SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our research and learning has focused on:

Extractive industries:
Sustainable development of the sector, including revenue generation and management, social licensing of investments, environmental safeguards, conflict management, and the generation of value-added and diversification through Local Content policies.

Rural livelihoods:
The promotion of smallholder farming through commercialisation for those seeking this route, and policies that respond to the needs of pastoralists who are among the most marginalised groups in most societies.

Labour markets:
Policies geared towards the heterogeneity of informal labour and firms, and employment promotion through active labour market policies.

Sample outcomes from the ELLA Network research, exchange and learning on Sustainable Economic Development:

GHANA
Lessons from the 2012 Learning Alliance were taken to the Land Use Planning Bill, and to promote Free Prior and Informed Consent. Four years later, a journalist participant in the Oil and Gas Local Content Learning Alliance is promoting stakeholders participation to stimulate local employment and business in the oil-rich Voltaian Basin.

UGANDA
Lessons from the 2012 Extractive Industries and 2016 Oil and Gas Local Content Learning Alliances have fed into the development of the oil sector policy, on revenue generation and sharing and economic diversification. Ideas on farmers’ business skills development from the 2013 Smallholders Learning Alliance used by the Uganda Coffee Development Association.

SOUTH AFRICA
Findings from the 2015-16 research into how to manage labour market informality to promote inclusive growth disseminated at a major conference and led into policy considerations on relaxing constraints on informality.

KENYA
Lessons on securing collective land access rights for pastoralists, from the 2015-16 research and exchange on Pastoralism, were fed into consideration of the country’s Land Bill, to promote sustainable land use and support some of Kenya’s poorest groups.

INDIA
Latin American evidence on managing the extractive industries from the 2012 exchange and study tour in helping developing a Mining Sustainability Index, in training materials at the Business and Community Foundation and in disseminating lessons to Oil India Ltd.