



Needs assessment

Mining communities of Luttwinja, Mukungwe, Ninja, and Nzibira, South Kivu DRC

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Summary of Key findings of the assessment

- The populations of the mining communities are poorer than the national average in terms of income and daily number of meals.
- Due to insecurity related to illegal exploitation of extractives, the large majority of households are unable to achieve food security.
- The mining communities are less developed economically. Use of advanced farming techniques and access to extension services is extremely limited.
- At the same time, they are more dependent on subsistence agriculture to feed their families.
- The number of out-of-school youth is higher than the national average.
- Governance structures in mining communities are extremely weak and mechanisms for raising and addressing violations and mediating conflict are absent.

Background

The abuses related to the illegal exploitation of minerals in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are well documented. A strategy initiated in Lusaka was developed to address them. However, the following events have underscored the urgent need to reform artisanal and small-scale mining:

- the decision of the end users in the US to stop importing minerals originating from the DRC in reaction to Section 1502 of the Dodd–Frank Act
- the subsequent reduction of legal production affecting the small-scale mining sector, and
- the national elections and the international visibility surrounding conflict minerals.

Much has been said about the Reform of artisanal mining and how it might have changed Kivu economies, however, its effective impact on local communities has not really been assessed. Then, following a series of consultations and visits in the Kivus in 05/2011, 06/2011 and 07/2011, certain needs were pre-identified in terms of livelihoods, education and reinforcement of the capacity of communities to assert their rights and report violations in support of effective implementation of mining reforms.

At the same time, initiatives such as the Centre de Négoce (CdN) and International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy (ISSSS) projects, as well as the mobilization of international actors, including both private companies and public donors such as US International Agency for Development (USAID), the World Bank and Department for International Development (DfID), offer opportunities for increased impact of development programming. To take advantage of these opportunities Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Commission on Natural Resources of the DRC Bishops' Conference (CERN), both of which carrying out activities targeting mining communities and/or mine workers in South Kivu, decided to carry out an assessment and Walungu, which is also the most advanced Eastern area in implementing the Mining Reform.

Objective

The objective of the assessment was to better understand the living conditions of the populations in the mining areas of Walungu and, more specifically, to study the impact of mining activities and of the Dodd-Frank Act on the population to inform the development of appropriate program interventions.

Methodology

The assessment was carried out in three steps:

- Identification of the communities
- Development of the focus group guides, assessment teambuilding and training, presentation of the assessment to and mobilization of the communities and identification of the focus groups and
- Information gathering, analysis and reporting.

The research took place from August to October 2011 in communities (Luttwinja, Ninja, Nzibira, Mukungwe) located in the zone covered by the selling center (CdN) of Mugogo where minerals from the mines are bagged and tagged before the comptoirs¹ buy them. In three of the communities, mining is carried out on a small scale and in the fourth community (Luttwinja), on both a small and industrial scale². Additional criteria were applied to help make the collected data more representative including accessibility and presence of CERN/CRS and its partners. Thus, the four selected communities offered a representative sample and reflected the diversity of the differing contexts. In the map on the following page, the arrow points to Walungu district center.

Two different discussion guides were developed for the focus groups: an education and livelihoods guide, and a mining activities guide³. The guides were developed by CRS and CERN, and were shared with outside contributors familiar with the small-scale mining industry (such as USAID).

The evaluation team was made up of four people: two people from the community selected by

Total : 141 participants

The focus groups arranged by gender and age used the first discussion guide; and the mining focus groups used the second. All topics were discussed with the Village Chiefs.

Before the focus groups were held, there were meetings with the Village Chief and the community to explain the steps and the objectives of the assessment and to identify people interested in taking part in focus groups. The members of the focus groups were selected by the assessment team and the Village Chief from among those who expressed their interest.

The data gathered were consolidated and analyzed in two stages:

- Examination and initial analysis of data in Bukavu in the presence of three representatives of CERN^{vi}, the CRS Senior Technical Advisor on Peacebuilding from Baltimore, the external consultant and the CRS DRC consultant for Governance and Extractives
- The initial analysis was shared with internal and external participants including the CRS Senior Technical Advisor for Governance and Civil Society based in Baltimore.
- Once refined, the analysis was consolidated into the final report.

Main Limitations

- Little and/or inconsistent quantitative information on minerals issues. This is due to the lack of knowledge of the respondents (detailed in “Results and Recommendations”) and their reluctance to answer some questions especially those on production and the income generated from mining.
- The goal of the study was to gain a general understanding of the situation; in this sense it

succeeded, but it also underlined the need to refine the analysis in certain areas.

Data analysis

Overview

Summary

- The migration balance of the mining communities is negative.
- The majority of departures are from the active work force.

Detailed analysis

The size of households in the mining communities studied is slightly lower (7.8 people per family) than the national average for rural areas (8.3).

The mining zones are areas of migration. Thus, 60%^{vii} of those surveyed have at least one member of their family living in another community. At the community level, this migratory balance is negative. The number of arrivals (5% on average out of the four communities) is lower than the number of departures (up to 15% in the community of Mukungwe), underlining the fact that mining communities are no longer centres of attraction but a point of out migration towards urban areas. The movement out of mining areas is primarily for economic reasons due to poverty^{viii} - and young men account for 67% of the movement. These young men generally are seeking employment in urban centres while young women often move for marrying outside of their communities. For youth, the departures are associated with the pursuit of secondary education. A final reason given for leaving was for physical insecurity^{ix} (except in Luttwinja).

Like the departures, the arrivals are primarily male (60% to 70%). The men come to work in the mines or in mining related occupations (ex. as a member of the new Mining Police in Ninja)^x.

Women are less mobile than the men. This is

related to the socio-economic role of women, who are responsible not only for household management, but also for agricultural work. Women were overrepresented in the communities surrounding the mines, because men leave home to work in the mines. Those men who have amassed enough savings leave the community to settle (temporarily or permanently) in the city, leaving their wives and children behind.

In Luttwinja, migration is also related to the relocation caused by industrial mining. This type of relocation has affected 200 families (1,560 people) and another 280 are expected to be relocated (approx.: 7,9% of the population). The voluntary and compensated transfers are the object of criticism from the local population. Many feel that the compensation paid by Banro ^{xi} is lower than the actual value of the land transferred. In addition, many relocated people complained that they no longer have any access to arable land for agricultural activities. This perception was disputed by the Village Chief, who sees Banro's efforts as positive factor for development. The resulting conflict of opinions creates a source of tension between the Village Chief and the members of the community.

Recommendations

- Promote alternative livelihood opportunities in mining communities.
- Improve the working conditions for miners.
- Support mediation efforts in Luttwinja to address the tension between the Village Chief and the community.

Education

Summary

- The main reason for low school enrollment is poverty.
- Rate of primary school enrollment for girls is higher than that of boys.

- School is not perceived as a promoter of access to employment.
- Idle (inactive) youth are among the primary sources of instability.

Detailed analysis

Schools are present in significant numbers in all the communities studied. ^{xii} These schools were built by the government, by humanitarian agencies or as part of Banro's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the elementary schools listed in the four communities are on the perimeter of Luttwinja on the Banro concession. In this zone there is approximately one school per 377 children ^{xiii} compared to one school per 504 children in Nzibira.

Despite schools being accessible - within 45 minutes walk at the most - the number of out-of-school children is significant. It is higher (37% according to the responders) than the national average ^{xiv} (25%) as well as the national average for poor households (35%). In Ninja, according to the respondents, 60% of all households have at least one out-of-school child.

The participants explained that the main reasons for low school enrollment were poverty (70%)^{xv}, preference for working in the mines (11%) and lack of authority from parents vis-à-vis their children who see no benefits from going to school (17%). A hypothesis is that the situation is better in areas that have a clear policy on child labor (Luttwinja) or when the mines are far away from the community (Ninja). 70% of the participants in Mukungwe think that dropping out of school is a necessity (to contribute to the family income), whereas only 10% share this opinion in Luttwinja and 65% in Ninja.

On average the ratio of school enrollment at the primary level is favorable to girls, 53% girls vs. 47% boys, according to the participants. This distribution is related to the causes of non enrollment: poverty, the attraction of male youth to the mine and the low value placed on education. Indeed, children leave school because

parents cannot pay school fees and/or to contribute to household income. In the relationships between drop-outs and poverty, menial jobs at the mine^{xvi}, often held by young boys, are viewed as an immediate source of income and more attractive as a contribution to household income than work in the field carried out by women. Moreover, the low value placed on education is a negative factor particularly for boys. Attending school is not seen as a means of achieving social status in the community. Lastly, the lack of adequate educational materials and supplies for schools was cited as a major problem in all communities.

A middle school drop-out level is explained by the lack of qualified teachers (a fact noted by all the focus groups). Teaching secondary school requires a qualification which can only be acquired in the city and the financial and social motivations to return are often insufficient. Consequently, those qualified to teach at the middle school level prefer to remain in town and the posts of middle school teachers in rural communities are filled by primary education teachers. This impacts the quality of middle school education and drives many youth (about 17%) to leave their communities in order to study or to leave school to work.

Distressingly, about 30% of out-of-school youth were regarded as inactive, and idleness was cited in all communities as a source of instability. According to respondents, 21% of the people involved in the causes of insecurity were idle youth. Moreover, idle youth were considered to be more vulnerable to recruitment by armed forces^{xvii}.

Recommendations

- Facilitate access to education through emergency assistance (school vouchers).
- Strengthen the quality of teaching and in particular develop accelerated education for younger students and vocational training for older ones.
- Promote efforts to reduce child labor.

Livelihoods

Summary

- Daily income (1 USD) is lower than the national average of poor families.
- Agriculture is the primary and preferred source of income for families.
- Farming income is used to feed the family but does not provide for other needs.
- Agriculture is not high-yield; most is subsistence agriculture and based on traditional techniques.
- The potential to develop local agriculture and the local economy is constrained by limited access to land and the market.
- Confusion in applying the law in the absence of mediation leads to land disputes.
- There is considerable food insecurity and limited coping mechanisms.
- The situation has mainly remained unchanged and/or deteriorated.
- Small-scale mining does not benefit the local communities.
- Mining is an impediment to economic development.
- Industrial mining does not constitute a viable alternative without strengthening civic engagement of the populations and establishing state authority.

Detailed analysis

Mining communities are poorer than the national average. The participants in the focus groups estimate that 80% of the population has a daily income of around 1 USD (very poor). The national average for a similar population is of 80% having a daily income of 2 to 2.5 USD (poor). This difference is explained by the economic system resulting from the unregulated exploitation of natural resources. The communities are isolated because of the presence of armed groups in the mining sites and of the lack of basic infrastructure.

The lack of infrastructure has a negative impact on the ability to establish state authority. Without security and an ability to rid the mines of armed groups, communities will remain isolated and options for economic development extremely limited. Even when a minimum level of stability is established the ability for savings, investment and innovation remains unachievable in the absence of significant external support.

Agriculture is the primary source of income for more than 80% of the families in the mining communities^{xviii} including industrial mining areas. Principle findings include:

- Farming is largely the work of women (more than 90%) and traditionally women are responsible for taking care of the basic needs for the household. As explained in the focus groups, this responsibility is more pronounced in the mining communities. Men, young men in particular, often go to mining sites leaving women with the sole responsibility for agricultural activities. Women have no option but to take on even the physically demanding work traditionally reserved for men, such as field preparation. In the long run, this has resulted in a loss of technical skills among men. Even the young men who expressed a desire to acquire agricultural knowledge and skills – 50% of male informants stated that they would choose agriculture if they had the choice – are no longer able to return to farming. Consequently, the role of women in the daily survival of the household takes on even greater importance. It would be interesting to explore further whether this situation has resulted in an elevation in the status and society's perception of the value of women.
- The income generated by mining does not benefit the family^{xix} or community development. As work at the mine is performed by men (more than 80%) often from other regions, the profits generated are largely used for immediate consumption: including alcohol and prostitution according to the focus groups. In the event of sizable

gains, earnings are used to support for relocation to an urban centre. However, as noted earlier, it is often the men only who move, leaving behind their families to fend for themselves.

- Due to a lack of qualifications, the local population does not have access to industrial mining jobs. As explained by the focus groups in Luttwinja, initially local recruitment was carried out. However, as jobs required more technically sophisticated knowledge and skills, the demand for local labor decreased, and locally recruited staff were laid off. The resulting situation is a source of resentment.

Agriculture is the primary and preferred source of revenue for families^{xx} (62.5%^{xxi}) before small business (17.5%) and mineral exploitation (12.5%) - a finding that carried across all of the focus groups. Informants mentioned during the exchanges that farming provided a reliable source of income, whereas the income from mining and small business was inconsistent. It was also stressed that farming was not subject to illegal taxation like mining.

A more thorough study shows slight differences according to age and local opportunities. For example, agriculture holds less appeal to young people, who have also suffered the most from the loss of agricultural skills, than to older people (especially the Chiefs) who see agriculture as the safeguard of traditional values. For this reason, young people have been lured by petty commerce in which they see a real professional potential. Agro-forestry is associated with farming in Ninja. Work at the mine comes second among males (the highest score for this activity) especially at Luttwinja where men seek formal mining employment.

Farming income is largely used to feed the family: 75% (on average) and up to 95% in Ninja. The national average is 62%. The remaining share is used to pay school fees (on average 50%)^{xxii}, and cover healthcare costs (more than 20%), as well as to purchase essential goods, including clothes (15%). Savings and investment opportunities are

extremely low or in many cases non-existent. This situation is compounded by the isolation related to the presence of armed groups at mining sites (the exception being Luttwinja) and the lack of infrastructures especially in Nzibira and Ninja. Even with minimum level of stability and security (as is the case in Walungu) farming income remains insufficient to meet families' needs. Farming revenue is often supplemented by secondary sources of income, mainly from mining-related activities such as mineral washing and transportation, small shops and prostitution.

Given the contribution of farming as a source of meeting basic household needs, access to land is a crucial issue. According to respondents, on average, 93% of the population obtains land through inheritance or purchase. This average reflects a relatively homogeneous reality. Those without access to land are mainly the population relocated by Banro (approximately 8% of families). Even when access to land does not appear to be a major constraint in the communities studied, it remains precarious. This is especially the case in Mukungwe where 40% of families rent plots of land. They are mainly young married couples who did not inherit and who cannot afford to purchase land. Moreover, in the absence of clarity of land rights, as defined by national law versus customary law, land ownership can be disputed by Village Chiefs who invoke custom to claim mineral-rich land. Recent examples were mentioned at the time of the investigators' visit in Mukungwe. Without clarification, this situation is likely to occur again and again. The question of the access to land for returnees has yet to pose significant challenges. However, increased stability, and therefore an increase in returns of displaced people is a potential source for future tensions.

The average size of a field is 1.7 ha ^{xxiii}, which is sizable and offers opportunities for developing agriculture into a viable income-generating activity. Only 50% of land is farmed, however, because of the lack of sufficient and sufficiently skilled labor and/or inputs, especially seeds resistant to mosaic disease in Mukungwe and Ninja^{xxiv}.

Those without access to land rely on informal mining (13%) as their primary source of income.

This includes those displaced by Banro, as well as young people who could not afford to rent a plot of land (10% of families according to the participants). The displaced, living on a private concession, cannot buy land, and many young people lack the financial capacity^{xxv} to buy and/or the farming skills to cultivate it^{xxvi}.

The reported average number of meals/day was 1.3 (national average: 1.64 to 2.1 ^{xxvii}) with 80% of food coming from the family plot, a phenomenon that is reinforced in the most isolated communities such as Nzibira and Ninja. The study underlined the lack of diversity in the type of foods consumed: largely manioc, sweet potato, bananas and beans. Meat and fish are scarce. Animals such as goats and cows are sold or traded for other goods but not eaten.

Insecurity and poverty are linked

- Due to the absence of locally produced essential goods, these goods are often supplied by outside traders. They will sometimes stop delivering supplies due to insecurity. This means that supplies that do make it to the local markets often come with a higher price.
- Limited access and isolation prevents communities from selling their agricultural produce or, in some cases, selling at a price far below what the market would attract. The situation further reduces their buying power and ability to purchase essential goods.
- Poverty leads to insecurity. Informants attributed 21% of the insecurity to idle young people who had turned to petty crime, banditry and/or were recruited by illegal armed forces due to the lack of viable rural livelihood opportunities.
- The economic system resulting from uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources, as well as the presence of minerals and isolation of communities attracting armed groups reinforces community isolation due to the lack of infrastructures as well as insecurity.

The goods produced but not consumed are sold on the local market (approximately 90%) or traded in the community for goods bought by others on the local market. All communities have access to a market (1 to 1.45 hours walk). The ability to reach a market in the course of the day is an opportunity to stimulate farm production and local economic activity, but in many areas continuing or sporadic insecurity continues to hamper the regular movement of both goods and people to and from markets. In Luttwinja and Mukungwe, which have easier access to the provincial capital, the Bukavu market does offer an option for the sale of domestic farming production (18%) and the purchase of goods. Lastly, 11% of those surveyed said that they sold their production at mining sites.

Looking at a broader perspective, in the community of Luttwinja where family income has increased in the past two years, 28% of participants attributed this improvement to improved security. In communities where household income has remained constant or has decreased (Nzibira, Ninja and Mukungwe), 71% of participants blamed the increased poverty on insecurity. Other factors cited were the lack of professional opportunities, especially for youth, and the reduction of mining activities, following the presidential ban of 2010 or the Dodd-Frank Act and the decision of US end users to stop imports originating from the DRC, thus reducing secondary incomes.

Also in Luttwinja, 66% of those surveyed that cited improvement in their income; this was attributed to improved security resulting from the presence of Banro's guards and the infrastructures built by the company to facilitate exchanges.

Overall, the unreliable access to food supply due to the various factors noted above related to insecurity and the resulting limited movement of goods and people, as well as farming capacity and lack of access to more productive agriculture inputs and extension services, leave populations in a situation of food insecurity with limited capacities to cope.

Recommendations

- Revitalize agriculture (technical and agro-diversity).
- Develop alternative sources of employment and income.
- Reinforce professional skills, in particular for youth.
- Develop the use of multifaceted approaches: saving, knowledge of the market, group management, appropriate technologies and natural resource management.
- Revisit land rights and seek consistency in their application.
- Awareness raising/mediation to solve and prevent land conflicts related to minerals.
- Respond to the security issue as a driver of development.

Mining work

Summary

- It should be noted that the results are characterized by a lack of quantified information.
- Conflict minerals (cassiterite, wolframite, gold, coltan) are exploited in the assessment area.
- Mining is carried out mostly by men.
- There is a marginal presence of children at the mining sites.
- There is no public awareness or knowledge of the Mining Code.
- There are numerous unreported violations of the Mining Code and other applicable laws.

Detailed analysis

The minerals exploited in the communities studied include gold (exclusively in Luttwinja), cassiterite, wolframite and coltan. Mining sites include: Zolaaola, Cirabagiro, Bushushu, Mahamba, Katanga, Kabingo (Nzibira), Twangiza, Mwana, Namuna, Lulimbahwe, Lukunguri, Mbwenga, Cinjora, Alugunda, Kaduma, Bugumya (Luttwinja), Lukoma, Ndufe, Muhinga, Mushisha, Kamahya, Kanoso, Kalungwe, Makalunga, and Cigwara (Ninja).

Mining is the work of men for the most part (80%) and they are mainly from indigenous communities. The exception is Mukungwe where a majority of workers come from Bukavu. Labor is mainly unskilled and consists of digging, draining, sifting, transportation (85%) and trading. The main occupations for women include minerals transportation, washing minerals, small businesses such as restaurants and prostitution. It is estimated that approximately 10% of people working in the mines are children^{xxviii}. One-third of the children are involved in washing and minerals transportation. The study could not establish whether they were school-aged children who had left school or children working at the mine in addition to schooling, which appeared to be the case.

In the absence of consistent data on minerals production and price, it was not possible to analyze this element of the research.

The object of the assessment was not to study the formalization of the mining sector, so researchers did not ask questions about holding mining permits/small-scale mining zones. Instead they sought to measure the level of knowledge of the mineral sector of the population.

In general, the knowledge of those surveyed who were not engaged in mining work, was extremely limited. Thus, the role of the trader and comptoir is not understood. This ignorance extends to the Mining Code and the Dodd-Frank Act, which only one participant knew about - the Village Chief in Luttwinja. The Centres de Négocce (CdN) initiative is unknown, as is the CERN

Observer; and bagging and tagging is not practiced except by Banro. On the other hand, the Service d'Assistance et d'Encadrement du Small Scale Mining (SAESSCAM) and Commission Diocésaine Justice et Paix (CDJP) were mentioned by all. The lack of knowledge of mineral trade is partly explained by the fact that the relationship between the local population and minerals stops when the latter leaves the mine. Extracted minerals are sold to the trader and no further benefit is accrued to the small-scale miner. Mineral trade is carried out in Bukavu. At the same time, we noted early signs of the formalization of the small-scale mining industry. For example, cooperatives were identified in Mukungwe and Nzibira. The reinforcement of these community-based structures also constitutes a potential model for the development of economic governance.

Summary of benefits and costs of small-scale mining on industrial concessions

Benefits

- Better security.
- Better developed infrastructures.
- Increased assurance of preventing child labor.
- Better compliance with the law within the framework of small-scale mining.

Costs

- Smaller field size
- No access to industrial employment due to lack of knowledge.
- Little distribution of economic benefits to the larger population.
- Conflict of interests among those responsible for government oversight.
- Risk of substitution for the responsibilities of the state and a resulting negative impact on the establishment of state authority.

Chiefs are the main owners of the pits, except in Luttwinja where Banro owns all of the pits but four, which belong to the population. Security in the mines is assured by various bodies, according to the communities. The Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) control the mines of Ninja, along with a nominal presence of the mining police; Banro guards protect the concession; and mining police and the Forces Armées de RDC (FARDC) are present at Mukungwe and Nzibira. Some participants confuse the FARDC and the mining police.

The violations reported by the members of the focus groups were numerous and largely related to operating conditions and the absence of regulations, which resulted in violence and worker injuries. The collection of illegal taxes for pit access and exportation by unofficial agents, such as armed groups or owners, or by government officials were widely reported. Prostitution, female as well as male, was also considered to be prevalent. The participants were unaware of where to report abuses. The Village Chiefs and the CDJP Bukavu nevertheless were cited as points of reporting.

Recommendations

- Establish and/or reinforce the structures for raising grievances.
- Increase the population's knowledge of the Mining Code and other laws.
- Develop private-public partnerships to promote local economic development.
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of state services responsible for enforcing the Mining Code, labor law, etc.
- Develop child protection initiatives.
- Complete the mining reform as a means of improving the quality of resource governance.
- Support the implementation of an effective monitoring system, promoting transparency in small-scale mining in the DRC.

Main challenges

Summary

- Poverty
- Restoration of security
- Non-compliance with the rights provided by the Mining Code

Detailed analysis

For half of the participants the main challenge is poverty. Asked to describe what they meant by poverty, their answers included the inability to set aside enough seeds to secure future production, lack of employment especially for young people, displacement of population to seek better opportunities elsewhere, taking children out of school due to the inability to pay for school fees.

The second challenge is that of insecurity (28%)^{xxxix}. Insecurity is linked to the presence of the FARDC (42%) and illegal armed groups (21%), to young people without employment (21%), to the payment of illegal taxes, or to criminality. Only in Luttwinja has the security situation improved due to the recruitment of private guards by the company. Idle young people are more vulnerable to criminality and recruitment by armed forces^{xxxix}, which affects their own security and that of the community and can generate tensions later on. Thus, the question of the reintegration of the demobilized was mentioned as a challenge to social cohesion: demobilized young people were often rejected and reintegration was often possible only in another community.

Informants also cited the non-compliance by mines owner and state representatives with respecting the rights set out in the Mining Code.

It is interesting to note that on the question of challenges, answers varied according to the category of people surveyed. The Village Chiefs had a broader perspective and often experienced trouble prioritizing, while the youth of three communities (Ninja, Luttwinja and Mukungwe) expressed a very clear priority for poverty.

International NGOs are present, but in insufficient number to effectively support local communities' development. They include International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Matheser and World Vision. UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Food Programme (WFP) also work in the area. Some of the national NGOs are CARITAS, Adamer, Zipad and Antibuaki. Activities focus on children's rights and protection, road reconstruction, agricultural projects and SGBV prevention. The participants surveyed explained that this support had limited impact because it does not answer the communities' specific needs.

In general, in three out of four communities, 73% of respondents explained that there had been no real change in their living conditions. On the other hand, 66% of the participants of Luttwinja feel that their situation has improved. This finding confirms information on the rise of family income and is attributed to the building of schools and roads as part of Banro's CSR activities. It also may be attributable to the presence of Banro's private security forces which have been able to keep local armed groups largely at bay. However, discussions revealed potential areas of conflicts of interest between Banro and the authorities, or of substitution by Banro for the state assuming responsibility for delivering basic services, security and monitoring of mining operations. Discussions with the Village Chief and in focus groups also revealed dissensions between the Chief, who supports Banro, and the communities who understand the potential advantages of the mine but are less convinced about who benefits and how.

Recommendations

- Develop economic recovery initiatives, especially revitalizing agriculture.
- Build the capacities of local authorities.
- Continue initiatives focused on establishing effective security.
- Facilitate the reinsertion of demobilized youth, in particular by individual and community assistance to professional training and social reintegration.

Conclusion (key recommendations)

- Develop economic recovery initiatives especially the revitalization of agriculture.
- Adopt a multifaceted approach (innovation, market, loan, group management).
- Develop alternative sources of employment and income.
- Reinforce education access and quality in general and develop vocational training in particular.
- Finalize mining reform as a means of improving governance and regulatory enforcement.
- Support the implementation of an effective monitoring system to promote transparency in the small-scale mining industry in the DRC.
- Increase knowledge of the communities of the Mining Code and other laws.
- Strengthen government oversight of the mines and its institutional capacity to fight child labor.
- Set up structures of mediation for land conflicts relating to mineral exploration and exploitation.
- Establish and/or reinforce referral structures for violations.
- Develop a private-public partnership for local economic development.
- Build the capacities of local authorities.
- Continue initiatives focused on establishing effective security.

Acronyms

<i>CDJP</i>	Commission Diocésaine Justice et Paix
<i>CdN</i>	Centre de Négoce
<i>CERN</i>	Commission Episcopale sur les Ressources Naturelles
<i>CSR</i>	Corporate Social Responsibility
<i>CRS</i>	Catholic Relief Services
<i>DfID</i>	Department for International Development
<i>FARDC</i>	Forces Armées de RDC
<i>FLDR</i>	Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda
<i>I4S</i>	Initiative for Security and Stabilization Support Strategy
<i>IRC</i>	International Rescue Committee
<i>ICRC</i>	International Committee of the Red Cross
<i>SAESSCAM</i>	Services d'Assistance et d'Encadrement du Small Scale Mining
<i>SGBV</i>	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
<i>UNICEF</i>	United Nations Children's Fund
<i>USAID</i>	US International Agency for Development
<i>WFP</i>	World Food Programme

Picture on the front page:

- Left: A man holds up cassiterite (tin ore) that was dug at the Bisyié mine, North Kivu, DRC, Lane Hartill, 03/04/2011
- Right: Cassiterite, South Kivu (Lemera), DRC, Lane Hartill, 25/06/2009

- I Registered exporters which buy minerals from the selling center, trader and/or miner.
- II In this case, only the small-scale component was considered.
- III Because of the sensitivity of mining it was decided to spread the collection of data on this subject within a more suitable framework (restricted).
- IV 10 to 20 years old.
- V Of both sexes and various ages selected among previous focus group participants, on the basis of volunteering, representativeness and interest in mining issues.
- VI Including two representatives of the Observatory who participated in the survey.
- VII Ninja and Mukungwe.
- VIII 58%. Poverty is the only factor mentioned among the three chief reasons for departure in all communities.
- IX 20%.
- X The assumption is that these arrivals are linked to the formalization of the small-scale mining sector.
- XI International extractives company present in South Kivu (Luttwinja is based on their concession).
- XII Within 2 hours walking distance, there are 13 elementary/4 high schools in Nzibira, 14 elementary/7 high schools in Mukungwe, 19 elementary/10 high schools in Ninja and 30 elementary/12 high schools in Luttwinja.
- XIII Calculations were established on the basis of 25% of households being primary school age children.
- XIV National data taken from the Poverty Reduction Strategy (draft2, 2011).
- XV The percentage reflects the participants' answers in each category.
- XVI Mineral washing and transportation.
- XVII See Main Challenges.
- XVIII Up to 94% in Ninja. No quantitative data in Luttwinja where the focus groups stressed the fact that farming was the main source of income for most families.
- XIX See small-scale mining for a presentation of work at the mine.
- XX Agriculture was first in the four focus groups and among the Village Chiefs.
- XXI The percentage reflects the participants' responses in each category.
- XXII Up to 75% in Mukungwe.
- XXIII The size of a plot is relatively inferior in Luttwinja/Banro concession than in small-scale mining communities.
- XXIV The environmental impact of industrial mining was underlined by respondents in Luttwinja and Mukungwe.
- XXV To access land and seeds.
- XXVI Lack of knowledge of cultures.
- XXVII DRC UNDP Report, 2010.
- XXVIII No children in the Banro mine.
- XXIX The percentage reflects the participants' responses in each category.
- XXX This observation has been mentioned abundantly, without however any quantitative estimate.