

**Alternative mining Indaba (AMI) 2026 Concept Note - Transparency International-Kenya
AFRODAD and All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)**

Dates: 10 February 2026 8 AM- 10 AM

Venue: Heinrich Boll Stiftung, 8th Floor Wale Street Chambers| 33 Church Street

Theme: Power to the People: Owning Africa's Energy Future

Official Concept Note: [AMI's Official Concept Note](#)

- **Title:** Who Owns Africa's Minerals? Beneficial Ownership, Transparency, and Accountability in the Mining Sector
- **Conveners:** Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya), All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)
- **Proposed Format:** High-level interactive side session with a moderated panel discussion
- **Target Audience:** Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), faith-based organisations, mining-affected communities, policymakers, regulators, parliamentarians, media, researchers, development partners, and private sector accountability actors

1. Background

The global energy transition has placed Africa at the core of the new global mineral rush, due to the increased discovery of mineral deposits within needed for renewable energy technologies, battery storage, and green industrialisation. This presents a good opportunity for Domestic Resource mobilisation (DRM), advocacy for energy sovereignty, as well as for economic transformation, but also is an avenue for extraction without accountability if left unchecked. Profits will be transferred and externalised, mining communities will be left uncompensated and bearing the blunt of social, economic, and environmental cost and degradation, and this will be grounds advancing Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) that undermine generation of public revenue. A cycle already well known to many African countries, categorized as resource-dependent. .

Across the East Africa Community (EAC), the mining sector is characterised by opacity, limited disclosure of mining contracts, weak enforcement of Public Finance Management (PFM) obligations, as well as dishonouring of community benefit sharing agreements. Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya) in the recent study on the Analysis of Mining and PFM laws in Kenya and Tanzania unearthed that over 60 - 80% of mining contracts remain inaccessible to the public, beneficial ownership disclosures are partial or unverifiable with 60% of mining companies operating in Kenya being registered overseas, and artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), a sector that employs millions of people, remains vulnerable to smuggling, elite capture, and gendered exclusion. It is these deficiencies that have been seen to be used for tax evasion, Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS), as well as various forms of IFFs, hence undermining a country's ability to mobilise domestic resources for social spending and development.

In addition, Africa's meaningful participation in the global critical minerals transition is fundamentally threatened by a cycle of governance failure (Africa Portal, 2023). This risk merely replays the inequities of fossil fuel extraction: centralized power, elite capture, and community dispossession. While Africa stands at the crossroads of the global energy transition, the promise embedded in the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) is systematically eroded. Opaque contracts and licensing processes provide the perfect mechanism for Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) (Tax Justice Network, 2022). This failure to secure national value translates directly into social injustices, hurting women, youth, traditional leaders, and artisanal mining communities the most.

This said, the Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI) 2026, under the theme “Power to the People: Owning Africa’s Energy Future,” offers a platform to not only dialogue, but also interrogate who extracts Africa’s minerals, and also get to know who owns, controls, and benefits from the minerals. The questions of beneficial ownership, transparency, and accountability are critical in helping identify the individuals and organizations shaping Africa’s development, through knowing who actually profits from the energy transition in Africa, and who pays the price.

Faith actors play a critical role in amplifying and mobilising for accountability in many sectors, including mining. Their congregational base, convening power, and trust established within communities strategically position them as key actors in promoting progressive change and development that centers the needs of the community. This predisposition uniquely places them as a linkage to communities that can be leveraged for collective action and push for transparency and accountability within the mining sector. In doing so, they affirm the call for governments to be ethical stewards of natural resources, avoiding wastage, greed, and destruction as commanded by Genesis 2:15.

AFRODAD in collaboration with TI Kenya and All Africa Conference of Churches have convened this side session as an attempt to address the critical governance gaps in Africa's mineral sector, where the persistence of Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) and systemic mismanagement continues to decouple vast natural wealth from tangible economic development. By critically benchmarking the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative’s (EITI) practical outcomes against the sovereign principles of the African Borrowing Charter and the political mandates of the Harare Declaration, the session frames mineral governance as a holistic challenge linking transparency to macroeconomic stability and political legitimacy. The objective is to advocate for a unified Common African Position that harmonizes national laws with regional frameworks like the Africa Mining Vision and the Africa Green Minerals Strategy (AGMS), moving beyond raw material exportation toward a sovereign global manufacturing hub. Ultimately, the session seeks to define a roadmap for high-value industrialization and climate resilience, ensuring that Africa’s energy future is owned and managed for the benefit of its people.

It is within this context that TI-Kenya and AFRODAD, through the Promoting Accountable, Sustainable, and Gender-just Domestic Resource Mobilisation (PASG-DRM) in Africa

programme, are proposing to host a side session focussed on “Beneficial Ownership Transparency (BOT) and Accountable Mining Governance” that will act as a basis for people centred mineral development.

2. Objectives of the Side Session

- **Overall Objective:** To strengthen advocacy on Beneficial Ownership Transparency (BOT) and accountability in Africa’s mining sector by advancing inclusion and people-centred extractive sector governance.
- **Specific Objectives:**
 - a. To examine how IFFs are enabled by opaque ownership structures and weak disclosure regimes hence undermining domestic revenue mobilisation (DRM) in the mining sector.
 - b. Experience sharing from Kenya and Tanzania on gaps in mining contracts, beneficial ownership implementation, and PFM systems, highlighting regional governance trends and how they align with AMV.
 - c. To amplify community, gender, faith actors’ and civil society perspectives on ownership, benefit-sharing, and accountability in mining-affected areas.
 - d. Formulate concrete, multi-stakeholder recommendations for African governments, industry, civil society, and international partners to move from mere transparency to genuine accountability in leveraging mineral wealth.
 - e. To generate concrete advocacy messages and policy asks for governments, RECs, and continental bodies aligned with Africa’s energy transition and fiscal justice goals.

3. Key Discussion Questions

- a. Who really owns Africa’s mining and energy assets, and how visible are these owners to the public?
- b. How do weak beneficial ownership regimes facilitate tax evasion, corruption, and illicit financial flows in the mining sector?
- c. What lessons can be drawn from Kenya and Tanzania on linking mining transparency to effective public finance management and community benefits?
- d. What does a gender-just and community-centred ownership model look like in Africa’s energy future?

4. Expected Outputs and Outcomes

- a. Increased visibility of beneficial ownership transparency as a core issue in Africa’s energy and mining discourse.
- b. Strengthened CSO and Faith Actors’ coordination on extractive sector IFF advocacy at national and regional levels.

- c. Clear, people-centred policy asks feeding into AMI 2026 outcomes, CSO statements, and regional advocacy agendas.
- d. Enhanced alignment between mining governance, fiscal justice, and gender-responsive DRM debates.

Proposed Speakers

Keith Muhati, All Africa Conference of Churches

Hakiraslimali, Lucy Shao (TBC)

Gloria Majiga Tax Justice Network Africa

Moderated by Riska Koopman AFRODAD

Location	Budgetline	No. of Pax	Unit Cost in USD	Total in USD	SumTotal in USD	Organization Taking Up
Cape Town	Conference	0	0	0		N/A
	Side Session	30				
	Snacks for Side Session	30				
	Transport for Participants for the Side Session	30				