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INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

INSTITUT CANADIEN INTERNATIONAL DES RESSOURCES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

An Engineers Without Borders Canada Venture

For Immediate Release March 8th, 2016 Mining Shared Value Engineers Without Borders

# Engineers Without Borders Canada to examine impacts of mining local procurement laws in South Africa and Namibia

Research partnership with CIRDI seeks to better understand role of industry and government policies in both South Africa and Namibia

TORONTO/VANCOUVER - Mining Shared Value (MSV), a venture of Engineers Without Borders Canada, in partnership with the Canadian International Resources and Development Institute (CIRDI), SEF Canada Ltd. and the University British Columbia, is implementing a project that will examine the relationship between local procurement regulations and mining company practices in the South African and Namibian mining sectors.

"During this mining downturn, it is important to develop better understanding of the economic and social impacts of local procurement regulations" says Kanwal Dewan, the project coordinator for this project at Mining Shared Value. "Namibia and South Africa, like countries all across Sub-Saharan Africa, are under immense pressure to increase the socio-economic benefits of mining within their borders".

Local procurement of goods and services by mining companies has tremendous development potential for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In host countries, purchasing of local goods and services by mining companies creates local jobs, promotes skills and technology transfers, and integrates local companies into global value chains.

"Like any other aspect of mining, impacts of local procurement need to be assessed and measured in order to understand the true performance and to allow for partnership with mining companies to address any challenges" says Jeff Geipel, the lead of Mining Shared Value.

Sub-Saharan Africa has one of the largest endowments of mineral resources in the world. However, decades of mining activity have not led to the meaningful advances in social and economic development. The United Nations Development Programme's 2014 Human Development Index reveals that the majority of Sub-Saharan African countries are still characterized by low human development. Responding to calls from institutions like the World Bank and OECD to create policy relevant research, this research seeks to further support mining regulators and supporting organizations to enhance the benefits from the mining industry through local purchasing of goods and services.



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## **About Mining Shared Value**

Mining Shared Value is an Engineers Without Borders Canada venture that works to improve the development impacts of mining in developing regions by encouraging and helping the industry to purchase more goods and services locally.

www.miningsharedvalue.com

### About CIRDI

The Canadian International Resources and Development Institute is a centre of expertise in improving and strengthening resource governance. They work closely with all stakeholders involved in resource development to identify better ways to use these natural resources to achieve prosperity. Stakeholders encompass local, regional and national governments as well as communities and companies involved in the extractive sector.

www.cirdi.ca/local-procurement

### About SEF Canada Ltd.

SEF Canada Ltd. consults and trains in the field of Local Economic Development and Corporate Social Responsibility. Our Entrepreneurial Development Program, or ED, is a community based economic development tool. The power of ED comes from a community's willingness to support the dreams and aspirations of its citizens.

www.sefcanada.com

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