

Terms of reference

Request for proposals – Mining industry impact on access to water, sanitation and hygiene

WaterAid is seeking proposals to analyse and draw lessons from the mining industries' impact on community access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), in order to inform WaterAid's strategy for engagement with the sector and our policy change and advocacy agenda.

The mining industry can have significant economic, social and environmental impacts, presenting challenges and opportunities for the countries and communities where WaterAid works¹.

As has been well documented, mining can contribute to poverty reduction in a number of ways, through generating income, creating opportunities for growth for lateral or downstream businesses and, in some cases, through the provision of public services, including water and sanitation. Large-scale mining provides employment and skills transfer to workers, and artisanal and small scale mining (ASM) provides employment for approximately 13 million workers in 30 countries, with approximately 80 – 100 million people depending on such mining for their livelihood.²

Yet mining, and the cessation of mining, can be a cause of poverty or adversely affect the living conditions of poor and marginalised communities. Environmental damage can be caused by large-scale mining and ASM, with the impacts acutely felt through water. Water pollution, lack of water availability and accessibility all adversely impact the health and livelihoods of local population, potentially infringing certain rights, including the human rights to water and sanitation.

Whilst there is a growing body of research on the impact mining has on water resources and environment, there has been limited analysis on the direct and indirect impact it has on access to WASH, and the human rights to water and sanitation (HRWS) in marginalised communities.

To inform WaterAid's approach to the sector, as well as decision making processes in governments, mining companies and communities, there is a need for quantifiable evidence and analysis. This will maximise development benefits of mining activities and minimise risks for all, but in particular the poor and marginalised living in WASH poverty.

¹ <http://www.wateraid.org/uk/where-we-work>

² <http://go.worldbank.org/390WXEYH0>

Therefore, as a first step, **WaterAid is seeking Expressions of Interest to conduct a comprehensive literature review outlining the current state of knowledge around mining activities and WASH.**

Objectives

- To develop a robust evidence base that qualifies and, where possible, quantifies the impacts of mining on communities' access to WASH and their water security as defined in WaterAid's Water Security Framework.³
- To make recommendations on potential priorities and entry points for WaterAid to engage and influence the mining sector, so that WASH services are protected and sustainable, and the water security of poor and marginalized communities is enhanced.

Expressions of interest are sought by **26 February 2016**.

Part 1: Desk-based literature review

Provide a structured analysis on the mining sector (both large-scale and ASM⁴) and communities' access to WASH, community-level water security and the HRWS in developing countries. Understand the policy and regulatory context, including voluntary initiatives, and their effectiveness. Identify positive and negative impacts on WASH services stemming from the mining sector and the driving factors behind these. Outline and prioritise opportunities for WaterAid to engage with the sector and with governments to reduce the impacts of mining on the water security of poor and marginalised communities.

Include:

1. Data to give a global overview of the mining sector including:
 - a) the number of large-scale mining operations
 - b) the size of ASM sector
 - c) projected size of both sectors over the next five years
 - d) number of communities, particularly the poorest and most marginalised, potentially impacted by large-scale operations and ASM now and over the next five years.
2. A summary of ongoing international and regional extractive sector initiatives that includes support, commitments or scrutiny on WASH, water security or HRWS for large-scale mining and ASM. Identify blockages to their implementation and evidence of their effectiveness.

³ <http://www.wateraid.org/policy-practice-and-advocacy/water/resources>

⁴ <https://eiti.org/glossary>

3. A summary of existing international laws and policy frameworks, and a number of national-level frameworks agreed with WaterAid, related to the extractive sector and ASM, WASH, water security and HRWS. Identify whether they are functional, any blockages to their implementation and evidence of their effectiveness.
4. Documented positive and negative impacts of a) large-scale mining activities and b) ASM activities on communities' access to WASH, water security and HRWS. This should include, but is not limited to: pollution of aquifers and drinking water sources; over-extraction and depletion of groundwater; and lowering of the water table resulting in the need to deepen wells. Particular reference should be made to impacts on the poorest and most marginalised communities. Analysis should include discussion of the wider social repercussions communities face as a consequence of water issues – e.g. the effect on livelihoods if water supply falls, on health if water is contaminated, etc.
5. Global examples of good and poor a) operational practice and b) CSR policies with respect to water and sanitation at each stage of the extractives cycle (Establishment, Operations and Closure). Examples should include a discussion of the wider social impacts including, but not limited to, the effects of inward migration and a transient population on existing water and sanitation infrastructure. The review should also consider the short- and long- term impacts of when a mining entity becomes the water/sanitation provider for surrounding communities during operation and after closure.

Determine

- Overarching trends in the sector and an estimation of where its biggest impacts on the lives of the poorest and the most marginalised are likely to come from in the next five years.
- Any gaps in international and/or regional mining initiatives for the inclusion of WASH, water security and HRWS, and a prioritisation for WaterAid to engage with the relevant initiatives.
- The policy, regulatory and institutional factors required to ensure WASH services are protected from any impacts by mining activities on water resources and access to WASH.
- Opportunities and entry points for non-government stakeholders, including WaterAid, to strengthen the regulation of mining activities so that WASH services are protected.
- Any positive impacts of the mining sector on WASH and any mechanisms by which these can be enhanced.
- Scope for WaterAid to engage with ASM and a prioritisation of initiatives.

Outputs and timetable

Activity	Date
Kick off meeting	07/03/2016 10am – 12pm GMT
Literature Review first draft	23/03/2016
Literature Review final draft	05/04/2016

Application process

Consultants may apply either individually or in teams from around the world, and will be reviewed based on staff competencies, record of previous work, quality of proposal and value for money. This work is expected to cost £10,000 including VAT.

We are particularly looking for organisations with capacity in the following areas:

- Knowledge and experience of working on extractive industry issues.
- Knowledge of the WASH sector and Government's role in the delivery of services and the extension of coverage at national and local level.

The proposal should be sent in a single document of no more than 3,000 words (plus CVs in appendix) to hannahgreig@wateraid.org no later than **26 February 2016**.

The email should use 'Proposal: Mining and WASH' as the subject.

Proposals will be reviewed and a decision made by the **3 March 2016**.