

Lucy Githaiga:

Provide a brief overview or attach your Return to Work Project.:

Although my return to work plan was based on the desire to promote the NDMs, I reported in my first report that I had managed to create awareness among the HaKi Madini CSOs that we work with and I had also held conversations with the Ministry of Mining on the same. I had also intended to use one of our Diakonia partner to carry out research on NDMs and then invite other CSOs and the ministry to a meeting to review the results of the research. However, the desire for the research was hampered by the fact that we got funding cuts due to the Refugee crisis in Syria. This meant that a significant element of the Return to work plan was not implemented owing to that challenge. However, I continued to use my leadership skills to influence in other areas and took advantage of opportunities that emerged to continue developing my leadership capacity in the sector

How have you achieved the objectives of your Return to Work Project?:

The objectives as set out in the RTW plan were partially achieved and lack of resources meant that they could not be fully achieved. However besides the conversations around NDMs I remained actively engaged in in the following dialogues and spaces:

1. Worked with other colleagues in Civil Society from the rest of Africa and in collaboration with AMDC to develop the Africa Minerals Governance framework. I was part of the team that developed the framework and we were able to organize a forum for civil society from across Africa here in Nairobi on the Africa Mining Vision
2. I was able to hold meetings with the Minister (Cabinet Secretary) for Mining with a view to explore possibilities of fast tracking the agenda for the development of the Country Mining Vision. I became part of the National Multi- sectoral Committee for the development of the CMV and I was elected as the Vice Chair of the Committee. We have been having a series of meetings and the developments on the CMV is on course. I was able to lobby for more slots for CSOs in the Committee and I lead the Stakeholder Engagement working group of the Committee
3. Women in the extractives sector established the Association of Women in Energy and Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK) that brings together business and professional women in the extractives sector and I was elected as the Chair of the Board

How have you determined the success of your project?:

While the original RTW objectives were not fully successful, this did not deter me from taking on other areas of leadership and expanding my ability to lead and influence in different areas of the sector. The fact that I have continued to lead in areas that were not even anticipated in the RTW is a demonstration of the leadership capacity obtained from the ELAM training

What challenges arose and how did you address them?:

When the challenge of lack of funds arose and prevented us from carrying out research on NDMs, I did not abandon the idea of leading, I looked out for other opportunities and went on to practice my leadership skills

What aspects of the course were useful in implementing the project?:

1. Dialogue was extremely useful
2. The art of listening

3. Networking

4. persuasion

What are your future plans?:

To continue growing and practicing my leadership skills. I am looking forward to transitioning into the extractives business in the not so distant future and my engagement in the Association (AWEIK) is providing good opportunities for mentorship and growth.