



The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) in collaboration with the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) and the Alternative Mining Indaba Secretariat invite you to a side event on:

The Impact of industrial gold extraction on socio-economic development

Gold is an important mineral commodity produced by at least 34 African countries, and Africa is a major producer contributing 25-30% of global gold production. Mining is viewed as an important economic activity accounting for a high proportion of foreign direct investment for developing countries and for a substantial share of foreign exchange earnings. Yet the production of gold is fraught with serious economic and social challenges that have implications on sustainable development. The panel will amongst others, discuss the following: the wide spread corruption in gold production enabling activities that are either criminal or in violation of existing regulations governing gold extraction; the illegal trade and exportation of gold and significant underreporting of the true scale of gold traded; and the negative impacts of gold on miners, their families and communities. Three case studies will be discussed. The first two will look at the impact of industrial gold extraction on socio-economic development in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in Zimbabwe. The third case study will focus on mineworkers, communities and the hidden and externalised costs of gold mining in South Africa.

Speakers

Chairperson: Ichumile Gqada (OSF-SA)

- *The Impacts of industrial gold extraction on socio-economic development in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe*
 - Prof. Kennedy Kihangi Bindu, Université libre des Pays des Grands Lacs
 - Darlington Muyambwa, Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association
- *Mineworkers, communities and the hidden health costs of gold mining in South Africa*
 - Prof. Freek Cronje, Bench Marks Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility, North West University
 - Charles Abrahams, Abrahams Kiewitz Inc

Date: Monday 8 February 2016

Time: 18:30 – 20:00

Venue: Queens at Double Tree Hotel, Woodstock, Cape Town

RSVP: For catering purposes please indicate if you will be able to attend this event by sending your response to the following: Moratuo Thoke MoratuoT@osisa.org and Popo Mfubu:

Popo@osfsa.org.za

Responses must be received by Friday 5th February 2016.