LOCATING THE MINING AND MINERALS SECTOR WITHIN THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Purpose:

- guide research
- starting point for framework
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Economy

Society Environment

Promote equity

Mining and minerals

Enhance social benefit

Reduce envl impact
Fault lines of sustainable development

- Weak Environmental Protection
- Strong Environmental Protection
- Egalitarian Equity
- Non-egalitarian Equity
- Bottom-up Participation
- Top-down Participation
- Weak Social Development
- Strong Social Development
Background

- Strong dependence

- Catalyst for sustainable development (SD)

“How can the mining and minerals sector best contribute to Southern Africa’s transition to Sustainable Development?”
The goals for sustainable development in the Southern Africa region are to:

- accelerate economic growth with greater equity and self-reliance;
- improve the health, income and living conditions of the poor majority;
- ensure equitable and sustainable use of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.
A vision for sustainable development in Southern Africa.

Social system
To improve the health, income and living conditions of the poor majority

Economic system
To accelerate economic growth with greater equity and self-reliance

Natural system
To ensure equitable and sustainable use of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

This diagram illustrates the interconnections between the social, economic, and natural systems, highlighting the need for a holistic approach to sustainable development.
Key Assumptions:

- No one individual institution, industry or state can achieve SD.

- Therefore need close collaboration among stakeholders.
Prerequisites for sustainable development

Stakeholders must promote the necessary conditions for sustainable development. These include:

- ensuring access to resources by both current and future generations (inter- and intra-generational equity);
- operating within ecological limits;
- avoiding risk and abandoning and or rejecting policies and practices that could have negative impacts (the precautionary principle);
- engaging transparently to promote participation and form partnerships and,
- being accountable for actions and decisions through good governance.
THE THREE INTERACTIVE SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Promoting economic equity and stability

Stakeholders can make significant positive contributions to regional economic development and stability through, for example:

- stimulating and enhancing diverse and allied activities;
- actively encouraging downstream opportunities to derive added economic value;
- planning and designing infrastructure for wider long-term benefit and;
- actively supporting regional collaboration and integration to strengthen Southern Africa’s economic competitiveness, reduce economic dependency and enhance resource security.
Enhancing social benefit

Stakeholders are mutually accountable for:

• increased opportunities for skills and competency development to enable active participation in the mining and minerals sector and other spheres of the economy;

• reduced risks to human health and well-being;

• access to meaningful social and health services;

• gender equity, employment equity and security, as well as opportunities for career growth; and,

• ensuring that opportunities to conserve and develop cultural heritage are realized.
Maintaining the natural resource base

Natural resources and waste sinks are finite. Therefore stakeholders should play an important role in maintaining the resource base by:

- limiting impacts of their activities on land, water, air, and biological communities;
- operating within the carrying capacity of the region’s ecosystems;
- fostering an understanding of the value of the region’s natural heritage; and,
- minimising the exhaustion of non-renewable resources.
ESSENTIAL ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

In addition to the above, sustainable development in the region will require stakeholders to:

- actively contribute to processes and structures that support good governance;
- participate in initiatives aimed at strengthening regional co-operation, and
- recognise that the profits gained at the expense of environmental or social systems are short-term and therefore non-sustainable.
The role of stakeholders in the mining and minerals sector within the Southern African vision for sustainable development.