Using Impact Assessment and HR Due Diligence to redefine 'safe tailings' for a just transition



Susan Joyce

President, On Common Ground Consultants Inc. Canada

susan@oncommonground.ca

Insert presenter headshot here.

CLICK & DELETE THIS TEXT BOX.

http://oncommonground.ca

What ESG factors are investors asking about?

	Local community impact					64%
Tai	lings and waste management					55%
	Water stewardship				51%	
	Attaining net-zero emissions				46%	
D	Diversity, equity and inclusion	31%				
	Climatic events	27%				
	Ethical supply chains			26%		
	Health, safety and wellbeing	26%				
	Human rights					
	Green production	Green production 25% Biodiversity 24% Circular economy 23% Mine closure 22%				
	Biodiversity					
	Circular economy					
	Mine closure					
Indige	enous trust and reconciliation		20%			
	Fraud and corruption		16%	From: Ernst & \	/oung 'Top 10	business risks an
	Social inequity		15%	opportunities f	or mining and	I metals in 2024'
	Anti-money laundering	9%				

https://www.ey.com/en_gl/mining-metals/risks-opportunities

A RISK ASSOCIATED WITH THE NEED FOR COPPER IN THE JUST TRANSTION

Typical copper mine (2015) produced 200,000 tonnes of tailings/day from 270,000 tonnes mined (1)

> Increases Each 1/3 Century : Waste volume - 10-fold Area of waste – 5-fold Heights of tailings dams 2-fold

Risk = Likelihood x Probability FOR DAMS Probability 'somewhat' proportional to height Consequences – 'somewhat'

proportional to volume

20X increase in potential risk of failure

(2)

- 1. Grid Arendel: <u>https://www.grida.no/resources/11439</u>
- 2. A.M. Robertson presentation Tailings and Mine Waste Conference 2011

Global Industry Standard for Tailings Management- GISTM The 'ideal'- social assessment integrated into tailings management decision making

Human Rights Due Diligence & SIA/EIA of at-risk areas	Integrated Knowledge Base informs decisions & processes	Assess human exposure and vulnerability to potential failures
Reduce probability & consequences - apply mitigation hierarchies	Multi-disciplinary risk assessments and MAA	Decisions that prioritize 'keeping people safe'

Requirement 2.4 - key integration link

In order to identify the groups most at risk, refer to the updated tailings facility breach analysis to assess and document potential **human exposure and vulnerability** to tailings facility credible failure scenarios.

- Who is exposed to harm and in what ways in case of a failure?
- How does vulnerability to impact change who is most at risk?

https://rise.articulate.com/share/OkwjiT-8S4fMlZqlQZpJ_Blwh0ZgW4qd#/lessons/dMQw5V0enUXsnDQxRUE9tY2Kbmgd025q

This is a work in progress!



ONGOING RESEARCH

ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION BY COMPANIES ONGOING EFFORTS TO FUND AN INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT ORGANIZATION



Initial indications

Why the gaps?

Focus has been primarily on reducing probability

Carrying out focused IA – some cases HRDD but is it changing decision-making?

The **Integrated Knowledge Base** is not that – has yet to be translated into *integrated thinking*

Not assessing human exposure and vulnerability key to identifying *harm* and bringing that into analysis

Integration across engineering and social functions is not a comfortable 'fix'

Redefining 'safe' tailings?

Going beyond engineering fixes Prioritizing the elimination of *harm* from tailings- addressing the consequence side of the risk equation -

We have the tools but not the knowledge - or to date the *experience* at applying it

Towards Zero Harm: A Compendium of papers prepared for the Global Tailings Review https://globaltailingsreview.org/compendium/ Social Performance and Safe Tailings Management: A Critical Connection. Susan Joyce, Deanna Kemp Lessons for Mining from International Disaster Research Deanna Kemp

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.

Susan Joyce

On Common Ground Consultants Inc. Canada

Susan@oncommonground.ca

www.oncommonground.ca



#iaia24