> |

RATING LEGEND	
Description of performance	
	Fully meets
	Substantially meets
	Partially meets
	Does not meet
	Not relevant
	Not scored

[Read the summary audit reports: Carrizal's Zimapán Mine, Unki Mine](#)

IRMA's Detailed Public Audit Reports

The level of detail covered in IRMA audit reports is useful for civil society and other stakeholders in countries like Peru where, although some information regarding management of the mining sector may be “open,” the information is not always timely or in an accessible format; where it is “closed” or only available through cumbersome access to public information procedures; or where it is “private” and otherwise only available to companies.

IRMA audit reports are user-friendly documents covering over 400 criteria at the mine-site level, providing ratings and the basis for ratings in plain language. Where data is “closed” or “private,” IRMA audit reports provide information that may not otherwise be available to civil society, academics, purchasers, and others through publicly accessible audit reports.

EXAMPLE: Types of disclosures required by the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining*

IRMA audits and public audit reports help civil society and others access information about mine sites that may otherwise only be available to the company.

- The operating company is required to comply with all applicable host country laws related to the mining project. While confidential information may be redacted, the audit may lead to useful information for civil society and others about the company's legal compliance. (1.1.1.1)
- Companies are required to report to stakeholders on the mine's social and environmental performance and provide access to monitoring data. (1.2.2.7, 1.3.5.1, 1.3.5.2, 1.4.6.1, 1.5.1.2, 1.5.2.2, 2.2.5.2, 2.4.7.2, 2.6.2.4, 3.4.6.2, 3.5.6.2, 4.1.7.4, 4.5.4.2, 1.2.4.1, 2.1.2.2, 2.1.10.4, 3.4.6.1, 4.2.5.1, 4.7.5.1, 4.8.4.1)
- IRMA may help provide enhanced information related to project-level payments, even for a country where revenue transparency is quite high like Peru. For example, the *IRMA Standard* requires disclosure of project-level payments to governments, including public disclosure of fines or other similar penalties that have been issued in relation to the mining project. This information must be made available to stakeholders if requested. (1.5.2.2, 1.1.5.3)
- Security risk assessments required under the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* may reveal information related to payments made to public security forces at the mine site or along transportation routes that must also be disclosed as country or project-level payments to governments. (3.5.2.1, 1.5.2.2)
- IRMA requires that the operating company disclose to Indigenous Peoples, in a culturally appropriate manner, preliminary project concepts and proposed activities. (2.2.3.1)
- Mines must disclose relevant information and consult with potentially affected people and communities during assessment of displacement and resettlement risks and impacts and related options and plan development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. (2.3.4.1)
- The operating company or its corporate owners must also disclose to IRMA auditors an accounting of greenhouse gas emissions from the mining project, progress towards reduction targets, and efforts taken to reduce emissions. (4.5.4.2)

IRMA as a Tool for Education and Continuous Improvement

Even where IRMA audits are not yet taking place, civil society can present IRMA criteria for transparency, access to information, data sharing, reporting, and beyond to companies and policymakers as examples of good practice.

IRMA is a useful tool for a wide range of stakeholders.

Civil society and other stakeholders can encourage mines to undergo IRMA audits, publish audit reports, and commit to continuous improvement. Purchasers and investors who are committed to responsible sourcing look to mines in the IRMA system when making investment and purchasing decisions. Information in audit reports provides valuable, accessible information for communities, NGOs, unions, academics, governments, and others working to advance environmental and social performance in the mining sector.

Communities may also initiate their own assessment of a company's performance at the mine-site level using the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* to collect information about a set of criteria of greatest concern to the community. IRMA is currently developing tools to support community assessments, but a community may also develop its own tools.

Additionally, the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* can be used as an educational tool and to promote positive changes in law and policy. Community organizations can educate themselves about IRMA, identify good practice criteria in the IRMA Standard, and present these good practices to policymakers to improve access to information, transparency, community

engagement, law and policy frameworks, and local-level grievance mechanisms.

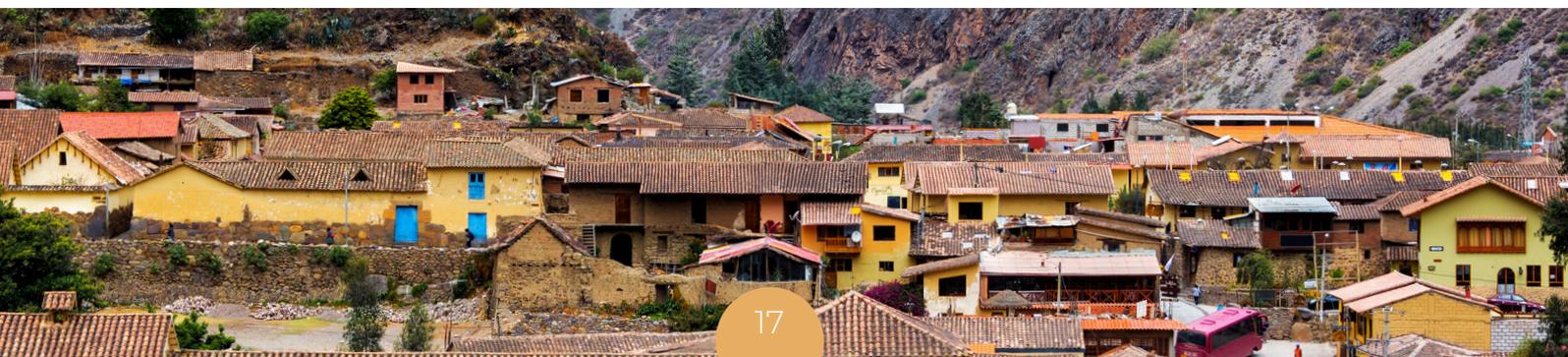
This project produced the three initial modules of an IRMA Community Toolkit—a set of community-focused educational materials accessible in English and Spanish regarding IRMA, the IRMA system, and topics of particular importance to communities, such as IRMA requirements related to the rights of Indigenous Peoples and FPIC. These materials will be posted on the IRMA website and are also available by emailing outreach@responsiblemining.net.

The IRMA Community Toolkit is a set of community-focused educational materials in English and Spanish regarding the IRMA system, and requirements related to the rights of Indigenous Peoples and FPIC.

Governments can also use the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* as a template to improve laws and regulations, as a complement to government oversight of mine performance, and as a market-based incentive for more responsible mining practices across their jurisdiction.

Finally, communities, NGOs, labor unions, purchasers and others may use the *IRMA Engagement Map* to access information about mine sites and to share their own interest for more responsible practices. Information may be searched by organization, material, sector, geographic region, and more. Learn more at map.responsiblemining.net.

Photo: Stock.Adobe.com / Jess Kraft



Using the IRMA Standard in Peru

Fill Current Gaps in Public Access to Information, Support Community Engagement, and Enhance Transparency of Mine Management Information



The IRMA Standard requires mines to engage with stakeholders on wide range of topics, including risk and impact assessments, development of mitigation measures, and development of monitoring programs. Engagement under IRMA involves not only informing and providing access to necessary information but also capacity building and access to independent experts.

IRMA audit reports are user-friendly documents that are made freely available to the public. Each audit report provides a basis for rating on each IRMA criteria at a mine site level.

EXAMPLES OF INFORMATION THAT IS CLOSED TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN PERU

- State of compliance with environmental commitments in Environmental Impact Studies (EIAs), Quarterly Monitoring Reports (OEFA)
- Consolidated Annual Statements (MINEM)
- Closure plans and financial assurance (possibly available via request for access to public information) (SENACE, MINEM, OEFA)
- Permits for the use of water and discharges (ANA)
- Management and monitoring of water and air quality (OEFA, ANA)
- General environmental management plan with budgets (SENACE, OEFA, MINEM; Open access when under review for approval but closed after review unless accessed via request for access to public information; some information is private and related monitoring is not reported)
- Information on environmental liabilities, environmental remediation plans with budgets (MINEM, SAC, OEFA)
- Waste management plan (SENACE, OEFA, MINEM)
- Compliance with Environmental Quality Standards and Maximum Permissible Limits for extractive activities (OEFA, ANA)
- Information on Monitoring Environmental Impact Studies (OEFA)
- Administrative sanctions for mining safety (OSINERGMIN)
- Management of noise and vibration (OEFA, MINEM)
- Emission of gases (OEFA, MINEM)
- Management of chemical waste (OEFA, MINEM)
- Management of chemical inputs (SUNAT, MINEM)
- Management of biodiversity and local ecosystems (SENACE, OEFA; closed unless accessed via request for access to public information)
- Status of compliance with social commitments of EIAs (OEFA)
- Detailed annual social expenses (MINEM)
- Community relations plan (OEFA)
- Plan of citizen participation (OEFA)
- Monitoring of resettlement plans (OEFA, MINEM)
- Agreements with communities for compensation for use of land, water, services, etc. (Companies)
- Gender indicators (MINEM, Companies; MINEM has aggregated statistics on how many women are employed by the sector; some companies have policies against workplace harassment and on hiring and training of women but these are not publicly accessible)
- Health and safety in mining work (OSINERGMIN, MINSAs; OSINERGMIN monitors physical and chemical safety and makes information available for a fee; Information related to occupational health, drinking water, and worker health is closed through MINSAs)
- Community health and safety (baselines, monitoring) (OEFA, MINSAs-CENSOPAS)
- Responses to emergencies (OSINERMIN, MINEM, OEFA, regional and local authorities)
- Security management (Companies, police; private security agents provide back-up service; police may have an inter-institutional security arrangement with the company)

Examples of Relevant IRMA Standard Topics for Peru

REPORTING AND ACCESS TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DATA

- Mines must report to stakeholders on their performance on social and environmental issues and provide stakeholders with access to monitoring data

IRMA REQUIREMENTS: 1.2.2.7, 1.3.5.1, 1.3.5.2, 1.4.6.1, 1.5.1.2, 1.5.2.2, 2.2.5.2, 2.4.7.2, 2.6.2.4, 3.4.6.2, 3.5.6.2, 4.1.7.4, 4.5.4.2, 1.2.4.1, 2.1.2.2, 2.1.10.4, 3.4.6.1, 4.2.5.1, 4.7.5.1, 4.8.4.1

STAKEHOLDER OVERSIGHT

- Mines must create a stakeholder body to provide oversight of the mine's performance and seek feedback on the effectiveness of plans and procedures

IRMA REQUIREMENTS: 1.2.2.3, 1.4.4.3

COMPANY OBLIGATIONS WHEN THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE MINING PROJECT

- Update human rights risks and impacts (1.3.2.1)
- Obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from indigenous peoples for proposed changes that may result in new or increased impacts on indigenous peoples' rights or interests (2.2.2.3)
- Review and update the reclamation and closure plan and/or financial assurance (2.6.2.4)
- Review financial surety instruments (2.6.4.2)
- Update security-related risks and impacts (3.5.2.1)
- Undertake a screening process to identify risks and potential impacts to replicable, non-replicable and critical cultural heritage (3.7.2.1)
- Screening to determine if there may be significant impacts on off site human noise receptors from mining project's noise and/or vibration if there is a proposed change that is likely to result in a new source of noise or vibration or an increase in existing noise or vibration levels (4.4.1.1)

ENGAGEMENT

- Mines must provide timely access to information, offer capacity building and training, facilitate access to independent experts.

IRMA REQUIREMENTS: 1.1.5.3, 1.4.2.2, 2.1.6.1, 1.2.2.2, 2.2.1.2, 2.2.3.1, 3.7.1.3, 4.2.4.6, 1.2.3.1, 2.6.2.5, 2.6.4.5, 2.1.8.3, 2.4.2.2, 2.4.6.3, 2.6.2.5, 2.6.4.5, 4.2.4.3

- Mines must work with stakeholders to design culturally appropriate engagement processes, strategies to overcome barriers to participation and complaints procedures that work for communities.

IRMA REQUIREMENTS: 1.2.1.3, 2.2.3.2, 2.2.4.2, 1.2.1.3, 1.4.2.1

- Engagement processes include women, children, youth, elderly, and vulnerable and marginalized groups.

IRMA REQUIREMENTS: 1.2.2.4, 1.2.2.5, 1.3.2.2, 2.3.2.2, 2.3.3.2, 3.4.3.3, 3.5.2.2

ENGAGEMENT IN ASSESSMENTS

- Environmental and Social Impact (2.1.8.1)
- Human Rights (1.3.2.2)
- Resettlement (2.4.2.1)
- Community Health and Safety (3.3.5.1)
- Conflict-Affected Areas (3.4.3.3)
- Security Arrangements (3.5.2.2)
- Cultural Heritage (3.7.1.2)
- Mine Tailings and Waste Facility Siting and Alternatives (4.1.7.1)
- Water Quality, Quantity and Current and Future Uses (4.2.1.2, 4.2.1.3, 4.2.2.2)
- Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Protected Areas (3.7.5.2, 4.6.1.2)

Examples of Relevant IRMA Standard Topics for Peru, CONTINUED

ENGAGEMENT IN MITIGATION MEASURES

- Environmental and Social Impacts (2.1.9.1, 2.1.9.2)
- Community Health and Safety (3.3.5.1)
- Human Rights (1.3.3.2.a)
- Resettlement and Livelihoods (2.4.2.1)
- Community Health and Safety (3.3.5.1)
- Conflict-Affected Areas (3.4.4.3)
- Security Arrangements (3.5.2.5, 3.5.5.2)
- Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (3.6.4.1)
- Cultural Heritage (3.7.1.2)
- Water Quality, Quantity and Future Uses (4.2.3.1, 4.2.4.6)
- Noise and Vibration (4.4.2.6)
- Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Protected Areas (4.6.1.2, 4.6.6.3)
- Negotiate measures to protect critical cultural heritage (3.7.5.1)

ENGAGEMENT IN MONITORING

- Monitoring: Environmental and Social Impact (2.1.9.3, 2.1.9.4)
- Implementation of FPIC agreements (2.2.7.1)
- Community Development Agreements (2.3.3.6)
- Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration (2.4.2.1)
- Community Health and Safety (3.3.5.1)
- Effectiveness of Conflict Management (3.4.4.2)
- Participatory Water Monitoring (4.2.4.3)
- Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Protected Areas (4.6.1.2)
- Mercury (4.8.3.1)

ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

- Mines must collaborate with communities on designing community development strategies (1.2.3.1, 2.3.3.1, 2.3.3.1, 2.3.3.3, 2.3.3.4, 2.3.3.5, 2.3.3.6, 3.3.5.1)

ENGAGEMENT IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING

- Mines must engage communities in emergency response planning in particular with respect to planning responses related to catastrophic failure of tailings and waste facilities (2.5.2.1, 4.1.7.2)

ENGAGEMENT IN RECLAMATION AND CLOSURE PLANS

- Mines must consult stakeholders on the development of reclamation and closure plans, and the sufficiency of financial surety provisions (2.6.2.2, 2.6.2.5, 2.6.2.6, 2.6.4.4, 2.6.4.5, 2.6.4.6, 2.6.6.1)

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IRMA's Resources and Principles responsiblemining.net/resources

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CooperAcción cooperaccion.org.pe



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