



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES

SCHOOL OF MINING ENGINEERING

Report on PECC Minerals Network Workshop Brisbane Australia 2003

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PECC Minerals Network Meeting

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION IN MINING AND MINE SITE REHABILITATION

November 17-18 2003, Brisbane, Queensland

*Organised by the Australian Committees for PECC
Hosted by the Department of State Development Queensland*

Overview [Meeting Program](#) **General Information** **Speakers**

[program in PDF format](#)

If you wish to have a copy of any of the presentations, please contact the
[PECC Secretariat](#).

Monday, November 17

08:00 - 08:30

Registration

The Auditorium, 111 George Street, Brisbane

08:30 - 08:45

Official Welcome

- **Christopher Findlay**
Vice Chair, AUSPECC
- **Stan Sielaff**
Executive Director, Department of State
Development Queensland

08:45 - 09:15

Report on the 2002 Noumea PECC Mineral Network Workshop

- **Dominique Chuvan and Doriane Sanchez-Le
Bris**
FPTPEC

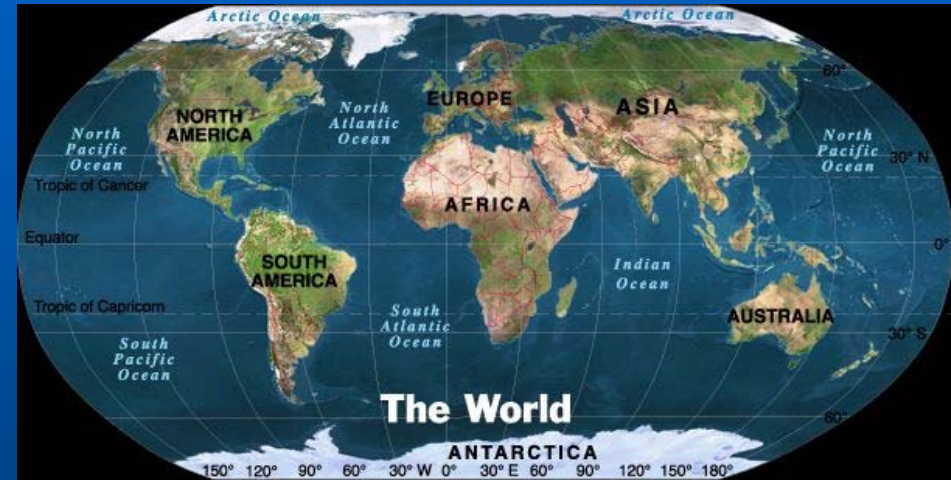


Aim of the Workshop

- To build on the momentum of the Noumea workshop
- To continue the theme of Reducing the Impacts of Mining on the Environment and the Community in the Pacific

Participants

- Representatives from PNG, Ecuador, Solomon Islands, Fiji, East Timor, Philippines, New Caledonia and Australia
- Wide range of occupations & disciplines





Agenda

- Day 1 – Environmental issues relating to land, water and mine closure
- Day 2 – Community engagement and community development
- Final roundtable to define key outcomes
- Field trip to beach sand mine

Mineral Sand Mining - Australia





Issues & outcomes

- there is a lack of understanding in the wider community about the minerals industry and its contribution to economic and social development in the Pacific region.
- the industry has done much in recent years to improve its environmental and social performance.
- steps need to be taken by PECC and other bodies to document and promote, in a balanced way, these achievements.

Issues & outcomes

- Small countries in the region, such as East Timor and Solomon Islands, face significant challenges in ensuring that minerals resource development takes place in a sustainable way.
 - eg designing appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks,
 - strengthening the skills and resources of regulatory agencies,
 - enhancing the capacity of governments and communities to negotiate with resource developers, and
 - ensuring that the wealth generated by minerals resource developments is managed appropriately.



Issues & outcomes

- Community support and acceptance of mining is a precondition for successful projects. Companies must be genuinely committed from the outset of projects to engaging constructively with local communities and contributing to their long term social and economic development.



Issues & outcomes

- The wealth generated by mining projects must be managed so that the benefits are distributed equitably. Failure to do this will exacerbate tensions within societies and jeopardise community support for future projects.

Issues & outcomes

- Representatives of non-government organisations (NGOs), should be actively encouraged to participate in future PECC meetings
- However, it is recognised that some NGOs are not interested in engaging with the mining industry



Issues & outcomes

- Small mining companies, particularly those that are new to the Asia-Pacific region, often do not have the capacity to effectively manage social and environmental issues.
- Larger, more experienced, companies should be encouraged to share their expertise with smaller companies.



Issues & outcomes

- A regional, as opposed to country-specific, approach should be taken to providing tertiary education and training for industry personnel.
- There should also be more opportunities provided for mining industry professionals and regulators from less-developed countries to work in the Australian industry and expand their skills and experience.

Recommendations

- PECC should initiate a project focused on building the capacity of small countries in the region to manage mineral resource developments in accordance with sustainable development principles.
- The methodology that is developed for this purpose could then serve as a prototype for similar exercises with other countries.



Recommendations

- PECC should seek to develop closer links with key industry associations, such as the Minerals Council of Australia and the International Council for Mines and Metals.
- Meeting outcomes should be communicated to these organisations and they should be invited to attend future meetings of the Network.

Recommendations

- The next meeting of the Minerals Network should maintain the focus on the environmental and, particularly, the community aspects of minerals resource development.
- The emphasis should be on sharing information about effective strategies for addressing these issues, rather than just on identifying problems.
 - For example, there needs to be a greater focus on the 'how to' of community development
 - In addition, the meeting should explore practical ways of assisting smaller companies operating in the region to improve their social and environmental performance.



The Opportunity for PECC 2005

- The World

- Resources boom
- Opportunities and threats

- China

- Enormous mineral resources
- Fantastic growth
- Sustainability challenges
 - safety
 - environment
 - community