Many Latin American countries are rich with natural resources like oil, gas and minerals, and they have a wealth of experience to share in terms of the investment policies they have pursued to develop their extractive industries. The following selection highlights key Latin American and international organisations working on a variety of extractive industries issues, including sustainable development, good governance, and poverty-fighting, and across the gas, oil, and mining sectors.

**US Geological Survey (USGS), Energy and Minerals, and Environmental Health**

Link: [http://www.usgs.gov/resources_envirohealth/](http://www.usgs.gov/resources_envirohealth/)

**Areas of Expertise:** Energy and minerals, environmental impacts, land use  
**Key Activities:** Research, data collection

The USGS Energy and Minerals, and Environmental Health Activity conducts research and assessments on the location, quantity, and quality of mineral and energy resources, including the economic and environmental effects of resource extraction and use. The information available on the web page, likely to be of use for researchers and decision makers, includes research, assessments and data analysis on mineral and energy issues for more than 180 countries.
International Council of Mining & Metals (ICMM)
Link: http://www.icmm.com/
Areas of Expertise: Mining, socio-economic development
Key Activities: Research, sustainable development work programme
The research initiative ICMM is formed by mining and metals companies, mining associations, and global commodity associations. Its work programmes aim to analyse and promote mining’s contribution to sustainable development. Research is conducted in collaboration with governments, international organisations, communities, and indigenous peoples. Touching on different aspects of the relationship between mining and sustainable development, such as climate change and conflict prevention, ICMM’s publications and toolkits can assist policymakers and practitioners aiming to design and implement policies fostering the sustainable development of their mining industry.

The Fraser Institute
Link: http://www.fraserinstitute.org/research-news/research/topics-display.aspx?topic=128&name=Mining
Areas of Expertise: Mining, energy, taxation, resource endowment
Key Activities: Research
The Fraser Institute is a Canadian think tank that produces research on a variety of topics, including energy and mining, and recommends public policy solutions. Of particular relevance is their annual survey of metals mining and exploration companies, which will be useful for policymakers and researchers in Africa and South Asia to assess how mineral endowments and public policy factors such as taxation and regulation affect exploration investment. Publications are freely available on the website.

International Institute for Environment And Development (IIED), Programme of Work on Energy
Link: http://www.iied.org/energy
Areas of Expertise: Energy, sustainable development
Key Activities: Research
IIED is an independent international research organisation, specialising in environment and sustainable development. Through its Programme of Work on Energy, IIED publishes resources on energy issues, focusing on two main themes: governance of large-scale energy sector development in oil, gas, and biofuels; and models for delivery of sustainable decentralised energy services. The IIED collection of energy related publications offers access to quality research documents, worldwide energy projects, and links to relevant organisations.
The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

Link: http://www.eia.doe.gov/countries/

Areas of Expertise: Energy
Key Activities: Research, policy briefs, data collection, raw data publication

EIA collects and publishes updated data relevant to the extractive industries by country, region, and commercial group (OECD, OPEC) for 217 countries, including data like production and consumption of oil and natural gas, and fuel imports and exports. They also present research, analysis, and reports for selected countries. EIA data will be particularly useful for researchers.

Oil Watch

Link: http://www.oilwatch.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5&Itemid=6&lang=en

Areas of Expertise: Oil industries’ impact on the environment, collective rights
Key Activities: Citizen oversight of oil extraction activities, activism, advocacy, research

Oil Watch is a network of civil society organisations from Latin America, Africa and Asia that are working to address the oil industry’s negative effects on the environment and on collective rights. Oil Watch supports local activities and campaigns, and produces books, academic articles, and declarations, all of which will be useful to civil society actors working on extractive industries in other contexts.

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)

Link: http://eiti.org/

Areas of Expertise: Governance and transparency in the extractive sector
Key Activities: Advocacy, capacity building

EITI is a multi-stakeholder initiative composed of governments, companies and civil society that promotes good governance of extractive industries, in particular aiming to improve transparency and accountability in the sector to make "natural resources benefit all". They promote transparency standards for companies and governments, and use advocacy strategies to push for compliance, including officially ‘certifying’ extractive industry-rich countries. Overall, their publications and advocacy tools will be useful to all stakeholders working for better governance in extractive industries.
The World Bank, Sustainable Energy, Oil, Gas, and Mining Unit (SEGOM)

Link: http://go.worldbank.org/95SG8YD8A0

Areas of Expertise: Good governance in the extractive sector, oil, gas, mining
Key Activities: Research, capacity building, technical assistance

SEGOM is the World Bank area working at the intersection of good governance and extractive industries. The unit offers a large collection of resources, links, and initiatives related to energy and the mining sector, especially concerning the relationship between extractive industries and poverty reduction. In particular, the Unit concentrates on good governance and sustainable development, including cross-cutting issues like gender, policy reform, and the environment.

The Energy Industries Council of the United Kingdom (EIC)

Link: http://www.the-eic.com/News/PPLSearch.aspx

Areas of Expertise: Extractive industries, private sector
Key Activities: Information dissemination, training, project implementation

The website for this private, UK-based trade association has a publications database with news targeted at energy companies, with indicators of economic recovery, and information on new projects. The resources offered could be useful for practitioners and researchers when looking for a better understanding of the market tendencies in the energy sector.

CONTACT GRADE
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FIND OUT MORE FROM ELLA
To learn more about Latin America’s extractive industry investment policy, read the ELLA Guide, which has a full list of the ELLA knowledge materials on this theme. To learn more about other ELLA development issues, browse other ELLA Themes.

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