**MPRDA training evaluation report.**

**Introduction**

This report presents the findings from pre and post evaluation surveys conducted during training on the MPRDA for communities across five provinces. The demographic profile of the participants is presented as well as an analysis of participants’ responses to specific questions on the MPRDA.

1. **Demographic Characteristics**

**Table 1: Demographic Characteristics**

**Characteristic Frequency Percentage%**

**Sex (*n=585*)**

Female 241 41.20

Male 344 58.80

**Age Group (n=585)**

18-25 years 206 35.21

26-30 years 96 16.41

31-35 years 103 17.61

36-40 years 64 10.94

41 years and above 116 19.83

**Marital Status** ***(n=585)***

Single 385 65.81

Married 158 27.01

Widowed 25 4.27

Divorced 17 2.91

**Province (*n=585*)**

Limpopo 61 10.43

KZN 150 25.64

North west 53 9.06

Northern Cape 175 29.91

Free State 97 16.58

Gauteng 49 8.38

above can be summarised as follows:

* The total number of participants who completed the Pre-test is 585 (344 males and 241 females). 549 completed the post-test.
* Most of the respondents were not married (65.8%) and the majority (69%) were below the age of 35.
* The dialogues were conducted in 6 provinces in form of community meetings and average attendance was 32 community members

1. **General knowledge about mining**
   1. **Knowledge about Mining and the MPRDA**

On the pre-test, only 72 respondents (12%) had some form of prior knowledge of the MPRDA or knew it existed, while the majority 513 (88%) had no idea.

The majority of respondents who said “Yes” indicated an understanding that MPRDA refers to Mineral Petroleum Resources Development Act, which was designed by government to assist communities and mining people but stressed that it is not working or relevant to the current realities in mining communities.

During the post-test however, 471 respondents (85.8%) had an improved understanding of the MPRDA and could articulate some of its provisions, particularly how they are affected by the MPRDA in its current form.

* 1. **Fairness of the MPRDA to communities and women**

Respondents were asked if they thought the MPRDA was fair to communities in general, and to women in particular and the response is indicated below:-

PRE-

**Characteristic Frequency Percentage%**

Yes 15 21

No 57 79

Of the 72 respondents who expressed some knowledge about the MPRDA, only 15 (21%) considered it fair to communities and women in its current state. Reasons given for this include:-

1. The mines do not employ women
2. Water pollution affects women more
3. Women were not consulted in making the law

After the training, of the 471 participants who showed increased understanding of the MPRDA, only 45 (9.6%) believed that it was fair to communities and women. The rest thought it was not fair and the reasons are summarised below.

* Employment equity irregularities (including women not hired to same proportion as men, mines not hiring from local community
* Regulations not followed by mines
* Inadequate community consultations
* Have not benefitted from it (in terms of service delivery including community development, housing, education, water, food)
* Government policies do not serve the poor masses but favours the rich
* Corruption/bribery/nepotism
* No access to land for women
  1. **Influencing the law**

Participants were asked what they could do to influence and/or change the law. The trend was similar between the pre and post-test measures. The majority believed in community mass action (protest, strike, picket), where communities challenge the mining companies as well as government to demand that the violations are addressed. While some called upon communities including mine workers to boycott the mines, others suggested that there be more education and awareness on mining rights for both communities and the mining companies. The majority of respondents believed it was the government’s responsibility to protect them from the mining violations and for coming up with legislation that protects them through widespread public consultations. A number of respondents encouraged joining MACUA and similar organisations in calling for the scrapping of the MPRDA.