# Responsible mining in Latin America and the Caribbean?

*Assessing how mining companies address public interest issues*

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Regional Study 2020

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## Introduction

The region of Latin America and the Caribbean includes important reserves of metals and minerals and mining is a key contributor to the economies of countries such as Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Mexico.[1] The sector accounts for approximately 10% of the GDP of Chile and Peru, for example,[2] and contributes over 50% of the exports of both countries.[3] However, the macro-economic benefits need to be viewed alongside the significant social and environmental impacts generated by the industry. In this region, the real and potential negative externalities are substantial. The loss of life and long-term environmental damage caused by two recent tailings dam failures in Brazil are sobering reminders of the huge risks faced by local communities, workers and ecosystems, while water pollution and water stress, unsafe working conditions and violent attacks on human rights defenders are among the realities in many producing countries in the region. It is encouraging to see that a number of LAC countries have produced National Action Plans (NAPs) to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, or have included a Business and Human Rights chapter in their Human Rights NAPs. These state-level actions set important frameworks for corporate behaviour. However, it is only through systematic action by mining companies to improve the management of economic, environmental, social and governance (EESG) issues, active engagement with all stakeholders and the disclosure of locally-relevant data on their EESG performance that companies will be able to limit risk, build trust, achieve legitimacy and ensure sustainable operations for the future.

This regional study examines how the results of recent research by the Responsible Mining Foundation (RMF) reflect current EESG practices by large-scale mining companies operating in the region and point to priority issues requiring urgent attention if some of the worst adverse impacts of mining are to be avoided. The research in question – the RMI Report 2020 – is the second edition of RMF's evidence-based assessment of mining company policies and practices on EESG issues. Centro Vincular, part of the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaiso, Chile, has partnered with RMF to analyse the data and the results of the RMI Report 2020 from a Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) perspective.

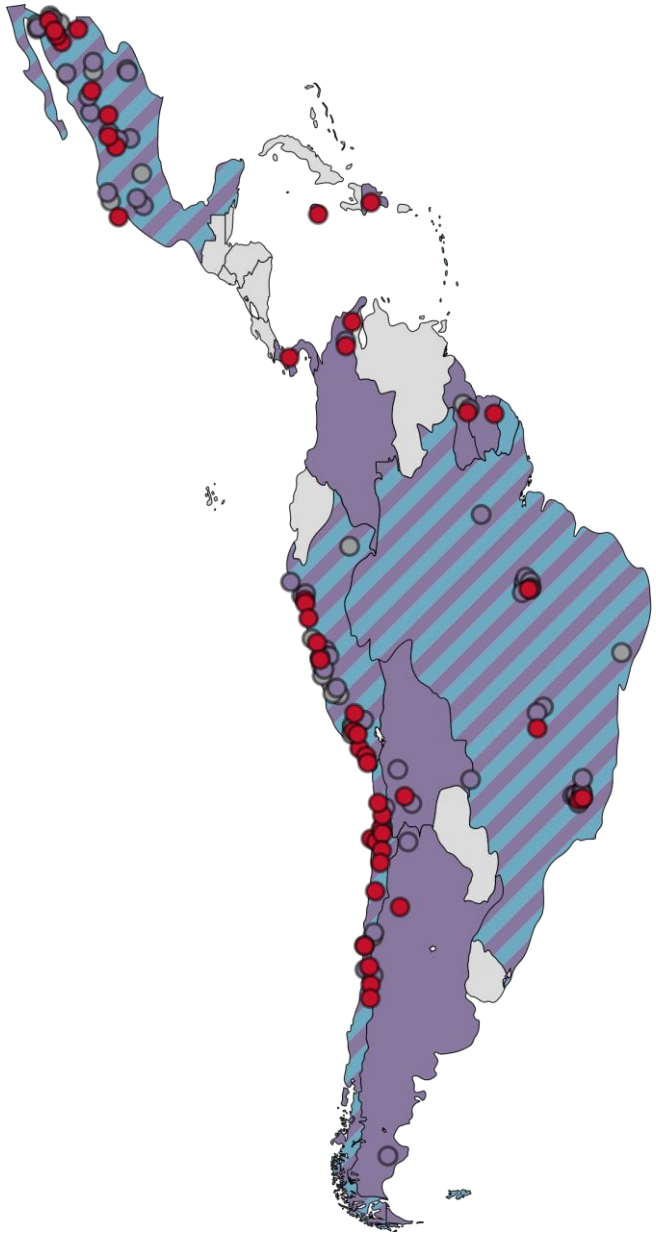
The study looks first at some findings related to the 20 mining companies included in the RMI Report 2020 that have mining operations in the LAC region, examining how their corporate-level systems or practices are often not translated into equivalent actions at the mine-site level. The focus then shifts to the six LAC companies included in the RMI Report 2020 (i.e. those companies registered in the LAC region or with operations solely in the LAC region) and how they are performing on some issues of particular pertinence to Latin America and the Caribbean. Finally, drawing on good models and leading practices seen in the region, some ways forward are suggested for companies and governments to advance responsible mining in this key mining region of the world where the industry has huge potential to contribute to sustainable development yet can also pose a threat to the lives and livelihoods of communities and workers and the environments in producing countries.

## Gaps in how corporate-level systems translate into site-level action

Twenty of the 38 companies included in the RMI Report 2020 have operations in the LAC region (see Figure 1). The 20 companies operate a total of 104 mine sites in the region. The

RMI Report 2020 assessment focuses primarily on corporate-level policies and practices and covers the entire operations portfolio of companies. In addition, a mine-site-level assessment evaluates a total of 180 mine sites, including 49 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and reveals how corporate commitments and systems are being implemented on the ground, at mining operations that may be geographically and culturally very far removed from corporate head offices.

Figure 1. Regional geographic footprint of the 20 companies included in RMI 2020 Report that have operations in the LAC region




**Companies assessed in RMI Report 2020 with operations in LAC**

Anglo American
AngloGold Ashanti
Antofagasta
ArcelorMittal
Barrick Gold Corp
BHP
Buenaventura
CODELCO
First Quantum Minerals
Freeport-McMoRan
Glencore
Gold Fields
Grupo México
Industrias Peñoles
MMG
Newmont
Rio Tinto
RUSAL
Teck
Vale

The results reveal a striking mismatch between corporate-level commitments and systems on the one hand and mine-site-level action on the other, on issues of primary importance to the region. This section presents some illustrative examples of how many companies are unable to show consistent implementation of responsible and transparent environmental practices across their operations, despite having environmental stewardship policy commitments in place. The 20 assessed companies with mine sites in the LAC region score an average of **68%** on having made formal commitments to manage their environmental impacts in a systematic manner that prioritises the prevention of negative impacts and minimises unavoidable impacts. However, on issues such as water consumption, tailings management and emergency preparedness, these commitments often fail to translate into site-level action and transparency.

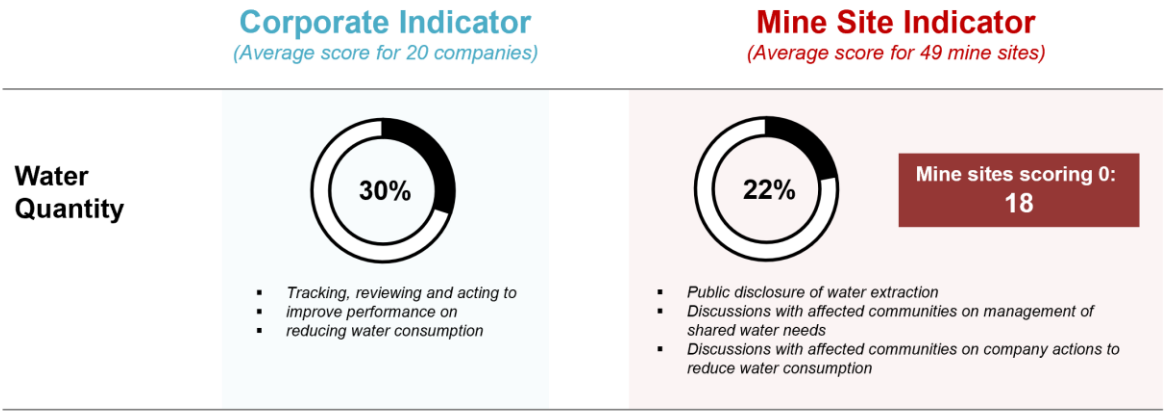
It should be noted that as an evidence-based assessment, the RMI Report 2020 results reflect what companies can demonstrate they are doing. In some cases low scores may result from companies not making publicly available the relevant information. And assessment of public reporting by companies measures the existence and extent of this reporting, not the substance of the reporting; for example an indicator on public disclosure of water quality data assesses whether the data is disclosed in a meaningful way, not whether the data shows responsible management of water quality.

### Water consumption

Mining in Latin America and the Caribbean often takes place in areas of water scarcity and water stress, including in parts of Peru, Chile and Mexico.[4] Conflicts over water use by mining companies has led to major disruptions to operations in the region.[5] Companies have a direct interest and responsibility to track and report on their water consumption levels and to engage with local stakeholders on how they are taking measures to reduce their water consumption.

On this issue, the assessment results show weak and inconsistent action, particularly at the mine-site level (see Figure 2). The 20 companies operating in the LAC region score an average of **30%** on corporate-level actions to track, report and act to improve their management of water consumption, and their assessed mine-sites achieve only **21%** on average on actions to disclose the amount of water they are consuming and discuss water management issues with affected communities. In fact, one-third of the 49 LAC mine sites included in the mine-site assessment score zero for this indicator. It is interesting to note that the company scoring highest for the corporate-level indicator (Anglo American) only achieves a score of **22%** for the site-level indicator, with two of its three sites in Latin America scoring zero. This is one of many examples of corporate-level tracking data not being available in a disaggregated format for each site, although the disclosure of aggregated figures would suggest that water consumption levels are being tracked across all the company's operations. The results also reflect a lack of evidence of local-level stakeholder engagement on this issue of strong public interest and of key importance to companies in reducing the potential for social conflict and disruption to operations.

Figure 2. Extract of RMI Report 2020 results on water quantity




**Leading Practice**

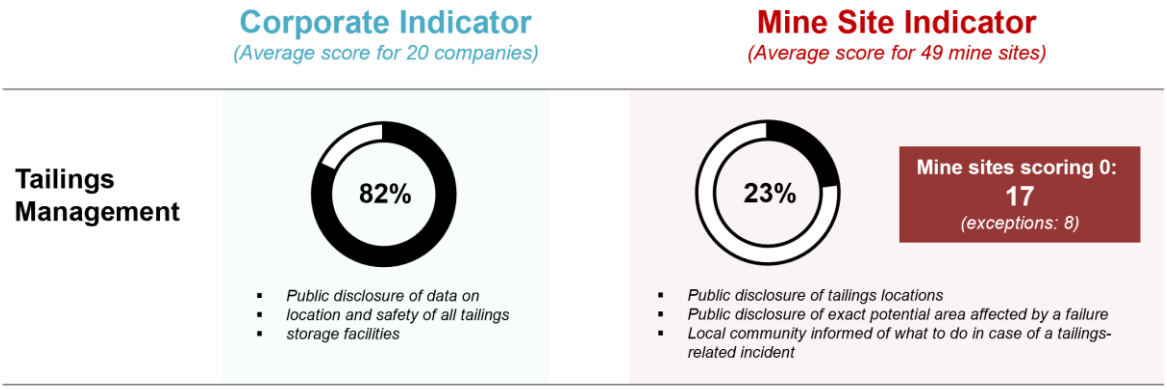
### Incentivising water conservation

→ Vale has linked its sustainability-related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to its variable compensation program that applies to all Vale employees. Efforts to reduce water usage are among the actions for which indicators have been created (other indicators relate to for example reductions in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions and actions to rehabilitate degraded areas). The indicators are weighted in order to encourage continuous improvement in sustainability performance by each of the company's operations.

## Tailings management

Tailings management is undoubtedly one of the most critical mining-related issues for the LAC region. The trauma of the 2019 Brumadinho disaster in Brazil continues to affect the daily lives of thousands of families and tailings storage facility (TSF) failures or leakages have become all too commonplace occurrences. Six of the twelve tailings incidents recorded by World Mine Tailings Failures during 2018-2019 were in LAC countries, including Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Peru.[6] Clearly, mining companies operating in the region need to demonstrate strong action on tailings management starting with, at the very least, disclosure of information on the location and safety of their TSF and on what local stakeholders need to be aware of in case of a TSF failure.

Figure 3. Extract of RMI Report 2020 results on tailings management




Here again, we see very disappointing results at mine-site level. Companies' corporate-level transparency on their TSF is not matched by mine-site disclosure of locally-critical information, where it matters most (see Figure 3). The 20 companies operating in the LAC region score an average of 78% on corporate-level disclosure of data on the location and safety of their TSF. These fairly strong results are largely due to investor pressure, in particular a disclosure request by the Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative, led by the Church of England Pension Board and the Swedish Council of Ethics for AP Funds.[7] However, many of these companies cannot show that their operations have informed local people about the exact location of their TSF, the area at risk from a TSF failure, or the procedures to follow in the event of such a failure. Their assessed mine sites score an average score of only 22% on these disclosures and worryingly some 17 of the mine sites in the LAC region score zero for this indicator.[8]

Leading Practice

### A national inventory of tailings storage facilities

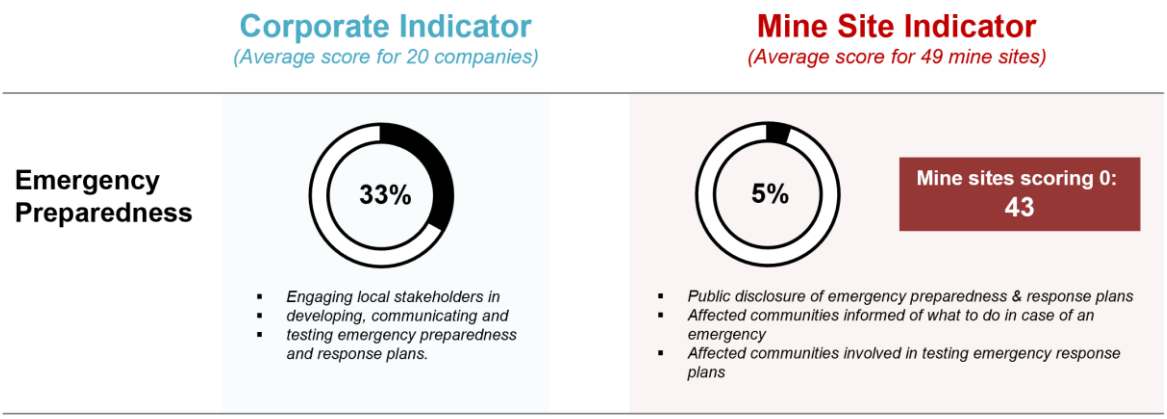
→ While the Investor Mining Tailings Safety Initiative found little evidence of producing country governments keeping records of tailings storage facilities (TSF), Chile is one case where the government has tracked – and made publicly available – information on the location and basic safety information of TSF in the country. This information is of direct interest to investors, financiers and governmental authorities, as well as local stakeholders living in proximity to these tailings storage facilities.

## Emergency preparedness

Over the past decade, high-profile emergencies resulting from mining operations in Latin America and the Caribbean have included major releases of hazardous chemicals, explosions and structural failures at mine sites.[9] Flooding and subsequent mudslides are

among other mining-related emergencies seen in the region and these incidents are expected to increase as climate change impacts become more prominent. Mining companies can certainly be expected to have plans in place to respond to emergencies, and to involve local stakeholders in the developing and testing of these plans.

Figure 4. Extract of RMI Report 2020 results on emergency preparedness




The results show that while some companies have corporate-level systems in place to ensure their operations take at least some of these actions, there is very little evidence of these systems being implemented systematically. The 20 companies operating in the LAC region score on average **32%** on showing evidence of corporate-level systems for emergency preparedness plans, whereas the 49 mine sites assessed score only **5%** on demonstrating they have publicly disclosed these plans, informed local communities of emergency procedures and involved them in testing these procedures. This clearly shows the incapacity of most companies to demonstrate how their corporate-level management standards are translated into actions and engagement on the ground, where it matters to society. A striking example of this corporate/site-level gap is shown by CODELCO, which achieves the maximum score for the corporate-level indicator, yet all six of its sites in Chile score zero for the mine-site indicator.

Leading Practice

### Designing a robust emergency plan

→ In designing the emergency plan for its Antucoya mine site in northern Chile, Antofagasta sought to align the plan with the United Nations' Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL) standard. Working in partnership with other industries, local communities and local government and emergency services, Antofagasta first diagnosed the existing response capacity and then carried out training and certification of key institutions and players at local and regional level, as well as raising awareness and providing information to the community.

## LAC companies show limited action on key public interest issues

The RMI Report 2020 covers six LAC companies (i.e. companies registered in, or with operations solely in, the LAC region): Antofagasta, Buenaventura, CODELCO, Grupo México, Industrias Peñoles and Vale.

The overall performances of these six companies and their ranking positions among all the 38 companies assessed are summarised in Table 1. As is the case with nearly all companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020, the LAC companies show quite different levels of performance across the six different thematic areas and the scores are generally low, reflecting gaps between company performances and society expectations as articulated by the RMI framework. It is encouraging to see three companies rank among the 10 strongest performing companies in at least one thematic area, but the high level of inconsistency between thematic area performances within a given company highlights the need for a more systematic and comprehensive integration of EESG issues into their business practices.

Table 1. Absolute and relative performances of LAC companies in the RMI Report 2020

| | Economic Development | | Business Conduct | | Lifecycle Management | | Community Wellbeing | | Working Conditions | | Environmental Responsibility | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* | Score (%) | *Rank (of 38)* |
| Antofagasta | **32%** | *5* | **39%** | *10* | **35%** | *8* | **5%** | *30* | **42%** | *5* | **31%** | *13* |
| Buenaventura | **8%** | *32* | **18%** | *31* | **2%** | *32* | **3%** | *33* | **21%** | *31* | **11%** | *35* |
| CODELCO | **19%** | *19* | **33%** | *15* | **37%** | *7* | **14%** | *16* | **43%** | *3* | **35%** | *11* |
| Grupo México | **12%** | *29* | **15%** | *36* | **6%** | *25* | **5%** | *28* | **23%** | *29* | **12%** | *33* |
| Industrias Peñoles | **15%** | *25* | **20%** | *29* | **5%** | *27* | **6%** | *25* | **31%** | *19* | **14%** | *29* |
| Vale | **46%** | *2* | **36%** | *14* | **38%** | *6* | **20%** | *13* | **29%** | *22* | **31%** | *14* |

The RMI Report 2020 results also shed light on how LAC companies are managing issues of particular importance to mining workers, mining-affected communities and the wider populations in producing countries. The examples summarised below show some of the main gaps in LAC company efforts to address key public interest issues in the region.

### Human rights defenders

Latin America and the Caribbean is the deadliest region in the world for human rights defenders, with Colombia, Brazil, Guatemala and Mexico all ranking among the six countries with the highest numbers of documented killings of land and environmental activists in 2018.[10] Some 50% of the 164 documented killings that year took place in the LAC region and globally mining accounted for more than a quarter of these 164 killings.[11] The human rights defenders killed in the region have been defending the land, the rights of indigenous

peoples and/or the environment, especially against huge construction projects and extractive industries.[12]

In the light of these strong sectoral and regional implications in the deaths of human rights defenders, LAC mining companies have a clear responsibility and interest in showing leadership on protecting the rights of these defenders. The results unfortunately show that this is not happening: none of the LAC companies assessed have made a formal commitment to protect the rights of human rights defenders. To date, only one company (Newmont) among all the 38 companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020 has made such a commitment.[13]

### Indigenous Peoples

Where mining projects are situated in indigenous territories or other areas inhabited by Indigenous Peoples, they are often met with opposition due to clashes over land rights, environmental impacts and social and cultural disruption. Indigenous Peoples' protests, often fatal in the case of indigenous human rights defenders, have in some cases resulted in successful legal cases to halt mining operations.[14] These conflicts can be expected to increase in some parts of the region, as mineral reserves coincide with indigenous territories. In order to build trust and reduce the risk of conflict, LAC mining companies need to demonstrate their respect for the rights, needs and interests of Indigenous Peoples potentially affected by their operations.

The results show that the average score of these six companies is only **27%** on designing and implementing, through inclusive participation, strategies and plans to respect the rights, interests and needs of Indigenous Peoples; with only one company reaching 50% (Vale). The LAC companies show even less evidence of tracking, reviewing and acting to improve their performance on this issue, with an average score of only **11%.**

Regarding the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), internationally recognised by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in the ILO Convention 169 ratified by 15 LAC countries, five of the six companies show no evidence of having committed to respect this fundamental right. One company (Vale) states that it works to ensure free, prior and informed *consultation* which is clearly not the intent of the internationally accepted guidance, although a common downwards revision made by numerous governments and companies. This leads to an average score of only **9%** on this very basic commitment indicator.

### Water quality impacts

Access to clean water and respect of shared water needs are of utmost importance in the LAC region, as a third of the region's population does not have sustained access to drinking water.[15] Water pollution is a common source of conflict between mining companies and communities in the region, in some cases leading to fatal clashes and suspensions of operations.

In spite of this, LAC mining companies are largely failing to demonstrate responsible behaviour. The six LAC companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020 score an average of

only **7%** on demonstrating that they are tracking, reviewing and acting to improve their performance on reducing adverse impacts on water quality. And mine-site-level action on water quality is even poorer, with an average score of **2%** among LAC companies on regularly reporting meaningful data on ambient water quality and discussing with affected communities how they are managing water quality.

Leading Practice

**Public disclosure of mine-site data on ambient water quality**

→ Antofagasta's Los Pelambres mine in Chile provides online data for seven surface water and three groundwater monitoring points around the mine site, for levels of copper, molybdenum, coliforms, faecal coliforms, and sulphate in surface and groundwater (and iron levels in surface water) over a ten-year period.

### Worker and community grievances

Mining worker grievances, on issues such as wage levels and working conditions, have led to prolonged strikes at a number of operations in the LAC region, while community protests, often over environmental impacts, have led to fatalities and suspensions of operations.[16] It is in the interests of all involved that such grievances are identified and addressed before escalating into conflict.

Operational-level grievance mechanisms, if effective, provide the means to do this yet the LAC companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020 show little evidence of having such grievance mechanisms in place. Some **43%** (21 sites) of their assessed mine sites show no evidence of having operational grievance mechanisms for workers, and **55%** (27 sites) sites show no evidence of the equivalent mechanisms to address community grievances.

Where grievance mechanisms are available, few of the LAC companies can demonstrate they are tracking, reviewing and acting to improve the effectiveness of the mechanisms. The companies score an average of only **9%** on demonstrating such actions for their worker grievance mechanisms (with five companies scoring zero), and only **13%** on the equivalent actions for their community grievance mechanisms (with two companies scoring zero).

Leading Practice

**Public disclosure of the use of worker grievance mechanisms**

→ CODELCO discloses mine-site-disaggregated data on the grievances received from workers, on a quarterly basis via its online Ethics Point Portal. The same platform is used to report complaints of unethical or illegal activity. The types of complaints registered and disclosed relate to, for example, unsafe working conditions, corruption and conflict of interest, workplace harassment and discrimination, violence and sexual harassment. For each mine site, the company discloses the number of each type of complaint received and the outcomes of the investigations.

## Rehabilitation and closure planning

According to the OECD, *"Clean-up of historical mining damage remains limited in LAC due to a lack of legal frameworks making companies liable to do this. Abandoned mines represent a significant ongoing risk to soil and water contamination in Latin America."*[17] For example, while Chile has made progress in identifying abandoned or inactive mine sites, there are no decontamination plans in place for the estimated 650 abandoned mine sites in the country.[18]

While the problem of continued pollution from abandoned mine sites is a global one it is particularly acute in the LAC region given the long history of mining in the region and the large number of closed or abandoned mine sites. And despite national legislation on closure planning and rehabilitation in countries such as Chile, Peru, Brazil and Argentina, the issue of rehabilitating already abandoned sites remains a priority.[19]

With progressive rehabilitation (implemented concurrently to the operations, throughout the life of the mine) gradually becoming the norm around the world, it is surprising to see the LAC assessed companies score only **20%** on tracking, reviewing and acting to improve their performance on progressive mine rehabilitation; three companies show no evidence of implementing any progressive rehabilitation at all.

An effective mine closure planning process involves open communication with affected communities and involvement of these communities in the setting of closure goals and the development of action plans, in order to maximise opportunities to create a positive legacy for future generations.

LAC mining companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020 show variable levels of performance on the socio-economic aspects of closure and post-closure management. They score an average of **34%** on developing just transition plans for affected communities, to seek to ensure continued viability of their livelihoods, with two companies scoring above 50% (Antofagasta achieves a full score on this indicator). However, on developing just transition plans for their workers, the average score is only **7%** with four companies scoring zero. Finally, none of the six companies could demonstrate having made financial surety

arrangements to ensure coverage of short- and longer-term socio-economic aspects of closure and post-closure (in fact this also applies to all the 38 companies in RMI Report 2020).

## Good models point to ways forward for LAC mining companies

While the results of the LAC mine sites and LAC companies in the RMI Report 2020 are generally weak, strong performances are seen on certain issues on the part of individual mine sites or companies. The challenge and opportunity for LAC companies is to adopt more widely the good practices seen in the region or beyond and to apply these practices more consistently across their operations.

At the same time, policy initiatives by some LAC governments are driving more responsible and transparent practices by mining companies and providing valuable models for other countries to follow.

The evidence base provided by the LAC mine site results reveals a high potential for continuous improvement on responsible mining within the region, based on learning and replication of existing practices. While the best scoring mine-site in the LAC region achieves only 50% in the RMI Report 2020 mine-site-level assessment, the collective performance of the 49 LAC mine sites shows that it is possible to provide basic transparency and demonstrate local stakeholder engagement at the mine site level. Indeed, if one mine site in the mine-site assessment were to attain all the highest scores seen (among the 49 sites in Latin America) for every indicator, it would reach approximately 63% of the maximum achievable score. This collective best score goes up to 80% if performances of the global set of 180 assessed mine sites are considered, showing the great opportunity for LAC companies to systematically apply existing good practices being demonstrated by their peers.

As an initial first step, all LAC companies can ensure they have put in place formal commitments on key EESG issues such as respect for human rights (and the rights of human rights defenders), the provision of safe and healthy working conditions, and the systematic management of their environmental impacts across the lifecycle of their operations. Beyond these commitments, LAC companies can show leadership on some of the most pressing issues facing the region’s mining areas including human rights abuses, tailings-related risks and adverse impacts on water quality and water availability. Systematic action on these issues would go some way towards meeting society expectations of mining companies.

Three areas where LAC companies and governments are already showing the way forward include: (1) public-private partnerships for socio-economic development in mining regions; (2) skills development for local communities and local mining workforces; and (3) actions to address gender equity issues related to mining. A few examples of innovative initiatives in these areas are summarised below.

### Socio-economic development planning

Antofagasta has a well-established system for working in partnership with regional governments in Chile on socio-economic development planning. For example, Minera Los Pelambres, a subsidiary of Antofagasta, has established a participatory programme for sustainable development in Choapa Province, Chile. Known as 'Somos Choapa', the initiative brings together local municipal authorities, community members and the company to collectively identify and plan local-level initiatives. Each project developed by Somos Choapa involves collaboration between the private and public sectors for its implementation and the initiatives funded range from, for example, improvements in irrigation and drinking water networks to cultural heritage and urban infrastructure projects.

Mexico has established a national fund to ensure economic benefits from mining are shared with the mining-affected areas and to foster public-private collaboration on development initiatives. The ‘Fund for Sustainable Regional Development of States and Mining Municipalities’ is sustained through three specific fees on mining companies operating in the country and 80% of the funds collected go towards financing social development projects in the regions surrounding the mines. Of this amount, 37.5 percent is assigned to the states where the mining takes place and 62.5 percent goes to the mining municipalities. Development committees established to manage the dispensation of the funds include representatives of the state, the municipalities where mines are located, the mining companies, and indigenous or agrarian communities where mines are operating. The funds can be allocated for social, environmental or urban projects such as the construction of schools, the installation of roads, the provision of transportation services or the installation of solid waste management systems.[20]

### Skills development for local communities and local workforce

Industrias Peñoles shows relatively strong evidence of supporting education in areas around its operations, including on some STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects. For example, as well as partnering with a national civil society educational support organisation in Mexico to raise teaching standards in schools near the company’s operations, Industrias Peñoles sponsors an annual robotics competition in the Laguna region with the aim of making science and technology more appealing to high school students.

Vale shows one of the stronger results on the issue of supporting technical and vocational skills development among the wider population in collaboration with in-country institutions. For example, Vale's Corporate University, Valer, runs a series of training programs aimed at equipping local youth with mining-related qualifications. The Professional Qualification Program trains young community members in operational and maintenance functions, while the Professional Specialisation Program caters to those with a university background. This program, designed in partnership with several Brazilian universities, offers postgraduate scholarships with on-the-job training in the company's operations. Finally, Vale also runs a programme of professional training for underrepresented groups in its workforce, including women and people with disabilities.

### Addressing gender equity in mining

In 2012 Chile established a national standard on ‘Gender equality and reconciliation of professional, family and personal life’ to drive more gender-aware practices by companies. In line with this norm, CODELCO has a corporate system designed to address the health and safety needs of women workers (including gender-appropriate PPE and rooms for expressing and storing breast milk), as well as guidelines on ‘Maternity Protection, Prevention of Sexual and Moral Harassment and Intrafamily Violence’. The guidelines set out measures for CODELCO’s operations to prevent gender-based violence, harassment and discrimination, promote women workers’ careers, enable safe working conditions for women and promote healthy family life. The guidelines also address family violence, including the prevention and detection of domestic violence and procedures for referral to appropriate public institutions. Gender awareness workshops, dissemination of the guidelines and education training by external parties are organised to keep the workers informed of the guidelines.

The Colombian Ministry of Mines and Energy has developed a sector-wide gender equity policy, which covers important issues such as the prevention of gender-based violence in mining areas, the improvement of employment opportunities for women mining workers and the inclusion of female as well as male community members in consultation processes related to mining projects. The policy, which is intended to be rolled out this year, forms part of Colombia’s overarching National Gender Action Plan.

## Conclusion

Mining is an important economic sector for the Latin American and Caribbean region and a key contributor to the exports of several countries. However, as elsewhere in the world, mining activity in the region is associated with severe adverse impacts, including high-profile incidents such as tailings dam failures, mine-site accidents, clashes with Indigenous Peoples and local communities over natural resources, and killings of human rights defenders. While the number of ongoing state processes to implement the UNGPs is promising in the region, corporate accountability and continuous improvement must be promoted to make responsible mining a reality.

The results of the RMI Report 2020 reveal important gaps in the performance of mining companies operating in the region. On the whole, their corporate-level commitments on economic, environmental, social and governance (EESG) issues are not being matched by systematic action on these issues. In particular, there is a generalised lack of evidence of mine-site level actions to disclose public interest data and engage with local stakeholders on issues of critical importance to their lives and livelihoods such as local employment, air and water quality and emergency planning.

At the same time, some mining companies – including those headquartered in the region – are demonstrating leading practices on a range of issues. The role of producing country governments is crucial in driving responsible mining and some LAC governments are putting in place innovative policy instruments and initiatives.

LAC companies have a strong opportunity and responsibility to show leadership on responsible mining, especially on issues of regional importance such as respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and human rights defenders, the safety of tailings storage facilities, and planning for positive post-closure legacies. A valuable starting point for company action would be for them to apply their corporate norms consistently across their operations and to transparently share all public-interest information as standard practice.

The mining industry is perhaps evolving faster than it ever did. Corporate cultures are changing and the Latin American and Caribbean region has a key role to play in preventing negative impacts and demonstrating that mining can benefit the economies, improve the lives of peoples and respect the environments of producing countries.

## ANNEX 1

Details of the 49 mine sites in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) that are assessed in the mine-site-level assessment of the RMI Report 2020

| Country | Mine Site | Company |
|---|---|---|
| Argentina | Alumbrera | Glencore |
| Bolivia | Porco | Glencore |
| Brazil | Andrade | ArcelorMittal |
| Brazil | Barro Alto | Anglo American |
| Brazil | Cuiabá Complex | AngloGold Ashanti |
| Brazil | Serra Sul | Vale |
| Chile | Antucoya | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Carmen de Andacollo | Teck |
| Chile | Centinela | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Cerro Colorado | BHP |
| Chile | Chuquicamata | CODELCO |
| Chile | El Abra | Freeport-McMoRan/CODELCO |
| Chile | El Teniente | CODELCO |
| Chile | Escondida | BHP/Rio Tinto |
| Chile | Gabriela Mistral | CODELCO |
| Chile | Los Bronces | Anglo American |
| Chile | Los Pelambres | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Quebrada Blanca | Teck |
| Chile | Radomiro Tomic | CODELCO |
| Chile | Salvador | CODELCO |
| Chile | Spence | BHP |
| Chile | Zaldívar | Antofagasta/Barrick Gold Corp |
| Colombia | Cerrejón | Anglo American/BHP/Glencore |
| Colombia | La Jagua | Glencore |
| Dominican Republic | Pueblo Viejo | Barrick Gold Corp |
| Guyana | Kurubuka-22 | RUSAL |
| Jamaica | Windalco | RUSAL |
| Mexico | Bismark | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Cananea | Grupo México |
| Mexico | La Caridad | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Las Truchas | ArcelorMittal |
| Mexico | Madero | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Milpillas | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Sabinas | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Santa Bárbara | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Velardeña | Industrias Peñoles |
| Panama | Cobre Panama | First Quantum Minerals |
| Peru | Antamina | Glencore/Teck |
| Peru | Cerro Corona | Gold Fields |
| Peru | Cerro Verde | Freeport-McMoRan/Buenaventura |
| Peru | Cuajone | Grupo México |
| Peru | Lagunas Norte | Barrick Gold Corp |
| Peru | Las Bambas | MMG |
| Peru | Orcopampa | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Tambomayo | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Toquepala | Grupo México |
| Peru | Uchucchacua | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Yanacocha | Newmont/Buenaventura |
| Suriname | Merian | Newmont |

## ANNEX 2

List of all the mine sites in LAC operated by companies assessed in the RMI Report 2020

| Country | Mine Site | Company |
|---|---|---|
| Argentina | Aguilar | Glencore |
| Argentina | Alumbrera | Glencore |
| Argentina | Cerro Vanguardia | AngloGold Ashanti |
| Argentina | Veladero | Barrick Gold Corp |
| Bolivia | Bolivar | Glencore |
| Bolivia | Caballo Blanco | Glencore |
| Bolivia | Porco | Glencore |
| Brazil | Andrade | ArcelorMittal |
| Brazil | Azul | Vale |
| Brazil | Barro Alto | Anglo American |
| Brazil | Codemin | Anglo American |
| Brazil | Córrego do Sítio | AngloGold Ashanti |
| Brazil | Corumbá | Vale |
| Brazil | Cuiabá Complex | AngloGold Ashanti |
| Brazil | Mariana | Vale |
| Brazil | Minas Centrais | Vale |
| Brazil | Minas Itabirito | Vale |
| Brazil | Minas-Rio | Anglo American |
| Brazil | Morro da Mina | Vale |
| Brazil | Onça Puma | Vale |
| Brazil | Paraopeba | Vale |
| Brazil | Porto Trombetas | Vale |
| Brazil | Salobo | Vale |
| Brazil | Serra Azul | ArcelorMittal |
| Brazil | Serra Grande | AngloGold Ashanti |
| Brazil | Serra Leste | Vale |
| Brazil | Serra Norte | Vale |
| Brazil | Serra Sul | Vale |
| Brazil | Sossego | Vale |
| Brazil | Urucum | Vale |
| Brazil | Vargem Grande | Vale |
| Chile | Andina | CODELCO |
| Chile | Antucoya | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Carmen de Andacollo | Teck |
| Chile | Centinela | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Cerro Colorado | BHP |
| Chile | Chuquicamata | CODELCO |
| Chile | Collahuasi | Anglo American/Glencore |
| Chile | El Abra | Freeport-McMoRan/CODELCO |
| Chile | El Soldado | Anglo American |
| Chile | El Teniente | CODELCO |
| Chile | Escondida | BHP/Rio Tinto |
| Chile | Gabriela Mistral | CODELCO |
| Chile | Lomas Bayas | Glencore |
| Chile | Los Bronces | Anglo American |
| Chile | Los Pelambres | Antofagasta |
| Chile | Ministro Hales | CODELCO |
| Chile | Punitaqui | Glencore |
| Chile | Quebrada Blanca | Teck |
| Chile | Radomiro Tomic | CODELCO |
| Chile | Salvador | CODELCO |
| Chile | Spence | BHP |
| Chile | Zaldívar | Antofagasta/Barrick Gold Corp |
| Colombia | Calenturitas | Glencore |
| Colombia | Cerrejón | Anglo American/BHP/Glencore |
| Colombia | La Jagua | Glencore |

| Country | Mine Site | Company |
|---|---|---|
| Dominican Republic | Pueblo Viejo | Barrick Gold Corp |
| Guyana | Kurubuka-22 | RUSAL |
| Guyana | Kwakwani | RUSAL |
| Jamaica | Windalco | RUSAL |
| Mexico | Bismark | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Cananea | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Charcas | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Ciénega | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Fresnillo | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Herradura | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | La Caridad | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Las Truchas | ArcelorMittal |
| Mexico | Madero | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Milpillas | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Noche Buena | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Nueva Rosita | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Peña Colorada | ArcelorMittal |
| Mexico | Sabinas | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | San Julián | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | San Martín | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Santa Bárbara | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Santa Eulalia | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Saucito | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Taxco | Grupo México |
| Mexico | Tizapa | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Velardeña | Industrias Peñoles |
| Mexico | Volcan Mines | ArcelorMittal |
| Panama | Cobre Panama | First Quantum Minerals |
| Peru | Antamina | Glencore/Teck |
| Peru | Antapaccay | Glencore |
| Peru | Cerro Corona | Gold Fields |
| Peru | Cerro Verde | Freeport-McMoRan/Buenaventura |
| Peru | Coimolache | Grupo México/Buenaventura |
| Peru | Colquijirca (Marcapunta) | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Colquijirca (Tajo Norte) | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Cuajone | Grupo México |
| Peru | Julcani | Buenaventura |
| Peru | La Zanja | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Lagunas Norte | Barrick Gold Corp |
| Peru | Las Bambas | MMG |
| Peru | Mallay | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Orcopampa | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Tambomayo | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Toquepala | Grupo México |
| Peru | Uchucchacua | Buenaventura |
| Peru | Yanacocha | Newmont/Buenaventura |
| Peru | Yauliyacu | Glencore |
| Suriname | Merian | Newmont |

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