

Mining Conflict Analysis and Transformation in Argentina

Lessons learned for improving mining governance
from a conflict resolution NGO perspective



- Argentine Member of Partners for Democratic Change International
- Created in 1998
- Our Vision
The collaborative construction of a public institutions that allows the development of a democratic, just and sustainable society.

Our MISSION

To enhance the capabilities of communities to prevent and transform public conflict and enable them to achieve a sustainable human development.

The emergence of mining conflict in Argentina

2003 2004

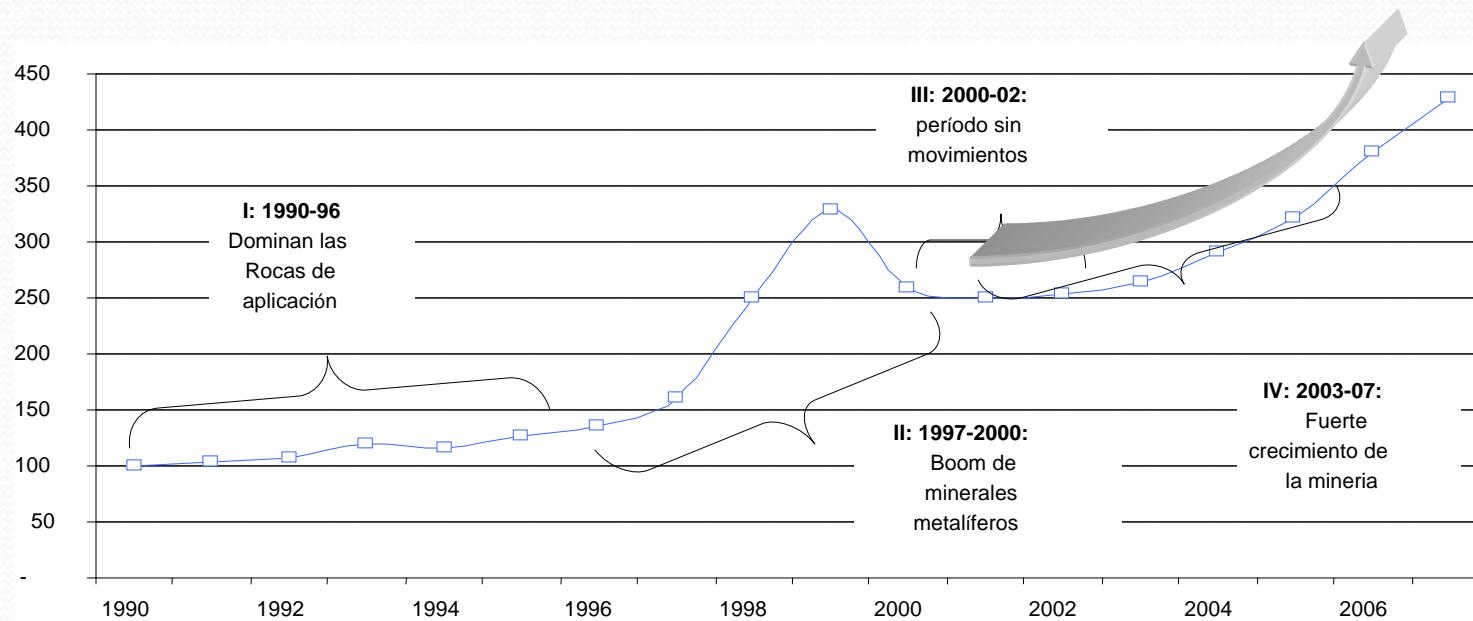
Emergence of a new type of socio environmental conflict related with the direct investment for metallic mining large scale projects. (Exploration and production stage)

FCD Extractive Industries program was designed to respond to that new type of conflict by developing consensus building effort around mining conflicts in Argentina.

What is a socio environmental mining conflict

- The disagreement regarding the positive or negative social impacts, economic and environmental of mining activity and the consequent confrontational behavior of the social actors involved .

Argentina Overview



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Crecimiento Acumulado 2003–2008	Crecimiento 2007 2008
Inversión Millones	\$660	\$ 1.869	\$ 2.493	\$ 3.900	\$ 5.600	\$ 7.350	1014%	31,50%
Proyectos	40	110	200	275	336	403	907%	20%
Exploración Metros Perforados	166.000	250.000	400.000	478.500	604.216	668.851	302%	11%
Empleos Dir. e Ind.	98.700	135.540	147.504	197.000	234.000	256.000	259%	9,50%
Producción (en millones de pesos)	\$4.080	\$4.569	\$5.662	\$9.450	\$14.400	\$16.656	292%	16%

Mining Conflicts In Argentina



communities and civil society on the impact of the large mining projects

- Económicos
 - Declinación de actividades económicas tradicionales (agricultura, turismo)
 - Mal uso de la renta minera /corrupción
 - Desigualdad socioeconómica
- Sociales
 - Incremento en riesgos a la salud
 - Migraciones y efectos negativos en el mercado laboral
 - Abusos de derechos humanos, sociales y ambientales
- Ambientales
 - Impactos negativos sobre las fuentes de los servicios ambientales
 - Efectos negativos sobre flora, fauna y paisaje (corto y largo plazo)
 - Cambios en el uso de los recursos y ambiente
- Culturales
 - Avasallamiento sobre estilo de vida (actividades tradicionales)
 - Cambio de identidad territorial
 - Desconocimiento de la soberanía ancestral de los pueblos originarios sobre el territorio

Mining governance problems that foster conflict

- *La ausencia de un ordenamiento ambiental del territorio y/o de políticas públicas de desarrollo local con participación ciudadana:*
- *La ausencia o insuficiencia de mecanismos de participación ciudadana en los procesos de evaluación de impacto social y ambiental (EIAS) de los proyectos mineros:*
- *La desconfianza de la sociedad civil en el Estado como garante del bien público.*
- Falta de capacidad estatal para la fiscalización adecuada de los emprendimientos, situación que hace difícil la efectiva aplicación de distintos principios de desarrollo sustentable
- Las comunidades locales, no tienen capacidad ni espacio institucional para manifestar sus preocupaciones y aspiraciones
- Carencia de disponibilidad y acceso de la información minera de calidad y accesibilidad publica para todos los actores, esta ausente o es insuficiente, dificultando la participación.

The project site approach

Esque Community vs Meridian Gold



In 2004 FCD started an evaluation of the conditions to initiate a dialogue from a mediation perspective for a specific

- Lessons Learned:
 - Highly costly and unnefective mediation efforts.
 - Due to high polarization, the third party has to have strong ties with each side
 - Structural issues related to the design and implementation of Mining and environmental policy that prevents for an effective work on a site based mediation approach.



Systemic Approach for promoting dialogue

Development of a national mining conflict analysis with a participatory methodology that allows us to get in contact with the stakeholders of the different level in a less ambitious short term agenda

- Not to attempt to mediate site specific conflict.
- Take dialogue and consensus building efforts orientated to
 - Joint fact finding process :
 - Development of collaborative advocacy coalitions
 - Relationship building between polarized stakeholders.
- Build capacity for dialogue and systemic conflict analysis for different stakeholders

Program: Platform of Dialogue for Responsible Mining Development

- Purposes:
- Develop a coalition to promote joint fact finding processes and dialogue between stakeholders

Program supported among others by

- International Cooperation
- Government
- Academy
- NGOs
- Private Sector





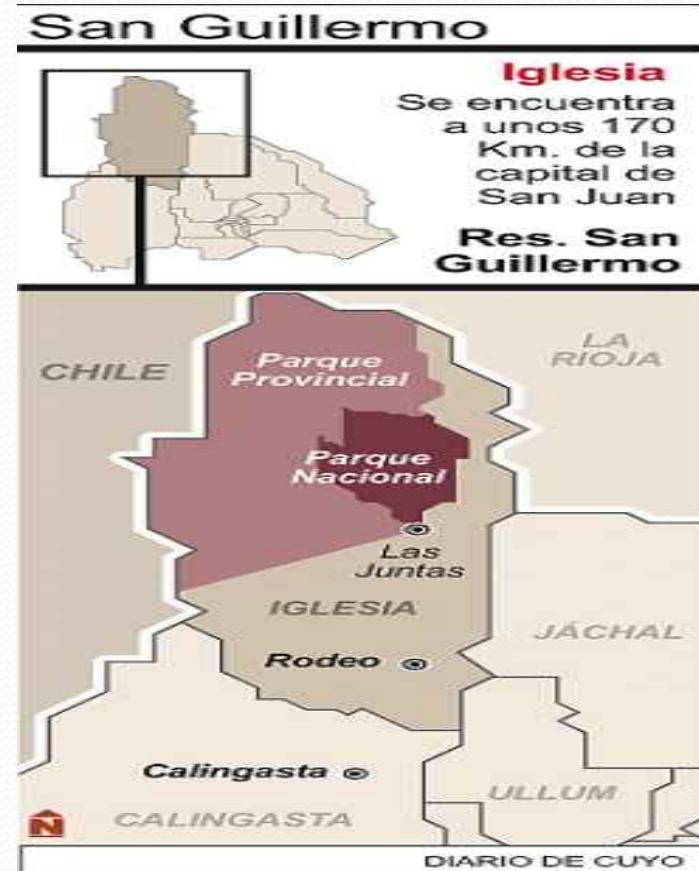
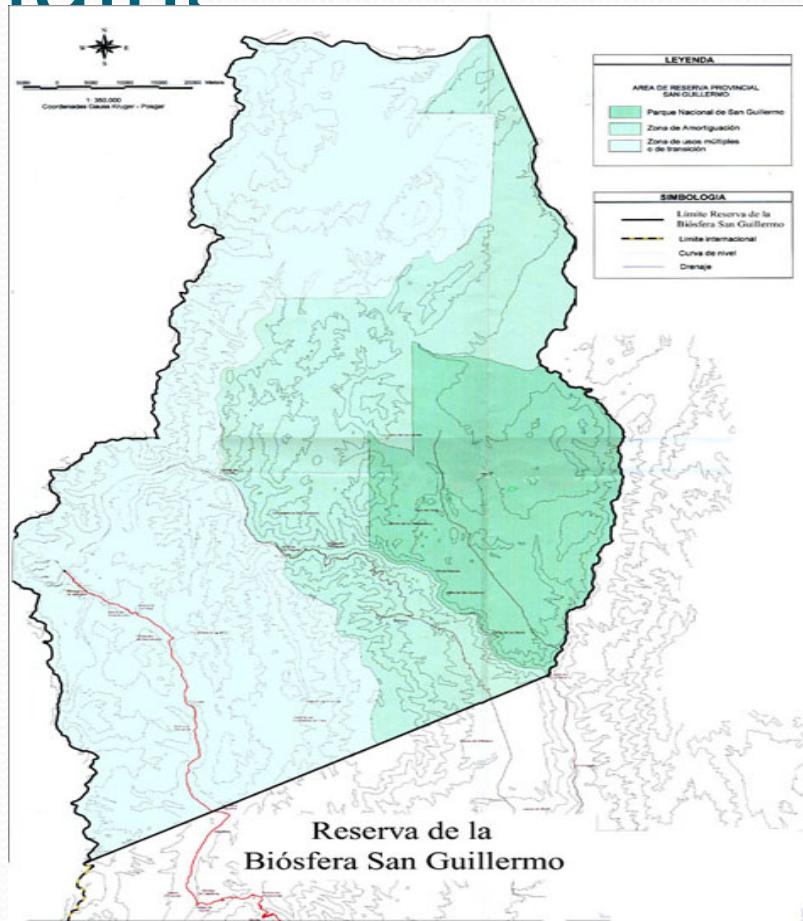
Mining Conflict Map

- Information system of public access.
- <http://www.bi-dm.com/mcmdemo/mapa-de-conflictividad-minera/veladero.html>
- Various large scale mining ventures in the country, in relation to potential conflicts between the mining project and its environment and its economy.

Marco analítico: descriptivo, explicativo e interpretativo



San Guillermo Biosphere Reserve Management Plan consensus building



Conclusions

- Question in stake
 - Who and how decides around the use of natural resources in general and minerals in specific
 - What's the linkage between mining and sustainable development
 - How can a mining get the social license to operate
- The answer is now developing through conflict and polarization
- It can be better built through democratic dialogue and consensus building