

ANNEX 8

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PLAN FOR THE PROJECT

**Public Consultation Plan
for
Environmental and Social Assessment,
Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project.**

As part of the SESA (2004) there has been extensive consultation with stakeholders. In this way it has been possible to canvas and take account of a wide range of views about the Project. During the life of the Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project it is considered important that this dialogue continues.

For a specific mining project, public consultation and participation would comprise local involvement, consultation, open and private meetings with local people and their representatives at Local Government, District and State level. Such consultation and participation is requirement under the Environmental Impact Assessment Decree (date?). The objectives would be twofold: (a) to provide information to the public about what is being proposed and how it would be undertaken; and (b) to receive feedback on concerns, fears, opinions and/or suggestions that can be incorporated into the project, or which can be dealt with directly. There would also be consultation with State and Federal level agencies and Ministries, and with NGOs with a relevant interest in the project.

In the context of the SMMR Project, which does not involve any direct or indirect mineral development or mining activity, public consultation and participation to the same level of detail is not possible or appropriate. Instead, public consultation and participation will rely more on the public's interests being represented by State and Federal agencies and Ministries, and relevant NGOs.

In order that the wider public view and interest is represented during the Project, it is proposed that a series of stakeholder dialogue meetings are held as follows.

1. An annual one-day *Mining Environment and Social Dialogue* meeting in Abuja.

Organised by:	Environment and Social Unit in MSMD
Invitees:	all Federal Ministries; State Ministries and agencies responsible for environment, water resources, labour, environmental health, social welfare, etc; Mining and quarrying companies and representatives; NGOs with relevant interests
Duration:	1 day
Frequency:	Annual
Location:	Suitable venue for c. 100 – 150 delegates in Abuja.
Agenda:	Morning - presentations on the progress of the SMMR Project, topical issues, best practice, case studies, State stakeholder meetings. Afternoon – open discussion sessions in groups of c. 25, each covering a specific topic or aspect. Final consolidation session.
Output:	Summary of presentations, with record of questions asked and answers given. Written record of discussion groups' findings, conclusions and recommendations.

These annual meetings would inevitably be fairly high level, with a dominance of Federal interests rather than local representation. However, they would provide a valuable forum for the State level dialogue to feed up, and the Federal level dialogue to filter down.

2. State one-day *Mining Environment and Social Stakeholder Workshops*

Organised by:	State (or Zonal) Mines Officer, assisted by Environment and Social Unit in MSMD
Invitees:	all State Ministries and agencies; Federal Ministry offices in the State; Local Government representatives and community leaders; NGOs with relevant interests Mining and quarrying company representatives from artisanal, small scale and medium scale mining sectors.
Duration:	One day
Frequency:	One off in each State
Location:	Suitable venue for c. 100 people in State capital
Agenda:	Morning - presentations on the progress of the SMMR Project, local topical issues, best practice, case studies. Afternoon – open discussion sessions of 1 hour, each covering a specific topic or aspect. Final consolidation session.
Output:	Summary of presentations, with record of questions asked and answers given. Written record of discussion, conclusions and recommendations.

These State level meetings would be the opportunity for direct public and local representation to feed into the Project, addressing specific local concerns and issues that are relevant to the mining interests in the State.

With 36 states, over a 3 or 4 year period there would be nearly one per month. The meetings in each State would be based on a similar format, as a "roadshow" with common central presentations (best practice, case studies, SMMR project, etc). A small team (1 technical specialist and 1 administrator/assistant) should be dedicated to running the roadshow and ensuring consistent presentations and reporting of Outputs.

It is likely that in some State or Zonal Mines Offices, the *Mining Environment and Social Stakeholder Workshop* might become a regular event. This would be encouraged and supported financially by MSMD.

It is important that there is clear communication and linkage between these State level and national level stakeholder dialogues, particularly the reporting and incorporation of local issues to Federal level policy and actions.

Delegates to the meetings should receive travel grants towards the cost of attending (based on a fixed budget for travel costs and accommodation for 2 nights), say \$150 per head. These grants should be available to all attendees, regardless of means or affiliation.