

JOINT INSPECTION CHECKLIST FOR MINES

National Environmental Management Council (NEMC)
Ministry of Minerals (MoM)
Mining Commission (MC)

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INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME 308

Mine Water & Mine Waste Management



Sweden
Sverige



THE CHANGE PROJECT

For quite a long time, it has been a practice whereby different government institutions with similar goals conduct compliance inspections independently and with different approaches on various occasions. Consequently, this creates inconvenience to both the regulating and regulated communities (Inspectors and facilities being inspected).

Inspection activities in the mining industry of Tanzania are carried out by several government actors such as the Ministry of Minerals (MoM), the Mining Commission (MC) and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) to mention a few. Each Regulatory institution has its specific components of interest that should be checked on during inspections. All of the regulatory institutions made to achieve the government objectives through the assigned tasks. Thus, there is a need for harmonization of the individual institutional inspection tools available for inspections and come out with a joint inspection tool on achieving the main objectives without compromising its specific task. The tool will ensure that the responsibility of safeguarding public health (mine workers and surrounding communities) and the environment in general is achieved.

The government is anticipating to have mining operations with sound environment management. However, mining operators and other stakeholders do expect effective multi-agencies inspections which will reduce number of inspections. Effective collaboration of multi-agency inspection will enhance sustainable mine waste management.

The common goal is to enhance compliance in the mining industry by having an inspection tool that will serve as a crosscutting and reference document to be used by government institutions responsible for mines inspections. This will ensure that, mining activities are conducted in a safe and environmental sound manner for the benefit of the current and future generations.



SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

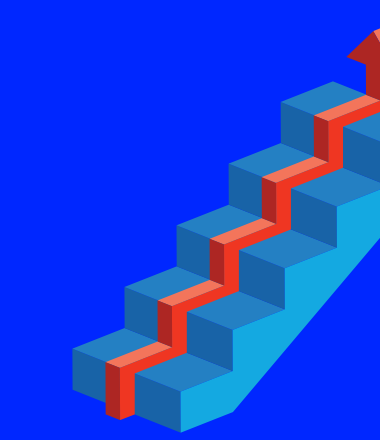
This change project is expected to improve the inspections outcome whereas the Mining Companies, the Government Authorities, the Communities and the nation at large will benefit from the best regulated mining operations. Properly organised inspections will eventually result to environmental sound management at mining areas. Thus, is expected to oversee the wellbeing of the current and future society.

The mining activities also have to be done sustainably by considering the benefit of the current and future generation. A win-win situation has to be attained in the end. The results from the change project will be sound environmental management and safeguarding workers' and public health in general.

It is expected that with joint inspection programs, the institutions will be able:

- i. To promote compliance behaviour;
- ii. Promote/enhance efficiency by putting emphasis only on the important aspects to be considered during inspection;
- iii. Reduce inspection frequency and save time for both Regulators and Regulated Community; and
- iv. Reduce administrative cost.

The companies that will be inspected can easily organise the implementation of the directives and achieve the best outcome with responsible production.



RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The change project facilitates the preparation of first draft joint inspection checklist. The checklist is still for internal use only, for the reason that the document has to be reviewed by key stakeholders, published and then used as tool during inspection. However, the proposed checklist had been submitted or presented to the Director of Environmental Social Impact Assessment of NEMC who will forward to the task force which was formed to harmonize legal requirement from various Regulatory authorities to minimize or avoid institution conflict.

Upon completion it is expected that checklist will be an important tool to use during inspection and facilitate effective environmental compliance in mining activities.



THE WAY FORWARD

It is anticipated that the developed inspection tool will bring out the desired output. The inspection tool may be adopted and modified to suite facilities other than mines (NEMC, OSHA and Ministry of Water). It is also possible to develop component specific checklist out of this inspection checklist e.g. developing a separate checklist for TSF or Processing Plant.

On later stages, the tool is expected to include other organizations like Ministry of Water and Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA). This is due to the fact that, the prepared inspection checklist has covered issues concerning water resources management and occupation health and safety.



The Joint Inspection Checklist.