



LSE hosts a workshop on corporate-community engagement in the oil, gas and mining sectors

The Centre for Environmental Policy and Governance (CEPG) in partnership with Business-Community Synergies, IFC-CommDev and Ashridge Business School hosted a workshop on Thursday 10 January to launch new training materials.

The new training materials, entitled *Managing Risk and Maintaining License to Operate: Participatory Planning and Monitoring in the Extractive Industries*, were commissioned by the IFC-CommDev and are intended to be used by extractive industry stakeholders to raise participation and improve local development outcomes.

Companies are recognising the benefits of working collaboratively with host communities to maintain their 'social license to operate.' The objective of the workshop was to deepen understanding of the business case and return on social investment for increased engagement and participation of communities and local government in community development planning.

Industry executives and experts were invited to pilot test elements of the training materials during the workshop through a series of exercises, which included role plays of hypothetical case studies, a session on participatory budgeting, and participant driven analysis of actual case examples.

James Van Alstine, LSE fellow and co-author of the training materials said: 'The workshop outcomes will be built upon by a three year Alcoa Foundation grant-funded research programme within the CEPG that seeks to enhance the negotiation capacity of extractive industry host communities so that they receive net benefits from corporate operations.'

The half-day workshop was co-sponsored by Chevron, Rio Tinto, Shell, and the BG Group, and attended by industry executives, experts, and non-profit partners in the extractive industries field. For more information, contact James Van Alstine at j.van-alstine@lse.ac.uk