MINING-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT (MIDR):

DEFINING A RESEARCH AGENDA

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Presentation overview

1. Flag the need for a dedicated research agenda on MIDR.

2. Share preliminary analysis from recent research.

3. Draw attention to CSRM’s emerging research agenda on MIDR.
1. THE NEED FOR A DEDICATED RESEARCH AGENDA ON MIDR
DIDR provides a foundation literature for mining

• More than 40 years of research, scholarship, and advocacy has highlighted the detrimental effects of DIDR.
• Widespread agreement that DIDR poses enormous social risk.
• Endorsement of minimum standards, spearheaded by WB safeguards.
• In practice, there is an over-reliance on general DIDR literature and standards, which is limiting our understanding of MIDR.

A more particularized understanding of MIDR is required.
Knowledge of MIDR is under-developed

- Downing (2002) in MMSD: “No global survey has ever assessed the scale of MIDR”

- More than a decade on, mining’s unique features and their effect on resettlement dynamics remain largely unexamined.
  - Project phases and transitions
  - Market volatility and uncertainty
  - Mine expansion patterns
  - Rapid backwards transitions
  - Other related trends (e.g. cost cutting cycles)

- This gap is a major barrier to improvements in MIDR policy and practice.
MIDR literature

Mining cases buried within DIDR literature

Publically available

Small number of articles bridge DIDR and MIDR

Academic

Private
Social policy debates in mining

Business and human rights

Equitable distribution of wealth

Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)

Revenue transparency

Negotiated agreements

Conflict minerals

Resettlement
3. PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS: FIVE PATTERNS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Incremental ‘brownfield’ expansion

Unlike other industries, mining companies face uncertainty around land use – they are not always able to predict long-term needs. Land is often secured on an ‘as needs’ basis, as projects expand.

Resettlement projects by lifecycle and region

- **Study phase**: Africa, Asia Pacific, Central Asia, Latin America, % Total
- **Construction**: Africa, Asia Pacific, Central Asia, Latin America, % Total
- **Operation**: Africa, Asia Pacific, Central Asia, Latin America, % Total
Other forms of the ‘brownfield effect’
‘Brownfield effect’ (at a greenfield project)
2. Cohabitation – Proximity to production

Many communities will reside in close proximity, bearing witness to ongoing dramatic landscape change.
Put Put relocation, Lihir Island
2. Inter-dependency and other entanglements

- Benefits
- Relationships
- Impact and mitigation
- Legacies

Resettlement
Issues of dependency
3. Leveraging and exponential cost increase

$41.6\text{K}$

Construction-phase costs per HH

$62.3\text{K}$

Operation-phase costs per HH

A median cost was calculated for resettlements undertaken at construction (N=8) and at operation (N=6).
Possible explanations for the pattern

01
Less competition at construction, and not industrial prices?

02
Exposure to market processes?

03
Precedents set for land access?

04
General inflationary effect?

05
Legacy and (unrelated) grievance?

06
Internal reliance on crisis?
4. Governance and management

- Communities
- Government
- Companies
- Lenders
- NGOs
4. CSRM’S EMERGING RESEARCH AGENDA
Dedicated resettlement portal

Mining-induced Displacement and Resettlement

This knowledge portal focuses on mining-induced displacement and resettlement (MIDR) as part of CSRM’s ComRel program of work.

As a multi-party, industry-University research collaboration on MIDR, ComRel will build knowledge for practical application. This initiative is the first of its kind. The aim is to:

- Improve understanding of how MIDR risks are being managed by the industry
- Identify strategies for improving outcomes for people affected by MIDR
- Conduct applied research that informs future policy and practice
- Contribute to debates about social due diligence and the development of social safeguards

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Click here to read more about current MIDR research activities.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Find out more about upcoming and planned MIDR activity.

CENTRAL REPOSITORY

Coming soon: A resource for people engaged with mining and resettlement.
Grants, partners and emerging scholars
CONNECT and CONTRIBUTE

• Point us to resources to include in the MIDR repository!

• Write an Occasional Paper

• Serve as a Peer Reviewer for the series

• Share documents for inclusion the MIDR database

• Connect via email: d.kemp@smi.uq.edu.au
THANK YOU