



Feminist development policy in the raw materials sector

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mining industry presents both significant benefits and risks, contributing to sustainable development and economic growth while also potentially causing environmental damage and social disruption. Women and marginalised groups in mining communities are often excluded from benefits and disproportionately affected by harms, related to mining. This executive summary comprises key aspects from a study published by the GIZ Sector Programme „Extractives and Development“ commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) by examining the potentials of Germany’s Feminist Development Policy (FDP) to address challenges that women and marginalised groups face within the raw materials sector. It does this by focusing on four thematic areas – one within each of the three core action areas of the FDP (the 3R approach – strengthening **RIGHTS**, ensuring access to **RESOURCES** and enhancing equal **REPRESENTATION** of women and marginalised groups), and looking for approaches that align with **core implementing principles of the FDP**: gender-transformative, intersectional, postcolonial and antiracist, human-rights based principles, and those approaches fostering international alliances and stronger collaboration with local communities and civil society. Methodologically, the study is based on literature review of the good and best practices in the field of women’s rights/participation in mining, and in-depth interviews with key experts in academia, policy, and practice, as well as portfolio review and a focus group discussions with the representatives of the projects from the raw materials portfolio of German Development Cooperation (DC).

The findings related to each of the thematic areas are presented by, first, discussing the problem analysis, where relevant, distinguishing between the contexts of large-scale mining and artisanal and small-scale mining. Secondly, the approaches which are identified as being aligned with FDP are reviewed. Thirdly, recommendations for the fields of actions for German Development Cooperation are formulated.

In terms of fostering the **RIGHTS** of women and marginalised groups, the topics of women’s health and safety as well as SGBV prevention of particular importance. To ensure the **health and safety** of women, interventions could range from making sure that all health policies are gender-responsive, to providing capacity-building (e.g. adequate training programmes and developing gender-sensitive health protocols) and supporting community health partnerships. To enable women’s safe participation in mining, human-rights based approaches for **GBV prevention** are needed, such as measures to build institutional capacity for SGBV prevention, as well as measures to strengthen women miners’ associations and feminist civil society organisations (CSOs). In addition, the importance of gender-transformative approaches for awareness raising and sensibilisation measures is underlined, regarding the gender-norms that enable SGBV. When it comes to ensuring equal access to **RESOURCES** for women and marginalised groups, promoting **women’s economic empowerment** in and around mines and mining communities can be achieved through measures for inclusive local procurement, enhanced inclusion in local value addition and trainings for diversification of livelihood planning. And finally, in terms of **REPRESENTATION** of women and marginalised groups in **community engagement**, it is essential for truly inclusive natural resource governance that the needs and perspectives of everyone in the community are taken into consideration. Here the need for intersectional measures is crucial and, wherever possible, antiracist and postcolonial approaches in interventions, ranging from advocating for binding and non-binding national and international regulations and standards regarding gender-responsive due diligence that mining companies must uphold, to ensuring community engagement, strengthening communication and partnerships between different stakeholders and supporting feminist, women’s rights and Indigenous people’s organisations.

FOUR TOPICS

Women’s economic
empowerment

RESOURCES

Women’s health
and safety

RIGHTS

Sexual and gender-based
violence (SGBV)

RIGHTS

Community
engagement

REPRESENTATION