

Rights, Risk and Responsibility: Building Community Capacities for Engagement with the Extractive Industries

Training Program Overview

The five day training program for representatives of civil society organizations is the first step in a cross-country capacity building and action research project that aims to increase understanding about the extractive industries and strengthens the capacity of civil society to engage with and negotiate effectively on behalf of local interests and rights.

For Whom

This training program is for civil society organizations that meet the following criteria:

1. Are actively engaged with the extractive industries and/or have such engagement as a part of their organizational mandate.
2. Have convening authority within their countries as a legitimate and well-established member of civil society;
3. Are willing and able to convene others and lead a program of strengthening and mobilizing civil society toward positive engagement with the extractive industries in their countries;

Training Program Content

The program will take place over five days in February 2009. Topics are:

I. The Extractive Industries

- Introduction to and overview of the extractive industries.
- The emerging role of civil society in influencing corporate actions and priorities.
- "Resource Curse?" and implications for communities.
- Opportunities for "win-win" outcomes.

II. The Extractive Industry Project Cycle

- Detailed analysis of each of the stages of the extractive industry project cycle and the risks and opportunities faced by companies and communities.
- Changes within companies and in community perceptions and attitudes with each new stage.

III. The Community-Company Assessment (CCA)

- Introduction to the CCA and development of the content of the CCA for each context, followed by identification of sources and appropriate (participatory) methods.
- Practicum implementing the CCA and iteratively classifying data.
- Data grouping and analysis.
- Summarization/presentation of data.

IV. Plan of Action

- Development of action plan together, along with commitments for action in own country.
- Presentation of plan, critique and revision.

Participant Selection and Cost

Interested organizations must complete an application form. Selected applicants will not be expected to pay the costs associated with participation in this training program. Applications must be submitted by December 1, 2008.