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This newsletter is meant to keep you up-to-date with WRM's work to establish a better ***understanding*** of the gender dimensions of mining and to create ***awareness*** and secure ***commitment*** to take action and uphold women's rights in mining and mineral supply chains. Also, see our section ***ongoing and upcoming*** to read about what we are currently doing or planning. On our [website](#) you can find more information about *WRM's objectives, activities and members*.

In February 2020, when COVID-19 seriously changed the world, WRM was just about to send out this newsletter. Planned WRM activities were put on hold, and soon after cancelled, outdated and making irrelevant much of the news we originally wanted to share. Now, more than three months later, we think it is an appropriate time to reach out with old and new items, including emerging efforts to explore and address the gender dimensions of the Covid-19 effects on the mining sector.

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can access WRM's research and knowledge products as well as a broad selection of studies, tools, guidelines and videos. For the latest entries, see section ***understanding***.

Do you have resources related to gender and mining that can be posted on our site? Please email them to us via info@womenandmining.org

LATEST HIGHLIGHTS

> Understanding

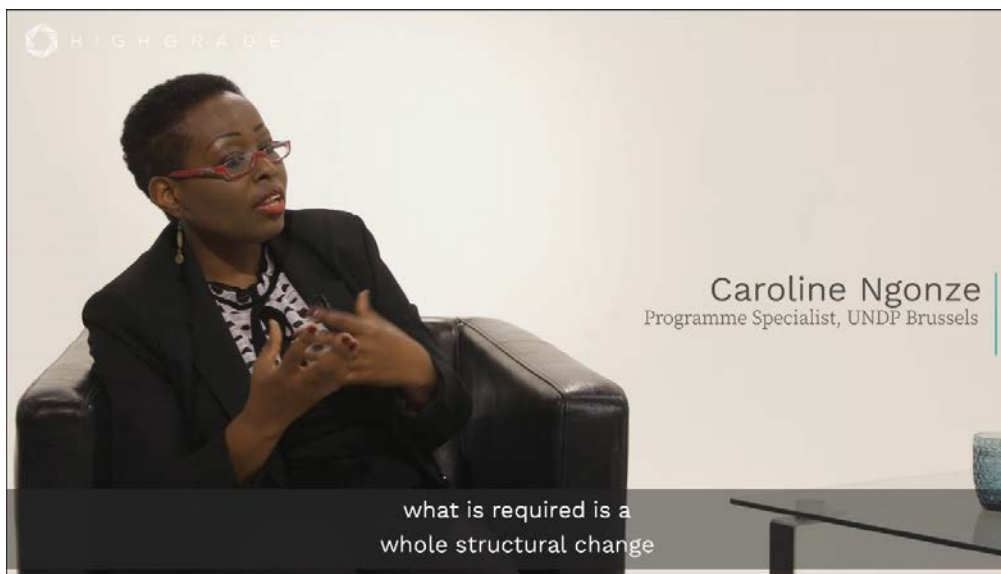
Special Videos on Gender and Mining

With WRM's support - and funded by GIZ and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs - High Grade Media has produced an online interview series with women and men working in the field of extractives. The series takes a rigorous look at the unlevelled playing field in both the workforce and mining communities; it takes stock of the lessons learned so far, and it explores the policy options available to advance gender equality:

- The interview with [Caroline Ngonze](#) from UNDP focuses on how their 2030 agenda links to gender equality in the extractives sector.
- Professor [Gavin Hilson](#) takes us through the universe of subsistence mining and explores the lives of the women involved.
- [Gillian Davidson](#), who chairs the International Women in Mining organization and holds a number of board positions in mining companies, reflects on the limited representation of women in the mining industry's C-suite.
- International gender and mining consultant [Katie Heller](#) provides some fundamental answers to why the gender gap in mining is still so incredibly wide.
- [David Prager](#) runs the Global Corporate Affairs function for the De Beers Group, and gives insights into the experiences of a mining company that is recognized in the industry for being a leader on gender diversity.
- [Glynn Cochrane](#), Professor at the University of Queensland, looks to the future of mining and the issues that have to be addressed.

- And [Gladys Smith](#), a successful woman in the mining industry, reflects on the stereotype of Latin America as a macho society and its impact on the extractives society.

A summary of all the interviews can be watched [here](#).



Latest additions to the WRM Resource Library:

- Research: IUCN (2020). [Gender-Based Violence and Environment Linkages: the violence of inequality.](#)
- Buss et al (2019). [Gender and Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: implications for formalization.](#)
- Case study: IGF (2019). [Skills Building for Women in Artisanal and Small Scale Mining.](#)
- Brief: Mining Shared Value initiative of Engineers Without Borders Canada (2019). [Using the LPRM to Report on Mining Sector Procurement from Women Owned Businesses.](#)
- Guidance sheet: DCED (2019). [Gender-Responsive Green Growth: an introduction.](#)

- Research: Equal Measures 2030 (2019). [Open Government and Gender Equality: opportunities for engaging women's rights organisations.](#)
- Research: IUCN (2020). [Gender-Based Violence and Environment Linkages: the violence of inequality.](#)
- EITI guidance note [guidance note](#) + findings [from research on advancing women's rights through the extractive industries transparency movement.](#)

Our Covid-19 resources on the website

- [Civil Society Call to Action to Support Artisanal Mining Communities in the Wake of COVID-19](#)
- Blog: [Women's Rights and Mining \(2020\). COVID-19, Artisanal & Small Scale Mining and Gender Inequality.](#)
- [Tools and Guidelines: UNFPA \(2020\). COVID-19: A Gender Lens. Protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights, and promoting gender equality.](#)
- [Assessment: Care and IRC \(2020\). Global Rapid Gender Analysis for COVID-19.](#)

Do you have new resources related to gender and mining that can be posted on our site? Please email them to us via info@womenandmining.org.

Knowledge Platform Review – Summary of results

A couple of times a year, WRM organizes knowledge events for members of the WRM Knowledge Platform. To strengthen the relevance of the Knowledge Platform, the WRM core group invited Platform members to share their feed-back and ideas. Feedback showed overall appreciation of the Knowledge Platform that is seen to provide a much needed space to exchange knowledge, discuss recent developments and foster collaboration. WRM also received concrete ideas to improve the Platform and WRM's work, including:

- *Regular knowledge exchange among members:* Organize quarterly Knowledge Platform events if possible in conjunction with meetings of mining sector stakeholders, and ensure follow-up to events and communicate information widely.

- *An inclusive Knowledge Platform:* Connect with relevant networks and/or NGO's in producing countries and expand membership of Knowledge Platform
- *Create a central digital platform of resources on gender and mining:* Expand and catalogue the [resource section](#) on the WRM website and create more practical knowledge products, such as the '[10 do's](#)'.
- *Increase the visibility of WRM's work:* Continuously promoting the work of the WRM via different media channels



>Awareness

Safeguarding women's rights in mining during the COVID-19 crisis

With the COVID-19 pandemic unfolding, governments, financing institutions, international organizations, private sector and civil society actors have to think, decide and act fast. Crises, insecurities and epidemics affect women and men differently, often hit women harder, and also often aggravate inequalities. A key priority of all mining sector actors should be the protection and promotion of the rights of women in mines and mining

affected communities, and to make sure that different perspectives and views are heard and taken into consideration.

Recently, two broadly supported statements were released calling for emergency action for vulnerable artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) communities and supply chains. A Call to Action, signed by over 70 civil society organizations, recommends immediate and concerted action from all key stakeholders to reduce the negative impact of COVID-19 on small-scale miners. The Call focuses in particular on women miners, urges direct support to local women's groups and associations and calls for women's meaningful leadership and decision-making in the delivery and implementation of COVID-19 measures as well as in matters of trade, development and security. Read the civil society Call to Action [here](#). The OECD Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group overseeing the implementation of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Mineral Supply Chains also adopted a Call to Action in response to the COVID-19 crisis. This Call emphasizes the increased risks posed to artisanal mining communities, including loss of livelihood, increased risk of contracting COVID-19, and the disproportionate impacts on women. Read the OECD Call to Action [here](#).

"Empowering women in ASM gold mining: From changing norms to fostering business case in gender equality"

Webinar organized by Solidaridad and the Impact Facility, 24 June 2020

This webinar focused on the empowerment of women and the changing "landscape" to create space for women's empowerment in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASM). WRM's core group members Marlijn Lelieveld from Simavi and Katrine Danielsen from the Royal Tropical Institute were panelists together with Elizabeth Echavarria, Mining Programme Coordinator Solidaridad Colombia. Recording and presentations can be downloaded [HERE](#).

"Embedding Gender at the heart of Responsible Mining"

Webinar organized by the Responsible Mining Foundation (RMF), 23 June 2020

Representatives from different stakeholder groups shared reflections on the impacts of mining on women, the main challenges and the opportunities for continuous improvement. The webinar was moderated by Prof. Surya Deva, Associate Prof. at the School of Law of City University of Hong Kong & Member of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. Recording and presentations can be downloaded [HERE](#).

"Digging Deeper into Artisanal & Small-Scale Mining: Gender & Women's Economic

Empowerment”

Webinar by USAID, 27 May 2020

This webinar discussed gender-related opportunities and constraints in ASM, with a focus on strategies for transforming gender biases in the sector, and ensuring that women and men have equal access to economic empowerment through ASM-related value chains. Joanne Lebert of WRM's core group member IMPACT was panelist. The webinar was moderated by Kimberly Thompson, Natural Resource Governance and Conflict Advisor, USAID E3/Land Team. Recording and presentations can be downloaded [HERE](#).



> Commitment

Gender integration into international mining standards

To increase the gender responsiveness of mining policy and practice, WRM regularly contributes to stakeholder consultations and reviews of international mining policies, regulation, standards and guidelines:

- > In December 2019, WRM contributed to the stakeholder review of the **Global Tailings Standard** (read draft document [here](#)).
- > In 2018, WRM contributed to the stakeholder consultation on the **Regional**

Certification Mechanism (RCM) of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region. Most WRM suggestions led to changes in the RCM manual (the 2nd version) which was published in December 2019 and can be accessed [here](#). Among other, Audit Committees are now required to ensure adequate representation of women's rights and human rights organizations and equitable representation of women and men on the committee. Also, the manual now explicitly requires measures to protect the wellbeing of potential or actual victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the context of audit-related interviews.

WRM-OECD Gender Statement

The WRM-OECD "*Stakeholder Statement on implementing gender-responsive due diligence and ensuring the human rights of women in mineral supply chains*" was launched at the OECD's 2019 Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains.

It includes 13 commitments on how states, the private sector and civil society can work together to prevent gender inequalities along mineral supply chain. By March 2020, 29 organizations have signed-on to the Statement. You can find the Statement on [our website](#).

We encourage all Stakeholders to sign-on to the Statement!

To sign on please send an e-mail to info@womenandmining.org.



ONGOING AND UPCOMING

Gender-based violence research

GIZ - a WRM core-group member - has commissioned a study on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) in the mining industry in Africa. GIZ and WRM will co-publish the study in the third quarter of 2020. The aims of the study is to contribute to an improved knowledge base on SGBV in mining, raise awareness for this important topic and provide recommendations to different stakeholders (inter alia governments, companies and international donors) to address SGBV in the mining industry.

“Advancing Women’s Rights by Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in the Mining Sector”

Women’s Rights and Mining Webinar

In September 2020, WRM is organizing a webinar on SGBV in mining; how does it manifest and what are its key drivers in the sector? Discussants from civil society, international organizations and mining companies will share promising responses to SGBV in the sector – and the effects of Covid-19 on the extent and severity of SGBV and the related need for adaptations of strategies will also be discussed. The webinar will be moderated by WRM core group member Jennifer Hinton.

WRM-OECD Gender Statement – Survey of signatories

To gain insight into how governments, private sector and civil society actors are working together to implement the 13 commitments of the WRM-OECD ***“Stakeholder Statement on implementing gender-responsive due diligence and ensuring the human rights of women in mineral supply chains”*** (see section **UNDERSTANDING**), WRM will soon send out a survey to Statement signatories. Survey results will inform WRM efforts to advocate for gender-responsive due diligence in mineral supply chains



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Our mailing address is: info@womenandmining.org



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