

HIA4SD PROJECT MULTI-STAKEHOLDER MEETING AUGUST 12, 2021, DODOMA



Participants of the HIA4SD Multi-Stakeholder Meeting pose for a group photo at Nashera Hotel in Dodoma on August 12, 2021. CREDIT/ALL PHOTOS: @IFAKARA/Coms

1. About HIA4SD Project

The extraction of natural resources such as minerals, metals, oil and gas affect public health, ecosystems and society in producer regions. Experience from African countries shows that adverse impacts from resource extraction on health determinants (e.g., local health systems, access to water and sanitation, food availability) and health outcomes (e.g., HIV/AIDS, vector-related diseases, non-communicable diseases) tend to prevail. The Health Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development (HIA4SD) Project analyses the conditions under which impact assessments are an effective regulatory mechanism to mitigate negative externalities from natural resource extraction and contribute to the health-related targets of the SDG 2030 Agenda.

2. About the Multi-Stakeholder Meeting and Partners

The multi-stakeholder meeting was held for one day at Nashera hotel in Dodoma – the Tanzania capital to discuss findings of the study. The meeting, which was jointly hosted by Ifakara Health Institute and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, discussed findings of the study implemented in three African countries, namely: Tanzania, Mozambique, Ghana and Burkina Faso.

HIGHLIGHTS

3. The Multi-Stakeholders

The meeting drew participation of members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Minerals and Community Development; and representatives of the Ministry of Minerals and from the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children.

Other participants came from the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG); the National Environmental Management Commission (NEMC), academic Institutions; civil society organization, and the media – covering a broad spectrum of stakeholder engagement in the context of health, environment, industrial mining and policy making processes.

4. Meeting Proceedings

4.1 Opening

The meeting was officially opened by the Chairman of Minerals Commission, Prof. Idrisa Kikula (who is also the Vice Chancellor of the University of Dodoma) who in his speech expressed optimism that findings of the study as well as recommendations would provide sufficient evidence that will inform policies to ensure that future impact assessments take into consideration the aspect of health.

He also thanked partners who worked very hard behind the scenes in support of the study and in a special way, he singled out bilateral and strategic contributions of the Swiss Program for Research on Global Issues for Development, the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) which made the planning and implementation of the study a success.

4.2 Presentations

The opening speech was followed by a series of presentations on the HIA4SD project activities which included project overview, research findings from the impact assessment, Q-study assessment results and policy options.

4.3 Discussions

Meeting participants had the opportunity to discuss and reflect on the findings presented, and thereafter engaged in a policy dialogue. The discussion accentuated whether health impact assessment need to be a stand-alone activity or integrated to enhance current environmental impact assessments. It was further highlighted several other types of assessments (i.e., social, economic, and human right) which could be brought together in health impact assessment.

4.4 Policy Dialogue

The multi-stakeholder meeting initiated a policy dialogue with key stakeholders for the prominently inclusion of health impact assessment as a regulatory framework in the context of natural resources extraction projects. These initiatives are in line with recent economic and mining sector reforms which aims to increase mining industry contribution to economic development and sustainable growth.

During policy dialogue discussions, meeting participants proceeded to identify specific actions and actors which are important for the next phase of engagement. At the end, the HIA4SD project leaders presented future plans to conduct additional policy engagement activities as well as build capacity through virtual and in-person training courses.

HIGHLIGHTS

4.5 Closing

The multi-stakeholder meeting was closed by a representative from the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government, who represented the Director of Health Services, Dr. Ntuli Kapologwe. He said, evidence provided by HIA4SD project provided a strong argument for including the aspect of health in when conducting impact assessments before large extraction project inception.

The official summed up the stakeholders' opinions agreeing in principle and suggesting generally that it's important to conduct health impact assessment along with environmental impact assessment. In conclusion, he urged the stakeholders to address the issue of conflicting views between those suggesting the inclusion of health assessment in the environmental impact assessment and those saying it should stand alone.

5. Useful Links

[Multi-stakeholder meeting story:](#)

INCEPTION: Program to investigate policies on non-communicable diseases unveiled

[Multi-stakeholder photo gallery:](#)

These are photographs taken during the meeting.

[HIA4SD policy brief 1](#)

This will take you to the project's first policy brief.

[HIA4SD policy brief 2](#)

This will take you to the project's second policy brief.

www.hia4sd.net

Get more details about the project from this website.