

FATAL TRANSACTIONS MEMBER ACTIVITIES

DIAMONDS IN ZIMBABWE

A Plea to suspend Zimbabwe from the Kimberley Process



Farai Maguwu, director of the Centre for Research and Development (CRD) from Zimbabwe, was in Europe. The CRD is the only NGO in Zimbabwe reporting on the human rights abuse in the country's diamond fields. Together with Fatal Transactions members BICC and Niza he did a lobby tour through Europe to inform governments and others on the situation on the ground in Chiadzwa and to plea for the suspension of Zimbabwe from the Kimberley Process. [Read more...](#)

Briefing Note: Conflict Diamonds From Zimbabwe



Fatal Transactions published the Briefing Note '[Conflict Diamonds from Zimbabwe](#)'. The publication, written by Zimbabwe expert Richard Saunders, shows how the diamond production and trade in Zimbabwe has become everything but a source of income for the fragile country but instead is a source of conflict and severe human rights abuses. The report strongly recommends to suspend Zimbabwe from the Kimberley Process, demands a thorough investigation by the Zimbabwean authorities into the human rights abuses and calls upon the international community to assist Zimbabwe restore order in the diamond sector.

Fatal Transactions speaks out against Zimbabwean conflict diamonds

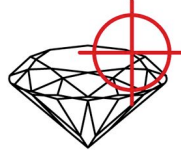


As a result of the start of the trial against the former Liberian President and warlord Charles Taylor. Taylor financed his rebel movement mainly with timber and diamonds. Fatal Transactions International Coordinator Anneke Galama was interviewed on blood diamonds and Zimbabwe in the media. [Read more...](#)



This project is funded by the European Union and implemented by Fatal Transactions. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.

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FATAL TRANSACTIONS MEMBER ACTIVITIES (continued)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

DRC: Transparency activist Golden Misabiko out of jail



After almost one month in jail, Golden Misabiko, President of the African Association for the Protection of Human Rights in Katanga province (ASADHO/Katanga), has been released on bail on 20 August. He was accused of “undermining state security” and “defamation” by Congolese authorities. The charges against Golden Misabiko relate to a report published by ASADHO/Katanga in early July on the alleged illegal and dangerous exploitation of the Shinkolobwe uranium mine and the non-transparent mining deal between AREVA and the Congolese state. [Read more...](#)

Fatal Transaction appeals to Swedish EU Presidency for stronger action in conflict eastern DRC



In an open letter to the current Swedish EU Presidency, Fatal Transactions and other NGOs ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Carl Bildt, to take the lead in initiating stronger international action to tackle the ongoing violent conflict in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. [Read more...](#)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

BICC presents demands regarding German resource procurement strategy



During a recent meeting BICC and the German NGO network on Natural Resources demanded the German state to adhere to verifiable social and environmental standards in the German natural resource procurement policies. The Ministry of Economic Affairs saw no need for immediate action, but the Ministry of Development Cooperation stated that the International Transparency Initiative (EITI) should be developed further. BICC, together with the German NGO Network on Natural Resources, continues to monitor the German policies to secure industrial and energy resources. They ask for greater fairness in the resource sector. For additional information please contact Lena Guesnet, guesnet@bicc.de

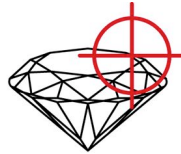
FATAL TRANSACTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

IPIS Report: Africa's Natural Resources in a Global Context



Fatal Transactions member IPIS has published a new report titled "[Africa's Natural Resources in a Global Context](#)". The report, which concentrates on non-renewable natural resources, aims to disentangle some of the processes that explain the paradox between Africa's natural wealth and its relatively limited level of economic development. [Read more...](#)

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FATAL TRANSACTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

New IPIS report on impact global financial crisis in Katanga DRC



This new IPIS publication examines the impact of the global financial crisis on the mining sector in Katanga, the southeast province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As far as the industrial mining sector is concerned, it is shown that the crisis exacerbated the uncertainty of mining companies that were waiting for the results of the review of the mining contracts and that were often in the middle of starting up or expanding their activities in Katanga.

[Read more...](#)

BICC to publish 3 reports on natural resources in conflict affected countries in Africa



In 2009, BICC will issue three new reports on the topic of natural resources and conflict. Based on field research carried out by BICC staff in Côte d'Ivoire, Chad and Nigeria each report will analyze the impact of natural resources in the conflict setting of the country and look at opportunities to harness natural resource wealth for peace and development. For more information contact Lena Guesnet at guesnet@bicc.de

Conference & Winterschool announcement: China in Africa



The University of Wrocław and Fatal Transactions are pleased to announce a 2-day conference (14-15 December) and student Winterschool (14-19 December) in Wrocław, Poland. Both will deal with the challenges and opportunities of the increasing involvement of China in Africa's natural resource sector. Click [here](#) for more information on the conference and [here](#) for more information about the Winterschool

Fatal Transactions is an international campaign for awareness raising among consumers, opinion makers, politicians and industry on the crucial relation between trade in natural resources from African countries and continuation and escalation of armed conflicts and human rights violations. The overall objective is to end armed conflicts and human rights violations by drying up the financial resources and making sure that the revenues made out of the exploitation of natural resources are being used for the well-being of the population.

Fatal Transactions is carried out by 4 European NGOs: [Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa](#) (The Netherlands), [BICC](#) (Germany), [IKVPax Christi Netherlands](#) (The Netherlands), [IPIS](#) (Belgium). Associates are: [Medico International](#) (Germany), [OxfamNovib](#) (The Netherlands), [Broederlijk Delen](#) (Belgium) [CENADEP](#) (DR Congo), [Wrocław](#) (Poland), [Groundwork](#) (South Africa), [JEA](#) (Angola)

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