Independent EITI Evaluation

Overview of the Governance Sentiment Instrument
‘Citizen survey’

October 2022
Evaluation Outputs

This summary of the Citizen Survey is one of many different outputs of the Independent EITI Evaluation.

A selection of Citizen Survey results and graphs are included in the Main Evaluation Report.

Other project deliverables – including the Summary and Main Evaluation Reports – are available at the Open Evaluation Website:

www.eitiopenevaluation.org
Key observations

• The Citizen Survey provides a useful counterpoint to the view of EITI ‘insiders’ who were interviewed for country and policy case studies; members of the evaluation project steering group; or responded to the evaluation’s ‘Insider’ Survey.

• It is important to note that the survey consists of data from only three countries (albeit with large samples), and that there are significant differences in the mix of survey respondents between the countries. This means that while there are interesting differences between the countries, the data should not be used to assess the efficacy of EITI implementation in the three countries, or to draw comparisons between the countries.

• That said, it is notable that citizens, and in particular citizens who live close to extractive operations, have different resource governance and management priorities, from EITI insiders.

• This difference matters because it speaks to the overall evaluation findings of the centrality of ‘relevance’ in whether EITI programmes are successful or not; and the evaluation’s recommendation that EITI should focus more on resource governance issues at the subnational and local level.

• Those who live close to extractive operations have a broader view of what matters to resource governance and management (i.e. more issues are rated as being ‘important’ than ‘Insiders’ select).

• EITI insiders, on the other hand, tend to rate topics already covered by EITI as being important, and topics not covered by EITI as being less important.

• There are also striking differences in the view of respondents depending on their proximity to extractive operations in how it impacts on trust in institutions and groups, with those living close to operations having much lower levels of trust across the board.
The purpose of the Insider Survey

- Two quantitative surveys were carried out as part of the overall EITI evaluation:
  - The ‘Insider survey’ of people who were or are involved in EITI; and
  - The ‘Citizen survey’ of samples of the wider public in three implementing countries.

- The purpose of the ‘Citizen survey’ was to:
  - Understand what governance issues in the extractive sector matter most to a general sample of citizens in a small sample of countries.
  - Understanding what the wider public expects of governance helps the evaluation to understand how that might be different from what the EITI currently does, as well as what ‘EITI insiders’ would like EITI to focus on.
  - The Citizen Survey also tested potential measures of impact and effectiveness of improved governance and transparency in the resource sector.
Citizen survey methodology

• The Citizen Survey was carried out in three of the case study countries – Colombia, Nigeria and Indonesia. These countries were chosen because they provided geographic diversity and were large enough that it was possible to identify multiple local data collection partners.

• It is important to note that the findings of the surveys are not intended to reflect on the efficacy of the EITI programmes in those countries. Rather, the purpose of the Citizen Survey is to provide high level insights into the kinds of resource governance and management issues that members of the public most care about.

• The data providers employed by VoconiQ were selected based on their ability to collect the sample required and familiarity working with the Qualtrics platform used to collect the data.

• Survey providers were asked to provide samples which contained a mix of urban and rural areas; had a good gender balance; and asked respondents to identify whether they lived close to oil, gas or mining operation.

• Surveys were carried out either in-person (Indonesia, Nigeria) or by phone (Colombia). Surveys were completed in Spanish, English, and Bahasa Indonesia. A small number of surveys in Nigeria were completed in Hausa.

• Total survey response after data cleaning and quality control was 2,879 – 977 from Colombia; 926 from Nigeria; and 976 from Indonesia.
Citizen survey recruitment and questions

- While all of the surveys covered a mixture of urban and rural areas, participant recruitment in each country was different, and in particular there were notable differences in whether participants were recruited from areas that hosted oil, gas and mineral operations.

- **Because of these different approaches to recruitment it is important to note that the results from each country are not comparable to one another.**

- The Colombia and Nigeria surveys contain a high number of respondents (80% and 95% respectively) who identify as living in an area near an oil, gas or mining operation, while in the Indonesia survey that number is much lower (20%). Across the entire sample 64% of respondents live near an extractive operation.

- Most questions asked respondents to rate their response on a simple Likert scale from 1 – 5, in which 1 is ‘strongly disagree’, ‘not at all’ or ‘not at all important’ and a 5 is ‘strongly agree’, ‘extremely’ or ‘extremely important’. A score of 3 is either ‘neutral’ or ‘moderately’.

- The only non-demographic questions to use a scale different from the 1-5 scale described above are three questions which asked respondents to rate their knowledge of the mining industry, the oil and gas industry, and ‘how government ensures those industries do the right thing’ (i.e. regulation). For these questions respondents rated their knowledge on a scale from 1 – 10.
Citizen survey questions

The citizen survey asked a small number of questions in the following areas:

- Three questions on levels of knowledge of the mining industry, the oil and gas industry, and how those industries are regulated by government.
- Levels of trust in various institutions and organisations.
- The importance of different governance issues as they related to oil, gas and mining.
- Two questions on whether people knew where they could access information about how those industries operate; and how government oversees and regulates them.
- Three questions the overall costs and benefits of those sectors; whether government receives a fair share of benefits; and whether local communities receive a fair share.
- Two questions on whether the way oil, gas and mining companies operate has improved over the past ten year; and a similar question about how government agencies operate.
Recruitment in Nigeria almost entirely focused on regions which host oil and mineral extraction projects. 95% of respondents considered that they lived close to an extractive operation.

Surveys were carried out in-person by interviewers in the community and results were then uploaded to the survey Qualtrics database by the interviewers.

Distribution of responses and overall sample size is shown in the picture and chart below. After data cleaning and quality control processes, the remaining total sample was 926.

The gender split was 36.1% Female and 63.7% Male.
Citizen survey recruitment - Colombia

- Recruitment in Colombia was heavily focused on regions which host oil and mineral extraction projects. 80% of respondents noted that they lived close to an extractive operation.
- Surveys were carried out by phone. The distribution of responses and overall sample size is shown in the chart. After data cleaning and quality control processes, the remaining total sample was 977.
- The gender split was 53.2% Female, 45.8% Male, and 1% preferred not to state.
Citizen survey recruitment - Indonesia

- Recruitment in Indonesia had a lower level of responses from those in regions which host extractive projects. 19.6% of respondents lived near oil or mineral operations, while 5.1% were unsure if they did or not. The remaining 75.3% of respondents did not live near extractive operations.

- Distribution of responses and overall sample size is shown in the picture and chart below. After data cleaning and quality control processes, the remaining total sample was 976.

- The gender split of the sample was 49.7% Female and 50.3% male.
Proximity to operations – observations

These two graphs show the Citizen Survey data split by whether respondents identified themselves as living close to an extractive operations (blue) or not near such an operation (green). The key observations that can be made based on this data is that:

• Respondents who live near extractive operations are not as positive about whether the government or local communities receive a fair share of benefits from extractive operations.

• In response to the question related to the overall balance of costs and benefits of the extractive industries, respondents are on average neither positive or negative, though those living closer to operations are less positive.

• Respondents who do not live near extractive operations are of the view that extractive companies and government agencies are generally operating better than they were a decade ago. Those who live close to extractive operations, on the other hand, are either neutral or slightly negative about the same questions.

• In response to questions on whether respondents knew how to find information about extractive operations and how they are regulated, there was no notable difference based on proximity to operations.
The Citizen Survey also asked respondents to rate different types of organisations and institutions by whether they ‘trust them to act responsibly’.

When the responses to these questions are split by respondents who live near an extractive operation and those who do not, there are very significant differences in levels of trust – especially of government at all levels, as well as oil, gas and mining companies.
What resource governance and management issues are most important?

There are some interesting differences in what issues matter most for resource governance when comparing ‘EITI insiders’, with citizens who live near an extractive operation, with those who do not. More observations on this data is on the following slides.
What resource governance and management issues are most important?

- Comparing the Citizen Survey and Insider Survey has two main difficulties. Firstly, the insider survey sample is small (137 responses) compared to the citizen survey total sample of 2,879. Secondly, the ‘importance’ questions - in which respondents were asked to rate how important a resource governance / management issue is for when they think about how the oil, gas and mining industries operate - needed to be worded differently between the surveys. This is because some of insider language (e.g. ‘beneficial ownership’) is technical. For this reason it is not possible to compare all of the importance items between both surveys.

- On both of the preceding graphs it should be noted that on average most respondents – citizens and insiders – rate all issues above the midway rating of 3. There are no items which respondents do not consider important, and the differences shown are mainly between ‘moderately important’ (3) and ‘very important’ (4).

- It is also important to note that when looking at the responses by EITI insiders, citizens not close to extractive operations, and citizens close to extractive operations – the latter rate most governance issues as being more important than the other groups, and citizens rank issues more highly than EITI insiders.

- This could be because EITI insiders rank the importance of governance / resource management issues knowing what is and is not covered by the EITI. It is also likely because those closest to extractive operations have a much stronger and personal stake in how resources are governed and managed.

- The first graph shows that there are two issues where there is good alignment between EITI insiders and citizens on whether they matter to how the extractive industries operate. Those issues are anti-corruption / making corruption harder, and civil society groups having a voice / community groups being able to speak openly about companies.
What resource governance and management issues are most important?

• Referring to the same graph, there are also 5 issues that citizens rate more highly than EITI insiders. Those issues are environmental impacts, social impacts, local jobs and business opportunities, climate change, and gender equality and social inclusion.

• Finally, there are 2 issues which EITI insiders rate more highly than citizens – financial transparency and beneficial ownership.

• The second graph shows the difference in resource governance / management issues as broken down by whether respondents are or are not near an extractive operation. The list of issues shown here is longer as it includes items that were difficult to ask in a way that was identical to the insider survey, or issues that were only tested in the citizen survey.

• While there are many issues where there are not clear differences based on proximity, there are a number of issues which matter more for those who live near extractive operations. Those issues include addressing climate change, beneficial ownership, financial transparency, individuals and community groups having a say on how companies operate, and companies making a direct contribution to community events, activities and needs.
Gender

- Looking across all of the different questions asked in the Citizen Survey, there was very little difference in responses when broken down by gender.

- The only question where there was a slight difference based on gender is shown here and relates to whether respondents felt able to find information about how the extractive industries operate and how the government oversees and regulates them.
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