

Assessing The Influence Of Mining On The Community. A Case Study Of Manafwa District.

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in the parishes of Buwaya Sub County Manafwa District of Uganda. The main objective of the study was to investigate the influence of mining companies' activities on socio-economic welfare of mining community a case of Vermiculate of Buwaya Sub County in Manafwa District, Uganda while the specific objectives were; to find out the status of Vermiculate Mining Companies' Activities, establish the Socio-Economic welfare status of the mining community and the influence of mining companies' activities on socio-economic welfare of mining community

The study adopted cross section research design, the sample size of the study was 80, quantitative data was collected using the questionnaire while qualitative using interview guide. The quantitative data was analyzed using statistical package for social science (SPSS) and presented in tables and multiple regression to obtain the level of influence while data qualitative using themes. The study found a very low status of Vermiculate mining companies' activities at (Grand mean = 1.43, SD = 0.48). It also found a very low Socio-Economic welfare status of mining community at (Grand Mean = 1.68, SD = 0.57). The study revealed that provision of employment opportunities was the only activity that positively influenced the socio-economic welfare ($\beta = 20.8$, $P = 0.002$). The study concluded that efforts were needed to improve the very low socio-economic welfare status of the mining community and the provision of employment opportunities was the most important activity. The study thus recommended that mining companies should maximize their influence on socio-economic welfare of mining communities through mechanisms that continuously ensure provision of employment opportunities and the government to design policies that agitate for provision of employment to communities from mining companies.

Key words: Mining, Community and minerals

Background of the study

Globally, mining has become an avenue of growing environmental debate. Government enforcement is

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the most important input in determining the positive and negative impacts of mining given the central role that government plays in the mining sector (K. District et al., n.d.). However, it has been observed that mining is increasingly an activity with a relatively high percentage depending on the nature and amount of raw materials in a given location and appears to be higher than many other Feng and sass occupations (Emmanuel et al., 2023) . The policy of government whistleblowers and its contribution to the improvement of mining has been studied by many researchers. In these studies (Kazaara, 2023) they focused on the mining environment as an aspect of good mining and global deworming control The size of the nature of the raw material such as vermiculite is determined by the mining method and the size is considered to be much better than opencast because open cast occupies a large size. This belief is shared by many countries like USA, European countries, China, Japan and many other countries. And the listing policies created allow drilling that has become impossible due to the nature of the minerals to be mined. In the mining sector, there is no major change due to different minerals, for example minerals like coal, vermiculite, copper and many others require surface method while oil and gas need drilling (Shaminah et al., 2023). However, coercive policies such as expanding the population away from mining areas and using standardized machinery to prevent environmental pollution make mining more peaked (Simeon et al., n.d.). (B. District et al., n.d.) studied the negative factors for mining in pollution zones, environmental degradation due to mass waste flooding can be a barrier to protect various weather conditions in the environment (Aisha et al., 2023). They further suggest that this can be overcome by avoiding wetland mining and trenching to overcome these negative impacts. (Font & Warren, 2013) on the other hand found that mining has led to increased early school leaving (John et al., 2023), child labor has become a serious problem in various mines, so it follows that it should be allowed age staring, in the form of mines (25-48), with the aim of improving working conditions and polishing nearby other inhabitants of various regions.

Statement of the problem

According to researchers, mining as an industry has become a major cause of environmental changes, such as soil erosion and not only the environment but also communities (K. District et al., n.d.). The government therefore directed concerted efforts to ensure a well-developed mining sector. Although there

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is commendable research by miners focusing on government and community empowerment as an important aspect towards better mining, the literature specifically dealing with mining methods as part of a mining contract remains on the periphery of research (Emmanuel et al., 2023). As a result, there is hardly any imperial establishment on the possible way to improve vermiculite mining. It is therefore necessary to conduct research on government factors influencing performance with a clear focus on mining, which is perhaps the reason for the study.

Specific objectives

1. To establish the effect of government policies on workers productivity in the mine.
2. To ascertain the perception of workers on their performance in the mines.

Research questions

1. What is the effect of government policies on workers productivity in the mine?
2. What is the perception of workers on their performance in the mines?

Methodology.

The study was adopted a cross section survey. A cross sectional survey collects data to make inferences about a population of interest (Universe) at one point in time from various respondents Mugenda and Mugenda, (2003). This Approach was adopted in this specific study because it was facilitated the collection of data from more than one school at a given point of time. The study was used both qualitative and quantitative approaches in the research process. Quantitate approach develops an explanatory platform through statistical measurement of the perceived reality. It mainly emphasizes measuring of casual relationship thereby attaching a value to the variables of interest. In this study, the population of the study was comprised company supervisors, Government representatives thereby yielded a sample of 100 respondents. The study was adopted two sampling techniques; purposive sampling and Simple Random Sampling. The study was used questionnaires and interviews for data collection. Respondent's views were treated confidentially and strictly used for academic purpose. Besides, the researcher was also followed accepted norms and regulations of research discipline more especially by respecting people's views and allowing them to give information at their will. The researcher developed both primarily and secondary sources of information and data. In collecting Primary Data, the researcher used

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questionnaires as tools for collecting data. For Secondary Data, publications by re known authors in this field for example magazines, articles, books and News Papers will be used by the researcher to gather information that is required. Data analysis was conducted in SPSS and all results were presented in a tabular (Nelson et al., 2022). Frequencies and percentages were reported at univariate level, correlation and regression analysis were considered for further analysis.

Results.

Effect of government policies in the workers' performance.

Table 1: Correlation between government policies and Worker's performance.

		government policies	Worker's performance
government policies	Pearson Correlation	1	.358**
	sig. (2-tailed)		.036
	N	100	100
Worker's performance	Pearson Correlation	.358**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.036	
	N	100	100

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The correlation analysis showed strong positive significant relationship between contract administration and service delivery ($r=0.358^{**}$, $p=0.036$) (Nelson et al., 2023). The significance value ($p = 0.036$) was less than the critical p value of 0.05 hence the null hypothesis was not rejected therefore the research results show significant positive relationship between government policies and worker performance.

Table 2: Shows the model estimation for government policies and workers' performance

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.158 ^a	.250	.247	1.15921

Findings from the model above revealed that 25% of the variation in workers' performance were explained by government policies. The adjusted R square is less than the R square value because it takes

into consideration the degrees of freedom. The regression coefficient of 0.158 revealed that a unit increase in the government policies resulted into 0.158 units increase in the workers productivity (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022). This is sufficient effice for existence of an effect of government policies on workers productivity.

The perception of workers on their performance in the mines.

Table 2: Shows the perception of workers on their performance in the mines.

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
High	46	46
Moderate	34	34
Low	20	20
TOTAL	100	100

Findings from table 2 above revealed that majority of the respondents (46%) had a high perception over workers performance in mines compare to 34% that responded as moderate and 20% of those that said low.

Summary of the findings.

The correlation analysis presented in Table 1 illustrated a statistically significant and positive relationship between government policies and workers' performance ($r = 0.358^{**}$, $p = 0.036$) (Ntirandekura et al., 2022). This suggested that as government policies, particularly in contract administration, were strengthened, there was a corresponding improvement in service delivery by workers. The significance level of 0.036 was less than the critical p-value of 0.05, indicating that the null hypothesis was not rejected, affirming a meaningful association between government policies and worker performance, the model estimation indicated that 25% of the variance in workers' performance could be explained by government policies (Christopher et al., 2022). The regression coefficient of 0.158 further emphasized the impact of government policies on workers' productivity, suggesting that a unit increase in government policies corresponded to 0.158 units increase in workers' productivity. The adjusted R square, accounting for degrees of freedom, was slightly lower than the R square value. Nevertheless, the findings collectively supported the existence of a substantial effect of government policies on workers' productivity (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022).

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Conclusion

The study was set out to investigate the influence of vermiculite mining companies' activities on the socio-economic welfare of mining community in Bubwaya Sub County Manafwa District. The study concluded that in exception of provision of employment opportunities by vermiculite mining companies' activities that had a significant influence on socio-economic welfare of the mining community. The mining community had very low status of vermiculite Mining Companies' activities on provision of school, health centers and water source infrastructure

Recommendations

The government of Uganda should design policies, guidelines and regulations that are specific to mining which compels mining companies to engage in socio economic welfare programme (education, health, clean water and house hold income).

Non-governmental Organization, should empower mining community to engage dialogue with mining with mining companies on the effects of mining activities and to address them and improve their socio-economic welfare in the long run. 53 Mining companies should maximize their influence on socio- economic welfare of mining community through provision of employment opportunities as the most effective activities and improve on their CSR initiatives.

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