

# The African Biodiversity Network

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*Cordially invite you to the  
Launch of the Film 'The Mining Curse'*

*on*

*Wednesday 13th August 2014*

*10:00 am - 1:00 pm*

*at*

*The PAWA 254 Mageuzi Hall AAYMCA Building  
Off State House Road, near the Ethiopian Embassy.*

*RSVP*

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*In Partnership with*





# THE MINING CURSE

**Sacred Natural Sites Under Threat**

african  
BIDDING & CITY NETWORK  
**aen**

## Invitation to Attend the Launch of the Film 'The Mining Curse'

The extractive industry (mining, oil and gas extraction) and its impacts on communities and peoples who inhabit the areas where the extraction takes place, is a historical and continuing problem. For long, many communities in almost all parts of the World have resisted the entry of extractive industries. This resistance, however, has also resulted into gross and massive violations of their rights to their lands, territories and resources, desecration of their sacred natural sites and an assault to their self-determination.

Africa is presently witnessing a growth in the extractives sector that is as a direct result of the growth of commodity markets after the 2007/8 global financial collapse. Since globalization has been further facilitated the entrenchment of the neo-liberal ideology, the liberalization of the entry of mining, oil and gas corporations into indigenous and community land and territories specifically, has been made possible by African States working closely with multi-national corporations as well as governments in the West and now East. More private capital, including speculative investments, compared to public money is put into the extractive industries. Thus, it is more difficult to make the extractive corporations and their investors more accountable.

Africa is replete with stories of the 'resource curse'; where the activities of extractive corporations have led to the worst forms of environmental degradation, human rights violations and land dispossession. From the Niger Delta to Venda in South Africa, these corporations come with the promise of development by providing jobs and new infrastructure. These promises, however, remain largely unfulfilled and many communities continue to face increased poverty through loss of their own livelihoods, destruction of whole ecological systems and the growth of militarization, even as a small local elite benefits from the extraction. It is with this reality and context in mind that the African Biodiversity Network invites different stakeholders to the screening of the film, 'The Mining Curse' – a film that explores the intersections of the externalization of the costs of extraction to various African communities, more so on their sacred natural sites.

The film explores the local struggles of these communities as they resist mining operations on their lands, through the voices of the custodians of these sites. This film builds on the report released last year by ABN, 'Recognising Sacred Natural Sites and Territories in Kenya', which is an analysis of how the Kenyan Constitution, National and International Laws can support the recognition of these sites as well as community governance systems.

This forum is intended for participants to look beyond the modern legal frameworks in Kenya and beyond, currently in place or being formulated regarding the extractive industries, and to analyze the different legal mechanisms as pertains to community governance systems, such as Earth Jurisprudence, which is based on customary governance systems rooted in Earth Laws. Issues of food sovereignty, land rights, livelihoods, gender rights and eco-systems will also feature prominently in the discussions after the film screening, in an attempt to address issues around extraction that go beyond resource sharing and governance –which have become the sole talking points in the mining discourse.



Warrior  
Cyber Cafe

Women  
Hall 12

Nairobi Milimani  
Secondary School

Nairobi  
Primary School  
Boys Block

Nairobi  
Primary School  
Swimming Pool

Hillcrest  
Business  
School

State House Rd

Processional Way

Processional Way

Processional Way

State House Rd

ICRC (Kenya) -  
International  
Development  
Research Centre

Serbia and  
Montenegro  
Embassy

State House Avenue

1050 State  
House Ave

State House CRE

Vienna Court

Liason  
House

State House Rd

ALIN-Arid Lands  
Information  
Networks

AAYMCA

ALIN-Arid Lands Information Networks

State House CRE

Ethiopia  
Embassy

Oro  
urant  
unge

Ethiopia  
Embassy

A I C Milimani

Gem  
Apartments

Ralph Bunche

State House Avenue

Heron