



Raising the Community Voice in the Extractive Sector

Authors' perspectives on recent mining seizures in Marange.

Dr Masiya (Post Doctoral Research Fellow Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery Human Science Research Council Cape Town)

“Seizure of Marange Diamonds mining by the state”

“The takeover of mining by the state is also questionable in that, in the last twenty years or so, the government has not managed to profitably run any public enterprises. In fact giant state enterprises have collapsed. It is unlikely that it will miraculously run the diamond mines. In fact there are strong signals that the influx of artisanal miners is back in the diamond fields following the state takeover. In response, the state is likely to increase police and military presence and with it, a new wave of human rights abuses. The problem of the Zimbabwean government is corruption, poor policy formulation and implementation as well as its battered international image. Without correcting these anomalies, the government will go in circles of failure.” [read more](#)

Professor Paul D. Scott (International expert on peace and governance, CRD advisory board)

“No more Marange”

“The closure of the mines does not and should not close the door on the discussions on how to make sure that another Marange does not happen again. The rallying cry should be: No more Marange.” [read more](#)

Dr S Mungure (Research Coordinator Institute of Peace Leadership and governance (IPLG) Africa University, Manicaland, Zimbabwe)

“Chiadzwa Consolidation Question”

“The Zimbabwe government acknowledgement of the shortcomings of the industrial mining in Chiadzwa should not only be seen in the cancellation of company licenses and closure of operations but also in the subsequent setting of inquiry into the extent of the mismanagement of the national strategic resource and prosecution of the looters. Further government should also proceed to transparently share its turn-around strategy with other stakeholders. As at March 2016, the companies' eviction has seen a new influx of artisanal miners. In view of the current deflationary economy, Government should be warned that even the security service men themselves will eventually be tempted to engage in illegal mining activities. Solid and effective mechanisms for diamond regulation are required and should be communicated to the people. While state monitoring of diamond leakage and smuggling could have been tighter in the past decade everyone thinks that government efforts are rather too little and too late and might actually be geared towards a new wave of accumulation by another chosen few.” [read more](#)