2nd SLO Workshop: SLO and Regional Development Perspectives

Summary Report

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & DISCLAIMER

Introduction

This MIREU Report provides information on the inputs, discussions and outcomes of the **2nd SLO Workshop: SLO and Regional Development Perspectives, which took place in Leoben, Austria on October 23-25, 2018.**

This workshop (WS) was the second in a series of stakeholder workshops organized in the MIREU project. The main objective of WS 2 was to **explore the linkages between social license to operate (SLO) and regional development**. Consequently, the workshop had **two objectives: to learn from each other, especially from participating regions, and to gather inputs and insights for the SLO guidelines and toolbox**, to be developed later as part of the MIREU project.

After a general "Welcome & Introduction" Session, the structure and flow of the second MIREU SLO WS included the following aspects: Day 1 focused on **"Regional Development"** and included a setting the scene panel, presentations from MIREU regions and a site visit of the Erzberg Iron ore mine. Day 2 included a clustering session with other EU projects and focused on the connections between regional development and SLO, by concentrating on four topics as described in detail below.

The **agenda** of the WS, **presentations** and a **participants list** can be accessed here.

Welcome & Introduction

Peter Moser, Montanuniversitaet Leoben

- Introduction of Montanuniversitaet Leoben: a focus on mining and metallurgy. The university's vision is tied to the circular economy. It applies an experimental approach to research- e.g. they are opening a test laboratory near the iron ore mine.

Veronique Woule-Ebongue, EASME

"Raw material research and innovation in Horizon 2020"

- Introduced EASME, the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises that "manages programmes on behalf of the European Commission, turning EU policies into action."
- The Raw Materials Initiative is the EU's strategy for tackling the issue of access to raw materials in the EU. It has three pillars: 1. Ensure level playing field in access to resources in third countries 2. Foster sustainable supply from European sources. 3. Boost resource efficiency and recycling. The EC has published a third list of critical raw materials in 2017, with 27 raw materials.
- The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Raw Materials is a stakeholder platform; it reinforces the Raw Materials Initiative.
- An expected impact of the 2016-2017 work programme was to improve the awareness, acceptance and trust of society in sustainable raw materials production within the EU. Work programme 2018-20 reiterates the society's acceptance and trust component.
- Actions under the work programme include both technology and non-technology pillars.
- Developing SLO guidelines under MIREU falls within raw materials policy support action, recognising the importance of public acceptance and social trust.

Kaisa Turunen, GTK

- Introduced MIREU: "MIREU is all about regions, the aim is to network them together".
- MIREU aims to identify SLO aspects, identifying factors that are hampering or enhancing mining operations.

Pamela Lesser, University of Lapland

- Defining SLO at two levels, national and regional:
  - National SLO (drivers of trust and acceptance: procedural fairness, distributional fairness and confidence in governance).
  - Regional/Local SLO (drivers of trust and acceptance: perceived procedural fairness, contact quality and impacts on social infrastructure).
  - Add roles and responsibilities of stakeholders to the national and regional/local SLO: regulatory authorities, affected communities, companies and civil society.
  - The toolbox could be directed at each of the stakeholder groups.

Michael Tost, Montanuniversitat Leoben

- Workshop overview and objectives
- There is a need in SLO work to foster peer learning and identify needed toolbox & guidelines input.

Regional Development

Michael Hitch, TTU and Ian Thomson, On Common Ground Consultants Inc.

1. When mining arrives to town (Canada & Australia), does it stand-alone or considered in terms of the entire supply chain? (check) - Moderator

Hitch:

- Europe and Australia are both diverse, but in a sense, both are controlled from the top. There is a strong local legislation in Australia and regions with competing land use interests. There is a need for a land use dialogue to discuss how natural resource development should take place.
- It is very hard to apply a one-size fits all approach. Australia has seven states. New South Wales has a deeply integrated process. Of the three pillars (social, economic, environmental) the focus weighs heavily on economic development, not currently looking at cumulative impacts. There is open-pit and underground mining, and coal mining. A dialogue has been initiated (Upper Hunter Valley dialogue) on competing land use.
- In Canada, there is a need to find out who the communities are and their relations. For example, in mixed communities (Inuit and Non-Inuit) it might be agreements are made with the Inuit but Non-Inuit find challenges with that, a case of "differential social licence" [some communities benefit from

European Commission

actions, while others are left out]. This is a problem, if for example healthcare and infrastructure are impacted.

- Impact and Benefit Agreements are a good structural framework to deal with these challenges.

Thomson:

- Canada's history is tied to building from the raw materials base- fur initially and now there is diversification in the resources. Social license is embedded in the framework for filling the structural gaps in natural resource development. It is a social contract. It is essential, as there is severed title with surface rights for the Crown i.e. industry and rights to the ground below for the first nations. Thus there are two ownership structures: national and local, and overlapping claims between companies, first nations and the Crown. Revenue flows are managed at the national level and engineered to the first nations. This might be ok, if people think its fair. Without fairness there won't be good things happening. Companies should negotiate agreements.
- The World Bank also recommends that companies should actively look to negotiate agreements (Impact and Benefit Agreements) as a platform for jointly moving forward.
- In Fort St. James in Canada, the company shipped out resources, not building any social infrastructure for the community. Companies make agreements with first nations but where do municipalities fit?

2. Differential Social License

- In Nunavut, Article 26 of the Land Claims Agreement deals with Impacts and Benefit Agreements. Cambridge Bay is a federal hamlet with a mixed community: beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. A mining company starts pulling out all the technical people out of the community to work on the mine. This raises the question of differential social license, i.e. people benefitting from the natural resource development and those that are left behind. - Hitch
- Differential Social License could possibly be applicable in Europe, with local community beneficiaries and others. - Hitch
- A contrasting example to differential social license is that of the Red Dog Mine, with full beneficiaries, full title to both surface and sub surface. On differential social license, the need is for everyone to feel that the process is fair. A lot of initiative lies with the company but there is an expectation of collaboration. – Thomson

3. Is there a difference in projects dealing with indigenous nations and not? In Europe, indigenous nations are only in the North. - Moderator

- Hitch explains that in Australia, the indigenous situation is very different from Canada. They haven't been able to organise as much. Soft points for dialogue and engagement- even the involvement of civil society for example, would be quite different if there are indigenous nations and not.

4. Defining Communities of Interest is of the essence

- Hitch explains that for a company this means identifying whom to talk to establish relationships, when it first enters a community. He would talk to the general store owner, while Ian would talk to

the medico. Talking with the mayor would most likely arouse community suspicion (at least in South America). The regional representatives from Portugal seemed to differ and noted that the mayor makes the connections with influential people in Portugal.

- A participant notes that in Europe governments have legitimacy as compared to companies. People trust governments more; therefore governments have to push engagement strategy. Another participant explains the Finnish context, that it is crucial to take into account the different stakeholders in terms of who would have stakes in the conflicting land use situation (tourism v indigenous peoples v companies). A multitude of things are to be taken into account for SLO- it is important to talk these through and modify original plans if necessary.
- Thomson recommends that companies should create a 'social profile' for the community so that they go in with sufficient knowledge, knowing whom to talk to and what.

5. Social v legal license

- A participant compares political license to operate and social license to operate in the UK and discusses how a getting a political license is crucial in the UK, but not the same as social license.

Another participant gives the example of a lignite project that had all the legal licenses but there were protestors still and when the company went to clear the forest, a protestor got killed. Thus there was no social license. Ian comments that a company might win in court based on legal license, but not on the street.

Regions session 1: Castilla y Leon (Spain), Vasterbotten (Sweden), Saxony (Germany)

Ramon Cabrera, Castilla y Leon, Spain (SIEMCALSA)

- Gives an overview of the region of CyL: metal-mechanics industry, food industry and energy are the key industries. Important socio-economic and socio-environmental factors are: challenges with rural population e.g. ageing; there are some overlaps between the geographic distribution of mining activities and nature. Overview of mining and metallurgy activities: there is coal mining still, but it generates employment in the region.
- Regional Development Strategy: Priority 4 includes mineral raw materials, mainly focussed on efficiency, competiveness and circular economy. The Mineral Resources Strategy includes a Society component- integration of mining activities in the society, social license. Thus there is an approach of integration of mining into the broader regional development. Mining has a crucial role in the development of certain areas in the region.
- Civic engagement for mining policy: Castilla y Leon employs participatory approaches to regional development and has accepted social acceptance of mining/SLO as relevant. Participatory approaches are embedded in the regional development strategy as public participation is regulated by law and carried out through an Open Government Portal.
- Social Acceptance/ SLO of Mining: this is tied with social rejection i.e. popular hostility to mining projects and their weight in municipal, provincial or regional decisions relating to mining projects development. Regional support for mining is diverse and this is remarkable in Castilla y Leon, and some other regions.
- Lessons learned: importance of public awareness; good communication (especially company-local stakeholder interaction) and the desirability of administrative support: generating rules to induce

companies to act appropriately, clarifying the mining projects framework, making land use planning congruent with traditional livelihoods (also the role and input of the public in creating the framework, and land use planning policy)

Jörgen Niemann, Vasterbotten, Sweden

- Overview of the region: Västerbotten is the second largest county in Sweden, sparsely populated, and most of the population is concentrated on the coastline. Traditional economic sectors have been ore and mining, wood and waste powder. There are other sectors now. For example, a battery factory is under construction. Despite the importance of metallurgy, development is focussed on a variety of sectors in the municipality.
- Regional Development Strategy: Vasterbotten has a regional strategy for innovation and sustainable development of the mineral sector: Regional Innovation Strategy-2025
- Boliden is a key actor in mining in the region with its high-tech infrastructure, expertise in electronic waste recycling. Boliden has high expertise for example in electronic waste recycling and mining.
- Legacy of mining: A smaller mining company went bankrupt, left the mining site with leakages, polluted substances. The discussion was: why should the taxpayer pay for the cleaning up? Legislation was enacted to take care of this situation- to avoid that taxpayer has to cover costs for tidying up. Boliden has started to get better reputation as they re-opened old mines using new technology e.g. to extract gold more efficiently; also a metal used to build solar panels.
- SLO in Västerbotten: SLO: "earned by the company, given by the local community. Opposing land use interests is the biggest issue. Being pro mines versus reindeer herding. The right of Sami for reindeerherding: area covered; national parks etc. Bad news on mining is interesting for the media. Example of an iron ore mine opening- protests by environmental professionals/activists.
- Concluding remarks: Is it SLO or "relations with broader society"

Meng Chun Lee, Saxony, Germany

- Overview of the region: Saxony is a relatively low-income region in Germany, with significant metal industry. The public has a positive attitude towards industry; regional planning takes concerns of mining industry into account. Mining & Metallurgy might be included to key industries of Saxony in the future. There is a focus on attracting more mining investment by optimising frameworks.
- Innovation Strategy of the Free State of Saxony (RIS3) 2013: this is being currently revised, and the role of mining and metallurgy is to be duly incorporated. Saxon Raw Materials Strategy focus area relevant for SLO: creating awareness of raw materials through education.
- On Civic engagement: there is a legal requirement for participatory approaches in regional development (RIS3)
- Despite the high acceptance of mining activities, external ideology driven "movements" and social incentives (such as higher employment in other industries) have an impact on local decision-making.
- In the context of regional development, the conflict between two industries: re-opening of mines and tourism (preserving mining heritage) needs to be addressed.

Discussion

- Whether mining strategies are published documents? Yes, for all the three regions but in the local languages (Spanish, Swedish, German).

- Mining activities in Sweden go back about 400 years, and about a hundred years in Vasterbotten. Mining legislation in Sweden enacted in 1673 and then revised in 1723 was in the Sami language, with rights for the Sami. There is now a conflict between reindeer herding and mining because of current legislation. There are 60000 reindeer in Vasterbotten, a challenge for the local community. On consultation: municipalities are in the forefont, not the indigenous peoples unlike in Canada. The protestors referred to by the Vasterbotten presentation were not necessarily professional protestors, in fact could also include the Sami from Russia. The main newspapers addressed the issue. The European Union has passed a resolution on incorporating indigenous peoples' views, and that their interests should be protected.
- A participant notes that from the experience in the UK, it is crucial to take account of 'values' in the strategy.
- Boliden is technologically advanced (also exploring robotic mining). In fact, the mining industry in Sweden is an example for advanced mining technology. The implication on jobs is another matter. Communities have their own values, they do not yield to the 'common good'.
- Participant: there are contradictions in regional mining policies. For example, at the federal level in Germany, the policy is to import raw materials. Bureaucrats in Brussels are not so aware about the difference. In fact, policies are hidden away in the regional languages.

Lunch Lecture

Michael Hitch and Mark Jones

Market Power, Breaking free of your bubble.

- Risk Loop has invested in a technology tool using an Artificial Intelligence algorithm that conducts "narrative analyses". With respect to MIREU, the narrative analysis on a 'social license to operate' i.e. data analytics from media sources, could potentially show what groups of people are driving the conversation and what components of the narrative are important to pay attention to. Words from related concepts like EIA, SIA, ESG i.e. whatever is representative of relevant content are plugged in and the tool pulls together stories from the media that contain those words. A set of countries has been chosen and in the first stage, the tool was tested to pull media sources from the identified countries. The data source is mainstream media, blogs and social media. Thereafter, an analysis is undertaken using a conceptual framework for different kinds of communication/engagement and plotted on a graph. The most powerful communication falls in the quadrants: timeless and transformational (example: stories on "women in mining").
- Took up the example of Adani's coal mining project in Australia and popular (emotional) responses to it, using news sources.
- Focus is on unmet needs: measuring engagement. In short, this analysis helps to navigate markets. Goal → Reality → Options. Risk Loop offers a high-tech analytical approach, that offers a possible new tool for the SLO toolkit. This should be considered, as even economically viable analysis isn't enough, if the company gathers a bad reputation. Using new data would enable a better understanding of the business environment.
- Observation: Focus should be on communication. Often (82 percent of marketing money is going to wrong address) marketing money is wasted, as it is lacks considering emotional responses.
- Results on SLO: 1. The facts are not final, but suggestive, give an idea of the trend. There is a pattern of narratives: represent stories, brands. 2. The popular reaction to SLO is not as expected. For example, people don't care as much about SLO in Australia, contrary to expectations. 3. People's

awareness about SLO is generally limited, it is only actively discussed in some countries. Anyhow mostly not in a positive light.

Regions Session 2: Styria (Austria), Andalusia (Spain), Cornwall (UK), Lower Silesia (Poland), Region of Alentejo and the Municipality of Altjustrel (Portugal).

The afternoon started with a mine visit, followed by presentations from VA Erzberg, the owner and operator of the mine.

Alfred Stadtschnitzer, VA Erzberg GmbH, Erzberg Iron Ore Mine, Austria

"Styrian Iron Road"

- Information about the company: the core activity is iron ore production. Other aspects of its business are mining services, tourism activities and real estate management.
- The product is fine ore. The presentation discussed the product, geological composition of the deposit, open pit overview, modelling, drilling and blasting, loading, transportation. Production is automated. The production process includes wet processes, and involves wastewater treatment.

Discussion

- A participant asked the presenter how the mining company manages to find people to work on the mine. Alfred noted that there are challenges in getting people from the inner region.
- Another participant asks *first,* how many women are working in the mine; *second,* whether the company produces sustainability reports. Alfred answered there are women drivers, and the company is considering ways to enable women to go into production. The sustainability report is prepared at a higher level, by another company.
- Regional representatives asked what the company does to recover the landscape. Alfred replied they had to cut the trees, and planted them elsewhere. An Austrian participant adds that the mine is cultural heritage, and will stay as it is. There was discussion about nominating it as a world heritage site but then it was decided against it as active mining would then involve to many restrictions.
- A question was asked about mine waste that is generated. It is limestone, which is used for construction on sites around the mine. The company is also searching for alternate products.

Gerfried Tiffner, VESTE/Eisenerz, Austria

- Gave a presentation titled: 'Nature, mining and industry'.
- Background: Mining led to a prospering and still on-going steel industry in the region: Upper Styria East. In fact, this is where industrialization started.
- There is population loss in the city of Eisenerz, close to the iron ore mine. In 2018 it has approximately 4200 inhabitants and the number is still falling. It is almost the "oldest" city of Austria (with the lowest birth rate) and dealing with the demographic challenge.
- A city development programme has been initiated. Actions taken include centralization of the city (a policy that in future only the downtown area would be developed). The old miners' housing quarter is being reused for tourism.
- On Mining and culture: customs of miners and steel workers along the Old Styrian mining route have become intangible UNESCO cultural heritage since October 2018.
- Social acceptance of mining: strong local identification with mining for generations.
- Modern Image: Erzberg is strongly working on the modern image of mining, i.e. "mining as a modern way of life". A new research centre will be launched in 2019.
- On mining and regional development: LEADER programme has been launched.

Discussion with the Mayor, Christine Holzweber

- How would you compare tourism before and after the designation as UNESCO Cultural Heritage? The mayor noted that the 'intangible heritage' designation is more important for the region, not so much tourism.
- From a heritage point of view, should there be a new mine? The mayor replies that growing into a larger mine is good from a development perspective. Also, it would bring the youth back.
- Do you want to be a tourism centre or tourism and mining? What should EU policy do to fulfil your vision? The mayor responded that the LEADER programme is due to the EU. It also involves civil society. Creating awareness about where the raw material comes from is important, for people to acknowledge that local, regional mining is good. Also, at the moment the region is a hybrid of both tourism and mining activities. But realistically speaking, mining might come to an end. Sports centres growing out of mining could be a viable option.
- How can the environmental footprint be reduced? By using alternate products. Looking to replace coking coal with hydrogen in the long term future.
- Are there any environmental issues from the mine that create friction in the community? There is nothing from the current mine but people come and ask if there could be something in the future. An Austrian participant adds that there is another mine site. Also, water- a huge issue in some parts where mines are located is not an issue in Austria.
- On jobs and job security v environmental issues: people in the past leant in favour of air quality.

Manuel Vasques Mora, Andalusia, Spain

- Overview of the region: there has been prehistoric mining in the area, and 500 active mines currently.
- Role of mining and metallurgy: High mineral potential in the area
- Regional development approaches and focus areas: "endogenous territorial based resources", renewable energy.
- Civic engagement: participatory approaches in regional development and social acceptance/SLO of mining in Andalusia.

- Social acceptance: ancient mining history makes it easy to understand for people and is also an employment resource. There is a clash of interest with ecologists, but not with respect to social aspects.
- Challenges: Educational materials draw a negative image of mining. Also, a lack of processing industry precedents.

Alison Allen, Cornwall, UK

- Overview of the region: Cornwall is the smallest of the mining regions under MIREU. It has some unique features: the region has no mines but a number of quarries- aggregates and stones and world-class clay mines. It has a huge amount of technical capability for mining. It is depressed in terms of its economics, one of the less developed regions. There is a declining heavy industry and no manufacturing in Cornwall currently. Tourism and agriculture are significant GDP contributors. There is an ageing population and environmental pressures for example, water. There are plans to open new mines.
- Regional Development: various regional schemes are going on and some overlap with the mining supply chain, such as smart specialisation. Currently there are no funds specifically for mining as mining hasn't been on the agenda. At the local government level mining has been raised to one of "top 10 interests" (at number 7). Regional development barriers: lack of funding and complex legislation creating potential investment risks.
- Special environmental factor: there are protected areas and nature reserves; so mining sites would have to be overlaid with the two. There are sites of special scientific interest (SSSI), predominantly environmental.
- On civic engagement: there is no statutory requirement (it could be done voluntarily post planning). There is no SIA in the EIA legislation. SLO is not a widely recognised term. There is no guidance for SLO. There have been cases of poor disclosure, lack of consultation and project failures.
- SLO conditions: historically a mining area. In fact, there is an emotional attachment to mining in Cornwall. Some mines aim for SLO, in some SLO is strong due to jobs. Some areas do not have SLO, and these are often along the coast where people with higher incomes live, and mining would have complex environmental consequences. Thus there is the special demographic- spatial dynamic of people living along the coast versus those living in inland areas.

Zuzanna Lacny, Lower Silesia, Poland

- Overview of the region: one of the most industrialized areas in Poland, mostly because of copper mining and rock minerals. High industry and tourism potential in the region. Industry: 3 copper mines, 3 copper smelters, 1 lignite mine, 221 rock mineral deposits-Lower Silesia is very rich in raw materials. Rock mining is also important- elements for building and road. One of the biggest lignite mines.
- Regional Development Strategy: Civic engagement: A survey was conducted- social acceptance in mining regions is quite high but not so much at national level
- KGHM: a big mining corporation- operating in Poland since 1961. Its financial contribution: taxes, donation to healthcare etc
- On Civic engagement: no SLO regulations but social acceptance is a common topic.
- Case: Legnica- development of lignite mine. More than 90% voted against- project suspended because of public opposition
- Lessons learned: proper reclamation and revitalisation of post-mining areas

Jorge Pulido Valente, Alentejo, Portugal

- Overview of the region: also a coastal region like Cornwall; Distribution of Natura 2000 regions in the region
- Regional Development: There is a regional as well as national strategy on mining in Portugal. The different sectors in the region are: Deep water port; Oil industry along the coast; Aeronautical industry in several parts; Tourism sector; Mining. Earlier no jobs for people, now no people for the jobs – demographic challenge: Older population
- Region and mining & metallurgy: Alentejo's mineral potential: minerals and stone extraction. No smelters in Portugal
- Civic engagement: Integration of mining into the broader regional development approach. Mining sector is relevant for the region: investment, employment, families' revenue. Companies do what they are legally obliged to do and not more.
- Lessons: Lack of information/data; No transparency, no reports; Big companies do not give information

Marcus Aquiar, Aljustrel, Portugal

- Almina mining is a large actor in the mining sector. It provides more than a thousand jobs (1200 approx.). Due to it the region has a higher than average industry level and income.
- Aljustrel Mining Park: there is a plan to have a mining park with variety of services, such as tourism and a museum- underground gallery displaying the five thousand years of history of mining in the area.

Strengths: strong cultural identity, mining heritage, good road access, research. Urban life and mine are integrated (for example dust or air quality –directly in people's homes resulting in fast governmental action). Weaknesses: environmental liabilities of the mining industry, weak local business dynamics, demographic ageing, among others.

Recap of Day 1

Pamela Lesser:

- Knowing who in the media are driving the SLO conversation, and which stakeholders actually care about that conversation, is important: lesson from the lunch presentation.
- Joint monitoring is a good practice. In Canada for example, uranium-mining companies enjoy a good reputation with the first nations. They set up joint environmental monitoring very early on.
- Community agreements are important.
- SLO is values driven and it is important to prepare a community's social profile.
- Differential SLO is applicable to Europe and should be looked at more deeply.

Angelika Brechelmaier, Meng Chun Lee, George Tentes, Marco Komac

SLIM

- SLIM stands for Sustainable low impact mining solution for exploitation of small mineral deposits based on advanced rock blasting and environmental technologies
- Main focus: to develop cost effective and sustainable low impact mining solutions. Four dimensions: technical, ecological, economic and social.
- Social scope: dissemination and communication with stakeholders at different levels; public awareness, acceptance, trust and communication
- SLIM and SLO:
    - Workshops with the locals in two mining regions
    - Preparing easy to understand brochures, information about the project to the locals
    - Training program in cooperation with universities
- Things that are working well:
    - Communication
- Still to be done: communication with NGOs.

FAME

- FAME stands for Flexible and Mobile Economic Processing Technologies
- Main focus: improvement and development of new processing technologies for complex oxidic ores
- Dealing with SLO: Work package 6 on environmental and socio-political assessment
    - "Stakeholder mapping plus"
- Milestones and bottlenecks
- Discussion: Question on socio-political assessment.

REMOVAL

- REMOVAL i.e., Removing Waste from Alumina Production (red mud)
- Main focus: waste mining. The project tackles the issue of red mud that is one of the wastes of alumina production. Red mud is stockpiled on land. It considers six different methods to valorise red mud. The aim to use mine wastes, not touch virgin resources.
- Waste mining may be the new source of wealth- it reduces financial and social costs for industries. Thus there is a significant cost advantage as the raw material is procured for free. Using waste also creates downstream activities and new employment. Overall, it assists societies in becoming more resilient.
- Challenge: Waste mining is an additional industrial activity. There is lack of uniformity on dealing with it. Should there be additional policy instruments?
- SLO Considerations: societies realise the need to move towards zero waste strategies. Also related is the acceptance for opening a heritage site.

INFACT

- INFACT stands for Innovative Non-invasive and Fully Acceptable Exploration Technologies.

- Main focus: the project has three goals: 1. Support development of non-invasive exploration technologies, 2. Ensure stakeholder voices are heard, 3. Look worldwide for best practices to apply in the EU.
- The project also aims to avoid blind drillings and to narrow down processes to those that are essential.
- It has been operationalized in three areas: Sakatti (Finland), Geyer (Germany), Seville (Spain)
- SLO aspects: Innovative Stakeholder engagement; Creating documentation for policy makers

Regional development topics & SLO link

Civil society actors/ environmental agencies

Herwig Schuster, Greenpeace, Austria

- Presentation on Mining, the environment and SLO: Social and Environmental Acceptance of Mining Projects.
- 'Mining and environmentalists don't go together'
- Two types of environmental impacts: 1. Impacts of the mining project; 2. Impacts of the product
- Ecologically unacceptable projects where Greenpeace engages in full opposition from an environmental point of view: 1. uranium mining (opposed in principle); 2. Coal; 3. tar sands, unconventional fossil fuels; 4. mercury, cadmium (there is no cadmium mining in Europe anymore)
- On methodology for campaign decisions: The first question would be to consider if the mining project is necessary. There is for example no need for additional gold mining. Bauxite is different. Another question would be if the product is supporting the SDGs? : If YES, Greenpeace will not oppose it— environmental opposition will be low and/or limited to specific issues with the project. Examples are lithium, rock wool. Presents a graph to illustrate the conceptual model for campaign decisions: sustainability/usefulness of product on the y-axis and environmental concerns (project, location) on the x-axis.
- There are examples of "necessary mining" and "non-necessary mining". Greenpeace opposes the latter.
- Environmental and social criteria for individual mining projects
    - No destruction of high conservation value areas (HCV)
    - HCV: 1. already protected (eg. national park/IUCN, UNESCO biosphere park, Flora-Fauna Habitat directive) and 2. those that should be protected according to existing criteria (governments should protect these but do not currently do so)
- Risk management
    - "best available management" of mining waste
    - best available environmental standards ---- for the transport and renewable energy sectors. The aim is minimising noise and emissions, state of the art waste management.
    - reliable rehabilitation plans
- Greenpeace's role is to mediate between local resistance and govt. policy

Discussion:

- A participant asks about the decision making process at Greenpeace. Schuster notes that Greenpeace has a global programme and decisions are made according to global campaign priorities. Relevant projects are chosen accordingly.

- A question was asked on how Greenpeace views the energy transition. Schuster notes the priority is to consider the transition in the transport/mobility sector.
- A comment was made on the outright coal mining ban proposal of Greenpeace. Some decades are needed for the transition. Not all coal is bad- there is a difference between thermal and metallurgical coal. The media has in fact also not made this distinction.

Charette workshop on different topics related to specific regional questions

- **Themes:** environmental concerns, SLO, mining and misunderstandings, mine closure and tourism,
- **Presentation and discussion of the preliminary results:** Inputs for the three themes were collected under four heads: 1. Enabling factors; 2. Barriers; 3. Link and contribution to SLO; 4. Link and contribution to regional development

The results of the four break outs are summarised here.

Closing comments

Pamela Lesser and Michael Tost thanked participants for their input during two very fruitful days.

Mines, regions and other actors should work together to develop SLO at the national, regional/local levels- after considering the different perspectives. There is a need for new local rules, and identification of responsibilities of stakeholders in mitigating impacts, taking note of megatrends and drivers.