London Mining Network (LMN) is an alliance of human rights, development, environmental and solidarity groups. London is the world’s leading centre of mining finance. Mining is one of the most polluting and destructive industries in the world and is often associated with human rights abuses. Our role is to support communities badly affected by mining, help make their voices heard in London, and assist them in pursuing just solutions to their problems.
We thank you infinitely for your valuable work, dedication, accompaniment and care that we received from each one of you. We wove bonds of infinite affection that we hope will continue to grow despite the distances.... Everything went very well thanks to all your efforts. We do not have any complaint... A thousand and a thousand thanks.... As far as possible we try to be the voice of those who need to be heard in the face of the impunity and misfortune caused by the company.

Rosa Maria Mateus, CAJAR lawyers' collective, Colombia, on LMN's 2018 Beyond BHP speaker tour
2018 IN BRIEF

We hosted 8 mining-affected community representatives and front-line defenders from South Africa, Indonesia, Brazil, Chile and Colombia.

We published or contributed to 6 reports on mining-related issues.

We spoke truth to power by writing and signing joint open letters; signing and co-delivering petitions; organising meetings with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Human Rights; submitting evidence to a Parliamentary inquiry on the human rights and environmental impact of British mining companies in Latin America; drafting an Early Day Motion to parliament on justice for families affected by the Marikana Massacre, and lobbying the European Commission on its mine waste policy.

We co-organised 5 demonstrations and participated in many more, and we co-organised 5 public events.

We told the public what’s really going on through coverage in the Guardian, the Daily Telegraph, New Internationalist, Vice, BBC Radio 4 World Tonight, DeSmog, the Ecologist and Independent Catholic News.

We gained 693 new followers on Twitter, reaching just under 7,000 by the end of the year, and we grew by 155 on Facebook to 2,172.

"If you want to: support post-development, support Global South communities fighting capitalist #extractivism, hold #mining corporations to account, put your privilege to good use, support people of colour protecting the #environment against UK companies.. THIS is the way"

Julia Lagoutte, in a tweet about us in November.
Our website

Some 34,378 visitors viewed our website, reading a total of 59,280 pages. Our most popular articles included coverage of April’s Rio Tinto AGM; an article on how Berkeley Energia’s new uranium mine is the only one of its kind in Europe; the real reason why Vedanta delisted from London Stock Exchange; and field reporting from La Guajira, Colombia.

Our newsletters

Our monthly email newsletters were opened by 32-38.5 percent of subscribers – well above the non-profit average of 22 percent.

“I love your newsletters, they really are the best out there... thank you!”

Natalie Lowrie, Communications Coordinator of the Deep Sea Mining Campaign, Australia

SUPPORT FOR MINING-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Our most important contribution this year is that we have continued to support our friends in many communities affected by London-linked mining companies, including mine workers as well as mining opponents and critics, who are at the heart of our work. They are the protagonists of their own struggles, and our role is to amplify their voices and give them the opportunity to confront corporate power here in London where so many of the decisions that affect them are made.

As part of Marikana Solidarity Collective, we demonstrated outside Lonmin mining company’s March AGM in solidarity with the Marikana community in South Africa. The community is still seeking justice seven years after 34 striking mine workers were killed. Lonmin is now being taken over by South African corporation Sibanye Stillwater in 2019, making accountability further out of reach.
In April, Pius Ginting, an environmental activist travelled to London from Indonesia to attend the annual shareholders’ meeting of Rio Tinto mining corporation. He brought evidence of the appalling environmental damage being done by the **Grasberg mine in occupied West Papua** and spoke of the killings which continue to occur in the area as a result of Indonesian military involvement. Although Rio Tinto has now pulled out as a result of Indonesian legislation on local ownership, the company must not be allowed to evade responsibility for the consequences of its historic involvement.

> “We succeeded in conveying information about the environmental and social impacts in the downstream area of Freeport mining. The Rio Tinto Board of Directors admitted that they do not know the story of the impacts of mining and human rights...” - Pius Ginting

Luis Gallardo, from Plataforma Touro O Pino Non in Galicia, Spain, travelled to London in June for Spanish mining company Atalaya’s AGM. Alternative Investment Market-listed Atalaya wants to push on with a widely opposed copper mining project near the Camino de Santiago trail. The projects remain halted.

> “Our strength is growing, and we are getting more support every day from concerned citizens and organisations from inside and outside Galicia and Spain. We are connecting with other people affected by mining around the world.” - Luis Gallardo

**BREAKING FREE FROM BHP**

In October, we hosted five representatives of communities from Brazil, Chile, Colombia and the USA, affected by London-listed mining giant BHP, for a week-long speakers’ tour.

Leticia Oliveira from MAB (Movement of People Affected by Dams) represented those impacted by Brazil’s Samarco tailings dam collapse in 2015 (BHP owns Samarco jointly with Brazilian mining company Vale), in which 19 people died. In the company’s AGM, she demanded compensation and
resettlement for hundreds of communities.

Outside the AGM venue, ‘Aqua Vida’ promoters, aka activists from Manchester-based arts group ThreePenny Festival, gave shareholders’ ‘Aqua Vida’ water, purportedly from sources contaminated by the Cerrejon coal mine and the Samarco iron ore mine.

Misael Socarras, from La Guajira in Colombia, impacted by Cerrejon coal mine (one-third owned by BHP along with Anglo American and Glencore), spoke at the end of the trip about the importance of making connections with the other visitors and UK campaigners:

“ We’ve been in spaces where we’ve been able to sow a seed and we’re collecting it to take it away again in a bag.... We didn’t know about other struggles ”

REACHING OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE

We have built on our education and outreach work in the UK, as part of our goal to take mining issues into schools, colleges and public spaces. We ran workshops on the life-cycle of a smartphone in London and Birmingham schools, at a summer camp in Suffolk, and at Kingston University in Surrey. We worked with LMN member group Society of St Columban on some of these workshops and piloted our Schools’ Witness Project (where a small group of students observed the protest outside BHP’s AGM among other activities) out of this collaboration.

Feedback from students about the PhoneCycle workshops

“ The game was fun and I understood everything ”

“ We should tell the companies that we want them to stop upgrading our phones and making them slow ”

Feedback on the Schools’ Witness Project

“ I now have an awareness of how issues affect people and if I see these things happening on TV in the future, it will mean more to me ”

“ I want to do a sponsored solidarity walk for people that would like to join us after seeing our assembly ”
BUILDING A NETWORK

7 trustees

Andrew Hickman, Dottie Guerrero, Marilyn Croser, Mark Muller, Patrick Scott, Peter Frankental and Sue Willman.

21 UK-based network member groups

ACTSA (Action for Southern Africa), Biofuelwatch, CATAPA (Comite Academicomo Tecnico de Asesoramiento a Problemas Ambientales), Coal Action Network, Colombia Solidarity Campaign, The Cornerhouse, Corporate Watch, Earth Thrive, ECCR (Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility), Environmental and Social Change, Eritrea Focus, Forest Peoples Programme, Gaia Foundation, Global Justice Now, India Matters UK, LAMMP (Latin America Mining Monitoring Programme), Partizans (People Against Rio Tinto And Subsidiaries), Scottish Opencast Communities Alliance, Society of St Columban, TAPOL (the human rights campaign for Indonesia) and War on Want.

WE WORK WITH

16 UK-based external groups

36 international groups

We joined networks working for justice in the mining industry preparing for an international gathering, the Thematic Social Forum. This took place in South Africa in November 2018, where delegates issued a Final Declaration and a Programme of Work on which LMN will continue to cooperate with partner organisations to strengthen mining-affected communities, including mine workers, in their dealings with mining companies, and on the growing community mining resistance campaign, the Right to Say NO.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income 2018 (£)
- Sigrid Rausing Trust: £3,758
- Kenneth Miller Trust: £5,649
- Passionists: £2,000
- Columbans JMIC: £10,000
- Lush Charity Pot: £15,000
- EU grant: £30,000
- Individual & member donations

Expenditure 2018 (£)
- Project activities: £8,513
- Network coordination: £10,930
- Communication and outreach: £12,960
- Finance and project management: £15,741
- Administration and overheads: £24,237
- Governance
THANK YOU

A massive THANK YOU to the groups, volunteers, trustees, advisory committee members and workers involved with LMN this year, who put in enormous amounts of time and hard work.

Our funders

With thanks to trusts and foundations for funding London Mining Network over the year

• Sigrid Rausing Trust
• European Commission
• Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation
• Kenneth Miller Trust
• Passionist Community
• Lush Charity Pot
• Network for Social Change
• Society of St Columban

With thanks to organisations for funding costs related to community visits


We are also grateful for financial support received from individual donors.

And finally, thank you to Ciprian Diaconita for designing this report

“ We believe it is important to be in London to be together with other communities. It is only through effective organising that the claims of those who’ve been affected by Brazil’s biggest socio-environmental crime will result in justice ”

- Leticia Oliveira on LMN's 2018 Beyond BHP speaker tour
TAKE ACTION

- Donate: https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8448
- facebook: londonminingnetwork
- twitter: londonmining
- instagram: londonminingnetwork.org

GET IN TOUCH

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