



CSR Research Project: **Influx management in large-scale mining**

What is in-migration?

In-migration or 'influx' of people into mining areas is a form of social change that generates impacts that may require a management response. Influx can be advantageous in some circumstances by stimulating the local economy, reversing population decline and driving local business development. It can also be detrimental, particularly when in-migration is unforeseen and unplanned. Detrimental effects can include a drain on social services, competition over scarce resources, localised conflicts, and general erosion of social order.

Why is this research needed?

Knowledge about in-migration in large-scale mining and related infrastructure (e.g. roads and rail) is limited. There is increasing awareness of influx as a social impact, however, less is known about attempts by states, developers and other parties to manage in-migration; outcomes of different management approaches; and the level of success that has been achieved. Much of the knowledge about management responses and their effectiveness is held by individual companies and consultants. Like other areas of social performance in mining, research is needed to improve access to knowledge that can improve industry, government and community response to population pressure.

Who is funding this research?

For the past six years, Rio Tinto has had a research agreement with CSR to support research on topics of mutual interest. This year, the Research Partnership Steering Committee identified influx and in-migration as a priority topic. As such, CSR will conduct a scoping study into in-migration management in large-scale mining. This project will include a literature review, aggregate analysis of in-migration studies and plans, and interviews with industry specialists to explore issues in more depth.

Who will conduct the research?

CSR is an applied research centre based at the University of Queensland with a focus on identifying and managing the social, economic and political challenges that occur when change is brought about by resource extraction. It has a global reach and reputation for working with multiple stakeholders, to help deliver sustainable and equitable development outcomes from mining. Experienced researchers from CSR will conduct this study.

What is the output?

A summary of findings will be made available in the public domain. This summary is expected to be completed around October 2016. We will provide participants in the research with the opportunity to comment on the draft report before it is finalised.

Request for documentation

As part of the research, CSRSM is seeking access to studies and plans on influx management, in-migration or similar issues. These documents will be used for the purposes of aggregate analysis and will not be shared with Rio Tinto or any other company. The research team will identify common themes and issues across these studies and plans and compare and contrast their different characteristics.

CSRSM staff can sign non-disclosure or confidentiality agreements wherever necessary.

Invitation to interview

We are inviting industry specialists to speak with us for the purposes of exploring issues that may not be covered in the literature. The interviews will be semi-structured and inquire about cases, context, issues, best practice, challenges and learnings for influx management in mining. Participation is voluntary. It will involve speaking with a member of the research team in person for 45 mins to one hour, or connecting by Skype/telephone or email. Contact details are provided below.

All data included in the report will be de-identified. The name of interviewees will not be mentioned in publications or reports resulting from the study without explicit permission. Interviewees retain the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without penalty and can remain anonymous. Should an informant choose to withdraw from the study any information already provided by them will not be used in the study. All information will be stored in a locked filing cabinet at in password-protected files.

Further Information:

This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. While you are free to discuss your participation in this study with the lead researcher, Dr Deanna Kemp (details below), if you would like to speak to an officer of the University who is not involved in the study, please contact the Ethics Coordinator on **+61 7 3365 3924**.

To arrange an interview, provide documentation, or to discuss the progress of the research, please contact:

Assoc. Prof. Deanna Kemp

Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining, SMI

The University Of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD 4072

Ph: +61 7 3346 4071

Email: d.kemp@smi.uq.edu.au

www.csrsm.uq.edu.au