WOMEN ON MINING AND EXTRACTIVES (WoME)



A study on the Transparency and Accountability on mining revenues, women's participation, beneficiations within the mining communities of Sierra Leone

Development and Peace CARITAS CANADA

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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

ADF	Agricultural Development Fund
CDC	Chiefdom Development Committee
CDF	Chiefdom Development Fund
CMCs	Chiefdom Mining Committees
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
DACDF	Diamond Area Community Development Fund
D&P	Development and Peace
DHS	District Household Survey
EITI	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoSL	Government of Sierra Leone
H/H	Household
HLDSC	High Level Diamond Steering Committee
MMR	Ministry of Mineral Resources
MMMR	Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resource
MSI	Management System International
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMJD	Network Movement for Justice and Development
SFCG	Search for Common Ground
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
US	United States
Tech/Voc	Technical and Vocational
WoME	Women on Mining and Extractives

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Disclaimer

Any error, misrepresentation and/or omission are entirely the fault of the consultant and should not be attributed to any of the above.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The study presents key findings from three districts in Sierra Leone (Kono, Moyamba and Tonkolili) that have high level of on-going extractive activities. In Kono district, field study was conducted in Gbense, Tankoro and Nimikoro chiefdoms where there is mining of diamonds. In Moyamba, study was done in Lower Banta chiefdom where there is an on-going mining activity in rutile and bauxite, and in Tonkolili district field study was conducted in Kalansongoia chiefdom where there is serious mining activity taking place as a result of the discovering of iron ore and gold. The overall focus of the study is given on transparency and accountability in the distribution and use of mining revenues, women's participation in community consultations, decision making and beneficiations procedures and processes. The study was commissioned by WoME and an external consultant Sheku James was contracted to facilitate the process. Funding was generously provided by the Catholic Organisation for Development and Peace (D&P) Canada.

The study implored a mixed methodology including pre-research planning meetings, data gathering using semi-structured questionnaire, focus group discussions and interviews of key informants. Desk reviews were conducted of key relevant documents to give more credence to the study, as well as to support information gathered from the other tools.

The qualitative survey comprised of 90 respondents randomly selected across the three districts to participate in structured focus-group discussions (FGDs). A total of 174 households (H/H) were carefully selected to participate in the quantitative survey, and they were interviewed with semi-structured questionnaire. The respondents were selected on the basis of their knowledge about women's rights, access to land and related benefits in the extractive industry.

The study takes stock of some specific challenges facing women in the extractives, reports empirical evidence from a sample of chiefdoms where mining activity is on-going and identify next step for action. One of the challenges include the unequal distribution of funds and benefits accruing from the natural resource extraction. From the qualitative and quantitative surveys, findings show that women constitute the majority of people living in communities where mining is on-going. They also represent the highest number of people working on land for food security and sustainable livelihoods, but their right to access equal benefits from mining proceeds is not the same as that of their male counterparts. The findings also show that the Diamond Area

Community Development Fund (DACDF), Community Development Agreement Fund (CDAF), surface rent, crop compensation etc. are the main natural resource-related funds that are directly paid to communities where mining activity is on-going. Moreover, the findings indicate that many mining companies spend a certain percentage of their revenue in kind or in cash on local development as part of their corporate social responsibility package. But when it comes to who benefits, the findings indicate that all these natural resource funds or benefits are distributed unequally i.e. men seem to be dominating and benefiting more from the industry for example men enjoy more natural resources rights compared to women. This has made women more vulnerable than those of their male counterparts to the extent that women are considered more expendable by society. In addition, it is being noted that little or no compensation is given to women when land is expropriated for mining activities. Men who are considered heads of the affected households control the spending of whatever little compensation that their families receive from the company. With the loss of the agricultural land women lose their livelihoods which is the basis for their subsistence. Since their livelihood opportunities are limited, some women have resorted to undertaking casual jobs in the companies for very low wages with no bargaining power.

Another challenge facing women is the great lack of transparency and public disclosure of the amount of revenues government collects from the extractives and how much of it is disbursed or transferred back to communities. Towards this challenge, findings show that women are still disadvantaged in terms of access to information about the correct amount of revenue being generated, as well as how much mining companies are contributing in terms of taxes, royalties and licenses that are paid, and how much communities where mining is on-going are getting as revenue. The findings further indicate that because of lack of information there is a general sense among women that payments and transfers take place behind closed doors. This has resulted in a great deal of suspicion among women that local authorities including councilors, traditional chiefs and the male counterparts always have a huge chunk of the benefits and the women get nothing.

One respondent confirmed this claim in these words:

"most of these deals receive no publicity at all, and the negotiations and discussions have always been between government officials, local elites and the mining companies, and they have not involved us whose lives and livelihoods are impacted directly by the mining activities. We the

women do not even know of the existence of such funds and as a result we feel no perceptible benefit from the resources extracted from our land".

The cause of the above claim could be attributed to the belief that women in rural communities usually respect and do not question the words of their local elites such as paramount chiefs, section chiefs, councilors and parliamentarians. As a result of that, it is not surprising that these local elites who, from positions of authority, tend to use the revenues generated from the extractives for their own personal enrichment. It could also mean that no grievance redress procedures exist at local level, and this is leaving the women extremely vulnerable to exert any significant pressure for change in systems which have often actively discriminated against them both in the allocation of resources.

Another major challenge is the lack of transparency and any formalized independent oversight and a centralized system that is devoid of information that can enable women to know how it is done. This is compounded by a complete lack of effective reporting systems to provide women access to relevant and timely information on the extractive revenue flow that affect them most, as well as a chance to drive transparency and accountability in the sector. Findings further add that basic data on subnational payments and transfers are not accessible, causing women's vulnerability and lessened their resilience to be much more organized and vocal in their demand for their entitlements.

Women are also challenged by a consistent and systematic marginalization that often leave them out of community consultations, compensation discussions and processes, and decision making on the allocation of extractive revenues. Due to this challenge, findings reveal that women are less likely to have their views and needs considered when it comes to mining-related investment decisions of sharing the benefits acquired from mining. In addition, findings reveal that any attempt by the women to express their own power is always overlooked. It notes that mining industries are not uplifting women from poverty, rather the industries are continuously subjecting women to socio-economic vulnerability and abject poverty. In recognition of this, the findings show a larger proportion of women in the study areas preferring to engage in alternative livelihood activities such as petty trading, farming, paid employment and property/rental income in order address their basic livelihood needs and aspirations, as well as to upgrade their economic position.

1.0 BACKGROUND: CONTEXT OF THE STUDY

Sierra Leone is well known for its vast endowment in minerals such as diamonds, rutile, bauxite, gold, iron ore, limonite, platinum, chromite, coltan, tantalite, columbite and zircon, as well as promising petroleum potential. But it is interesting to note that in spite of the vast mineral wealth however, the majority of Sierra Leoneans have not benefited as much as they could, instead only few individuals have always benefited from the mining revenues and in the most astonishing way they fueled and sustained the eleven-year war. In the 1990s, the 11-year civil war funded with revenue from the minerals sector engulfed the country, resulting in widespread killing, the destruction of infrastructure and a severe contraction in the economy. Following that, the sector has also been greatly affected by the dual shock of the drop in iron ore prices, the Ebola epidemic in 2014 and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

From independence to date, mining has been the mainstay of the economy and the government has remained heavily dependent on mineral resources to promote sustainable economic growth. Mining contributed more than 20 percent to the GDP, constituted over 80 percent of export earnings and directly employed over 30,000 people with an estimated 300,000 people benefiting indirectly from the sector in 2013.

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) maintains the rights to all mineral resources in the country. The mineral sector in Sierra Leone is made up of three sub-sectors: a) large-scale production of non-precious minerals – rutile and bauxite; b) large scale production of precious minerals – diamonds; and c) artisanal and small-scale production of precious minerals – mainly diamonds, and to a much lesser extent, gold. The majority of mining is alluvial with the recent introduction of Kimberlite mining. At present, the GoSL does not engage in any direct operational activity in the extractive sector but does regulate the sector through legislation and execution of regulation. To benefit from the vast mineral wealth of Sierra Leone the GoSL issues mining licenses and collects fees and taxes on mineral exports and mining proceeds.

Over the past decades, several initiatives and activities have been launched by the government. In December 2011, the sub-national transfer project such as Diamond Area Community Development Fund (DACDF) was formally approved by Sierra Leone's Ministry of Mineral Resources as part of a broader reform program for the diamond sector initiated after the end of the civil war. The DACDF is funded by a small portion of the government's 3 percent diamond

export tax (amounting to 0.75 percent of the total export value), which is put into the DACDF to support small-scale community-managed development projects in diamondiferous regions. To further strengthen social and infrastructural development, donors have been asked to match funding to the DACDF, although the likelihood of follow-through on this arrangement remains unclear (Temple 2005). Under the DACDF, an unprecedented amount of diamond revenue has been returned to diamond-mining communities. The first tranche was made for January through June of 2001, and disbursements were made every six months thereafter until the end of 2006. The fund has accumulated more than US$4.25 million in revenue, of which US$3.5 million had been disbursed to diamondiferous communities by the end of 2006 (Temple 2008). Much evidence suggests that some chiefdoms and local councils have used the fund wisely; financing local infrastructure, education, health services, and vocational-skills training centers (Temple 2005). But considerable numbers of constraints—particularly in the early days of the initiative—have made it a challenge to implement the goals of the fund.

The government also launched the National Mineral Agency under the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources in 2012 with a mandate to implement clear policies and regulations enhance transparency and accountability and ensure mineral resources support economic and social development. Sierra Leone became a member of the Kimberley Process in 2003 to protect the legitimate trade in rough diamonds, and in 2007 enacted the Diamond Cutting and Polishing Act to issue licenses entitling the holder to buy, deal in, export, import as well as cut, polish, crush and set diamonds for the purposes of trade. In 2006, Sierra Leone joined the Extractive Industry Transparency International (EITI) with the objective of improving governance and revenue management in the extractive sector. It was declared compliance with the EITI 2011 standards in 2014 and assessment against the EITI 2016 standards began in 2018. The National Minerals Agency and the Environment Protection Agency were established in 2012 and 2008 respectively, enacted the Mines and Minerals Act of 2009, and the Public Financial Management Act of 2016, and the Extractive Industries Revenue Act of 2018 to improve transparency and accountability in the minerals sector. Following a successful bidding process, the government has awarded oil drilling exploration licenses to two companies, Cluff Energy and Innoson Oil and Gas, in 2019 following the 2013 exploration awards that were abandoned in 2015 due to the crash in global oil prices. In 2018, the government approved the Sierra Leone Minerals Policy, the Artisanal Mining

Policy, and the Geodata Policy, and currently awaits the interpreted report of a geophysical survey that collected data in 2019 on the type, quantity and location of minerals in the country.

Improving integrity in the mining sector and ensuring the country maximizes gains from its mineral resource endowments has been seen as good development practice by the current SLPP led government. The presidency has repeatedly offered invitations to potential investors whilst on official trips abroad. Yet, there are a number of critical issues and challenges that should be addressed. These include the imprudent use of mining revenues by elites at local level, the lack of transparency and accountability in the use of the revenues, and low women participation in decision making. There is also a growing public outcry that women benefit little from the growing mining sector. And women do not have the same opportunities and choices that men do; they get paid less and face glaring gender, social and economic inequalities in the sector. Women are not consulted or not present in the groups/committees that set the rules. These cultural taboos and the continuous lack of proper regulatory framework and little oversight in dealing with these unfortunate situations have kept women from benefiting in the country's mineral wealth.

WoME has a long-standing commitment to helping women participate in mining policy decision making processes so that they can change the traditional rules that limit their earning potential. In view of the above, WoME considers a study on the transparency and accountability on mining revenues, women's participation, and beneficiations within the mining communities of Sierra Leone to be a major priority**.**

1.1 RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY

Existing literatures have shown that although men and women perform critical roles, the mining activity at local level continues to discriminate against women. This includes, but not limited to, the unlawful marginalization and absolute prohibition of women from fully participating in mining-related decision making process that provides them with opportunity to have greater share of the proceeds. In Sierra Leone, there are certain revenues that the central government collects from extractives companies and transfers to regions where extractions are on-going to address local claims over resource ownership or demands for more benefits from resource extraction. The DACDF, Agricultural Development Fund (ADF), Community Development Fund (CDF), Surface rents, crop compensation etc. are examples of these funds where attention

is required in this regard. This is because majority of the communities where mining activity is on-going are greatly dependent on these funds to improve on their standards of living and reduce poverty.

However, despite the fact that these funds have the potential to be significant drivers of economic growth, development and job creation in mining communities, their distribution and use have been soiled by several challenges, particularly for women. For example, it is very rare to see women involved in the distribution and sharing of these payments and transfers. The process and procedure have been very unproductive over the past years, with no transparency and accountability and less women participation in the decision making. This has caused a great deal of suspicion among women that the local authorities including councilors, traditional chiefs and the male counterparts always have a huge chunk of the benefits and the women get nothing.

The Community Development Committees (CDCs) are governance structures that have been established at local level to make sure that everybody receives a fair share of the mining revenue. Unfortunately, most of these structures lack the ability to act substantively on matters concerning women's rights and extractives, do not give women issues priority probably because they are inadequate in performing their functions or lack of capacity to tackle gender inequality and discrimination in all its forms.

The process has caused women not have any say on mining revenues and this is causing their vulnerability and over-dependence on their male counterparts, and lessening their resilience to be much more organized and vocal in their demand for their rights and entitlements. In effect, the local elites have become more powerful to the extent that they tend to behave with impunity.

Due to consistent and systematic marginalization there is a growing resentment among women of the traditional authorities. There is a belief that local authorities are not using the revenues well, and that they have displaced and destroyed livelihoods, causing abject poverty among the women population. In response to that, women are asking for a direct share of the revenues, and a full participation in decision making process at all levels. Women also want equal relationships between them and the local authorities, also between them and their male counterparts. These relationships should be based on mutual collaboration, trust and respect.

It is no exaggeration that women have little or no access and control over the sub-national revenue transfer as evident by a complete damage to the social fabric and threats of communal violence (Campbell 2003). It is very clear that the distribution of mineral revenues and benefits

are non-existent or perceived to be unjust, and community people whose lives have been negatively impacted by the extractions are very unhappy and disgruntled. Unfortunately, they rarely attempt to resist as they have high respect for their local authorities and they are also afraid of punishment.

It is also evident that a large number of chiefdoms have not been making competent decisions about the use of the sub-national revenue transfers (see for example Temple 2005). Some chiefdom authorities are always accused of not working as hoped. Although a desk review of report of the Management Systems International (MSI), a development consulting firm based in Washington, D.C., suggests that constant sensitization, reporting on misspending and refusal by central government to accept mismanagement of the extractive funds could bring about a remarkable turnaround in fiscal responsibility. The report argues that ninety percent of all the extractive funds that disappear would be accounted for, and even some of those funds missing initially could be recovered as a result of thorough sensitization (MSI 2004, 4). However, the government's High Level Diamond Steering Committee (HLDSC) contested that as long as there is a continuing lack of transparency and accountability in the use of the funds coupled with poor community awareness of the funds and its intended uses, and poor local participation in decision making about the use of the fund this could be difficult to achieve. The report further argue that significant gender inequality and discrimination remain deeply entrenched in the extractive industry. These it says are clearly shown in the unlawful marginalization and absolute prohibition of women from fully participating in mining activity that provides them with the opportunity to have a greater share of the investment benefits.

Search for Common Ground (SFCG) in a study discovered a lack of transparency, accountability, and community involvement in decision making, in particular, consultations with youth and women. SFCG gave instances where bank cheques were received, but in most cases the signatories to the accounts were the Paramount Chiefs and their cronies (wife, District Officers and Treasury Clerks), but community people, particularly women were not represented in the withdrawal and use of the funds (SFCG 2003, 5).

A lot of efforts have been made in the past to minimize the continuous misuse of mining funds, but these had not yielded any significant results. Coalitions consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Mineral Resources, the Ministry of Local Government, national and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Miners'

Union have been set up to ensure that the funds from the extractives are used more effectively. However, the work of these coalitions had not yet brought any significant improvement on accountability for funds and responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of women.

A desk review of relevant documents has revealed that a need for new approach and a drive to bring about sustainable change in the conditions facing women in communities where mining is on-going, civil society organizations whose work focuses primarily on the extractive industry, have advocated for the creation of Chiefdom Development Committees (CDCs). The motive behind this was to ensure representation of a broad range of community interests and to make the committee be composed of a wide cross-section of elected chiefdom residents. The coalitions have not worked as expected; rather their existence has caused a great deal of suspicion among local residents since they do not compose of a wide cross-section of the chiefdom residents. The committees have more often been composed entirely of members of the rural elites, such as paramount chiefs, section chiefs and male counterparts who are stifling the concept of local ownership of the extractive funds and successively alienate many stakeholders, such as women and youth.

An assessments conducted by the Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD), findings show that local governance factors have greatly inhibited transparency and accountability, and that a "consistent trend of poor participation by women in project decision-making" has explained why most extractive funds are concentrated around chiefdoms or district headquarters towns (NMJD 2006, 11). The findings further noted that most, if not all, of the women do not know how much revenue is generated, distributed and utilized to develop their communities. The media too has over the years reported several cases of mismanagement and misappropriation in the transfers and use of mining revenues.

Other literature reviews show a lack of legitimate systems for grievance, redress and mitigation in the extractive industry. This has affected women negatively to the extent that they are less likely to have nowhere to channel their views and needs when it comes to mining-related investment decisions or sharing of benefits. It has made them lack access to and control over natural resources, do not even know the amount of revenue being generated, how many taxes mining companies are contributing, and how much government is giving out as revenue to finance desperately needed public services. It has also made lose recognition in almost all spheres including development programmes.

With this background, there is a need for an effective planning and implementation of a system that would provide a much-needed framework for *transparency and accountability in the distribution and use of mining revenues, women's participation in decision making, and beneficiations within the mining communities*. This is a report of a research conducted by WoME in three districts in Sierra Leone (Kono, Tonkolili and Moyamba). An external researcher, Sheku James was contracted to facilitate the process and funding generously provided by the Catholic Organisation for Development and Peace (D&P) Canada.

1.2 STUDY OBJECTIVES

1.2.1 General Objective

The general objective was to examine the transparent use and equitable distribution of funds generated from natural resource extractions.

1.2.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the study were:

- To gather information on women's participation in decision making on mining related issues such as the sub-national revenue transfer supported projects.
- To investigate the level of accountability and transparency in the distribution and use of sub-national resource revenue transfers.
- To gather information on accessibility and beneficiations in the sub-national resource revenue transfers.

1.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

Three mineral-rich districts in Sierra Leone were targeted, namely Kono, Tonkolili and Moyamba districts. Precisely, five chiefdoms were randomly selected for the study. These include three chiefdoms in Kono district (Tankoro, Gbense and Nimikoro), one in Tonkolili (Kalansongoia chiefdom) and one in Moyamba districts (Lower Banta chiefdom). See below a summary description of the study districts:

1. Kono District

Kono is a district in the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone. Its capital and largest city is Koidu Town. Motema is the second most populous city in the district. The other major towns in the district include Yengema, Tombodu, Jaiama Nimikoro and Sewafe. The district is the largest diamond producer in Sierra Leone. The population of Kono District according to the 2015 census is 506,100 and of this total population 252,751 are males and 253,349 females. Kono District borders Kenema District to the southwest, the Republic of Guinea to the east, Koinadugu District to the northeast and Kailahun District to the southeast. Kono District is divided into fourteen chiefdoms. Kono District is one of the most ethnically diverse Districts in Sierra Leone and is home to a large population of many of Sierra Leone's ethnic groups, with no single ethnic group forming a majority. Kono District population is religiously diverse among Muslims and Christians, though Muslims make up the majority of the population. The main economic activities include mining (Diamonds and gold), rice growing, cocoa, coffee and oil palm plantations. Before the civil war, Kono District had a population well over 600,000; however, it experienced devastation during the Sierra Leone Civil War, which forced many of the residents out of the district. The district was heavily looted and constantly fought over due to the rich diamond reserves in the area. See map below:



2. Tonkolili District

Tonkolili District is a district in the Northern Province of Sierra Leone. Its capital and largest city is Magburaka. The other major towns include Masingbi, Yele, Mile 91, Bumbuna, Yonibana, Matotoka. Mathora, Magbass and Masanga. Tonkolili District is home to the largest sugar factory in Sierra Leone, and one of the largest sugar factories in West Africa, that is located in the town of Magbass. Tonkolili District had a population of 531,435 (263,152 males and 268,283 females) according to the 2015 national population census. The district occupies a total area of 7,003 km^2 (2,704 sq mi) and comprises eleven chiefdoms. Tonkolili District borders Bombali District to the northwest, Kono District to the east, Kenema District and Bo District to the southeast, Port Loko and Koinadugu Districts. Tonkolili is strategically located in the center of Sierra Leone. The district is cress-crossed by many rivers including the Pampana River and Sierra Leone's longest river, the Rokel. The Temne people make up the overwhelming majority of the population of Tonkolili District. The vast majority of the population of Tonkolili District is Muslims. See map below:



3. Moyamba District

Moyamba District is a district in the Southern Province of Sierra Leone, with a population of 318,889 (153,699 males and 164,889 females) in the 2015 census. Its capital and largest city is Moyamba. The other major towns include Taiama, Njala, Rotifunk and Shenge. The district is the largest in the Southern Province by geographical area, occupying a total area of 6,902 km^2 (2,665 sq mi) and comprises fourteen chiefdoms. Moyamba District borders the Atlantic Ocean in the west, Port Loko District and Tonkolili District to the north, Bo District to the east and Bonthe District to the south. The main economic activities include mining (rutile and bauxite), fishing, rice growing and oil palm plantations. Moyamba District is one of the most ethnically diverse Districts in Sierra Leone. The Mende people are the largest ethnic group in Moyamba District; However, there is a large population of ethnic minority groups in the district that make up closer to 50% of the District population, including the Temne people, Fulani, Sherbro, Kissi, Mandingo, and Kuranko. Moyamba is home to a significantly large population of ethnic Temne minority, and is home to the largest ethnic Temne population in the Southern Province of Sierra Leone. See map below:



1.4 ABOUT WOME

The Women on Mining and Extractives Sierra Leone (WoME-SL) was established in 2013 as an Advocacy Platform and Community level pressure group. It had been involved in promoting advocacy on issues hindering the overall wellbeing of women and young people in some mining communities in Sierra Leone.

Due to the nature and context of the realities that women experienced on a daily basis in the mining communities in Sierra Leone, WoME-SL was later transformed into a National Women Led Organization comprising of women from different mining districts including Port Loko, Bonthe, Moyamba, Tonkolili, Kenema etc. to collectively work together to address the increasing challenges that these women and their communities face at local level within their mining communities.

Driven by passion, WoME-SL has been using different approaches such as advocacy, lobbying, information sharing, education and sensitization, capacity building, women leadership development, women economic empowerment through skills development and micro- finance, action-oriented research, strategic networking and collaboration to promote transparent, accountable, equitable and sustainable governance of natural resource extractions, especially as it relates to women and young people.

WoME is legally registered with the appropriate authorities here in Sierra Leone and it has two functional offices with the Headquarters in Freetown and two sub offices in Port Loko and Kenema Districts.

At present, WoME is one of the leading Female-led and managed Civil Society Organization (CSO) committed to the promotion and protection of the rights of women and young people in mining communities within Sierra Leone in terms of achieving both their personal and collective development.

WoME's vision, mission, core values and work are founded and driven by a simple practical dream i.e. to see mining communities where women's rights are protected & promoted (especially CEDAW) and justice is delivered to women and women are empowered to challenge the systems that keep them in abject poverty. Since its inception to date, these vision and mission remain urgent and relevant.

Vision

A sustainable platform created and promoting inclusion and social justice for traditionally marginalized groups including women and young people in the equitable distribution of natural resources especially within the mining communities in the bid to achieve their overall individual and community development.

Mission

We are a National Women led advocacy and Human Right Organization engaging with Government institutions including local councils and related line ministries, mining companies, traditional and religious leaders in a bid to promote equitable distribution of national resources for the benefit of all especially traditionally marginalized groups including women and young people.

Core Values

Key to the success of WoME is its core values and guiding principles highlighted below which the Board, staff, volunteers and partners will vow and commit to uphold in principle and in practice at all levels of our operations. These include:

- Transparency and Accountability
- Trust -
- Integrity –Gender equality
- Participation and Inclusion
- Leadership empowerment
- Team work
- Respect
- Non-partisan
- Non-discrimination
- Innovation

1.5 RESEARCH POPULATION

Research population consisted of women, men, community leaders, government officials, and heads of community associations like the Chiefdom Mining Committees (CMCs), Chiefdom Development Committees (CDCs), and women-led groups etc., NGOs operating along this line of study and community leaders. More women were chosen in the study because: a) they are important players in the mining and resource distribution at community level but they are not as effective as they should be because their livelihoods are affected by many factors. For example, Women have low representation in decision-making structures at community level. Even when they are represented on those community structures, they are unable to exert any significant influence because their voice is not considered; b) they live in the communities and have full knowledge about the community livelihood conditions; c) the NGOs operating in the research areas were chosen because of their wealth of knowledge about the livelihood conditions of the community members, particularly women.

2.0 SAMPLE DESIGN AND SURVEY METHODS

The study implored a mixed methodology including focus group discussions, key informant interviews and a sample survey of persons residing in mining-affected communities in Kono, Tonkolili and Moyamba districts. Research questions were generally used to collect a mixture of qualitative and quantitative information. Use was made desk review of relevant documents on the sub-national resource revenue transfers to design the questions for both the qualitative and quantitative surveys.

2.1 Qualitative study

The qualitative study utilized two open-ended data collection methods (focus groups and key informant interviews) to solicit views of community residents about a more holistic approach to ensuring transparency and accountability in the redistribution and use of sub-national resource revenues in mining-rich regions. Study participants for the qualitative component of the study were selected based on their potential to provide information that is representative of the target population.

A total of forty (10) focus groups were conducted: two (2) FGDs of eight (8) participants per each discussion in five chiefdoms. A total of Fifty-four (54) people participated in the FGDs in Kono, eighteen (18) in Tonkolili, and eighteen (18) in Moyamba. This gives an overall total of 90

participants, and out of this number 75.3% of whom were female and 24.7% were male. Participants were selected purposively based on their knowledge on resource revenue transfers in areas where mining takes place.

2.2 Quantitative Study

A total of 210 respondents were initially sampled for a quantitative survey using a structured questionnaire. The sample for the quantitative survey was allocated equally among chiefdoms to allow for chiefdom level comparison of key estimates. The total number of respondents randomly selected for the study was forty-two per chiefdom. Three WoME staff members and three volunteers were recruited as data collectors to help conduct the survey. They attended a day debriefing session during which the purpose of the research and the nature of the information required were explained. Each question and corresponding responses were read through and discussed in detail. The enumerators were encouraged to ask questions throughout the debriefing session to ensure they understood the intention of the exercise and the relevance of each question and its response.

Study participants were selected using the random sampling method/technique so as to eliminate elements that can affect the validity of the study and to give each member of the population equal chance of being selected. This sampling technique involves picking respondents with no design or order, like picking names out of a hat. Data collectors followed a random selection of respondents who have resident in the study areas for more than a year and administered to them a semi-structured questionnaire.

On day one, data collectors and Researcher worked together to pre-test the questionnaires. The purpose was to ensure each data collector knew how to ask the questions, understood the meaning of the questions and how to prompt participants to provide answers as well as accurately record the responses. Hereafter, they were left to work on their own but the team routinely conducted daily synthesis in the evenings. The daily evening synthesis helped the team to ensure completeness and adequacy of the data collected. This provided an opportunity to synthesize the collected information with a view to discerning emerging trends and issues.

2.3 Data Collection Methods:

To meet the objectives of the study, a review of relevant literature on sub-national resource revenue transfers and other published literature were conducted. Specifically, findings from the

recent Natural Resource Governance Institute study on sub-national revenue distribution provided significant insight in the development of the study design. This background information not only informed the design of the study but also provided insight into the qualitative and quantitative survey findings. A semi-structured questionnaire was administered in a randomly selected sample of households living in five chiefdoms where mining activity is on-going. All the respondents selected were persons who had resided in the study areas for an appreciable period of time.

The data collected were analyzed descriptively and consequently the presentations are more narrative. However, data collected from household survey were analyzed through statistical means using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 16.0) software, and presented in frequency tables and figures to summarize the data. Data collected from FGDs were analyzed by reading through the field notes. Through that, themes and patterns of categorizing the information in accordance with the research objectives were developed. Method variation helped ensure the validity and reliability, suitability and adequacy of the data. It was assumed that no single technique would necessarily be superior to any other, while a combination of two or three methods would make the data highly reliable.

2.4 Survey Questionnaire

In order to frame the research in its appropriate context, the following key issues provided guidance to the researcher in the preparation of the household survey questionnaire and focus group discussion guidelines:

- Participation and role of women in the sub-national revenue transfer supported projects.
- Access to and beneficiations of women in the sub-national revenue transfer supported projects
- Accountability and transparency in the use of the sub-national resource revenues
- Alternative livelihood activities for women
- Living conditions of women

3.0 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study was carried out in the month of June which is normally the raining season in the targeted mineral-rich regions. The economic activities of people in mining communities may be

different from what it could be during other periods of the year. This made it difficult to gather community members for the discussions.

Use was made of simple random sampling method to select the sample population, which is subject to selection bias if not properly implemented. Data was collected using semi-structured questionnaire and FGD guidelines.

An inherent limitation of qualitative methodology is that study findings are non-generalizable. The current study used some qualitative methods as discussed in previous paragraphs. This limitation is minimized by the combined use of a quantitative questionnaire whose findings have helped to strengthen the qualitative findings.

Finally, the study focused only on three districts among the lot of districts where mining take place. Therefore, the findings cannot be generalized to all the mining districts across the country, as each district has its own problems. The problems that areas where mining takes place face differ from one place to another.

4.0 RESEARCH FINDINGS

5.1 Background Characteristics of Respondents

Table1.1: Background Characteristics of Survey Respondents

Sex	No. of Respondent	Percent	Total
Male	43	24.7	43
Female	131	75.3	131
Total	174	100%	174
Age			
18 - 35 yrs.	76	43.7	76
36 - 50 yrs.	63	36.2	63
51 + years	33	19.0	33
Total	172	98.9	172
Skipped	2	1.1	2
Total	174	100%	174
Marital Status			
Married	107	61.5	107
Single	42	24.1	42
Widow/Widower/Divorce	25	14.4	25
Total	174	100%	174
Educational Attainment			
Never attended school	64	36.8	64
Primary	38	21.8	38
Junior Secondary	40	23.0	40
Senior Secondary	20	11.5	20
Tech/Voc	7	4.0	7
Degree/Higher	5	2.9	5
Total	174	100%	174
Religion			
Christian	86	49.4	86
Muslim	77	44.3	77
Traditional	3	1.7	3
Other/Pagan	3	1.7	3
Total	169	97.1	169
Skipped	5	2.9	5
Total	174	100%	174
Ethnicity			
Mende	29	16.7	29
Temne	20	11.5	20
Kono	79	45.4	79
Limba	26	14.9	26

Koranko	6	3.4	6
Mandingo	5	2.9	5
Fullah	3	1.7	3
Kissi	2	1.1	2
Yalonka	2	1.1	2
Krio	1	.6	1
Other Sierra Leonean	1	.6	1
Total	174	100%	174
District			
Kono	98	56.3	98
Tonkolili	34	19.5	34
Moyamba	42	24.1	42
Total	174	100%	174
Chiefdom			
Dansogoia	1	.6	1
Gbense	16	9.2	16
Kalansongoia	33	19.0	33
Lower Banta	42	24.1	42
Nimikoro	41	23.6	41
Tankoro	41	23.6	41
Total	174	100%	174
Community			
Bumbuna	33	19.0	33
Bumpeh	21	12.1	21
Bungalow	3	1.7	3
Ferengbeya	1	.6	1
Gbetbma	3	1.7	3
Jaiama	20	11.5	20
Kaimandu New Site	3	1.7	3
Koeyor	10	5.7	10
Matagelema	22	12.6	22
Mosenesie	20	11.5	20
Resettlement	22	12.6	22
Sukudu New Site	6	3.4	6
Tankoro Camp	8	4.6	8
Upper Kania	2	1.1	2
Total	174	100%	174

The selected sample for this study comprised of males (24.7%) and females (75.3%). About 43.7% of the respondents were between the ages of 18 - 35 years, and 36.2% between the ages of 36 – 50 years indicating that the population in the study areas comprise of young people in the working age category (i.e. 18 - 50 years). About 61.5% of the respondents were married; 24.1%

were single and 14.4% were either widows, widowers or divorced. The study results also show that 73.2% of the respondents attended school and 36.6% never went to school. About 49.4% of the respondents were Christian and 44.3% were Muslim with traditionalists/pagans accounting for 3.4% of the total sample. The largest ethnic groups represented in the sample were Konos (45.4%), Mendes (16.7%), Limbas (14.9%) and Temne (11.5%). The total sample for the survey was equally allocated in the three study chiefdoms; however, distribution by gender was slightly uneven. Slightly more females were targeted in the data collection in all the five chiefdoms.

4.1.1 Migration into Mining Communities

Survey respondents were asked how long they have lived in the study areas, where they migrated from and whether they intend to go back or stay in the community. According to the survey results, 25.3% of the 174 respondents had lived in the study areas since birth, 54.6% had lived for five or more years, and 16.7% for 1 but less than 5 years and 3.4% had lived for less than one year. See table below:

For how long have you lived in this community?					
Valid	1 year or less	6	3.4	3.4	3.4
	More than 1 year, but less than 5 years	29	16.7	16.7	20.1
	5 years or more	95	54.6	54.6	74.7
	Lived here since birth	44	25.3	25.3	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	

To identify who moved into the study areas, the survey results show 56.2% that came from within district and 40.8% from outside of the district. A small percentage of the respondents (2.3%) came from other neighboring countries such as Liberia and guinea. When asked whether they plan to live in the community for the next three years, 67.1% responded in the affirmative. From these results it can therefore be concluded that a greater proportion of the respondents is desired to stay in communities where mining takes place. See table below:

From which village/town/country did you move?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Village/town within district	73	42.0	56.2	56.2
	Village/town outside district	53	30.5	40.8	96.9
	Guinea	3	1.7	2.3	99.2
	Other foreign national	1	.6	.8	100.0
	Total	130	74.7	100.0	

4.1.2 Living Conditions of Respondents

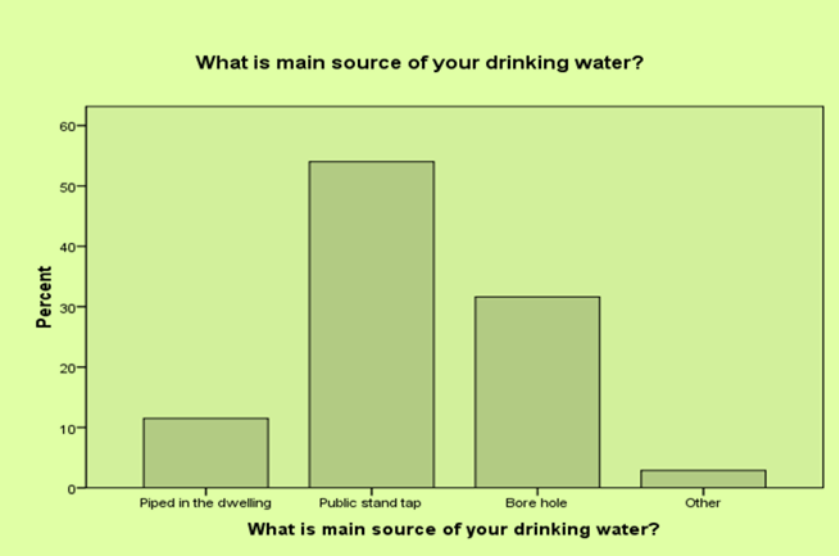
The living conditions of women give an indication of their vulnerability to external shocks and the sustainability of their livelihoods. People need nutritious and adequate food, clean drinking water, physical safety, education, good health, good community relationships and social networks, suitable place to live and work and sustainable environment that guarantee their protection and wellbeing. These are some of the outcomes people seek when they engage in economic and social activities. Understanding living conditions in households is critical in improving living conditions and trying to attain sustainable livelihood interventions. In this study, survey respondents were asked questions about the main source of drinking water available to the household, kind of toilet facility available to them and the roofing materials of their houses. Key findings are summarized below:

i. Drinking Water

Respondents were asked to state the main source of drinking water for members of their household. Out of the 174 respondents, 54% reported that their main source of drinking water was the public stand tap, 31.6% said was bore hole, 11.5% was pipped in the dwelling and 2.9% other source like the nearby stream. See figure below:

What is main source of your drinking water?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Piped in the dwelling	20	11.5	11.5	11.5
	Public stand tap	94	54.0	54.0	65.5
	Bore hole	55	31.6	31.6	97.1
	Other	5	2.9	2.9	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	



During the focus group discussions, respondents emphasized that water that is regarded as safe for drinking is water piped into dwellings, public stand tap, tube well or bore hole, protected well or spring and rain water. Water from unprotected wells, spring, surface water or water from the stream was classified as unsafe for drinking (DHS, 2013). The inadequate supply of safe drinking water to households was also expressed in several of the focus group discussions and key informant interviews. Additionally, "pollution of drinking water was often mentioned as one environmental effect that faces people in communities where mining takes place."

ii. Household Sanitation

Respondents were asked what kind of toilet facility members of their household usually use. The responses were classified into flush toilet, pit latrine, or nearby bush. Key findings are summarized below:

Out of the 174 respondents, 91.4% indicated that the kind of toilet facility they use was the pit latrine, 4.6% uses the nearby bushes and 4% flush toilets. The results show that the main kind if toilet facility people use at the time of the study areas was the pit latrine, and it preferred by most of the respondents. See figures below:

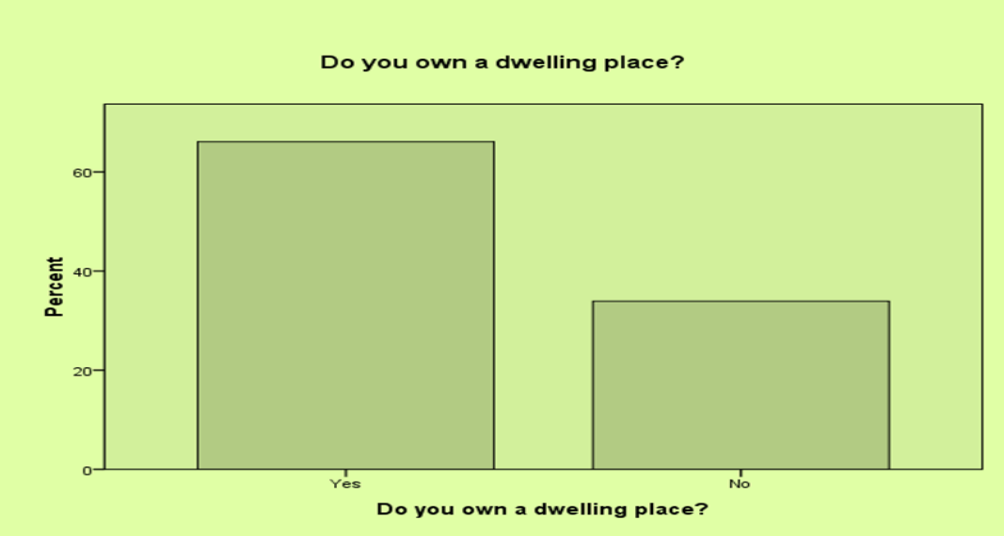
What kind of toilet facility do you use?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Flush toilet	7	4.0	4.0	4.0
	Pit latrine	159	91.4	91.4	95.4
	Bush	8	4.6	4.6	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	

iii. Housing Conditions

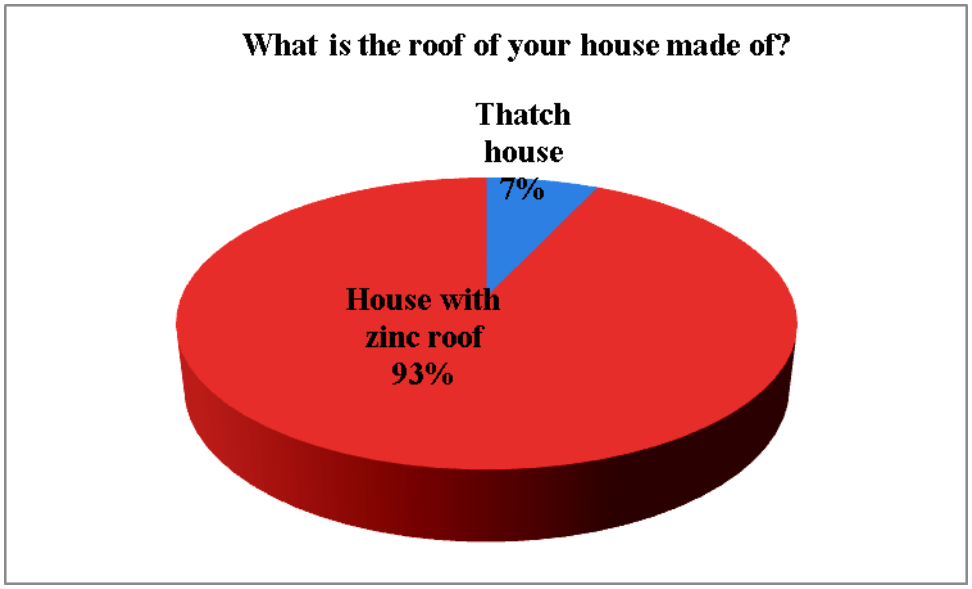
In this study, common housing characteristics include ownership of a dwelling house and the roofing materials of the household dwelling to serve as proxy variable for housing characteristics. Respondents were asked what material was their roof made of and was verified by the data collectors. For ease of analysis, the type of roofing materials was classified into natural roofing, finished roofing or other type of material. Natural roofing materials included thatch, palm leaves or grass. Finished roofing materials included; zinc or metallic sheets, wood, cement, roofing shingles or asbestos roofing materials. Follow up questions were asked to determine ownership of dwelling and having a bank account. Key findings are summarized below.

- Overall, 66.1% of respondents reported that they owned a dwelling place, while 33.9% of them do not own a dwelling place for themselves. See figure below:

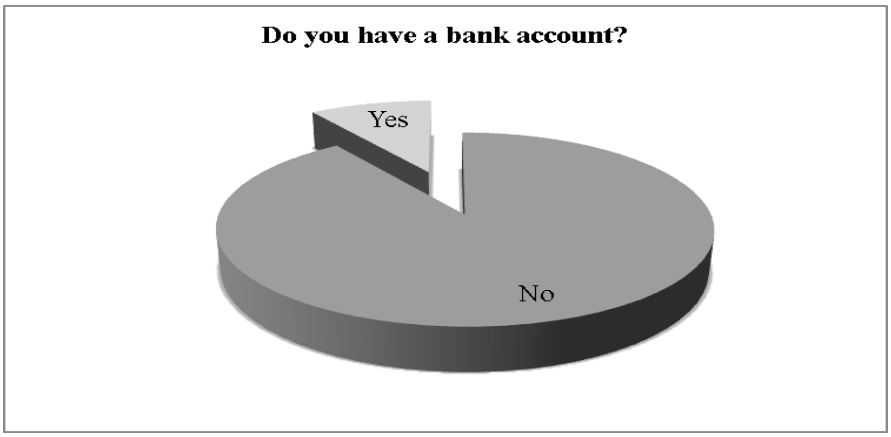


- Of the 142 (out of the 174 respondents) 93.0% said the roof of their houses was made of zincs, and those with a thatch (7.0%). See figure below:

What is the roof of your house made of?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Thatch	10	5.7	7.0	7.0
	Zinc	132	75.9	93.0	100.0
	Total	142	81.6	100.0	
Missing	System	32	18.4		
Total		174	100.0		



- Of the 142 (out of the 174 respondent) only 9.8% of the respondents said that they have private bank accounts. The rest 90.2% do not have private bank accounts, which indicates the level of poverty among local residents in the study areas. See figure below:



4.2 Empirical Findings on Mining Revenue Distribution and Use in the Study Areas

This section will present the findings on what participants knew and felt about the distribution of mining revenue in the study areas. The findings focus on information gathered from survey questionnaire, focus group discussions and interviews with key informants in the study area and secondary data. It was clear to all respondents that transparent distribution and use of mining revenue will lead to economic growth of their localities and the country at large. In this study, the key issues explored and their corresponding findings are summarized below:

4.2.1 Transparency and Accountability in the Distribution and Use of the Sub-National Transfer Support

Field survey observation, literature review, and focus group discussions revealed that generally information about revenue generated from the mining sector is often treated as confidential information. This makes it difficult for the general public to really know how much revenue is being generated, distributed and utilized by government to develop the country. It can therefore be argued that there is a growing need for transparency and accountability in the way in which mining revenue is being distributed and used. This will ensure that society benefits from revenue generated from mining. Transparency and accountability will ensure that government is responsible when managing the resources and revenue thereof.

More evidence was noted with respect to the way and manner sub-national payment and transfer support is distributed and used. This study went further to ask respondents how satisfied were they with the way the sub-national payment and transfer support is distributed and used, and the problems that associated with it. The key findings are summarized below:

- In most cases (69.8%) respondents reported that they are not satisfied, 20.7% said they are satisfied and 9.5% of the respondents remained neutral. These results suggest that concerted efforts are vital in order to mitigate the situation and ensure transparency and accountability in the way sub-national payments and transfers are used. See figure below:

How satisfied are you with the way sub-national revenue transfer is used?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Satisfied	35	20.1	20.7	20.7
	Not satisfied	118	67.8	69.8	90.5
	Neutral	16	9.2	9.5	100.0
	Total	169	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	5	2.9		
Total		174	100.0		

- Respondents were asked what problems they have with the distribution and use of the sub-national transfer support. Of the 123 (out of the 174 respondents) 39.8% said that the actual amount of revenues provided are not disclosed to women, 34.1% said that women's views and needs are not considered in the distribution and use of the revenues, 17.1 said that women are not aware of any legal framework that governs the distribution and use of the revenues, and 8.9% reported that there is differential access to mining revenues between men and women. See figure below:

If not satisfied, what problem do you have?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Differential access to mining revenue	11	6.3	8.9	8.9
	Women views/needs not considered	42	24.1	34.1	43.1
	Actual amount of revenue not disclosed	49	28.2	39.8	82.9
	Not aware of any legal framework that governs use/sharing of revenue	21	12.1	17.1	100.0
	Total	123	70.7	100.0	
Missing	System	51	29.3		
Total		174	100.0		

During the focus group discussions with other key stakeholders within the study areas, more evidence revealed that most people are suspicious of the way some mining contracts are given by some government officials and feel that if they know what is going on they will be able to be watchdogs and prevent this practice from continuing. There were also concerns raised about what happens to the monies accrued from licenses that miners take, which are paid to the Chiefdom Council. It was reported that added to the DACDF, CDAF, surface rents and crop compensations, the mining companies also are paying certain percentage of their revenues in kind or in cash to the district council as part of their corporate social responsibility package, but the chiefdoms where mining activity is on-going are still underdeveloped. In the light of this, respondents questioned what this money is being used for. Therefore, both the mining companies and responsible authorities should account for this to help minimize existing community dissatisfaction.

The above clearly shows that there is no accountability and transparency in the distribution and use of the sub-national transfer support and this is further affecting the people, particularly women in communities where mining takes place.

4.2.2 Women's Participation and Role in Making Decisions on the Sub-National Transfer Support Projects

From the focus group discussions, it came out clearly that respondents are aware that the government gets revenue from mining companies through the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources (MMMR). This revenue is supposed to benefit the people where the mining takes place and contribute to rural development. However, it was further revealed that women are challenged by a consistent and systematic marginalization when it comes to participating in community consultations and decision making on the allocation of revenues accrue from the extractives. Because of the exclusion, women are less likely to have their views and needs considered when it comes to mining-related investment decisions of sharing the benefits acquired from mining. At the same time, any attempt by the women to express their own power is always met with militarization.

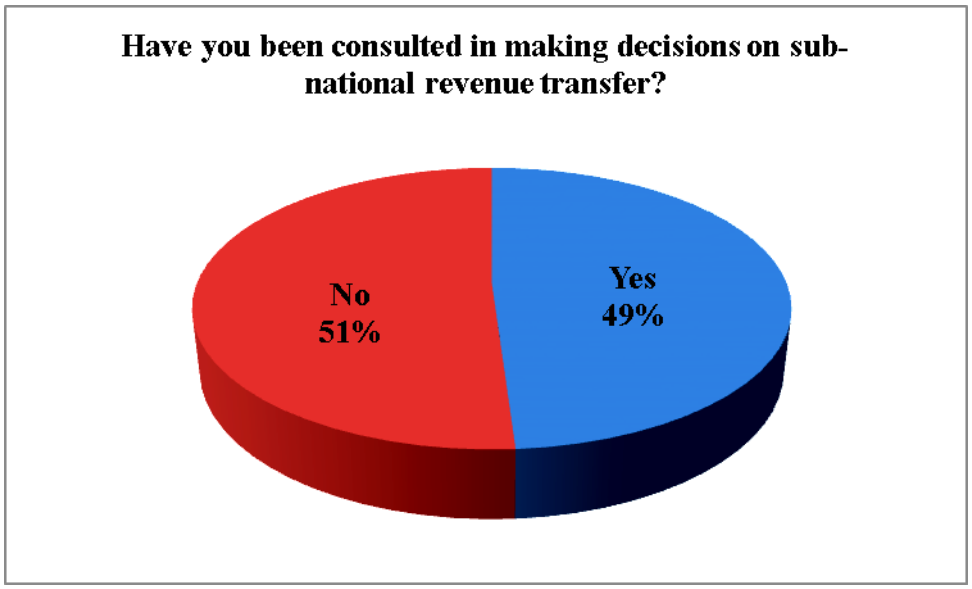
In the quantitative survey using a semi-structured questionnaire respondents were asked to indicate whether they have been consulted in making decisions about projects that are supported by the sub-national transfers, how often, in which of the supported projects were they consulted,

at what stage of the project life were they consulted, how satisfied are they with the way decisions are made and what support do they need. The key findings are summarized below:

- About 48.9% of the respondents was consulted or participated in making decisions on sub-national transfer projects and 51.1% were not consulted or participated in any decision making. This survey results show that there are still a significant number of respondents that are not engaged in the consultation or participated in decision making processes. See figure below:

Have you been consulted in making decisions on sub-national revenue transfer?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	85	48.9	48.9	48.9
	No	89	51.1	51.1	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	

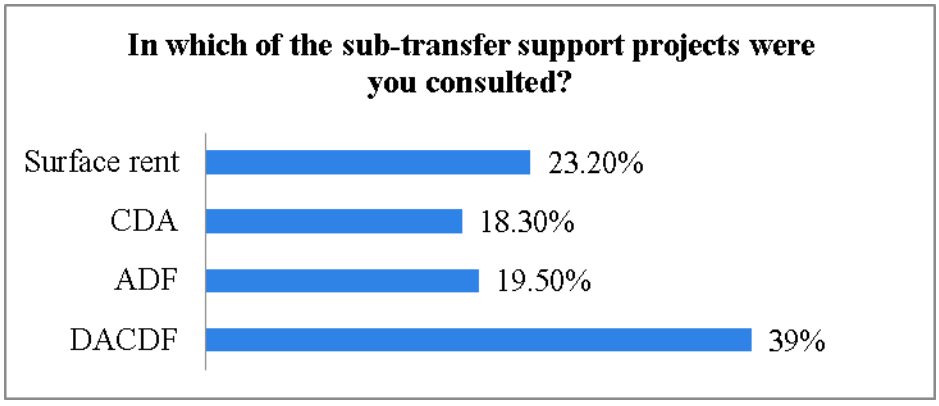


- Among the projects in which respondents were consulted in the decision making, the survey results identify DACDF projects (39%), surface rents (23.2%), ADF projects (19.5%), and the CDA projects (18.3%). See figure below:

In which of the sub-national revenue transfer were you consulted?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	DACDF	32	18.4	39.0	39.0
	ADF	16	9.2	19.5	58.5

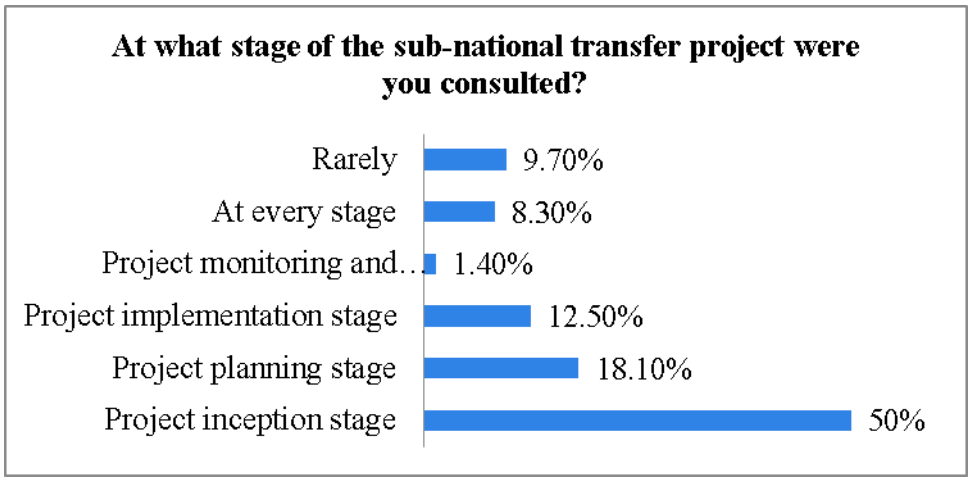
	CDA	15	8.6	18.3	76.8
	Surface rent	19	10.9	23.2	100.0
	Total	82	47.1	100.0	
Missing	System	92	52.9		
Total		174	100.0		



- Of the 72 (out of the 85 respondents who said that they were consulted), about 50% was only consulted at the project inception stage, 18.1% at project planning stage, 12.5% at project implementation stage, 1.4% at project monitoring and evaluation stage, 8.3% at every stage of the project life and 9.7% was hardly consulted. These survey results show variations in the degree of women's visibility in decision making. The study shows a small percentage of respondents (about 8.3%) were engaged in the consultations and were able to participate in the decision making at all stages of the project life. The study further revealed that it was after the realization that if women in the communities where mining takes place were not given adequate space and opportunity to participate in decision making process there will be serious repercussions and sustainable development will be compromised. See figure below provides information on the stages of the project where consultation took place:

At what stage of the sub-national revenue transfer were you consulted?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Project inception stage	36	20.7	50.0	50.0
	Project planning stage	13	7.5	18.1	68.1
	Project implementation stage	9	5.2	12.5	80.6
	Project monitoring and evaluation stage	1	.6	1.4	81.9
	At every stage	6	3.4	8.3	90.3
	Other	7	4.0	9.7	100.0
	Total	72	41.4	100.0	
Missing	System	102	58.6		
Total		174	100.0		



- In terms of the number of times respondents were consulted or participated, the survey results indicate twice (42%), once (35.8%) and thrice (22.2%). See figure below:

How often have you been consulted in making decision?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Once	29	16.7	35.8	35.8
	Twice	34	19.5	42.0	77.8
	Thrice	18	10.3	22.2	100.0
	Total	81	46.6	100.0	
Missing	System	93	53.4		
Total		174	100.0		

- Although they were in some way consulted or allowed to participate, 68.3% of the respondents said that they are not satisfied with the way decisions are made about the sub-national transfer projects. Yet, 24.5% said that they are satisfied and 7.2% are neutral. See figure below:

How satisfied are you with the way decisions are made?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Satisfied	34	19.5	24.5	24.5
	Not satisfied	95	54.6	68.3	92.8
	Neutral	10	5.7	7.2	100.0
	Total	139	79.9	100.0	
Missing	System	35	20.1		
Total		174	100.0		



- Of the 113 (out of the 174 respondents), 39.8% reported that they are satisfied because the views/opinions of women are not respected in decisions made about the sub-national transfer supported projects. 27.4% is not satisfied because more men than women are involved in making decisions, which means that women are grossly under-represented, 23.9%of the respondents stated that the projects do not address the needs of women and

8.8% kept their opinions. These results emphasize the fact that women are always on the periphery when it comes to participation in decision making. See figure below:

If not satisfied what problem do you have with the way decision is made?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	More men than women involved	31	17.8	27.4	27.4
	Views/opinions of women not respected	45	25.9	39.8	67.3
	Project not addressing the needs of women	27	15.5	23.9	91.2
	I reserve my opinion	10	5.7	8.8	100.0
	Total	113	64.9	100.0	
Missing	System	61	35.1		
Total		174	100.0		

- To make improvement in decision making about sub-national payments and transfers, the survey results indicate more women involvement at all stages of the sub-national transfer supported projects (38.4%), followed by ensuring equal leadership positions for men and women (24.5%), creating opportunity for training (17.9%), setting up a strong bye-law to govern the sub-national revenue transfer at local level (17.2), and 2% states no answer. See figure below:

What support do you need to help you make solid decision?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Training	27	15.5	17.9	17.9
	Leadership position	37	21.3	24.5	42.4
	Increased women involvement	58	33.3	38.4	80.8
	Strong bye laws	26	14.9	17.2	98.0
	I keep my opinion	3	1.7	2.0	100.0
	Total	151	86.8	100.0	
Missing	System	23	13.2		
Total		174	100.0		

4.2.3 Women's Access to and Beneficiations in the Sub-National Transfer Support

The findings from the focus group discussions show that the Diamond Area Community Development Fund (DACDF), Community Development Agreement Fund (CDAF), surface rent, crop compensation etc. are the main natural resource-related funds that are directly paid to communities where mining activity is on-going. The findings further indicate that many mining companies spend a certain percentage of their revenue in kind or in cash on local development as part of their corporate social responsibility package. But unfortunately, it came out clearly in all the discussions that all these natural resource funds or benefits are distributed unequally and unjustly making women more vulnerable than those of their male counterparts to the extent that women are considered more expendable by society. It also revealed that little or no compensation is given to women when land is expropriated for mining activities. Thus, with the loss of their agricultural land women have lose their livelihoods, which is the basis for their subsistence.

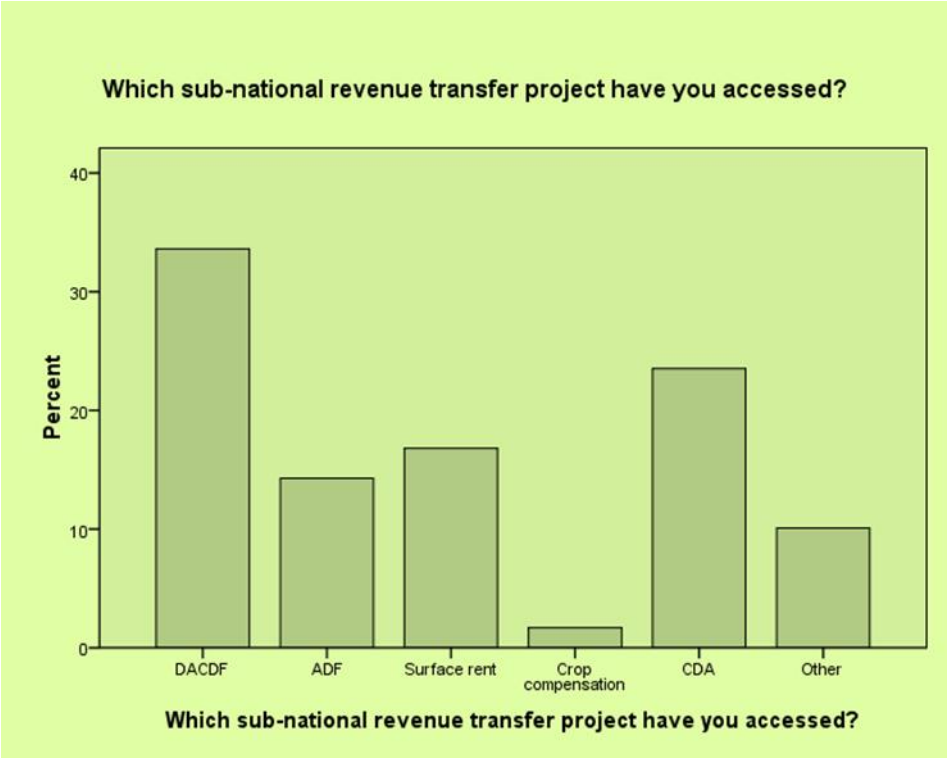
In order to understand this issue further, the quantitative survey examines what sub-national transfer supports women have received so far, what projects did they implement using the support and how it has benefited women, whether women wanted a support but were not able to get it and why, and what would women prefer to do. The key findings are summarized below:

- The survey results show that 33.6% of the respondents had access to the DADCF money, 23.5% had access to the CDAF, 16.8% to surface rent, 14.3% had access to ADF money, 1.7% got crop compensation and 10.1% got access to other unspecified revenue. This analysis shows that although in far fewer numbers compared to men, women in some instances have access to the extractive revenues. See figure below:

Which sub-national revenue transfer project have you accessed?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	DACDF	40	23.0	33.6	33.6
	ADF	17	9.8	14.3	47.9
	Surface rent	20	11.5	16.8	64.7
	Crop compensation	2	1.1	1.7	66.4
	CDA	28	16.1	23.5	89.9
	Other	12	6.9	10.1	100.0
	Total	119	68.4	100.0	

Missing	System	55	31.6		
Total		174	100.0		

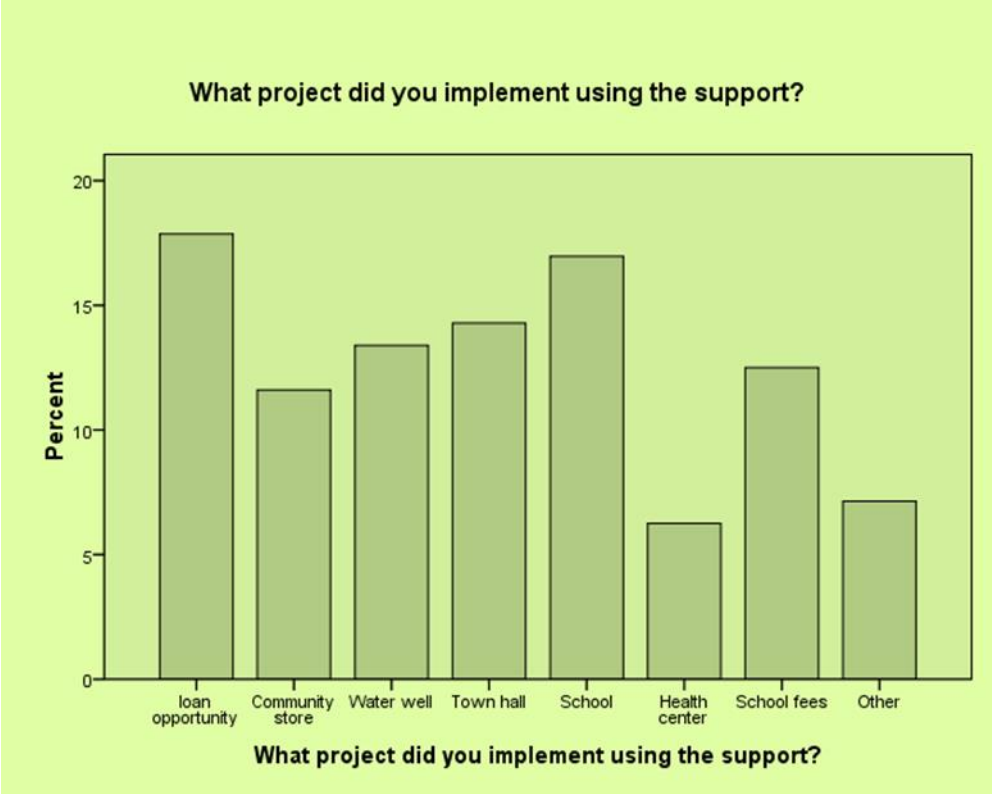


- In terms of the projects that were implemented, the survey results indicate revolving loan schemes (17.9%), building or rehabilitation of existing schools (17%), construction of town/community halls (14.3%), construction of water wells (13.4%), payment of school fees (12.5%), construction of community health posts (6.2%) and others used the revenue on sometime else that was not specified (7.1%). See figure below:

What project did you implement using the support?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	loan opportunity	20	11.5	17.9	17.9
	Community store	13	7.5	11.6	29.5
	Water well	15	8.6	13.4	42.9
	Town hall	16	9.2	14.3	57.1
	School	19	10.9	17.0	74.1
	Health center	7	4.0	6.2	80.4
	School fees	14	8.0	12.5	92.9
	Other	8	4.6	7.1	100.0

	Total	112	64.4	100.0	
Missing	System	62	35.6		
Total		174	100.0		



- Of the 152 (out of the 174 respondents), a large proportion of respondents (69.1%), particularly women reported that they wanted the sub-national transfer support, but they were not able to get it. This shows that women remain largely excluded from the formal economy, thus face difficulties in saving income, growing their businesses and pulling their families out of poverty. 30.9% of the respondents however said that the got revenue. See figures below:

Did you ever want support, but were not able to get?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	105	60.3	69.1	69.1
	No	47	27.0	30.9	100.0
	Total	152	87.4	100.0	

Missing	System	22	12.6		
Total		174	100.0		

- Of the 105 (out of the 153 respondents), 28.3% complained about discrimination against women was the cause for not getting mining revenue, 26.7% reported about male control over mining revenue, 20% talked about the lack of strong women representation on the decision making team, 18.3% said that they had no knowledge about the revenue and 6.7% did not present any specific reasons. See figures below:

What was the reason?

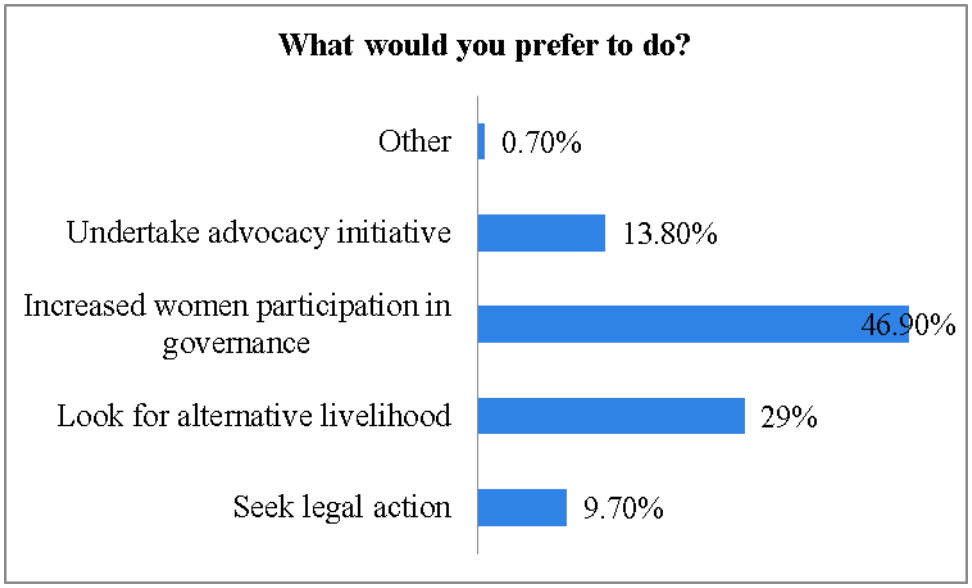
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Discrimination against women	34	19.5	28.3	28.3
	No knowledge about the revenue	22	12.6	18.3	46.7
	Male control of resources	32	18.4	26.7	73.3
	No strong women representation	24	13.8	20.0	93.3
	Other	8	4.6	6.7	100.0
	Total	120	69.0	100.0	
Missing	System	54	31.0		
Total		174	100.0		

- Of the 145 (out of the 153 respondents), 46.9% demanded for increased participation in governance at local level, 29% said that they will look out for alternative livelihood strategies, 13.8% will embark on advocacy campaign, 9.6% will seek legal actions and 0.7% said nothing. See figures below:

What would you prefer to do?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Seek legal action	14	8.0	9.7	9.7
	Look for alternative livelihood	42	24.1	29.0	38.6

	Increased women participation in governance	68	39.1	46.9	85.5
	Undertake advocacy initiative	20	11.5	13.8	99.3
	Other	1	.6	.7	100.0
	Total	145	83.3	100.0	
Missing	System	29	16.7		
Total		174	100.0		

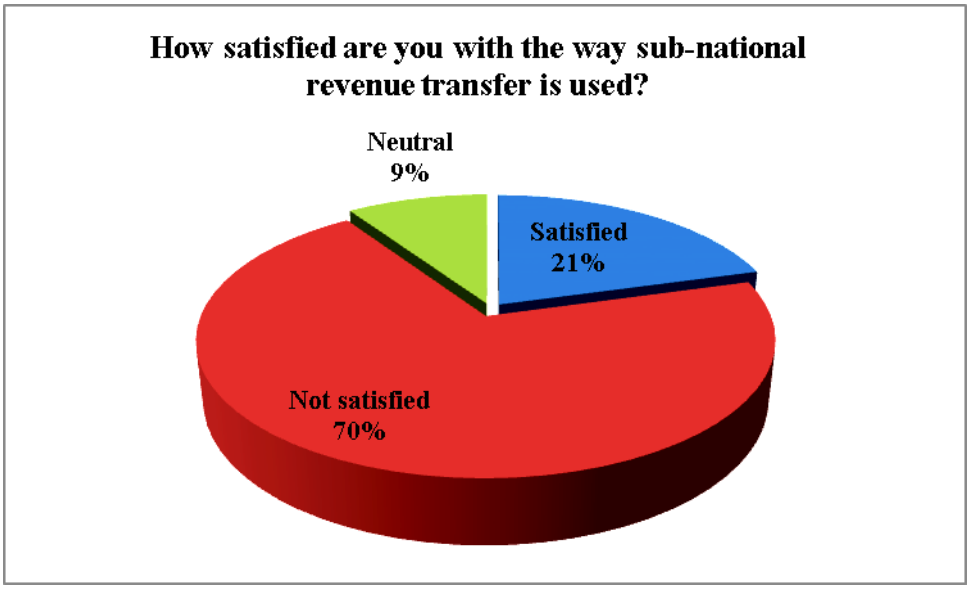


- To ascertain how satisfied the respondents were with the way the sub-national revenue transfer is used, the study findings show that 69.8% of the respondents were not satisfied, 20.7% were satisfied and 9.5% decided to be neutral side. See figure below:

How satisfied are you with the way sub-national revenue transfer is used?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Satisfied	35	20.1	20.7	20.7
	Not satisfied	118	67.8	69.8	90.5
	Neutral	16	9.2	9.5	100.0
	Total	169	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	5	2.9		
Total		174	100.0		

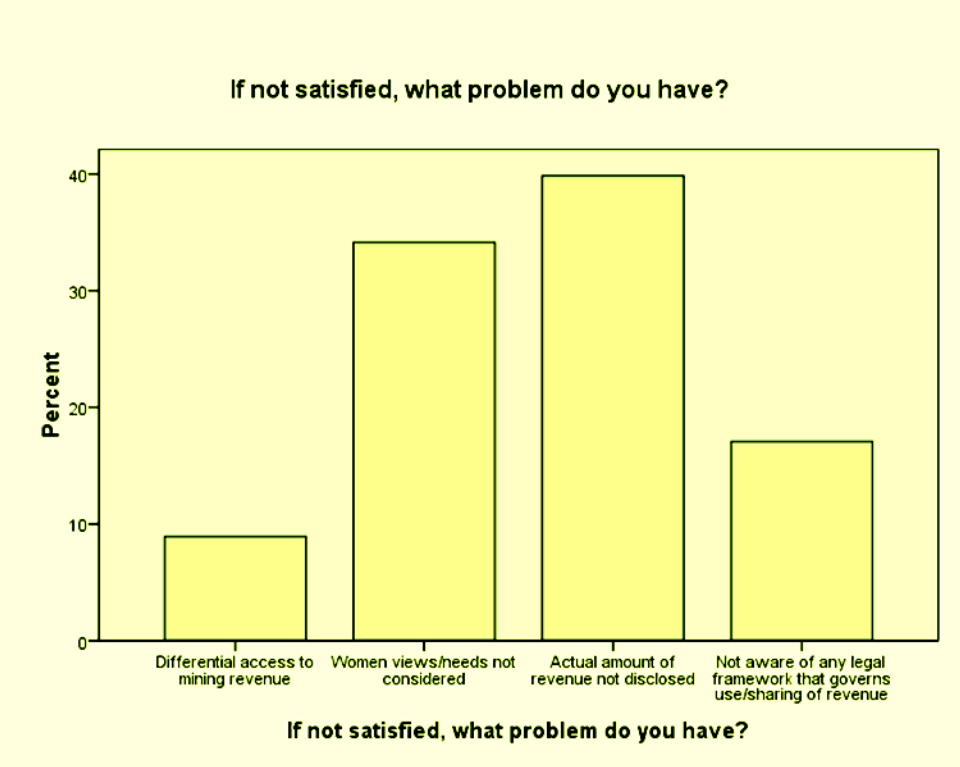
- To further investigate why respondents were not satisfied about the way the sub-national transfers were used, thr survey results identify a number of reasons including the actual amount of revenue disbursed is not disclosed (39.8%), the views and interests of women are not considered (34.1%), not knowing of any legal framework governing the use of the revenue (17.1%) and existence of differential access to mining revenue between men and women (8.9%). See figures below:



If not satisfied, what problem do you have?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Differential access to mining revenue	11	6.3	8.9	8.9
	Women views/needs not considered	42	24.1	34.1	43.1
	Actual amount of revenue not disclosed	49	28.2	39.8	82.9

	Not aware of any legal framework that governs use/sharing of revenue	21	12.1	17.1	100.0
	Total	123	70.7	100.0	
Missing	System	51	29.3		
Total		174	100.0		



4.5 Alternative Livelihood Strategies for Respondents

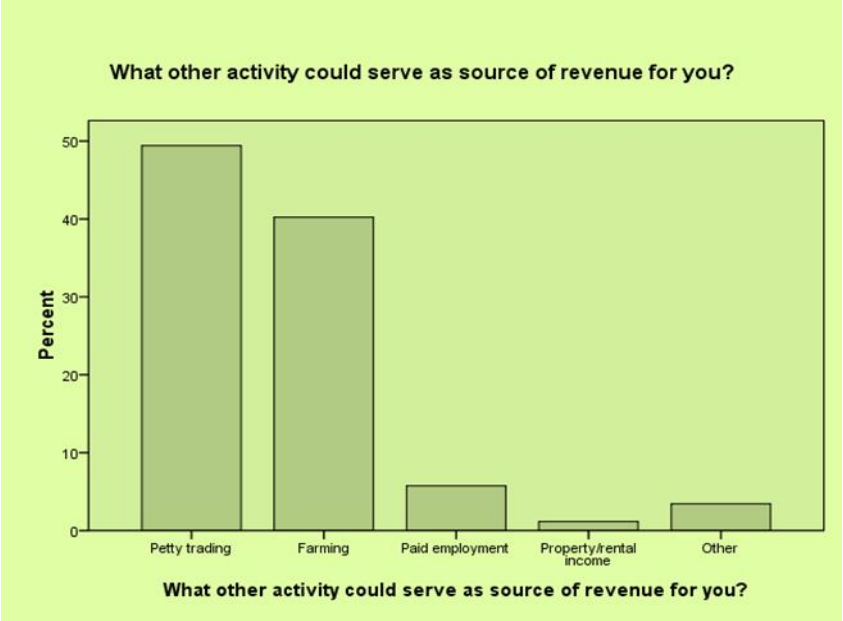
The study consulted with a broad spectrum of stakeholders in Kono, Tonkolili and Moyamba to identify alternative livelihoods, especially those with the potential to involve women in viable income generation activities and drive economic growth in mining communities. In the quantitative and qualitative surveys, respondents were asked to indicate other activities that could serve as source of income apart from mining, the support they could need for their preferred economic activities and the coping mechanism they could adopt during hard times. Below are key summaries of the findings:

- To identify other activities that could serve as source of revenue for the respondents, the survey results show engagement in petty trading as an alternative source of revenue

(49.4%), this was followed by engagement in subsistent farming (40.2%), access to paid employment (5.7%), property/rental income (1.1%) and other activities (3.4%). See figure below:

What other activity could serve as source of revenue for you?

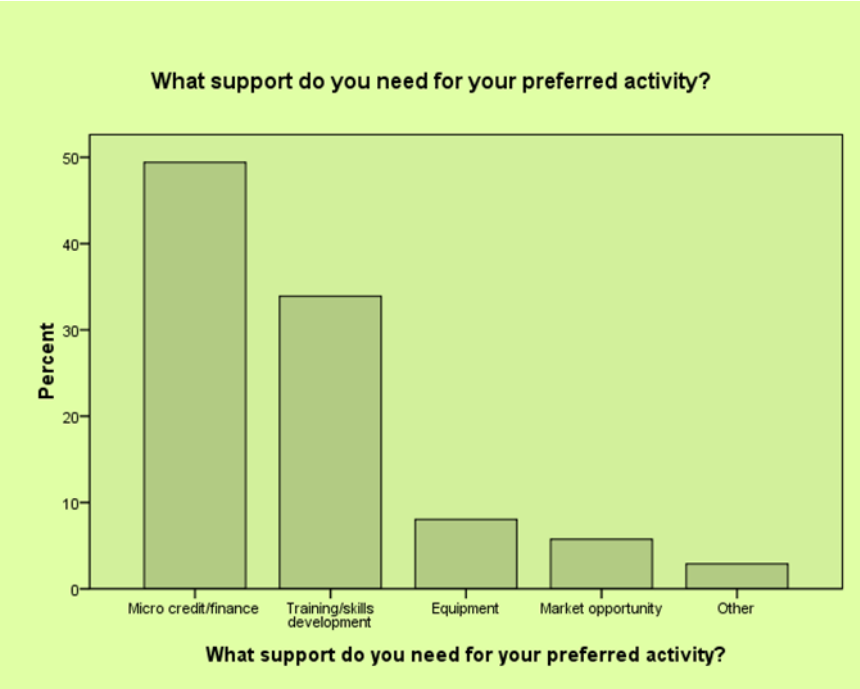
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Petty trading	86	49.4	49.4	49.4
	Farming	70	40.2	40.2	89.7
	Paid employment	10	5.7	5.7	95.4
	Property/rental income	2	1.1	1.1	96.6
	Other	6	3.4	3.4	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	



- With regard the support that respondents would need for their preferred activity, survey results show access to micro-credit/finance as significant boost to the economies of the respondents (49.4%), accompanied by training/skills development (33.9%), access to equipment (8%), market opportunity (5.7%) and any other relevant support (2.9%). See figure below:

What support do you need for your preferred activity?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Micro credit/finance	86	49.4	49.4	49.4
	Training/skills development	59	33.9	33.9	83.3
	Equipment	14	8.0	8.0	91.4
	Market opportunity	10	5.7	5.7	97.1
	Other	5	2.9	2.9	100.0
	Total	174	100.0	100.0	



5.0 CONCLUSION

The quantitative survey results show that gender inequalities and discrimination in the extractives sector could be attributed to a large extent to lack of transparency and accountability in the amount of revenues government collects from the extractives and disburses or transfers back to communities where the extraction takes place. The results also indicate that information about the correct amount of revenue being generated, that is, how much mining companies are contributing in terms of taxes, royalties and licenses that are paid, and how much government and communities are getting as revenue is most often difficult to obtain. The study results further reveal that most of these deals receive no publicity at all and that is preventing local people mostly women from having adequate information about the mining sector, let alone, the revenue that is being generated from it.

Desk reviews on earlier studies such as the ones conducted by NMJD (2006), Search for Common Ground (2006) and Temple (2005) reveal the lack of transparency and accountability in the DACDF, ADF, CDAF, surface rent, crop compensation etc. The review of key relevant documents also indicate that women are denied entitlement to any sub-national payments and transfers, even when they are dispossessed of their land.

Findings from focus group discussions with key stakeholders show a great lack of women's participation in community consultations and decision making procedures and processes with investors and government officials. It further indicates that when women are present in the consultations and discussions, they have no voice, instead they have a habit of respecting their local elites such as paramount chiefs, section chiefs, councilors and parliamentarians without questions. This habit has caused women's vulnerability to these local elites who, from positions of authority, tend to behave with impunity.

Both qualitative and quantitative survey results indicate that majority of the women would prefer to engage in alternative livelihoods in petty trading, farming, paid employment and property/rental income, which require an urgent need support in micro-credit/finance, training/skills development, market opportunity and availability of essential equipment.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are the recommendations proffered to government and the civil society organisations:

Recommendations to government:

- Government to maintain pressure on the country's Anti-Corruption Commission to work toward increased transparency and accountability by continuing to monitor the extractive sector, exposing instances of corrupt practices where they exist and advocating for appropriate additional reforms.
- Government to ensure public disclosure of all sub-national payments and transfers at local level. This information should include how much money is generated and how it is transferred to communities where mining takes place.

Recommendation to Civil Society Organisations:

- Civil society organisations to maintain pressure for increased transparency and accountability by continuing to monitor the mining sector and advocating for appropriate additional reforms that are gender sensitive.
- Civil society organisations to consider organizing and participating in public debates on future legislation governing the extractive industries to ensure citizen input.
- Civil society organisations to build the capacity of women to call for greater transparency and accountability in the extractive sector.
- Civil society organisations to facilitate the formation of strong women groups and coalitions at grassroot level to claim their rights from duty bearers by ensuring strong and binding regulatory framework to govern the distribution and utilization of sub-national payments and transfers.
- Civil society organisations to organize women to expose their corrupt local elites and call on government to hold them to account.
- Civil society organisations to demonstrate solidarity with rural women struggles for equal access to sub-national payments and transfer by providing information and raising awareness.
- Civil society organisations to develop a strategy to gain access to policy discussions between mining companies and the government. Such a strategy could involve

summoning key government ministers and industry experts to testify at public hearings and initiating more regular communication between relevant parliamentary committees and focal representatives in the mining sector.

- Civil society to lobby government to protect women-s rights to sub-national revenue transfer as their survival is to a greater extent dependent on the land. This should include making sure that women are adequately compensated for any loss of their land.

Recommendation to women:

- Women should better organize themselves in solidarity movements to resist the corporate impunity that comes with extracting minerals.
- Women should develop the courage to say no and be able to speak out and report to relevant authorities of any forms of violation of their rights.
- Women should advocate for increased access to sub-national payments and transfers.

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