

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETING: LESSONS AND DIRECTIONS IN MEDIA AND NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE

Date: **15 – 17 June 2016**
(14 June: Pre-meeting workshop for NRG staff and implementing partners on extractive sector corruption)

Location: Accra, Ghana

Venue: Alisa Hotel
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CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

The media play a key role in supporting good policies and building well-governed societies that aspire to raising the living standards of their citizens. Through their reporting and analyses, journalists can move policy makers to make the right decisions, expose unethical and corrupt practices, and inform citizens who will in turn exert pressure on decision makers to be transparent, accountable, and responsive to legitimate public expectations.

While the role of the media is central to any area of public life, it is especially important in resource-rich countries, where revenues from extractives have the potential to destabilize budgets, fuel mismanagement and corruption, and ignite conflict when governments are not held accountable for their decisions. Conversely, when appropriate policy decisions are made and explained adequately to the public to manage expectations, the revenues and the wider economic benefits that come from extractive projects can help reduce poverty and set countries onto a sustained development path.

Journalists can fulfill their oversight role only through informed analysis and reporting as well as high quality and thoughtful comment and investigative efforts. In turn, this requires solid reporting skills, proficiency in sourcing and evaluating evidence, understanding technical issues, data literacy, and access to information and experts.

SUPPORTING THE MEDIA’S INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT ROLE

In 2010 NRG launched the program for Strengthening Media Oversight of the Extractive Sectors, which has significantly elevated journalists’ capacity on extractive sector reporting. Having started on a pilot basis in Ghana and Uganda, it expanded to Tanzania in 2013. And since then, iterations of the program have been rolled out in the Republic of Guinea, Nigeria, Myanmar, and for journalists working in Libya and

Tunisia. New lines of work with media in Azerbaijan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, Mexico and Mongolia are planned or underway. We have in the past also supported journalists in Iraq and Afghanistan. In many of these countries, NRG works in partnership with media organizations.

The goal of the work that we do with media is to produce effective and consistent oversight of extractive resources and revenues, contributing to their improved use for the public good. The program is articulated around three overarching objectives:

1. Sustained increase in quantity and quality of media coverage of extractive issues.
2. Improved enabling environment within newsrooms for the coverage of extractive governance issues.
3. Increased capacity of local partner organizations to manage the training and implement the program for the long-term.

While approaches vary across countries and are responsive to local contexts, the strength of our work has been the combination of foundational training in extractive industry knowledge and journalistic skills with site visits, mentorship, access to experts, and grants to support in-depth and investigative reporting. We also work with editors and news managers in media houses to create an enabling environment for coverage of oil, gas, and mining issues. The program predominantly targets early- to mid-career journalists and all media platforms – print, broadcast, and online. This said, in select countries, we combine this support with advanced training opportunities on data and investigative reporting for more experienced journalists.

BACKGROUND TO THE MEETING

This year's stakeholder meeting builds on two previous strategic review meetings that took place in September 2011 in Uganda and in January 2013 in Tanzania. In conjunction with our country implementing partners, alumni, and stakeholders primarily from Africa, we took stock of the program's accomplishments and lessons learned, compared notes, shared experiences, and explored training approaches that can ensure the best learning outcomes for adult audiences.

Continuously learning and adapting have been the hallmark of NRG's approach to media capacity development. We also recognize that while NRG and our implementing partners bring particular strengths, long-lasting outcomes are more likely to emerge from a process through which we complement the efforts of others or invite and create space for them to complement ours. In this meeting, we intend to engage in a broader conversation with various organizations and individuals involved in efforts to improve the coverage of oil, gas, and mineral governance issues across different countries and regions.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a platform for **interaction, exchange of information, and sharing of experiences** among participants in the community of practice on media and natural resource governance.
2. To share information about the current **trends and practices** in media capacity development and natural resource governance.
3. To review the **lessons learned, accomplishments, challenges, and future** of the efforts for strengthening media oversight of the extractive sectors.
4. To receive and reflect on the findings of the **evaluation of the program** for strengthening media oversight of the extractive sectors.
5. To introduce and share **approaches, resources and tools** for media capacity development on natural resource governance.

PARTICIPANTS

The following categories of practitioners will participate:

1. NRGi staff with roles in the media program in different regions and countries, and other program staff whose work is a source of content for media capacity development;
2. Representatives of implementing partners from countries with active media projects;
3. Media Program Advisory Panel members, a newly set up group of experts to advise NRGi's work in support of media;
4. Representatives of program alumni, media leaders, and global partner organizations;
5. Consultants who have had roles in the media program, particularly in facilitating training as well as monitoring and evaluation; and
6. Representatives of journalism schools that NRGi is partnering with on academic mainstreaming of extractives.

MEETING ROADMAP

The main meeting will take place over three days preceded by a half-day pre-meeting workshop on extractives corruption and data primarily for NRGi staff and implementing partners (a separate concept note will be circulated). Overall, the meeting will see five key moments:

1. **Building our collective capacity:** Recognizing the importance of making the most of the increased availability of extractive industry data in our programs with media, on Day 1 prior to the formal meeting (in the afternoon of 14 June), NRGi staff and implementing partners will take part in a workshop intended to demonstrate how to harness extractives data and data tools for analytical inquiry and data-driven journalism. With a focus on addressing corruption vulnerabilities in the extractive sector, this exposure and ensuring discussions will position us to replicate these approaches in media training in our respective countries where relevant.

- 2. Exploring the media context and how it impacts our work:** In the morning of Day 2 which is the beginning of the formal meeting, we will spend some time discussing trends and developments in the professional, operational, and institutional media contexts, including but not limited to reporting on natural resource governance. Key themes we may explore include: trends and emerging approaches in investigative journalism; changes in funding models for media organizations; the open data revolution; and public interest in the governance of extractive industries, among others. We will then unpack how these changes potentially impact on media and the work that we, as assistance and capacity development providers, do.
- 3. Learning about, and from, each other:** For the rest of Day 2 and all of Day 3, participants will get to know about each other and their work, learn about respective organizations and countries, their missions and strategic priorities as well as the scope and shape of media programs that we implement. The focus will be on building a shared understanding of what we do to progressively identify common expectations, challenges and themes that we can unpack throughout the meeting, either in the main sessions of the event or through bilateral side meetings. A separate guidance for session leaders will be provided to help them surface relevant themes as they plan for their sessions. Participants that are involved in sessions as discussants or panellists will be contacted directly by session leaders to prepare in time for the meeting.
- 4. Critically reviewing our track record:** In the morning of Day 4, the evaluators of our media programs in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, and Myanmar will present the results of a comprehensive multi-year evaluation that assesses what impact our work has had on the quality and quantity of reporting. We will use this information to further reflect on the strengths of our programs and areas for further development.
- 5. Developing a shared agenda and joint approaches for the future:** After identifying and prioritizing key challenges and issues that cut across countries, we will spend the afternoon of Day 4 unpacking the most salient themes and identifying how we can work together, as a group, on these issues going forward. Key themes that we expect to see surface at the meeting may include the following: evolving funding models for media and related implications for media autonomy and for support providers; open data and successful support models for data-driven and evidence-based reporting; success models and approaches to investigative reporting; individual vs institutional engagement of media; our role in addressing the enabling environment for media reporting; approaches to digital content production, etc.

METHODOLOGY

The meeting will be conducted through a combination of interactive methods that will encourage direct, structured participation of all participants. Methods will include presentations and discussions in plenary meetings, breakout sessions, interviews, side meetings and a workshop.

AGENDA

DAY 1 - TUESDAY JUNE 14 (WORKSHOP FOR NRG I STAFF AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS)			
Building our collective capacity			
TIME	ACTIVITY	OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBILITY
14:00 – 17:30	Workshop	To share basic information on extractive sector corruption red flags and utilize data and tools to raise questions for journalistic analysis.	Session leads/ co-facilitators: David Mihalyi, Economic Analyst, NRG I Marie Lintzer, Governance Officer, NRG I
DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY JUNE 15 (ALL PARTICIPANTS)			
INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS			
TIME	ACTIVITY	OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBILITY
8:00 – 8:30	Registration	Participants register and take their seats	Theresa Kwakye, Secretariat
8:30 – 8:45	Opening address	To give opening remarks and introduce the agenda and purpose of the meeting.	George Lugalambi, Media Capacity Development Officer, NRG I
8:45 – 9:15	Participant introductions and expectations	To briefly share who we are, what we and our organizations do, and our expectations for the meeting.	All participants
LOOKING AT THE MEDIA CONTEXT			
9:15 – 9:45	Keynote address	To share reflections on key trends in media.	Session lead/keynote speaker: Anya Schiffrin, Director, Technology Media and Communications (TMaC) Specialization, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, USA

9:45 – 10:15	Panel discussion	Responses and reflections on the themes raised by the keynote including on how they impact the work of organizations that aim to assist media in their work.	Session lead/moderator: Anya Schiffrin Panelists: Barbara Kaija, Editor-in-Chief, Vision Group, Uganda Nicholas Phythian, Director, Phythian Content & Consulting, UK
10:15 – 11:00	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the keynote speakers and panelists and complement the perspectives shared with insights from applied work.	All participants
11:00 – 11:15	Break		
LEARNING ABOUT, AND FROM, EACH OTHER			
11:15 – 11:45	Presentation and discussion	To present and discuss shifts in the extractive industry field and NRGI's current strategic priorities.	Session leads/presenters: Dani Kaufmann, President & Chief Executive Officer, NRGI Suneeta Kaimal, Chief Operating Officer, NRGI
11:45 – 12:00	Presentation	To offer a high level summary of NRGI's program for strengthening media oversight of the extractive sectors.	Session lead/presenter: George Lugalambi
12:00 – 12:30	Presentation	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Azerbaijan and Eurasia in general.	Session leads/presenters: Fidan Bagirova, Senior Eurasia Officer, NRGI Barnaby Pace, Global Witness
12:30 – 13:00	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the presenters and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants' applied work and experiences.	All participants

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 – 15:15	Panel discussion and interactive plenary session	<p>To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in the in Nigeria.</p> <p>To engage in a Q&A with the panelists and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants’ applied work and experiences.</p>	<p>Session lead/moderator: Sarah Muyonga, Nigeria Manager, NRG</p> <p>Panelists: Isaac Ogugua Ezechukwu, Director of Professional Education, Pan-Atlantic University School of Media and Communication, Lagos</p> <p>Motunrayo Alaka, Centre Coordinator, Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism, Lagos</p> <p>Musikilu Mojeed, Managing Editor, Premium Times, Abuja</p>
15:15 – 15:30	Presentation and discussion	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Ghana .	Session lead/presenter: Kwami Ahiabenu, President, Penplusbytes
15:30 – 16:00	Plenary discussion	To engage in a Q&A with the presenter and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants’ applied work and experiences.	All participants
16:00 – 16:15	Break		
16:15 – 17:00	Interview and interactive plenary session	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Latin America .	<p>Session lead/interviewer: Matteo Pellegrini</p> <p>Interviewee: Alonso Hidalgo, Latin America Program Assistant, NRG</p>

17:00 – 17:30	Plenary discussion	Review of the day to identify emerging themes and issues of interest to unpack further.	Moderator: Matteo Pellegrini
17:30	End of the day		

DAY 3			
THURSDAY JUNE 16			
TIME	ACTIVITY	OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBILITY
7:30 – 8:45	Optional bilateral/side meetings over breakfast	To provide space for participants or participating organizations to meet bilaterally or in groups to network or continue brainstorming.	
8:30 – 9:30	Panel discussion	To share information on the work of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists around extractives and the Panama Papers and linkages to the work and role of other organizations.	<p>Session leads/facilitators: George Lugalambi & Marie Lintzer</p> <p>Panelists: Will Fitzgibbon, International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ)</p> <p>Khadija Sharife, Investigative Researcher and Writer, African Network of Centers for Investigative Reporting (ANCIR)</p> <p>Musikilu Mojeed</p>
9:30 – 9:50	Presentation	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Tanzania.	<p>Session lead/presenter: John Chikomo, Executive Director, Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam</p>

9:50 – 10:15	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the presenters and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants' applied work and experiences.	All participants
10.15 – 11:00	Interview and interactive plenary session	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Francophone Africa .	Session lead/interviewer: Matteo Pellegrini Eric Bisil, Africa Officer, NRG Jean Pierre Okenda, DRC Manager, NRG Akoumba Diallo, Guinean Editor Press Association, Conakry
11:00 – 11:15	Break		
11.15 – 12:00	Presentation and interactive plenary session	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Uganda .	Session lead/presenter: Bernard Tabaire, Director of Programmes, African Centre for Media Excellence
12.00 – 12:30	Presentation	To share information and background on key issues in the extractive sectors globally where media can play a role, and the work of the Global Witness and possible linkages to the work of other organizations represented.	Session lead/presenter: Barnaby Pace, Campaigner in the Oil, Gas and Mining Team, Global Witness
12:30 – 13:00	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the presenters and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants' applied work and experiences.	All participants
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 – 14:30	Interview	To share information about context, activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Tunisia and MENA in general.	Session lead/interviewer: Laury Haytayan, MENA Senior Officer, NRG

			Interviewee: Mouna Mtibaa, Journalist, Tunisian News Agency & Lead Trainer, Article 19
14:30 – 15:00	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the presenters and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants' applied work and experiences.	All participants
15:00 – 15:30	Panel discussion	To share information about activities, approaches, lessons learned and key challenges in media capacity development in Myanmar, Indonesia and Asia Pacific in general.	Session lead/moderator: Jelson Garcia, Asia Pacific Director, NRG Panelists: Ye Naing Moe, Director & Chief Trainer, Yangon Journalism School May Zaw, Network and Fellowship Development Officer, South East Asian Press Alliance
15:30 – 16:00	Interactive plenary session	To engage in a Q&A with the presenters and complement the perspectives shared with insights from participants' applied work and experiences.	All participants
16:00 – 16:15	Break		
16:15 – 17:15	Panel discussion and interactive plenary session	To share information about the purpose of, pilot activities and approaches to mainstreaming extractives themes in the curricula of academic and vocational journalism courses.	Session lead/moderator George Lugalambi Discussants: Ebo Afful, Acting Vice Rector, Ghana Institute of Journalism, Ghana

			<p>Michael Andindilile Dean, University of Dar es Salaam School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Tanzania</p> <p>William Tayeebwa, Head, Makerere University Department of Journalism and Communication, Uganda</p> <p>Silk Ugwu Ogbu, Adjunct Faculty, Pan-Atlantic University School of Media and Communication, Nigeria</p>
17.15 – 17:30	Recap of the day	To summarize the key common takeaway messages from the country experiences and identify themes to unpack further.	Session lead: Toyin Akinniye, Media Capacity Development Associate, NRG
17:30	End of the day		
18:30	Social event		

DAY 4		FRIDAY JUNE 17	
TIME	DESCRIPTION	OBJECTIVE	RESPONSIBILITY
7:30 – 8:45	Optional bilateral/side meetings over breakfast	To provide space for participants or participating organizations to meet bilaterally or in groups to network or continue brainstorming.	
CRITICALLY REVIEWING OUR TRACK RECORD			
9:00 – 11:00	Presentation and interactive plenary session	To present and discuss the findings of the evaluation report of the media program in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, and Myanmar.	Session lead/presenter: Tom Olila, Director and Lead Advisor, Strategic Connections Ltd

			Co-Presenter: Joachim Buwembo, Journalist & Trainer
11:00 – 11:15	Break		
DEVELOPING A SHARED AGENDA AND JOINT APPROACHES FOR THE FUTURE			
11:15 – 13:00	Identification of priority issues and country planning group discussions	To identify and unpack the priority issues of common interest and develop shared agendas for further consideration and planning going forward.	Session lead/facilitator: Matteo Pellegrini All participants
11:45 – 13:00	Optional bilateral/side meetings	To provide space for participants or participating organizations to meet bilaterally or in groups to network or continue brainstorming.	Interested participants
12:00 – 14:00	Closed door meeting	Inaugural meeting and working lunch of the NRGI Media Program Advisory Panel	Matteo Pellegrini & George Lugalambi
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 – 15:15	Plenary group presentations	To share and deliberate upon the top priority issues and outcomes of group discussions and allow other participants to provide inputs and ideas.	Rapporteurs/facilitators chosen by each group All participants
15:15 – 15:30	Recap of the meeting	Short review of meeting takeaways and tools we will use to keep in touch.	George Lugalambi
15:30 – 16:00	Conclusion and closure of the meeting		NRGI Senior Management