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Rethinking the practices of corporate social responsibility in the mining sector for sustainable development in Tanzania

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Abstract

Over the years, corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the mining sector has become a worldwide development discourse. Although the mining sector is a significant contributor to economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa, effective governance is the missing link. Because of this, mining activities have severely affected human health, food security, livelihoods, and the environment in host communities. This has been associated with persistent conflicts and the resultant loss of livelihoods. While mining companies' activities must conform to international standards and local communities' rights, this has remained limited in practice. Several studies have examined the mining sector's impact on economic performance, few have explored CSR's effectiveness as a valuable sustainable development tool. Therefore, it is unclear how and to what degree CSR initiatives have led to better services in mining areas. The present study reviewed CSR practices in Tanzania's mining sector and their part in local sustainable development. The study explores CSR practices in Tanzania by assessing their performance on sustainable development. It identifies the existing challenges and ways to realize CSR benefits. This suggests that adopting effective accountability measures and enhanced stakeholder engagement for benefit sharing are significant steps in improving sector governance.

Keywords: Cooperate Social Responsibility, Mining, Sustainable Development, Local Community, Tanzania.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Like in many developing countries, mining has an essential role in Tanzania's economy. The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) (2011, 2013) reports that Tanzania possesses vast reserves of mineral resources that make a significant contribution to its overall development. From 2002 to 2012, the country's economy was reported to grow by 7% per annum from mining activities. Based on a report by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2011), mining's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rose from 3.0 in 2008 to 3.3 in 2013. Mining also contributed 89% of the value of mineral exports.

Although available data indicate that the Tanzanian mining sector is growing, the sector may not have entirely delivered the expected economic results over the years. This is particularly true of its contribution to community development (Lugoe, 2012; Kahyarara, 2015). It has been claimed that mining activities drain the local communities (Magai & Marquez, 2011; Nawanda, 2021). While the advantages of mineral resources in transforming industrialised economies are evident, the reality is different for developing nations (Magai & Marquez, 2011; Leveille, 2009). Mining has also been viewed as one of the sources of environmental degradation (Darimani et al., 2013; Pedro, 2012). Critics claim that the social and environmental impacts of large-scale mining (LSM) have not been adequately addressed (Darimani et al., 2013). Furthermore, decisions on mining projects are often made with little or no involvement of local populations whose livelihoods are affected. As a result, populations in extraction regions do not profit from mineral exploitation, and they are robbed of significant amounts of land to enrich LSM industries without appropriate recompense (Kahyarara, 2015; Lugoe, 2012; Kitula, 2006). This offers some credibility to the resource curse theory, which claims that resource-rich countries do badly in terms of long-term economic growth relative to resource-poor countries (Kronenberg, 2004; Mikesell, 1997).

In recent years, it has become more evident that with adequate legal and regulatory frameworks, mining projects are likely to yield higher economic returns (Campbell, 2010) (Lederman & Maloney, 2012; de Ferranti et al., 2002). Still, one of the main challenges remains developing strategies to improve the lives of local communities. According to the African Union (2009), Africa's vast mineral resources endowment has increased hope that its people will rapidly grow economically and attain development if the resources are appropriately exploited. Over the years, the mining industry worldwide has been criticized for failing to improve people's lives and ensure a sustainable environment. Such criticisms have awakened mining companies to cater to their shareholders' needs and stakeholders as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR). Since its inception, CSR has attracted global interest in a progressively integrated world economy. Today, multinational mining corporations (MMCs) are expected to promote and practice CSR in host countries. The companies must implement numerous CSR policies and projects to improve adjacent communities' livelihoods. CSR policy requires commitment to community involvement and investment, environmental stewardship, sustainable development, health and safety, accountability, human rights, transparency, and performance reporting, as well as respect for disadvantaged people and diverse cultures (Hohnen, 2007: 5). While studies have explained how the mining industry affects economic performance (Kitula, 2006; Maliganya & Renatus, 2017), few have attempted to explore the effectiveness of CSR and its part in improving community livelihood and sustainable development.

Accordingly, the effectiveness of CSR initiatives in contributing to social transformation is unclear, especially in mining areas. While CSR is not novel to developed economies, it is unfortunately uncommon in developing nations. The worry is that current CSR approaches may not adequately relate to or respond to the situation and conditions of the developing world (Hamann, 2006). A contextually appropriate CSR approach is believed to be crucial for examining the role of CSR in the African mining sector in solving the region's socioeconomic concerns (Hamann, 2006; Muthuri et al., 2009). What is missing is wellfounded and systematically accrued empirical evidence. This chapter discusses pertinent issues regarding CSR practices in the mining sector in Tanzania in terms of implementation, roles in sustainable development, and perspectives concerning the identified challenges. This chapter is projected to offer an important contribution to the CSR practice nexus literature in the context of Africa's mining industry, as well as fill an existing vacuum regarding the accomplishment of CSR practices in the mining sector in underdeveloped nations.

2. CSR PRACTISES IN THE MINING SECTOR: A THEATRICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter presents the theoretical foundations based on integrating governance mechanisms regarding sustainability, limited to economic performance, environmental performance, and enhanced community benefits, to analyze how CSR has been practiced in developing countries, particularly in Tanzania. The theoretical base has been formed around how policy in the governance of large-scale mining companies could encourage CSR practice for sustainable community development programmes. In this regard, the grounds of these theories have been intended to assess the performance of mining companies' CSR practices. This is in terms of complying by the regulatory framework for enhancing local livelihoods in Tanzania. Mining companies' operations are mainly governed by legal, policy, and regulatory frameworks that offer directives on how to accommodate the host countries' interests and the local communities affected by such operations. Governance in the context of the mining sector has been seen as a severe challenge because of the disputes between stakeholders with varied interests who appear to lack a united platform for decision-making (Kahyarara, 2015). This section discusses the theoretical framework used to connect theories to practical practice. This paper presents a variety of ideas on natural resource governance for sustainable local community development in the context of CSR practice in large-scale mining, including the competence theory, the sustainable livelihoods framework, and stakeholder and institutional theories (Jenkins and Yakovleva, 2006). The ideas were deemed significant for encapsulating problems of how natural resource development can be connected with improved local livelihoods (Owen and Kemp, 2015).

2.1 The Sustainable Livelihood Framework

The Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) sets a structure for understanding livelihood mechanics. It focuses on assets and capacities in the face of shocks and stresses over time. The theory is beneficial for examining livelihoods and providing value to the core of what CSR stands for. This framework originated with Chambers and Conway (1992) in the context of development sociology. It proposes that principal assets (capitals) are vital in examining livelihoods. Moreover, the Department for International Development (2014) justified and extended the framework by arguing that people earning a livelihood are not concerned with a single dimension but with five capitals: human, natural, social, financial, and cultural capital. This theory recognizes that human capital mainly deals with the workforce, natural capital stands for resources e.g. mineral resources, financial capital with income, social capital is social networks, and cultural capital concerned with indigenous knowledge.

This framework is a useful analytical tool for researchers and practitioners. It may be utilised for understanding and explaining livelihoods. However, the framework misses the symbolic capital, as livelihood is about meeting basic needs and having a sense of dignity and honour. This study thus employed sustainable livelihood theory as it helped address the livelihood of the study's variables. The paper centers on incomes and assets as indicators of assessing the livelihoods of the contracted and non-contracted artisanal gold miners regarding institutional setup, which eare critical issues of concern.

2.2 The Stakeholder Theory

The Stakeholder Theory (S.T.) can be used to make meaning of the rationale behind companies practicing governance and undertaking sustainability initiatives over the years (Obalola, 2008). The S.T. asserts that companies have a social duty to take into account the interests of all parties their actions affect. This theory focuses on six internationally accepted governance principles: transparency, accountability, discipline, fairness, independence, and social responsibility for all stakeholders, not only shareholders (Fernandez-Feijoo et al., 2012). Based on the assumptions of S.T., its relevance and practicality for the study lies in it providing a framework for judging mining companies based on the value they place on CSR, governance, and CSR sustainability practices. As this chapter examines CSR practices governed by a framework for improving communities' livelihoods, the stakeholder theory better explains how mining activities impact their livelihoods.

2.3 The Institutional Theory

Institutional Theory (I.T.) is the dominant theory of occupational-based institutions. It describes the settings that control livelihood activities. It emerged in the 1970s and 1980s within sociology as a reaction to this discipline's desire for an understanding of the components that enable good organisational performance (Scott, 1995). To better understand how LSM organisations comply with the legislative framework for sustainable CSR operations, I.T. has been identified as a crucial framework for this social sustainability study. I.T. studies how social and political institutions, such as rules, conventions, and practices, create authoritative standards for conduct that governs social interactions. The I.T. maintains that authoritative conduct norms are produced and implemented over time (Scott, 1995). As a result, to exist and develop, organisations such as mining firms must adhere to the laws and belief systems that govern the environment. According to Kraft and Furlong (2015), information technology (I.T.) is a policy-making instrument that emphasises the importance of following formal and legal government orders. This theory is suitable for this chapter since most CSR actions in Tanzania's mining sector are controlled according to the country's regulations, norms, and values.

3. METHODOLOGY

This study investigates how local communities in areas with mining activities are treated in terms of CSR. The technique selected intends to analyse CSR status considering the government's efforts to establish a favourable environment for direct foreign investment in Tanzania's mining industry (Rutenge, 2016). This study obtained findings through secondary data. The document review method was utilised to collect published secondary data. Sources of secondary data were legal provisions and policies, including Mining Act No. 14 of 2010; Mining Policy; the Environmental Management Act No. 20 of 2004; Land policy; written laws (Miscellaneous Amendments Acts) Act No. 1, 2 and 3 of 2017; Environmental Management Policy, Gas Policy, Water Policy and other published materials on the subject under study. The content analysis technique was used for data analysis. This entailed thoroughly reading data, coding the script segments, and identifying themes (categories). Then the categories were compared to find similarities and differences regarding CSR practice in the study area. In addition, local community well-being. Interpretations of the themes were done, and conclusions were drawn.

4.0 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 The Mining Sector Practices in Tanzania

Mining operations began in Tanzania in the pre-independence period in 1961 up to the early 1990s

(Ngowi, 2009; URT, 2009). During this period, the sector could not attract foreign direct investment (FDI) because the country pursued a state-led socialist economy. However, during the mid-1980s and late 1990s, the government embarked on policy reforms recognizing the sector's potential influence on economic growth. In addition, the government recognized the private sector's role in the advancement of the mining sector. The changes intended to open doors for private investment in Tanzania's mining sector and put modern mining procedures into place (Nyankweli, 2012; URT, 2009). These reforms were motivated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (W.B.). During this period, policy statements emphasized the government's role in creating an enabling environment for attracting FDI to promote private-led economic growth (Campbell, 2010). According to W.B. (1992), this was accompanied by the introduction of appropriate regulatory frameworks regarding mineral rights, mineral codes and licenses, economic and fiscal policy, and institutional reforms.

Owing to this, the mining sector has been significant in Tanzania's economy (URT, 2012). According to URT (2016), the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 anticipates the mining sector contributing around 10% of GDP in 2025 while also contributing to industrialization. It is a significant producer of diamonds and several other industrial materials, metals, and mineral fuels, such as coal and natural gas. Therefore, the mining sector has great likelihood to contribute to sustainable development if sustainably exploited and effectively managed. Despite this, in 2011, mining represented only 3.7% of the total GDP (UNDP, 2011). Ultimately, the Tanzania Mining Policy aims to raise the sector's contribution to 10% by 2025 (URT, 2013; 2009). Due to the mining sector's poor performance, the government tried to restructure it through liberalisation and deregulation to increase good governance and CSR. Following the liberalisation of Tanzania's economy in the 1990s, various multilateral and bilateral agreements were created, the majority of which were in the mining industry (Islam & Deegan, 2010). Tanzania implemented the 1997 Mining Policy to attract foreign investment in the sector, which provided mining companies with investment protections, guarantees, and stabilisation clauses, allowed MMCs to own 100% of mining investments, and allowed profits and capital to be repatriated (Lauwo, 2011). In addition, the Tanzanian government passed the Mining Act of 1998, which governs mineral prospecting. The Mining Policy and Act attempted to attract international investors by offering investment incentives in the form of a competitive fiscal system and a legal and regulatory framework.

The Tanzania Mining Policy and the Act include measures that, inter alia, compel mining firms to account for the social and environmental consequences of their actions (URT, 2009). As a result, the country's mining corporations are under growing pressure to enhance their accountability and transparency while also reducing the negative social and environmental effects of their operations. There are concerns that rather than generating broad-based and sustained economic growth, mining resource earnings frequently benefit just a small group of local elites and international investors, owing to a lack of compliance and legal framework flaws. The majority of mining businesses now use CSR reporting. However, the fundamental issue is that a given material has been relatively selective (Lauwo et al., 2020).

4.2 Corporate Social Responsibility: The Tanzania Experience

Corporate Social Responsibility is defined as a framework that underpins firms' economic, environmental, and social duty to a broader range of stakeholders and the general public in their operational settings (Carroll, 2016; Mutti et al., 2012; Freeman & Velamuri, 2006; van Marrewijk, 2003). To operate, mining companies are required to have a social license to operate (SLO). In this chapter, SLO is used to mean the trust and acceptance of local stakeholders, allowing enterprises to operate locally (Owen & Kemp, 2013; Thomson & Joyce, 2008). However, SLO is often not legally obligatory, but is represented and maintained via local stakeholder participation. Due to this growing involvement, CSR programs have extended throughout the extractive industry, particularly in East Africa. While CSR supporters argue that firms may produce shared prosperity and promote long-term sustainable development, opponents claim that CSR is a greenwashing strategy meant to ensure corporations the SLO and allow the continuance of corporate operations (Visser, 2010).

In the 1990s, the Tanzanian government implemented major legislative reforms to integrate its economy into the global market. This resulted in the emergence of new rules and regulations, including clauses mandating public accountability, responsibility, openness, and increased corporate disclosures. These rules and regulations also aimed to address and encourage environmental conservation and management (Lauwo, 2011). For example, Tanzania implemented the National Environment Policy (NEP) 1997 in 1997, in accordance with Agenda 21 of the Rio Declaration (which called for cross-sectoral integration of policies, plans, and programmes for effective environmental management).

Concerning environmental protection, the National Environmental Policy (1997) compels companies to guarantee the sustainable and equitable utilisation of resources without environmental degradation. However, this does not necessarily reflect what is happening on the ground (Fisher, 2007). Following global environmental concerns in 2002, the Tanzanian government replaced the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Act of 1983 with the Environmental Management (E.M.) Act No. 20 of 2004, which requires companies to control and prevent pollution, manage waste products, and provide restoration plans (Lauwo, 2011). The same Act mandates mining corporations to repair the environment 12 months after the conclusion of activities. However, these legislative requirements have not been implemented, owing to a lack of institutional ability to enforce and oversee compliance. The penalties for breaching such rules have remained relatively modest, as businesses may determine that paying the penalty is less expensive than internalising the environmental costs (Lauwo, 2011). As a result, environmental measures may have limited impact.

4.3 CSR Initiatives in the Tanzanian Mining Sector

Holding the service providers accountable and making them receptive to the needs of local people and beneficiaries is one of the essential gears of CSR practices regarding compliance by mining companies in Tanzania's regulatory framework. Social accountability is crucial, especially if the mining companies consider the well-being of affected communities. To achieve this, the creation of an enabling environment to enhance the local community's involvement in decision-making processes (Maliganya, 2020; Rutenge, 2016; Natural Resource Governance Institute, 2014). Consequently, mining firms have been considered legally required to be socially responsible in conformity with numerous issues impacting local people adjacent to mining operations regions. Regarding this aspect, improved health of communities around mining operations in Tanzania has been realized. For instance, the Buzwagi Gold Mine constructed a health centre at Mwendakulima Village during the onset of its mining operations.

Conversely, Tanzania's mining policy acknowledges that LSM could result in the relocation of communities and the disruption of their livelihoods. To ensure community protection, CSR policy holds that mining operations need to ensure that compensation and financial streams of revenue from the mining company to the communities are met. This catalyzes change and reduction of poverty in communities (Kumi, 2014; Venables, 2016). Community members who get relocated to allow for large-scale infrastructure development are vulnerable to development-caused displacement and resettlement. The Tanzania Mining Act No. 14 of 2010 is the major framework regulating all mining activities, including compensation (URT, 2009). Section 14 (4d) of the Land Act No. 4 of 1999 also calls for the provision of fair and fast compensation before a mining project relocates local communities. The Mining Act also intends to guarantee that forcible displacement is minimised, and if it cannot be prevented, communities must receive sufficient investment resources (URT, 2009).

With the aim of compensation being to improve the livelihoods of those affected by mining-induced displacement, the main consideration during settlement is productivity. According to the natural governance charter, successful resource management includes minimising the costs for impacted populations while increasing the benefits (Woodroffe et al., 2017; Poncian & George, 2015; The United States Agency for International Development, 2006). Furthermore, if these expenditures may be minimised, the government should provide suitable compensation. The Tanzania Mining Policy acknowledges that if relocation is unavoidable, the government is responsible for valuing affected populations' land and property. The investor must pay for compensation, relocation, and resettlement (URT, 2009). However, there is a need to maintain openness in compensation procedures, correct appraisals of land and other property items, suitable compensation rates, and timely payment of compensation (Maliganya & Bengesi, 2018; Bengesi, 2014; Bengesi et al., 2009).

According to Kumi (2014), the types of compensation to which an owner or legitimate occupier may be entitled include, but are not limited to, the cost of relocation, the yearly land rent, and work done on the land and improvements. However, numerous concerns have been made that the provision does not include the livelihood restoration of caretakers or squatters in the project area, who are usually badly struck by the project impacts. The W.B. (2009) argues that local people cannot successfully negotiate their interests and, as a result, endure the high cost of natural resource depletion without the advantages of economic growth, putting their lives at risk.

Economic security resulting from mining activities is seen as one of the components that must be preserved to achieve sustainable development. According to Soyka (2013), sustainable resource exploitation may increase moral obligation while also contributing to economic advantages. The majority of Tanzania's mining businesses have adopted CSR reporting. For example, Barrick Gold

Company provides extensive community relations and investing information. Unlike other MMCs, Barrick Gold Company has stated its intention to create a positive effect in the communities where it operates (Barrick Gold Corporation, 2007; 2005). In its 2005 report, Bulyanhulu Gold Mine stated that the company had spent US$275,000 (Tshs. 302.5 million) on supporting the local Bugarama secondary school and donated US$15,000 (Tshs. 16.5 million) to the District Council to support a government food relief initiative. At least US$186,000 (Tshs. 2,044.6 million) was spent in 2006 on upgrading a clinic in the district (Lauwo, 2011). Similarly, Anglo Gold Ashanti believes itself to be an important part of the communities in which it operates, as well as a significant driver of economic growth. The firm also states that it guarantees that communities in the mining region are constantly informed and engaged in issues that impact them throughout the lifespan of the company's activities (Lange, 2006).

Although the country has various mining activities, there have been some concerns about the economic advantages that may result. According to Kitula (2006) in Tanzania's Geita region, just 8.1% of respondents in non-mining areas rely on direct mining activities for employment. In the 1980s, the Tanzanian government changed mineral policy to create a favourable investment climate for international mining businesses. As a result, numerous small-scale miners and farmers lost mine sites, as well as agricultural and grazing fields. The long-term consequences of such relocation include greater food insecurity for landless people, increased poverty, and worsening environmental degradation. Maliganya and Renatus (2017) also discovered that the Geita Gold Mines (GGM) have consistently provided inadequate returns to the Geita district's inhabitants. Similarly, multinational businesses' payments and royalties to governments have not been appropriately linked with host countries' needs (Maliganya & Bengesi, 2018; Kahyarara, 2015; Mwaikenda & Wambua, 2014; Lugoe, 2012).

Pollution is considered one of the global concerns of mining activities. According to Section 4(1) of the Environmental Management Act No. 20 of 2004, which governs the mining sector in Tanzania, provides for the right to a clean, safe and healthy environment. Section 7(1) also gives further guidelines on environmental management concepts, including enhancement, promotion, preservation, conservation, and management. Section 106 (1) addresses pollution prevention and management (Muza, 2018; Odeku, 2017; URT, 2009). Despite these elaborative provisions in the regulatory framework, waste management remains the key environmental effect of mining activities.

Conversely, a study by Bitala et al. (2009) in the Mara region showed that water contamination from Tighite and Nyabigena near the North Mara Gold Mine was due to heavy metals and cyanide leakages from the mines. The study further revealed that the levels of Nickel, Lead, and Chromium in the rivers continually increased to levels beyond the permissible limits, posing environmental and health problems. In the same way, the presence of sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide concentrations above the recommended limits by the World Health Organization (WHO), Tanzania, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was discovered. Maliganya and Renatus (2017) also reported similar observations in the Geita district.

Unsustainable use patterns with poor benefits have largely characterized the use of natural resources in Tanzania to the least extent (W.B., 2015, 2013; Adjei, 2007). Experience shows that extensive land clearing and open-pit farming destroy vegetation and natural water's biodiversity and restrict farming. As such, populations in areas with LSM will likely be overcome by poverty. According to Epps & Brett (2000), mining communities are sometimes among the poorest and often participate in small-scale economic activities. Furthermore, recent decades have seen a global push for research on post-mining landscape restoration, generating a portfolio of physical, biological, and combined solutions. As such, the restoration of mine wastelands has become an important topic among researchers (Chaumba, 2017; Koelmel et al., 2015; Society for Ecological Restoration Science, 2002). Environmental restoration is the process of supporting the recovery of an ecosystem that was damaged, degraded, or destroyed (Seabrook et al., 2011). The ultimate purpose of reclaimed land has always been to assist the communities who have been impacted. While Tanzania has made tremendous efforts to improve control of its mining industry and mining operations, attempts to repair the damaged environment have received far more attention in the literature than in practice (Woodroffe et al., 2017). As a result, there is a need for an integrated framework that can sustain the environment while also providing instructions for the community to utilise in the future.

Although some positive results appear in the literature, CSR initiatives in Tanzania have been regarded as doing poorly, with some activities failing, others being rejected by local communities, and some showing disappointing results (Emel et al., 2012; U.K. Essays, 2014; Mbirigenda, 2015; Maliganya, 2020). Mbirigenda (2015) noted that the activities of some companies harmfully affected the communities around them.

4.5 Challenges Facing CSR Practices in the Tanzanian Mining Sector

While Tanzania's Mining Policy presents some potential, its capacity to assure the realisation of those prospects is restricted. As a result, certain issues remain in the sector that must be addressed if the mining industry is to make a long-term contribution to society. Consequently, this section focuses on the problems, with a particular emphasis on land acquisition and resettlement issues, as well as the opportunity for artisanal and small-scale miners.

Available studies have indicated that aligning the extraction and exploitation of resources with improving the communities' livelihoods for inclusive and sustainable development is one of the major challenges facing CSR policies (Aha & Ayitey, 2017; Agyei, 2016; Dobb et al., 2013; Adjei, 2007). As a result, the costs and advantages of LSM operations for local communities have become a prevalent topic(Nwapi, 2016). The Tanzania Mining Act of 2010 recognises the importance of CSR in fostering sustainable development by taking into account environmental preservation and community benefits. However, one significant problem in this setting is the absence of legally obligatory frameworks that reference CSR efforts. Regardless of the rapid expansion of Tanzania's mining industry in the previous ten years, opponents argue that it has failed to provide the predicted windfalls to the rest of the economy (Kahyarara, 2015; Lugoe, 2012). In this context, mining companies enjoy paying little tax or having tax-free business operations in the country (Mbirigenda, 2015). Likewise, decisions on mining projects have been taken with little to sometimes no consultation with local communities, adversely affecting their livelihoods. Studies indicate that community members are not satisfied with their involvement in mining projects (Nawanda, 2021; Lauwo et al., 2020; Mbirigenda, 2017). A study by Nawanda in Geita, Tanzania, indicates that most participants were not impressed by their involvement in development projects. Furthermore, a few projects initiated under CSR have positively impacted community development.

Although Tanzania has undertaken substantial social and economic reforms to strengthen policy and legal frameworks related natural resource management, several shortcomings persist (Kahyarara, 2015). Tanzania's Mining Act No. 14 of 2010 requires promoting localization and economic linkages for a greater impact; this goal has not been fairly achieved in reality. Likewise, the Mining Policy of 2009 had the objectives of fostering mining activities, boosting local content, alleviating poverty, improving social and economic infrastructure, increasing foreign earnings and government revenue, and promoting environmental safety and protection. However, putting these goals into effect has been difficult. While it is obvious that the local content provisions are addressed in the policy framework (URT, 2009), they are surprisingly not fully developed in the Act. Although the government has created a local content strategy for the embryonic oil and gas sector, a local content policy in the mining sector is yet immature, and no special local content legislation adequately oversees mining investments. According to Shivji (2007), the Act imposes no constraints on development goals such as employment, training, or purchasing local goods and services.

Tanzania has various laws governing land ownership and rights. The Tanzania Investment Act, No. 26 of 1997, states that it is prohibited to deprive someone of their property without the authorisation of the law, which includes measures for fair and reasonable compensation (URT, 1997). However, land acquisition and ownership are known to be difficult challenges in the mining business, with landowners losing their property without sufficient recompense. This is because valuation methodologies seldom capture both market worth and the underlying costs of replacing lost assets (Kabote & Niboye, 2013; Owen & Kemp, 2015; Lange, 2003). While this sort of land acquisition is legally acceptable in Tanzania, it violates the entitlement to sufficient and quick compensation for those impacted under the terms of the Land Act No. 4 of 1999 and the Village Land Act No. 5 of 1999. As a result of the property's inadequate tenure rights, land laws fail to sufficiently safeguard rural people harmed by mining activities.

Although there exist many ASMs in Tanzania, the regulatory frameworks to facilitate their operations are largely absent. Available research has depicted that the government and mining companies forcefully evict ASM and local communities, enabling mining activities without adequate compensation (Kabote & Niboye, 2013; Bengesi et al., 2009). Lissu & Curtis (2008) have demonstrated this concerning the Bulyanhulu Gold Mining Company. This implies that relocation initiatives are carried out without informed permission. This has fuelled ongoing disputes between local populations and LSM corporations in the nation (Acuna, 2015; Akabzaa, 2009). This suggests an inconsistency between policy declarations, legal provisions, and practical practice. While Tanzania's 2009 Mineral Policy emphasises the need for integrating ASM into organised operations to guarantee meaningful employment, the investment environment has remained a chronic barrier. Indeed, in certain cases, the regulatory framework has given large-scale investors, primarily foreign corporations, additional opportunities to participate in the industry. It is also asserted that the environmental and social implications of LSM, like as planning for mine closure, have not been adequately addressed (Darimani et al., 2013).

Notwithstanding, CSR practices in Tanzania still face challenges related to a lack of transparency. One of the main principles of conducting CSR is transparency (Hohnen, 2007). However, some companies are not transparent about their activities. For example, in his study on CSR, Mbirigenda (2015: 107) found that while claiming to do CSR, companies including Geita Gold Mine, Barclays Bank, Africa Barrick Gold Mines, and Williamson Diamond Mines gave all the reasons for their non-disclosure policies. Tanzanian mining corporations were also infamous for refusing to provide researchers with information regarding their activities. with mining corporations often refusing to reveal information about their activities (see Mbirigenda, 2015; Lauwo et al., 2020). In this case, CSR malpractice has been noted in CSR literature in Tanzania. Mbirigenda (2015) observed that some mining companies had deprived local community members of their land and social services such as roads, schools, water sources, etc. then giving back these services in the name of CSR.

5. EMERGING LESSONS AND THE WAY FORWARD

According to studies, Tanzania's mining sector has a high potential for growth due to the country's abundant mineral resources. Mining may boost economic growth and create job opportunities in local communities by investing in infrastructure, utilities, and other services on mining sites. The regulatory and sociopolitical settings influence how mining corporations implement their CSR initiatives. Policymakers should encourage mining businesses to embrace, implement, and comply with CSR to achieve sustainable development.

The Tanzanian experience indicates that, despite legal and regulatory framework advancements, the industry has failed to completely promote fair and sustainable development. The regulatory framework's ineffectiveness arises mostly from its inability to oversee compliance with legal obligations. While there have been legal and policy measures demanding that the sector be linked to the larger economy, the extant literature blames the deficiencies of the legal and policy frameworks(Campbell, 2010). There is a need to adopt more equitable, participatory, and inclusive models of resource exploitation. Concerning environmental impact assessment (EIA) practices in Tanzania, numerous studies have identified significant flaws, including insufficient or absent accountability in implementing the Environmental Management Act and a lack of substantive stakeholder input in decision-making. Some significant hurdles in this area include a lack of financial resources for effective regulation and monitoring, as well as a lack of local government oversight. According to Desa and Desa (2005), a transparent legal and regulatory framework, competitive, stable, and strong institutions to implement mining policies, and a good environmental management system are all required for success. In light of this, it is becoming obvious that civil society participation in enforcing environmental laws and rights is paramount. The premise is that the involvement of these stakeholders will raise the likelihood of improving accountability and transparency in the monitoring process for LSM operations.

The Tanzanian government recognises the necessity of assisting the ASM; nonetheless, efforts and assistance have frequently been tailored to the needs of LSM firms. This has escalated tensions and disputes between the major and small-scale sectors. If this problem is not adequately dealt with it may have a far-reaching influence at the national level and the community's context of LSM activities. The ASM industry has to be formalised, which includes registering and organising unlicensed mining. While global mining corporations believe Tanzania to offer a conducive environment for investment, local populations' interests and rights must be clearly defined to reduce current disputes. Such measures will involve enhancing the mining sector's legal, regulatory, and institutional framework, as well as increasing royalties and mandating a minimum proportion of state ownership in natural resource exploitation in the country.

Nevertheless, the meaningful participation of local people in the mining areas could help improve how local communities can benefit from the resources, including CSR practices. This is because when people are involved in the entire process, they can negotiate with mining companies about what is considered 'best practices" concerning safeguarding the interests of local people. This will improve CSR practices and social well-being and minimize conflicts currently recurring in most mining areas in Tanzania. This should go hand in hand with efforts to increase public awareness of CSR. This is believed to improve community participation in mining projects by helping them understand what they can benefit from.

6. CONCLUSIONS

This work is a comprehensive review of CSR practices within Tanzania's mining sector, with a primary focus on their role in fostering sustainable development. The findings illuminate the complex interplay between strategic and normative motivations in shaping the adoption of CSR strategies by mining companies. However, the empirical evidence reveals a huge contrast between the legal provisions governing CSR and the actual implementation and impact observed on the ground. It is evident from the analysis that while there exists a legal framework to guide CSR initiatives in the mining sector, practical outcomes often fall short of the intended objectives. The existing regulatory environment, while well-intentioned, lacks the necessary teeth to ensure meaningful and substantial contributions to socio-economic development in mining-affected communities. Legal provisions may be in place, but the mechanisms to effectively implement these laws and hold companies accountable for their CSR commitments are often lacking. One of the central arguments put forth in this paper is the critical importance of CSR initiatives as a means to equitably share the benefits of mining investments with local communities. This equitable sharing is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic necessity for the sustainable development of mining areas. It is evident that without a concerted effort to bridge the gap between legislation and practice, the expansion of the mining sector alone is unlikely to translate into sustainable socio-economic development, particularly at the grassroots and regional levels. In light of these findings, Tanzania and its mining industry stakeholders must embark on a concerted effort to address the challenges outlined in this paper. This could involve revisiting and strengthening the regulatory framework, ensuring effective implementation mechanisms, and fostering greater transparency and accountability in CSR practices. Only through such proactive measures can the mining sector truly become a catalyst for sustainable development in Tanzania, benefiting not only the industry itself but also the communities and regions it impacts. In doing so, Tanzania can chart a course toward a more equitable and prosperous future for all its citizens, including those residing in mining areas.

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