

Advocacy case studies

LEGISLATING FOR TRANSPARENCY IN THE EXTRACTIVES

INDUSTRY IN TANZANIA

COUNTRY:	Tanzania
THEMES:	Corruption; governance; land and property
ADVOCACY APPROACHES:	Government officials: lobbying; government officials: meeting with; legal mechanisms

Several years ago, Tearfund partner Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) was working to promote more open, transparent and accountable management of its country's natural resources (oil, gas, metals and minerals). It wanted to ensure that profits from the extraction of these resources were not lost to corruption but led to economic growth and social development. In particular, CCT wanted its national government to legislate so that extraction was properly managed - to strengthen government and company reporting systems, enhance trust, and increase public information and debate, so that natural resource wealth benefitted all citizens of the country, not just an elite few.

Over several years, CCT held dialogue meetings with government officials and the boards of extractive companies, as well as raising awareness about the issue in the Tanzanian parliament, with Christian MPs and bishops in attendance. They were persistent about the changes they wanted to see.

As a result of their lobbying, the government minister with responsibility for the extractives industry asked CCT to help draft new legislation to better manage it. This led to several new laws – the Petroleum Act, the Tanzania Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative, and the Financial Management Act – being passed. CCT continue to monitor their implementation, and where necessary are calling for amendments to ensure laws are strong and effective.