Subprogramme 1: Environmental Governance Programme (EGP) for Sustainable Natural Resource Management
A. Overview: Key results and figures

In 2018, the Swedish EPA and UNDP, through the joint global Environmental Governance Programme (EGP) for Sustainable Natural Resource Management, continued to support governments to meet their national commitments under global environmental agreements and international human rights law, and to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Aiming to have a lasting effect on how countries govern the mining sector for more sustainable development outcomes, the EGP continued to advance activities at the national, regional and global level across all outcome areas. This included targeted support to Colombia, Kenya, Mongolia and Mozambique, the production and sharing of new guides, training courses, and webinars, as well as the strengthening of a global community of practice and broader South-South Triangular learning through the convening of global and regional fora and the production.
Key results in the programme countries

Colombia
The EGP has successfully supported the Colombian government to integrate the environment into the National System of Human Rights. Following a workshop organized by the EGP in 2017 in Bogota, the Office of the Presidential Advisor for Human Rights invited the programme to participate in national consultations that led to the incorporation of the environment into the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights framework. As a result, a revised and integrated Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights framework, which includes indicators to measure respect for environmental rights, came into effect in 2019.

Kenya
Building on the country’s first Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of the mining sector, which was jointly carried out by the EGP and the National Environment Management Authority, Kenya is currently developing new National Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Guidelines for mining. The ESIA Guidelines will help determine the long-term environmental impacts of mining activities and provide clearer guidelines for mine closure (rehabilitation, reclamation and restoration). Kenya’s SESA was formally launched by the Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Mr. Keriako Tobiko, on 17 June 2018, during the celebration of the World Day to Combat Desertification in Kajiado county.

Mongolia
There has been a significant increase in the number of environmental violation cases addressed and successfully resolved in Mongolia following EGP training for inspectors on the application of the Law on Environmental Offences. In Bayankhongor province, 64 percent of the cases registered in 2017–2018 were resolved by inspectors who attended EGP training courses. In Selenge province, the number of cases resolved increased from 2 to 18 in this period.

Mozambique
In Mozambique’s mineral-rich province of Tete, six communities are involved in a pilot project on participatory environmental monitoring. Men, women and youth have received training through the EGP on monitoring water and air quality and on how to conduct human rights impact assessments. Training has also been provided to the national monitoring agency and local governments to support these community-driven citizen science initiatives. The project is being implemented in collaboration with the National Environmental Quality Control Agency (AQUA), the local authorities and Source International. It supports the establishment of participatory environmental monitoring committees, which can be an effective way to improve the transparency and accountability of the mining sector and reduce environmental and social conflicts.
Colombia

Colombia has successfully applied the Rule of Law in Public Administration in the Mining Sector (RoLPAM) methodology to three new regions to identify social and environmental conflicts related to the extractive sector, and the underlying drivers in respect of breaches of and compliance with six principles of the rule of law, namely: legality, accessibility, the right to be heard, transparency, the right to appeal, and accountability. This assessment was conducted with the Ministry of Mines and Energy, under a UNDP Colombia project supported by the EGP, resulting in a set of short-, medium- and long-term recommendations that will be carried out by the Ministry.

Mozambique

In Mozambique, the EGP supported national mining authorities to develop a pioneer evaluation on the applicability of the allocation of 2.75% of the mining revenue to local communities.

Mongolia

With support from the EGP, Mongolia has significantly improved the identification and monitoring of land degradation caused by mining activities. The EGP has been providing technical support to inspectors and officials, and has developed innovative solutions for monitoring, including the use of drones. As of December 2018, the Mongolian government had successfully identified 1,466 plots of degraded land, covering over 80,000 ha, and ascertained that 65 percent of land degradation was caused by illegal mining.

Kenya

Over 150 artisanal miners from the resource-rich counties of Kakamega, Migori and Taita Taveta have successfully concluded training on environmental and human rights protection conducted by the EGP. The training also covered the legislative requirements for artisanal mining, and mine devolution, the Kenyan Mining Cycle, occupational safety and health, and human rights-based approaches for responsive, participatory governance of the sector. The Mining Act of 2016 has for the first time introduced guidance for the regulation of artisanal mining, which is a key economic activity in various provinces.
### Workshops

**2018 EGP Annual Global Workshop**  
17-19 October, Geneva

- **50 participants from 12 countries**

**Regional Workshop on Participatory Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resources Management in the Latin American and Caribbean Region**  
3-5 October, Panama City

- **40 participants from 13 countries**

**Stockholm Dialogue on the Nexus between Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability, and Conflict Prevention**  
12 June, Stockholm

- **100 participants from 26 countries**

### Training courses

**Integrating Environmental, Social, and Human Rights Protection into the Governance of the Mining Sector**  
Online training course developed with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

- **800 participants**

**Top 10 countries**

1. Brazil  
2. India  
3. Kenya  
4. Nigeria  
5. USA  
6. Australia  
7. Colombia  
8. Ghana  
9. Italy  
10. France
Global Guide

Extracting Good Practices: A Guide for Governments and Partners to Integrate Environment and Human Rights into the Governance of the Mining Sector

EGP flagship publication launched on June 2018 in Stockholm

1,410 downloads from UNDP website (as of 15 April 2019)

645 copies distributed to key decision makers in the programme countries

Presented at key forums and events, including the IBA Environmental Lawyers Conference in South Africa and the Advanced International Training Programme (ITP 308) on Mine Water and Mine Waste Management in Malå, Sweden

Newsletter and outreach

The EGP launched three newsletters in 2018, with

3,880 views

Other popular posts from the EGP in 2018:

Stockholm Dialogue: 6,110 views

Annual Global Workshop: 1,110 views

Kwale Workshop: 930 views

The EGP mailing list reaches 1,000+ stakeholders in the programme countries and Sweden.

The EGP promotes key messages on social media, using UNDP Sweden, UNDP SDGs, and the Swedish EPA tools.

Key Events Shaping Global Debate and Cooperation

Interactive session on ‘Mapping Gender Gaps in the Mining Sector’ at the Annual General Meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) in Geneva

This participatory session focused on how governments can identify and address gender gaps related to mining. Participants highlighted ‘lack of voice and participation in decision-making’, ‘access to employment and education’ and ‘increase in gender-based violence’ as impacts of particular importance. Modular training on these issues is now being developed by the EGP in partnership with the IGF and supported by the IFC. It is anticipated to be piloted and rolled out in a next phase of the programme.

Panel discussion on ‘Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Mining Sector for Sustainable Development’ at the Convention on Biological Diversity’s COP-14 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

EGP experiences were highlighted during the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Biodiversity Law & Governance Day. Through its support to integrating the environment into mining governance and to highlighting impacts of the mining sector on biodiversity and human rights, the EGP indirectly contributes to achieving biodiversity targets and to mainstreaming human rights in the biodiversity agenda.

Side-event on ‘Forest-Smart Mining to Advance the New York Declaration on Forests and the SDGs’ at the 73rd General Assembly of the United Nations in New York

The event brought together 100 participants at the Scandinavian House in New York. It was supported by the Swedish Geological AB, the World Bank, the New York Declaration on Forests, PROFOR, Levin Sources and Fauna & Flora International. Support to countries in implementing the New York Declaration on Forests will be offered on demand in the next phase of the EGP.

Side-event on ‘Human Rights, Biodiversity and SDGs’ at the 2nd Meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Subsidiary Body on Implementation in Montreal

The programme contribution helped raise awareness about the interlinkages between human rights and biodiversity and why recognizing and implementing human rights is key for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Strategic Plan 2011–2020 and for achieving the SDGs.
The EGP is a good opportunity for all institutions to sit together, build synergies, share resources and try to find solutions. The EGP’s learning environment and methodology has allowed us to speak freely and openly. We have the space to explain and share our ideas. We materialized our learning from [other programme countries] and introduced a transparent process to make people know about our work, procedures and duties when applying for [mining] licences.

Elsa Alfai, Head of Department, Mozambique’s Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy; interview from 14 May 2018

One of the main challenges in Kenya is in harmonizing various interests from multiple stakeholders in the mineral sectors. The SESA process and the broad engagement of the EGP helped different stakeholders understand their role better and be transparent with their agenda. The SESA process brings different actors together to have a dialogue even if they have a conflict of interest. We need to bring civil society organizations on board so that they can understand the mining cycle and how the Mining Act is drafted, and to explain what should happen in each [mining] cycle, and see where they can contribute.

Moses Njeru, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Chamber of Mines; interview from 17 May 2018

An external evaluation of the EGP was conducted by Professional Management, a Swedish company focusing on management reform in central and local government, public enterprises and major private companies. Its findings and recommendations, presented during the EGP 2018 Annual Global Workshop, included the following:

- According to various participants interviewed, it was through the EGP that they were introduced to the linkages between human rights, the environment and the rule of law for the first time.
- The EGP has been highly relevant to the needs and priorities as defined by stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- The EGP is an efficient way to develop multi-stakeholder platforms.
- Resources (funds, human resources, time, expertise) have been allocated strategically to achieve results.
- The private sector should be included in the partnership.
B. Background

Mining is a sector that concentrates the emblematic natural resource governance issues that affect countries with weak governance systems (resource curse, lack of accountability and transparency, corruption, violation of human rights) while at the same time being central to the global transition to sustainable development. Mining provides vital commodities for a wide range of products and services and has done so for centuries. The sector occupies the position at the start of the resource supply chain for many other industries. If not managed well, mining comes with severe social, economic and environmental impacts and contributes to many of the challenges that the SDGs are trying to address. These impacts often negatively affect communities living in poverty and vulnerability, including indigenous peoples, with women and children often more adversely, or differently, impacted by these risks than men.

In 2014, the Swedish EPA and UNDP launched the EGP, focusing on the mining sector. It draws on the combined expertise of the two agencies and their partners on governance, the environment and the extractive sector. Using the nexus between the environment and human rights as its focus, the EGP takes an integrated approach to sustainable natural resource management, simultaneously addressing the drivers of conflict, environmental degradation, inequality, exclusion and poverty.

The EGP provides targeted support to four countries: Colombia, Kenya, Mongolia and Mozambique. The programme also works at the global and regional level to support the exchange of innovative policy approaches within and across countries and regions. The EGP’s global work aims to influence the global discourse and raise awareness of the need to work integrated with environment and human rights, as well as bringing voices and experiences from the local to the global level.

- The EGP works with ministries of mining and the environment and other national and local stakeholders to strengthen capacities for integrating human rights and environmental protection into the design, implementation and monitoring of policies and regulatory frameworks relevant to the mining sector.
- The programme supports civil society and human rights institutions to strengthen the right to information, participation, accountability and redress in public decision-making.
- The EGP works to advance the global environmental and human rights agenda more broadly to strengthen an inclusive implementation of global, regional, national and local commitments by giving voice in such processes to local actors and generating a strong evidence base from the pilot countries to inform and influence such processes.
- The EGP also creates platforms for dialogue with the mining industry to strengthen understanding of and compliance with environmental and human rights standards and obligations.

By working with the mining sector, the EGP is well positioned to approach the interlinked social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The EGP’s work has focused on strengthening the abilities of all stakeholders—governments, civil society, independent human rights and ombudsman institutions and the private sector—to understand and address the linkages between the environment and human rights for more sustainable and equitable development outcomes for all, and especially for people living in poverty.

The EGP’s work is structured around three outcomes:

**OUTCOME 01**
The national environmental and mining authorities in Colombia, Kenya, Mongolia and Mozambique have the capacity to manage natural resources in the mining sector in line with the principles of human rights and the rule of law.

**OUTCOME 02**
Guidance, tools and experience on strengthening capacities for integrating the rule of law, human rights and gender equality into environmental governance of the mining sector are disseminated based on country experience, lessons learned and research.

**OUTCOME 03**
The foundations for a long-term, sustainable partnership over an initial period of 8–10 years on environmental governance between the Swedish EPA, UNDP and other relevant organizations are put in place.
C. Progress Overview

In 2018 the EGP continued to successfully advance capacity development initiatives targeting key mining and environmental officials and decision makers, national human rights institutions, civil society and local communities to minimize and prevent negative environmental and social impacts of mining, and to ensure that affected communities have a voice in mining governance, locally and nationally.

In Colombia, the EGP collaborated with the Office of the Presidential Advisor for Human Rights to develop an analysis on the nexus between human rights, environmental protection and conflict prevention, which has led to short-, medium- and long-term policy proposals being considered by the Ministry of Mining and Energy under a UNDP Colombia project. In Kenya, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Forestry launched its first Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of the Mining Sector in June 2018, supported by the EGP.

In Mongolia, the EGP’s strategic collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) enabled the drafting and inclusion of a chapter on the right to live in a healthy and safe environment in the NHRC’s 2018 Annual Report on the Status of Human Rights and Freedom in Mongolia, which was submitted to and endorsed by the country’s parliament. In Mozambique, the EGP has supported the continued functioning of a coordination group composed of the National Institute of Mining; the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development; the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy; the National Environmental Quality Control Agency; and the National Human Rights Commission to ensure integrated approaches to managing the mining sector. The group convenes on a quarterly basis and provides inputs for the implementation of the EGP activities in the country.

The national environmental and mining authorities in Colombia, Kenya, Mongolia and Mozambique have the capacity to manage natural resources in the mining sector in line with the principles of human rights and the rule of law.
In Colombia’s resource-rich provinces of Choco and Antioquia, the EGP has worked with the National Authority of Environmental Licences and the Regional Environmental Authority to apply the Rule of Law in the Public Administration of the Mining Sector (ROLPAM) methodology to assess the degree to which procedural human rights—access to participation, access to information and redress—are being protected in the governance of the mining sector. At the request of the Colombian government, the ROLPAM methodology is now being used in the analysis of socio-environmental conflicts in three new regions, with the results to be used to strengthen the country’s strategy for the environmental management of its energy and mining sectors.

There is improved understanding within the Ministry of Mines and Energy and the National Authority for Environmental Licensing about the relationship between compliance with basic Rule of Law principles and the arising and upsurge of conflicts in the country. In a context of strong socio-environmental polarization it has been a priority to understand how to prevent and transform conflicts. EGP has contributed through previous workshop on improving environmental governance with 70 multiple stakeholders (from the public authorities, civil society organizations and academic community) and ongoing engagement with the Ministry to this enhanced understanding. EGP has consistently positioned itself as a project to ensure that the extractive industry continues to be a motor of development but respecting the guarantee of human rights and the environmental justice.

Arne Svensson, Professional Management, external evaluator of the programme

Context

After decades of armed conflict, Colombia is moving forward with the implementation of its historic peace process with the Farc guerrilla. This has attracted investments in the mining sector as previous off-limit areas are now accessible for legal mining and other development projects. Nevertheless, while the peace process has created new opportunities for communities to voice opposition to both large and small-scale mining on grounds of negative social and environmental impacts to local communities, its implementation has generated a strongly polarized context with the criminalization of social protest and the persecution of social leaders.
In 2018, the context for the EGP’s work in Colombia was particularly difficult due to political and economic instability related to the first presidential and legislative elections after the signing of the peace accord. The EGP focused on supporting the Ministry of Mines and Energy in implementing the Environmental Management Strategy for the post-conflict scenario, which could provide inputs at the possible peace talks between the Colombian government and the ELN guerrilla. The programme has also successfully worked with the National Authority of Environmental Licenses from the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development to improve the environmental licensing processes for mining projects. These activities were carried out with the objective to integrate the environment and human rights principles into the understanding, prevention and transformation of socio-environmental conflicts caused by extractive projects.

Activities and results

1. Analysis and characterization of socio-environmental conflicts in the mining and energy sector, through the rule of law principles framework

In 2018 the EGP worked with UNDP Colombia and the Ministry of Mines and Energy to implement the project ‘Support for the implementation of the environmental management strategy of the Colombian energy mining sector’. This project aims to identify the main socio-environmental conflicts caused by or related to the extractive sector and identify the barriers and opportunities for conflict management. Using the RoLPAM assessment framework, this project conducted an analysis of the governance of the mining sector and developed a road map for the management of conflicts, looking at the relationship between the conflicts and compliance with the principles of the rule of law.

The result of this project was a set of short-, medium- and long-term measures to prevent and transform socio-environmental conflicts, with recognition of the impact of armed conflict on the trajectories of socio-environmental conflict in areas where mining and energy activities take place. These recommendations will give the Ministry of Mines and Energy inputs for the improvement of its guidance for the exploitation of natural resources in the sector.

2. Evaluation of the principles of the rule of law in the environmental licensing process

In 2018 a consultancy firm was hired to carry out an assessment of the inclusion of the principles of the rule of law in public administration for the environmental licensing process in three extractive projects developed in the country, and to make recommendations to improve compliance. This consultancy is still ongoing, and its final product will include:

- a description of the methodological process carried out in conducting the surveys;
- results and conclusions obtained; and
- public policy recommendations aimed at preventing, transforming or solving socio-environmental conflicts by including the principles of the rule of law in the environmental licensing procedures.

The National Authority for Environmental Licensing (ANLA) has taken part in the process of designing and implementing this evaluation, since the former administration and the final results are expected to be included among its planning processes for the improvement of environmental licensing.

3. Human rights-based approach to environmental governance

A significant contribution of the EGP activities in Colombia in 2018 was the identification of the need of the environmental sector to integrate human rights and the environment into the prevention and transformation of conflicts. Building on this, UNDP Colombia has designed a proposal to promote the analysis of the relationship between human rights and environmental protection, which is being implemented jointly with the Office of the Presidential Advisor for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
I believe that the peer-to-peer exchange within the various EGP countries and Sweden helps us pick out the good, strong points which have been implemented in those various countries and also look at the weaknesses and shortfalls. We learn from them, and they learn from us.

**Technician from the National Environment Management Authority; interview from 17 May 2018**

**Context**

Investment in the Kenyan mining sector boomed in 2018, and the government considers the sector a key driver to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Kenya is endowed with over 120 types of mineral resources, including large reserves of iron ore, copper, zinc, mercury, and heavy metals such as ilmenite, rutile and zircon. The mining sector has been key to the country’s economic growth. The government has recently amended the Mining and Minerals Policy (2016), the Mining Act (2016) and associated mining regulations.

In 2018 the EGP has worked closely with the National Environmental Management Authority, the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining, the Kenyan Human Rights Commission, the Kenya Chamber of Mines and the Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety Services to integrate environmental and social concerns into broader sustainable development policymaking. In 2018 the EGP has
focused on strengthening the environmental, gender, human rights and rule of law dimensions of public administration in large-scale mining

Activities and results

1. Launch of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for the Mining Sector in Kenya

To strengthen environmental governance in the extractive sector, the EGP supported the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) to prepare the first-ever Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for the Mining Sector in Kenya, which was launched by the Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Hon. Keriako Tobiko, on 17 June 2018, during the celebration of the World Day to Combat Desertification in Kajiado county. The event was also attended by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Mr. Charles Sunkuli; the Deputy Governor, Mr. Martin Moshisho; the Chairman of NEMA’s Management Board, Mr. John Konchellah; and the Director-General of NEMA’s Board of Directors, Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu.

2. Kwale Workshop on Environmental Governance of the Mining Sector: Putting Policies into Practice

In collaboration with NEMA, the EGP successfully brought together the main environmental, human rights and mining stakeholders from Kenya and Mozambique in a workshop with the Swedish EPA in Kwale county. The workshop was held on 15–17 May and strengthened the dialogue and collaboration between Kenya, Mozambique and Sweden on policies and practices to improve governance of the mining sector. Senior decision makers from the following institutions participated in the workshop:

- Kenya: Ministry of Petroleum and Mining; Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; Council of Governors; Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice; Kwale County Government; Kenyan National Treasury; National Commission on Human Rights; Department of Occupational Safety and Health; Human Rights Agenda Nairobi; Base Titanium; Kenya Chamber of Mines; UNDP Country Office
- Mozambique: Mining National Institute; Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy; Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development; AQUA; National Human Rights Commission; UNDP Country Office
- Sweden: Swedish EPA; Lund University; Swedish Geological AB; SwedBio/Stockholm Resilience Centre.

3. Community Guide to Large-Scale Mining

The EGP and UNDP Kenya supported Kenya’s National Environment Management Authority and the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining in the preparation of a guide for communities and individuals that own or occupy land that is subject to large-scale mining. The new guide provides important information about rights as a landowner, or as a member of a community affected by mining activities. It is intended to empower communities in their participation in decision making regarding large-scale mining projects. The development of the guide proposal kicked started during an EGP workshop organized in the country on May 2016.

4. Capacity development programme for artisanal miners

Over 150 artisanal miners from Kakamega, Migori and Taita Taveta counties have successfully completed an EGP capacity development programme on how to integrate environmental protection into mining operations. The training also covered legislative requirements for artisanal mining, mine devolution, the Kenyan Mining Cycle, occupational safety and health, and human rights-based approaches for mining governance. Artisanal mining is a major economic activity in Kakamega, Migori and Taita Taveta.
As for our ministry, I think the EGP had a direct impact on developing an Environmental Management Plan.¹ Our ministry has participated in capacity-building about environmental policymaking, which also involved staff members from provinces and local governments.

**Technician from the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry**

**Context**

The gross domestic product (GDP) of Mongolia grew by 6.9 percent in 2018, the highest in the last four years. The mining sector grew by 19.6 percent and was one of the main contributors to the country’s economic growth, maintaining the 2017 trend. The contribution of the mining sector to GDP grew from 16.7 percent in 2016 to 23.8 percent in July 2018. With such rapid growth of the mining sector, ensuring environmental governance and sustainable natural resource management in line with the principles of human rights and the rule of law remains a key challenge for the country.

In 2018 the EGP has worked closely with key government and civil society stakeholders to improve environmental and social outcomes of the mining sector. EGP partners in the country included the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia; the General Agency for Specialized Inspection; the Ministry of

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¹ An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is a tool used to ensure that undue or reasonably avoidable adverse impacts of the construction, operation and decommissioning of a project are prevented, and that the positive benefits of the projects are enhanced.
Environment and Tourism; the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry; the Mineral Resources and Petroleum Authority; and the National Police Department’s Environmental Crimes Division. The EGP has also worked with national partners to reduce the scale of land degradation and prevent future cases of degraded and abandoned land caused by large-scale and illegal mining.

Activities and results

1. Practical training on the use of drones for a census of degraded land

In 2018 the EGP provided hands-on drone training to environmental and inspection officials from 12 provinces. Two provinces, Dundgobi and Dornogobi, have already started using drones in their official mapping of degraded land. In the past, a degraded land census could not be carried out due to a lack of funds, and methodological and capacity constraints. With the EGP handbook on degraded land monitoring2 and training on the use of drones, surveys can now be carried out more frequently, allowing national and subnational government officials to monitor the scale and depth of land degradation and to undertake timely follow-up measures.

2. Training on environmental impact assessment and estimation of environmental damages

More than 200 mining and environment stakeholders have successfully completed EGP training on environmental impact assessment and environmental standards; training on estimation of environmental damages caused by mining operations; and counting plots of land degraded by mining. The training courses were offered to inspection and environmental officers in two resource-rich provinces, as well as representatives of mining companies. The skills, techniques and insights the participants learned contributed to more efficient and confident fulfilment of their respective professional roles in natural resource management. The training proved effective in sensitizing the participants about the importance of adhering to environmental standards. The training programmes are expected to be replicated in other provinces where mining is a key economic activity.

3. Tackling human rights violations in the mining sector

In 2018 the EGP supported the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia to undertake a human rights impact assessment for the mining sector, with in-depth study of the Tavan Tolgoi coal exploration. Tavan Tolgoi is one of the world’s largest untapped coking and thermal coal deposits, located in Ömnögovi province in southern Mongolia, with an estimated resource of 6.4 billion tonnes of coal. The assessment was submitted to the national parliament as part of the 2018 Annual Report on the Status of Human Rights and Freedom, which featured for the first time a chapter titled ‘The right to live in a healthy and safe environment: implementation of environmental laws and public participation.’

Following submission of the report, the human rights commission has been successfully raising the issue of accidents and human rights violations related to coal transportation. Several concrete follow-up measures have been undertaken, including dispatching of medical teams, better shift management, and compliance with safety regulations. After four years of support from the EGP, human rights advocacy and inspections in the mining sector have become an established practice for the national commission and other stakeholders involved.

4. Study on the adjudication of environment- and mining-related administrative and criminal cases

This pioneer study conducted with EGP’s support mapped the overall number of cases registered and the common issues being faced in resolving cases by the police, prosecutors and the courts. The EGP study has revealed a very low success rate of cases to recover the costs of environmental damage, despite the growth in mining activities. A total of 1,121 administrative cases were registered with the Mineral Resource and Petroleum Authority between 2016 and September 2018. The majority of these cases (920 cases) were related to mining licensing.

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2. See https://www.undp.org/content/dam/mongolia/Publications/Environment/Gariin_avlaga_2018_10_05_last.pdf.
Mozambique

The EGP has supported a comprehensive socio-economic impact assessment of the mining activities in Zambezia province, focusing on large-scale mining operations in the districts of Chinde and Mulevala. The findings are now supporting Mozambique’s mining and environmental authorities to review resettlement policies and practices and to integrate environmental and human rights protection into licensing and monitoring processes.

“The EGP has helped me understand the negative environmental and social impacts of mining exploitation in my country and other programme countries. I’m giving my opinion differently now when reviewing environmental study reports. Even my boss said, ‘I see something different when I read your comments.’”

Technician from AQUA;
interview from 14 May 2018

Context

Mozambique is one of the world’s richest countries in terms of mineral resources, but also a Least Developed Country with high rates of poverty and extreme poverty. Transforming mining resources into human and social capital, while minimizing environmental and social harm and maximizing respect for human rights, is one of the most pressing development challenges facing the country. For Mozambicans to benefit from mining, a robust legal, institutional and political framework must be put in place to ensure participation, accountability and adherence to international standards in the governance of the sector. This can only be achieved by strengthening rights-based governance systems, including
by fostering transparency and an active and informed citizenry, and by developing strong accountability mechanisms.

In 2018 the EGP was able to work with the key decision makers in Mozambique’s mining sector, namely: the National Directorate on Environment and AQUA at the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development; the National Institute of Mining and the National Directorate of Planning and Cooperation at the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy; and the National Human Rights Commission. EGP’s work in 2018 focused on addressing individual and institutional capacity deficiencies and inadequate design and enforcement of policy; economic regulatory and accountability frameworks; and the capacity for effective interministerial coordination in advancing a coherent environmental agenda.

### Activities and results

1. Establishment of Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees

In 2018 the EGP initiated collaboration with AQUA and Source International, aiming to support the establishment of Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees (PEMCs) in key resource-rich provinces of Mozambique. In this regard, the EGP facilitated a technical mission to Tete province on 12–18 August 2018, which undertook a needs assessment and identified key partners for the creation of PMECs. The EGP also supported AQUA and Source International to provide training on water quality monitoring to six communities.

2. Study on mining revenue allocation to communities

In 2018 the EGP supported an evaluation of the applicability of the transfer of 2.75 percent of mining revenue to local communities, with case studies carried out in the resource-rich provinces of Inhambe, Nampula and Tete. The evaluation exercise was conducted from August to November, and the main recommendations were the need to harmonize procedures for the allocation of resources to communities and ensuring that the beneficiaries are part of the consultative process. This was a pioneer step towards sharing economic benefits more equitably, as the country is currently reviewing the sharing of economic revenues from the mining sector.

3. Roundtable on mining licensing procedures

The EGP convened in 2018 a roundtable with the members of the Advisory Board of the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy; members of the Board of Directors of the National Directorate of Geology and Mines and the National Directorate of Planning and Cooperation; the provincial directors of the Ministry Mineral Resources and Energy; and mining companies and owners of local mines.

The main objective of the roundtable was to strengthen the dialogue with the mine holders and disseminate their rights and obligations in view of the approved laws. A major result of the roundtable was the adoption of a series of ten commitments by the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy regarding the full implementation of the existing mining regulatory and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

4. Technical IT training on licensing systems and software

Responding to a demand from the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy, the EGP has facilitated a training workshop for IT analysts and technicians from Mozambique’s provinces and central government that are directly involved in the mining licensing process. The training sessions aimed at ensuring that all government technicians involved in the licensing process have the same level of understanding and knowledge about the software in use and the steps in order to evaluate the mining application submitted by private companies. The topics covered during the training included: mining certificates, global procedures and management of documents, management of passwords and security.
In 2018 the EGP continued to develop and test tools and methodologies that can help countries integrate the rule of law, human rights and gender equality into the governance of the mining sector. The EGP continued to work with partners across the United Nations system and stakeholders from the mining sector to ensure coherent and integrated policymaking and implementation, including by ensuring that people affected by environmental degradation—and, by extension, nature—have a voice in decision making. To this effect, the EGP arranged and contributed to several key events with the purpose of shaping the global debate on human rights and the environment and the importance of integrated approaches to achieving the SDGs.

Guidance, tools and experience on strengthening capacities for integrating the rule of law, human rights and gender equality into environmental governance of the mining sector are disseminated based on country experience, lessons learned and research.

In recent years, the relationship between human rights and environmental protection has become clearer. A healthy environment is necessary for the enjoyment of a vast range of human rights. In turn, the exercise of human rights, including rights of access to information, participation, and remedy, is critical for the protection of the environment. The UNDP and Swedish EPA efforts to strengthen good governance in the mining sector are of vital importance for the protection of the environment and human rights.

Guides and courses

**Extracting Good Practices: A Guide for Governments and Partners to Integrate Environment and Human Rights into the Governance of the Mining Sector**

EGP flagship publication seeking to support governments and other stakeholders to better manage the environmental and social aspects of mining

- Launched at the Stockholm Dialogue on the Nexus between Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability and Conflict Prevention, June 2018
- 1,410 downloads from UNDP website (as of April 2019)
- 645 copies distributed to key decision makers in the programme countries
- Presented at key forums and events, included the IBA Environmental Lawyers Conference in South Africa and the Advanced International Training Programme (ITP 308) on Mine Water and Mine Waste Management in Malå, Sweden.

**Integrating Environmental, Social, and Human Rights Protection into the Governance of the Mining Sector**

Based on the Global Guide on Extracting Good Practices, in 2018 the EGP developed a free online course in collaboration with UNITAR.

- The course supports government officials and other stakeholders in applying core sustainability concepts, and human-rights based approaches and tools needed to improve the environmental and social governance of the mining sector.
- The course was launched on 1 March 2019. As of 24 April 2019, more than 800 participants from 30 countries had enrolled in the course.
- 46 percent of the participants are women.

**Users' Guide on Assessing the Rule of Law in Public Administration: the Mining Sector**

In 2018 the EGP partnered with the Folke Bernadotte Academy to develop a guidance note on the rule of law in the mining sector, which will be launched in the second quarter of 2019.

- The guide introduces a self-assessment tool that was piloted between 2015 and 2017 by the national environmental and mining licensing agencies of Colombia, Mongolia and Mozambique.
- The new tool helps government officials and civil society stakeholders evaluate the extent to which principles of the rule of law are respected in the governance of the mining sector.
- UNDP and the World Bank are now exploring venues for collaboration on joint mining governance assessments, by complementing each other’s methodologies or combining methodologies in two or three pilot countries and subsequently collaborating on national policy dialogues in pilot countries.
### Guides and courses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Regional Study on Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees</th>
<th>In 2018 the EGP partnered with the Canadian International Resources and Development Institute (CIRDI) to conduct a mapping and assessment of PEMCs in Argentina, Bolivia, Panama and Peru.</th>
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<td>• The final study will be launched in April 2019.</td>
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<td>• This assessment of the recent Latin American experiences with this innovative approach to environmental governance, transparency and multi-stakeholder collaboration will inform the programme’s participatory environmental monitoring work in other countries.</td>
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| Training for decision makers and practitioners on considering gender in mining governance | The EGP, in partnership with the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals and Metals (IGF) and with support from the International Finance Corporation, is developing training for decision makers and practitioners, to share global good practices, raise awareness and build skills regarding gender and governance in the mining industry. The development of the training follows an interactive gender and mining session at the 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the IGF held in Geneva in 2018, hosted by the EGP and titled ‘How to consider Gender Impacts, Gaps and Policy Responses to Support progress on the SDGs’. The session sought the experiences and contributions of delegates from Ministries of Mining from more than 40 countries, and it was clear from the session that there was considerable interest from governments in building capacity in gender governance, with a focus on participation in decision making, in regard to the mining industry. The training modules will be finalized in the second quarter of 2019 and will be piloted in interested countries in the second phase of the EGP. |
Community of Practice

EGP community on the Governance on Extractive Industries (GOXI) platform

During 2018 the Community of Practice for Environmental Governance and Conflict Prevention at the GOXI platform continued to grow and now has 132 members.

- The Community of Practice focuses on key issues for the programme countries, such as environmental monitoring of mining, community-based environmental monitoring committees, indigenous rights, and biodiversity and human rights, as well as the latest issues in mining governance, such as mercury poisoning in the Philippines and the Mariana mining disaster in Brazil.
- The group is designed to share knowledge and experiences, raise awareness and improve skills and practice to improve environmental governance of the sector and to prevent and resolve socio-environmental conflict in the extractive sector. Discussions, questions and country examples that address the challenges and solutions for preventing socio-environmental conflict and improving governance of extractives are encouraged by a facilitator.
- In 2018, five discussion forums were created in the community, raising 81 posts and comments.
- Since the start of the community in 2016, the following pages and resources have been made available on the platform:
  - Environmental governance and conflict prevention in extractives blog posts
  - Guidelines and toolkits
  - Country key resources
  - Knowledge products GOXI webinar series
  - Interviews with experts from our GOXI learnings series
  - Environmental governance and conflict prevention in extractives news digest
  - Goxi learning series webinars
  - Concept notes GOXI learning series
  - Environmental governance and conflict prevention in extractives discussions
  - Organizations working in environmental governance of extractive industries
  - Mining and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
  - Events and webinars

3. GOXI is a space for dialogue and a platform for innovation and collaboration, serving those actively working on governance issues in the extractive industries, developed jointly by UNDP and the World Bank. The GOXI Community brings together members from across sectors around the world working on environmental governance for sustainable natural resource management, and members dedicated to preventing and resolving disputes and conflict in the extractive sector.
How can Mongolia use its natural wealth to expand its economy while also growing healthy communities? One answer is through a multi-stakeholder process involving government, private companies, local citizens and non-governmental organizations to promote responsible mining.

Bolormaa Purevjav, Chair, Stakeholder’s Engagement for Sustainable Development (SESD) in Mongolia, during the webinar on Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees

The Colombian government, with technical assistance from UNDP, has developed tools and methodologies to respond to social conflicts in the territories. In addition, dialogue processes were established to develop a shared vision of the future of the territories and their needs. New social investments have strengthened trust between actors and fostered development projects within the communities.

Nadya Aranguren, Dialogue and Conflict Prevention Advisor, UNDP Colombia, during the webinar on the Role of Government in Preventing or Enabling Conflict in the Extractive Sector

My observation is that not only the mining company but also the other parties understood that many conflicts arise from the different perceptions of the situation. It was difficult for the parties to accept the facts provided by the other party, when the trust level between them was very low. Thus, parties wanted to see a real picture of the situation explored and described by jointly trusted experts.

Nandinchimeg Batsaikhan, Mongolia-based facilitator and conflict mediator, during the webinar on Using Social and Environmental Safeguards and Grievance Mechanisms
Workshops, dialogues and side events

2018 EGP Annual Global Workshop

50 participants from 12 countries
17–19 October, Geneva

The workshop brought together the four EGP programme countries to share updates and reflect on results, good practices and lessons learned from both the EGP and partner initiatives, including validation of findings from the EGP external evaluation.

The workshop was held back to back with the 14th AGM of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF).

Regional Workshop on Participatory Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resources Management in the Latin American and Caribbean Region

40 participants from 13 countries
3–5 October, Panama City

The workshop focused on regional experiences with PEMCs from Argentina, Bolivia, Panama and Peru. Case studies and findings from all countries were presented and discussed. A formal report on the four countries’ experiences with this innovative approach to environmental governance, transparency and multi-stakeholder collaboration will be launched in April 2019.
Stockholm Dialogue on the Nexus between Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability, and Conflict Prevention

100 participants from 26 countries
12 June, Stockholm

The participants shared their perspectives and experiences of how to improve the management of natural resources in ways that advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensure more sustainable and peaceful results across countries and regions. They represented national governments, the United Nations, academia, civil society and the private sector, with a special focus on countries with large mineral reserves, including Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Peru and Venezuela.

Kwale Workshop on Environmental Governance of the Mining Sector: Putting Policies into Practice

60 participants from Kenya, Mozambique and the Swedish EPA
15–17 May, Kwale, Kenya

The Kwale workshop was organized jointly with Kenya’s National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). It brought together key stakeholders from the government, civil society and the private sector who have a delegated role in the environmental governance of the mining sector in Kenya and Mozambique. The event focused on the recent assessments for the mining sector conducted by the EGP, namely: the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for the Mining Sector in Kenya, and the Rule of Law in Public Administration (ROLPA) in Mozambique.
Panel discussion on ‘Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Mining Sector for Sustainable Development’ at the Convention on Biological Diversity’s COP-14

23 November, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

The EGP was represented at several events and meetings during the Conference of the Parties (COP-14) of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. EGP experiences were highlighted through a joint panel discussion on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Mining Sector for Sustainable Development.

Interactive session on ‘Mapping Gender Gaps in Mining’ at the AGM of the IGF in Geneva

100 IGF delegates from 40 countries
16 October, Geneva

This participatory session focused on how governments can identify and address gender gaps related to mining. Participants highlighted ‘lack of voice and participation in decision-making,’ ‘access to employment and education’ and ‘increase in gender-based violence’ as impacts of particular importance.

“The IGF is excited about the positive feedback from the session’s participants and will plan similar interactive sessions in future AGMs to ensure the IGF members and their fellow AGM delegates are able to share experiences and voice their priorities in a dynamic and interactive manner.”

Matthew Bliss, IGF Deputy Director
Side-event on ‘Forest-Smart Mining to Advance the New York Declaration on Forests and the SDGs’ at the 73rd General Assembly of the United Nations

100 participants
25 September, New York

This official side event to the United Nations General Assembly brought together senior diplomats, government officials and the private sector at the Scandinavian House in New York. It was organized in collaboration with the Swedish Geological AB, the World Bank and the New York Declaration on Forests.

The event was an opportunity to raise awareness about the relationship between mining and deforestation, present new research findings on forest-smart mining and provide an overview of the New York Declaration on Forests and its Global Platform.

Side event on ‘Human Rights, Biodiversity and SDGs’ at the 2nd Meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Subsidiary Body on Implementation in Montreal

The event raised awareness about the interlinkages between human rights and biodiversity and why recognizing and implementing human rights is key to implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Strategic Plan 2011–2020 and achieving the SDGs.

The EGP facilitated the participation of the Mongolian Centre for Stakeholder Engagement and Sustainable Development, which presented the work of multi-stakeholder committees protecting the biodiversity and cultural heritage of a mining region in Gurventus Soum, Mongolia.
The foundations for a long-term, sustainable partnership over an initial period of 8–10 years on environmental governance between the Swedish EPA, UNDP and other relevant organizations are put in place.

In 2018 the UNDP–Swedish EPA partnership matured further. A collaborative relationship has now been developed at all levels between the Swedish EPA, UNDP and other partners involved in the programme. The progress achieved during 2018 and the dialogues, side events and workshops that were attended by a wide range of partners helped establish credibility among partners, both globally and nationally, which has helped strengthen existing partnerships and forge new ones. Some of the key partnerships developed by the EGP in 2018 include the following:
Folke Bernadotte Academy

The EGP deepened its collaboration with the Folke Bernadotte Academy on finalizing the global Rule of Law in the Public Administration: The Mining Sector (ROLPAM) methodology that will be launched in the second quarter of 2019.

Intergovernmental Forum for Mining, Metals and Minerals for Sustainable Development (IGF)

The EGP, the Intergovernmental Forum for Mining, Metals and Minerals for Sustainable Development (IGF) and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) initiated a partnership to strengthen gender dimensions of large- and medium-scale mining. The work includes a joint mapping, a diagnostic tool, and a joint session on gender and mining, which was held at the 14th AGM of the IGF in Geneva in October 2018.

Within the GOXI learning series, the EGP has collaborated with grass-roots organizations and practitioners at the front lines of mining governance to bring key issues to the global debate among experts and mining stakeholders. In 2018, some of the cases brought by EGP to the debate included the Oyu Tolgoi mine in Mongolia, where herders reached a historic agreement with one of the world’s largest copper mines, and the growing force of PEMCs in Latin America.

The World Bank

Beyond joint activities on GOXI, the EGP and the World Bank also explored collaboration around their respective mining assessment work—for example, synergies between the ROLPAM and the World Bank methodology, which is currently being revised and renamed ‘The Mining Sector Diagnostic’ (MSD). Subsequently, it was agreed to pursue the possibility of joint assessments in two or three interested pilot countries, using the ROLPAM methodology to complement the World Bank’s MSD in cases where the MSD has identified a deep investigation of issues around participation, accountability and transparency as a priority. In addition, the EGP and the World Bank will collaborate on joint policy dialogues in these countries, starting with Colombia, where MSD and ROLPAM assessments have been carried out.
Canadian International Resources and Development Institute (CIRDI)

The EGP has partnered with the Canadian International Resources and Development Institute (CIRDI) to undertake a regional study on Participatory Environmental Monitoring Committees (PEMCs) in Latin America and the Caribbean, with case studies from Argentina, Bolivia, Panama and Peru. To validate and deepen the preliminary findings from the regional study, the EGP organized the Regional Workshop on Participatory Environmental Governance for Sustainable Natural Resources Management in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, with a focus on PEMCs. A formal report on the four countries’ experiences with this innovative approach to environmental governance, transparency and multi-stakeholder collaborative processes will be launched in April 2019.

The EGP has also worked with CIRDI to produce a report on the Role of Host Governments in Enabling or Preventing Conflict Associated with Mining, which was published in December 2018. The report was based on a literature review, quantitative analysis of 300 cases, and in-depth field case studies from Bolivia, Ghana, Madagascar, Peru and Tanzania. The report was developed as a response to an unprecedented increase in incidents of conflict associated with mining operations, which proliferated alongside an unprecedented rise in the price of metals and industrial activity between 2002 and 2013.

UN- WOMEN

EGP and UN Women have started dialogues on collaboration around strengthening women’s participation in decision making in the mining sector in the Choco district of Colombia.

UN Environment

The EGP has worked with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) on the organization of the Stockholm Dialogue on the Nexus between Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability and Conflict Prevention. The focus of the collaboration with UN Environment was around data sharing and innovative technological partnerships in support of conflict prevention and sustainable natural resource management.

UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

In 2018 the EGP partnered with UNITAR on the development of an online training course titled ‘Integrating Environmental, Social, and Human Rights Protection into the Governance of the Mining Sector’, which draws on the EGP flagship publication ‘Extracting Good Practices’.
D. Cross-cutting Issues

Gender equality

The Swedish EPA and UNDP recognize that gender equality is a human right and a prerequisite and accelerator for achieving sustainable development in the mining sector. The EGP is, therefore, designed to address gender dimensions of mining governance by mainstreaming gender in all activities. This means analysing and assessing the different implications for women and men of any planned programmatic intervention and collecting sex-disaggregated data to ensure that the programme contributes to greater gender equality.

In addition, the ROLPAM and SESA assessments collect sex-disaggregated data, to ensure that recommendations are gender-sensitive and that future policymaking based on them can contribute to gender equality in process and outcomes.

More concretely, the EGP has worked closely with other agencies to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment. For example, in 2018 the EGP arranged a session on gender and mining during the IGF AGM in 2018. This interactive session on ‘How to consider Gender Impacts, Gaps and Policy Responses to Support progress on the SDGs’ sought the experiences and contributions of delegates from Ministries of Mining from more than 40 countries to develop gender governance training that will strengthen governments’ capacities to assess and address the level of gender mainstreaming in their mining governance and policy processes.

In addition, all EGP training activities—both in the four target countries and in the global webinars—has a male–female participation target of 40/60, and our evaluations collect sex-disaggregated data to capture women’s perspectives on learning and learning needs.

Tackling issues of gender equality in the environmental and mining sectors requires sectoral gender analysis. With assistance from a project funded by the Canadian government, the Mongolian Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry is developing gender policy in the geology, mining, petroleum and heavy industry sectors. EGP Mongolia will follow the policy guidelines once approved.

Human rights

Protecting and advancing substantive and procedural human rights for communities affected by mining is a significant objective of the programme. Environmental degradation caused by mining often has negative impacts on a range of substantive human rights, including the rights to water, health and livelihoods. Conversely, protecting human rights, including procedural rights to participation in decision making, access to information, accountability and redress, can help protect the environment.

The EGP pursues a human rights-based approach in designing and implementing the programme. This includes ensuring that human rights principles and standards are applied at all stages of the project cycle. More specifically, the EGP focuses on integrating the substance of human rights into policy, legal frameworks and practices and to ensure that human rights are protected, including by strengthening the procedural environmental rights to participation, access to information, accountability and redress for citizens across the mining life cycle. Project implementation has used a human rights-based approach, which has led to recognition of the impact that the activities might have on the communities with which we work, and thus we plan the interventions accordingly. Due to this perspective, the design of instruments for the collection of information, for instance, includes only questions that would be carefully phrased to respect the rights of the communities involved and the people interviewed.

Environment

Preventing environmental degradation and linked social harms in the mining sector is the main objective of the programme, and all activities are designed with this objective in mind. To reduce the programme’s environmental footprint, most reports and publications are only available in electronic format. In addition, all material that is printed uses recycled paper. Another way of reducing the footprint is to use online webinars to share knowledge and exchange experiences. This significantly reduces the carbon footprint compared with, for example, on-site training, as travel is essentially eliminated for the participants. When arranging meetings, the guidelines from the United Nations Sustainable Events are followed. This includes ensuring that catering at workshops is free
from single-use plastic items. We also encourage remote attendance at meetings by using techniques and facilitation methods that allow participation and interaction between participants in different locations and time zones. Our aim is to be able to have large global virtual meetings and act as a benchmark for the UN and other organizations.

**Anti-corruption**

Corruption represents one of the largest obstacles to economic and social development around the world. The natural resource sector, and the extractives industry in particular, is very vulnerable to corruption in weak institutional contexts with poor environmental governance. Moreover, unethical actors in the mining industry are often involved in violations of human rights and environmental destruction. Corruption and the limited effectiveness of governments to fulfil their functions make it harder to achieve positive environmental outcomes.

The EGP considers that corruption cannot be dealt with through stand-alone measures. Efforts to improve the implementation of environmental policies must go hand in hand with efforts to reduce corruption if they are to have the intended effects. In 2018 the EGP continued working with the programme countries to improve accountability, transparency and public participation to reduce the risk of corruption and create trust and legitimacy, which facilitates implementation of different policy instruments. For instance, the EGP is working with Mozambique’s AQUA and Source International to establish PEMCs in resource-rich provinces, such as Tete.

**Poverty reduction**

Multidimensional poverty comprises several factors that constitute poor people’s experiences of deprivation, such as poor health, lack of education, inadequate living standards, lack of income, disempowerment, the threat of violence and more. These problems can also include environmental deprivations. Populations and communities living in poverty are often directly dependent on natural resources and ecosystems for their livelihood. Environmental degradation, access to natural resources and other poverty dimensions thus interlock to keep people trapped in poverty. Mining is a sector that concentrates the emblematic natural resource governance issues that affect countries with weak governance systems (resource curse, lack of accountability and transparency, corruption, violation of human rights) while at the same time being central to the global transition to sustainable development. This fundamentally links the governance of mining to issues of multidimensional poverty. Mining is also connected to all 17 SDGs; therefore, the programme’s focus on mining provides a unique platform to address several SDGs simultaneously.

**Conflict sensitivity**

Conflict—ranging from low tension to escalated violence—is a central aspect of mining. Mining can spark social conflict with local communities and fuel and finance violent conflicts, and metal and mineral endowments often play a role in intra-State conflicts. Understanding the underlying drivers of mining conflicts and how to prevent them is, therefore, central to ensuring sustainable outcomes of mining.

Mining conflicts are often socio-environmental in character. Socio-environmental conflicts can often be traced back to poor governance and administrative decision-making that lead to environmental degradation and infringements on substantive and procedural human rights, including a lack of mechanisms for meaningful participation in decision-making, accountability, grievances and redress.

The EGP adopts a dual approach to conflict-sensitive programming that is grounded in the human rights-based approach and strengthening social and environmental safeguards. To improve its conflict-sensitive programming, the EGP has developed the ROLPAM methodology which analyses drivers of conflict related to administrative decision-making. It measures differences in perception between administrative officials and affected communities related to the quality of mining governance, including legality, accountability, participation, information and redress. This tool helps the programme and governments understand and address the concerns of citizens that can fuel grievances and social conflicts.

The implementation of EGP in Colombia is carried out in contexts of conflict and is partially focused on conflict analysis. Therefore, in all project activities the UNDP Country Office must be sensitive to local realities and making a special effort to understand their culture and their characteristics.
E. Lessons learned

Participatory processes and country-driven solutions:

- One of the conclusions from the Kenya and Mozambique country studies conducted by the evaluation expert was that the EGP approach was perceived as participatory, consultative and adaptive to local contexts during project implementation. However, it was felt that greater engagement of the programme countries during the inception phase could have increased the focus on country-driven and -owned solutions.

- Another lesson learned is that it is important to provide more space for locally defined interventions and to allow more positive deviation from predefined outcomes.

- Stakeholders interviewed by the evaluation expert have also suggested that the next phase should invest more resources to ensure a common understanding of the project’s vision and theory of change among programme countries at the early stages.

- According to the outcomes from the discussions at the 2018 EGP Annual Workshop, the most important principle when designing a new phase should be country-driven consultations guided by local priorities and with the participation of local actors. This should be done as early as possible in the planning phase, with the aim to ensure bottom-up participation and harmonization with other related initiatives in the countries.

Learning and sharing:

- There is general agreement, according to in-depth interviews with participating partners, that the learning approaches of the EGP have been interactive and have allowed space for reflection and discussion in their own context. Various participants stated that it was through the EGP that they were introduced to the linkages between human rights, the environment and the rule of law for the first time. Management and leadership support has been key in their attempts to introduce new ideas or knowledge to their organizational settings. There is evidence that participants have been sharing lessons learned when returning from EGP workshops and training events.

Policy implementation:

- One consistent message from the EGP programme countries is that the main gap is often in achieving implementation of and coherence between existing policies at national level, rather than in the lack of policies.

Peer-to-peer support:

- The Swedish EPA has been flexible about mobilizing expertise, complemented by consultants if not available in house. In future, peer-to-peer support should be even more demand- and needs-driven and designed jointly with the beneficiaries. Participants value peer learning within and between the countries—for example, at the workshop in Kwale, at which both Mozambique and Kenya participated—as a possibility to learn about good practices elsewhere, avoid similar pitfalls and incorporate key lessons in environmental governance of the mining sector. The next phase should focus on having a more methodical and structured peer-to-peer learning process.

Flexibility:

- The current programme showed a lot of flexibility in responding to stakeholders’ needs. A critical success factor is that the project personnel have been open to learning, adaptive (rather than following a rigid, predetermined design to meet country context, priorities and needs) and correcting courses as the project progresses.

Communications:

- Internal communications need to be better structured, and more resources should be put into external communications and outreach activities.
F. Broad contribution

The EGP benefits from a strong Swedish EPA – UNDP partnership that draws upon the combined governance, environmental and extractive sector expertise of the Swedish EPA and UNDP. It has leveraged the technical capacity and environmental expertise of the Swedish EPA, benefiting from UNDP’s unique presence and strong government partnerships in nearly 170 countries and territories, global policy knowledge and technical know-how in the mining sector. The EGP also leverages a much larger portfolio of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) - 34 funded projects linked to mining as well as biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as a large portfolio of projects focused on conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

SEPA has a long experience of putting the key principles of democratic governance (effectiveness, accountability, transparency, participation, rule of law and non-discrimination, integration, coordination, and coherence and responsiveness) into practice in carrying out its mandate. SEPA further acts as a “sister agency” to other public administrations and ministries, which allows for strong relationships that, in turn, are key to capacity development. As a public administration, SEPA incapsulates an unparalleled amount of tacit knowledge in relation to the role of the public administrations in environmental governance. This covers a “from within”—understanding of the implicit norms and power relations, governance systems in place, and how to navigate among the various actors that all together co-shape environmental governance.

The EGP’s external evaluators have pointed out that UNDP and the Swedish EPA have managed to reach a mutual understanding of what the sub-programme is most strategically positioned to achieve and how. Progressively, a collaborative relationship has been developed at all levels between the Swedish EPA, UNDP and other partners involved in the sub-programme. The EGP has favoured an enhancement of Swedish EPA’s internal capacities in environmental sustainability in an international development cooperation context, bringing unique insights and learnings from countries with very different—and complex—institutional contexts.

G. Conclusion and way forward

In 2018 the EGP continued to implement activities and achieve progress across all three outcome areas as planned. The partnerships between UNDP and the Swedish EPA and between the programme and its other partners was strengthened. The programme continues to have strong buy-in and ownership in the target countries and leverages existing resources with the partnership within UNDP.

In 2019 the EGP will focus on finalizing activities that have been initiated in the countries, and at the regional and global levels.

At the global level, a free online course on mining governance was launched in March in collaboration with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The course will run throughout 2019.

In March 2019, the EGP organized a workshop for 120 representatives from the central government, local authorities, civil society and the private sector in Mongolia. The two-day workshop focused on participatory environmental monitoring.

In addition, the EGP will start preparing for a transition into a possible next phase of programming after June 2019, pending approval of funding. The recommendations from the external evaluation of the programme and the EGP 2018 Annual Global Workshop are informing this process, including the need for extensive country-driven consultations that are guided by local priorities and where local actors participate.

Another priority for a next phase would be working with artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), legal and illegal, which has been pointed out as common concern and issues of growing relevance for the programme countries. It will also include linking up artisanal and small-scale mining and global climate change initiatives, as the next phase is anticipated to include a stronger focus on climate change and sustainable consumption and production.

Another strong recommendation for the future steps is to sustain and consolidate the results that have already been achieved. For example, the institutional networks and infrastructures, including cross-sectoral working groups, that have been created
through the EGP will need continued support to institutionalize, to as they are at risk of disappearing without consolidating follow-up.

2019 country programme priorities:

Colombia

In 2019 the EGP will focus on finishing the activities started last year and will lobby the country’s new administration to seize the opportunity to adopt the recommendations made by the project for the prevention and transformation of conflicts, including how the inclusion of the principles of the rule of law in public administration can become a useful tool to guarantee human rights and protect the environment.

While doing this, the EGP’s new activities should include strategies to deal with other types of mining such as small- and medium-scale mining and criminal mining, including some activities to promote the formalization of small-scale miners. Also, activities to ensure the inclusion of a clearer human rights approach in the extractive industry need to be included.

Kenya

Kenya appreciates the work that the EGP has undertaken. In this regard, the following three activities are to be prioritized to ensure sustainability of the activities implemented. Discussions will also be held with other initiatives, especially the World Bank-funded Kenya Petroleum Technical Assistance Project (KEPTAP) and Gothenburg University's ecosystem services proposal, among others.

To scale up programme activities in 2019, the following specific activities are planned for implementation:

- Finalization of the draft sector-specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)—Mining guidelines to inform the future use of EIA for the extractives sector in Kenya
- Preparation of a detailed summary report on the capacity-building programme for artisanal miners in Kakamega, Migori and Taita Taveta counties to inform further programming around this area

Mongolia

Priorities for 2019 will be:

- ensuring the consolidation and sustainability of results that have already been achieved; this includes the institutionalization and scaling-up of different types of training initiated by the EGP; and
- documentation of qualitative and quantitative evidence of EGP project outcomes.

A more explicit focus on institutional-level changes is desirable, and requires a different design of activities. This strategy could be further explored in the next phase.

Mozambique

A major priority for 2019 is to implement the pilot project on participatory environmental monitoring in six communities in the resource-rich province of Tete. The EGP pilot project is being implemented by AQUA and Source International.

To enhance capacity development, more emphasis will be given in 2019 to developing the organizational level, especially the structures of environmental administrations, including AQUA.

Project implementation in Mozambique suffered a major setback with Cyclone Idai, one of the worst tropical cyclones on record to affect Africa and the southern hemisphere. In light of the devastation caused by the cyclone, the UNDP Mozambique Country Office has prioritized reconstruction and emergency relief efforts, including the allocation of staff to the hardest-hit areas.