

**Towards understanding the contribution of the mining sector to local community  
development: a case of Kishipa district in Shinyanga region**

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The study aimed at investigating the contribution of mining sector to the economic and socio well-being of the surrounding communities in Kishapu District in Shinyanga region. It articulates major mining activities, socio economic contribution and its impacts on the local communities taking into account economic growth, provision of social services and environmental management or lack of them, as well as challenges facing mining initiatives. The method of data collection employed included documentary review, Structured Interviews, Questionnaires and Focus Group Discussions with the concerned communities. The study found two major companies in Kishapu engaging in diamonds extraction namely; Williamson diamonds limited and El-Hilal minerals. Apart from mining operations, the companies also had supported the surrounding communities in their socio-economic development endeavors as well as environmental management a phenomenon known today as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The study suggests ways in which contributions from mining companies can be realized by the societies through the governments' direct involvement in creating conducive environment and policies that do not alienate the societies surrounding the mining companies. The study recommends the mining companies to set appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures in consultation with local people to establish priority needs to promote social well-being in communities.