

"Implementing Responsible Mining for the Just Transition"  
Side Event to the BMZ High-Level Forum on Mineral Supply Chains

# Breaking Ground: Exploring the Gendered Impact of the Energy Transition on Mining Communities

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



**WOMEN'S RIGHTS  
AND MINING**

# Speakers

- Dr. Angela Langenkamp, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, (GIZ)
- Dr. John Jacobs, Global Affairs Canada, (GAC)
- Ege Tekinbas, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, (IGF)
- Joanne Lebert, Impact Transform
- Fatima Vally, Mining Affected Communities United, (MACUA) and Women Affected in Mining United in Action, (WAMUA) Advisory Office, (MWAO)



# Future: Gloomy or bright?





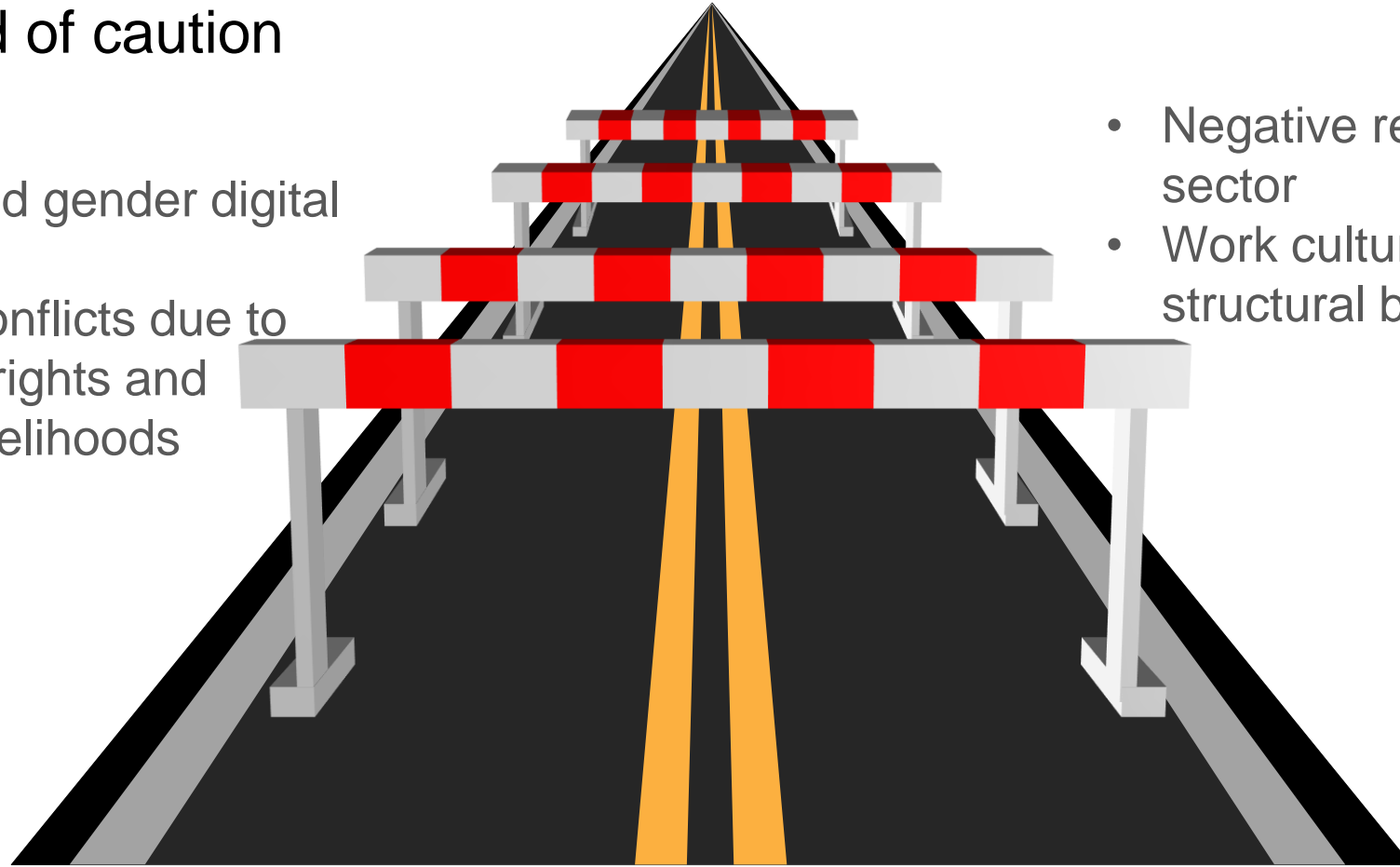
**IGF**

# Future: Gloomy or Bright?

## Word of caution

- Digital divide and gender digital divide
- Risk of social conflicts due to water and land rights and availability of livelihoods

- Negative reputation of the sector
- Work culture related and structural barriers



# Opportunity

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a light-colored top and a patterned apron, is shown in profile, focused on sorting through a large, light-colored bag filled with dark mineral ore. Her hands are positioned over the bag, and she appears to be carefully examining the contents. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and more bags of ore, suggesting a busy mining or processing site. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the ore and the woman's clothing.

## ASM Mining livelihoods are more valuable for women than men

In DRC, women earn 180% more in mine sites than outside of mine sites

In Rwanda, 30% more lucrative for men vs. **223%** more lucrative for women

In Uganda, 64% more lucrative for men vs. **335% F** more lucrative for women

Survey data across seven 3TG mining areas (Buss, Lebert et al. Extractive Industries & Society, Nov 2019:5)

# The context : gender & cobalt

Women rely on cobalt mining for three reasons:

1. highest earning job
2. cash at the end of each day
3. requires no investment and little training or skill.

Women are very often the main breadwinners in households

ASM Communities survive on less than \$1USD per day

Little to no agriculture = imported food & goods; very expensive

Over 125 years of intensifying large scale mining



# Impacts & Challenges of Critical Minerals on women & their householders in DRC's ASM cobalt communities

Intense focus on **CHILD LABOUR** in supply chains as a risks; focus on removal of risk (fences etc.)

BUT Little focus on underlying conditions: poverty and **HUNGER (FOOD INSECURITY)**

*Women understand children are not allowed to work in mine sites (fear being 'caught'); no other alternatives for survival.*

BUT Little focus on causes of food insecurity & their gendered impacts

*Examples:*

*Absence of Land Tenure & Land Rights → agriculture/biodiversity*

*Energy Insecurity*

*Corruption*

**Hand in hand** with women & men in local communities, we **need to better understand root causes**, the needs & priorities of communities, and **the consequences of our actions**

**We need to INVEST in women.**

*What we heard:*

*"It is suffering that brings children to the mine site. When living conditions were better, children went to school and played." Eloise\* – artisanal cobalt miner*

*"[That mother] is the only person who knows why she must work with her child. No one has the right to judge her." Nanette\* – artisanal cobalt miner*

*\* Names changed*

# Knowledge is Power

*The Right Data can ensure gender equity IF :*

**1. It makes visible what we don't know**

*Existing inequalities, vulnerabilities and power dynamics in the mining ecosystem*

**2. If it makes apparent how to do better to avoid unplanned effects and for lasting change**

**3. If that data serves women, households & communities**

**Accountability vs Data Extractivism**



*For decades, the development/humanitarian sector has known that... interventions risk worsening deep inequalities because we don't know what we don't know (gender, class, age, ethnicity, etc...)*

## **MEAL: Monitoring Evaluation, Accountability & Learning**

Part of everyday program management for experienced NGOs with proven track records; without an effective MEAL system we are unable to:

track progress

make adjustments

discover unplanned effects of programs

judge the impact that we have made on the lives of those with whom we are working

A MEAL system also helps us all to be accountable to our stakeholders





## How it works

<https://youtu.be/mbiUa1Txfjo>

<https://impacttransform.org/en/bloom-by-impact/>

*Basic access to reports; Unlimited access for a fee; connect via APIs with your traceability of choice for supply chain overlay; integrate with internal enterprise systems*

Bloom by IMPACT is an **out-of-the box monitoring and evaluation tool** that empowers you to understand how your supply chain affects communities. Know whether you are having a positive contribution in people's lives and where to improve practices.

**Sourcing Standards + Social Impact metrics + Regulations** structured to speak to each other for a **single data collection tool tailored to the user's priorities** and capacities

A standardized approach to confidently say that one is sourcing responsibly and what one's footprint is on women & men in a community or supply chain; analysis is thus comparable across commodities and contexts irrespective of user

**Blooms' values are fundamentally anchored in Accountability & Shared Learning (MEAL) :**

Data serving the needs of all stakeholders & empowering them to use data and learnings for smarter and more effective decision-making and interventions

A dirt road winds through a lush tropical landscape. The road is flanked by tall palm trees and other tropical vegetation. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a cloudy sky. Several people are visible on the road, some walking and some standing. The overall scene is a rural, tropical setting.

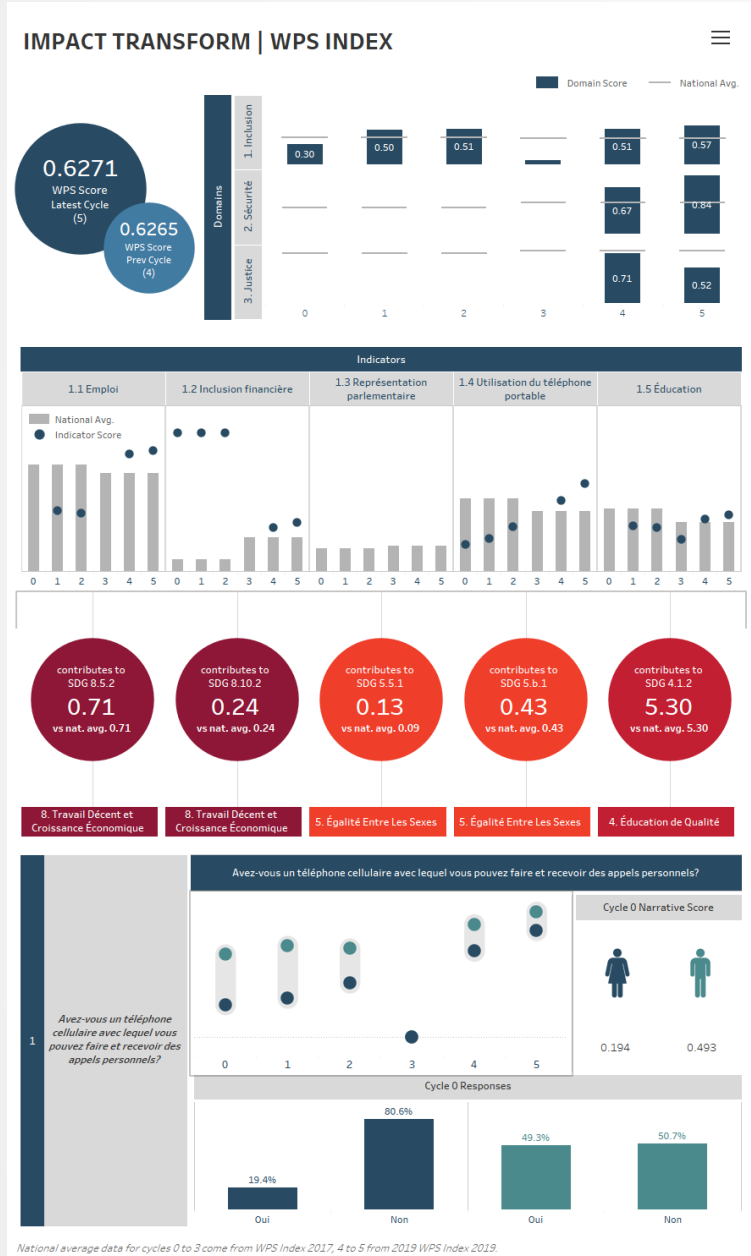
[www.impacttransform.org](http://www.impacttransform.org)

[jlebert@impacttransform.org](mailto:jlebert@impacttransform.org)

# Reporting Dashboard examples

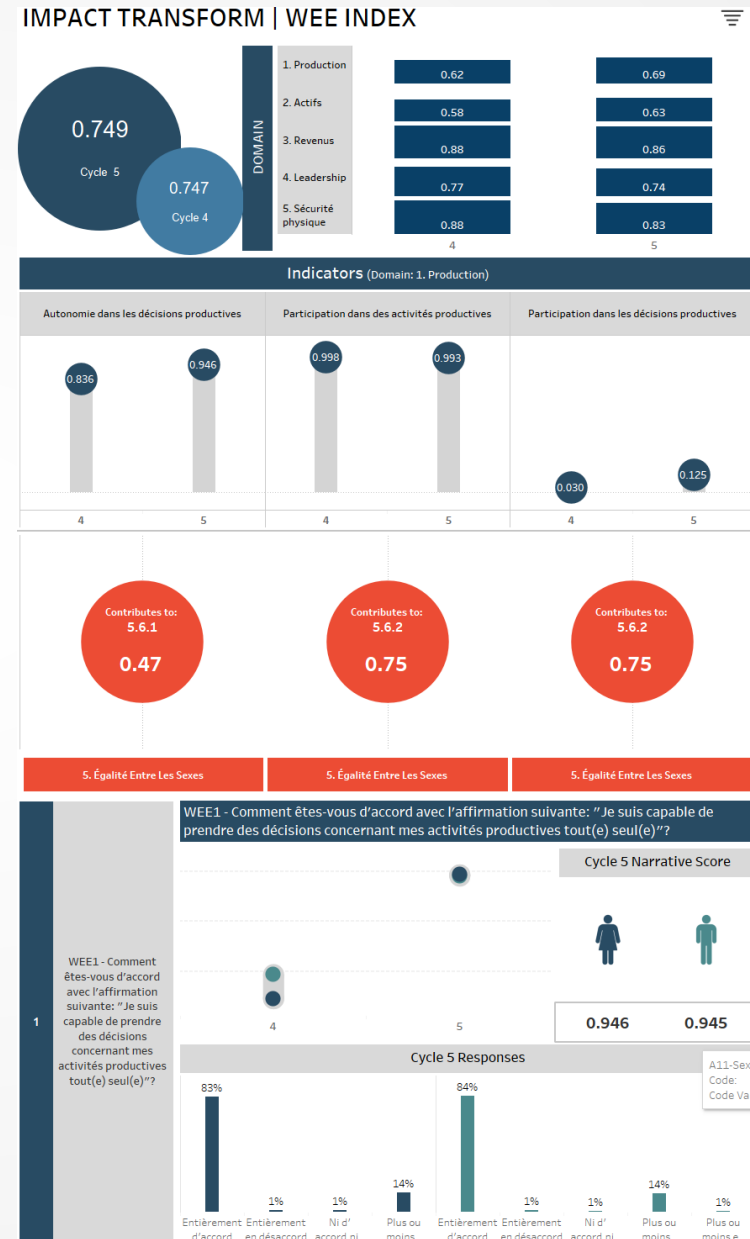
Data can be reported out using different framework

An early pilot example (using SDG reporting framework)



WPS: Women, Peace and Security Index

Fully functional Data loaded example dashboards are available upon request for exploration



WEE: Women's Economic Empowerment Index

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