

Publish What You Pay

A Civil Society Coalition for Extractive Sector Transparency and Accountability

KEY MESSAGES

- Transparency is a fundamental requirement for tackling corruption, fraud and poor governance, all of which can prevent a country from realizing the opportunities offered by natural resource development.
- NRGI and Publish What You Pay campaign for increased transparency in a range of areas, and a number of governments are responding to calls for increased disclosure.

WHAT IS PUBLISH WHAT YOU PAY?

Publish What You Pay (PWYP) is an international coalition of more than 800 civil society organizations calling for transparency and accountability in the extractive sector. Launched in 2002 in response to instances of corruption and mismanagement, PWYP ultimately seeks to facilitate an environment in which oil, gas and mining revenues are used to improve the lives of women, men and youth in resource-rich countries.

This reader provides an overview of the PWYP coalition, including its organizational structure and main objectives. It should be read in conjunction with the reader on transparency movements and mechanisms.



HOW IS PWYP ORGANIZED?

The international coalition of PWYP is governed through a *Global Steering Committee* (GSC) elected every three years at the International Coalition Strategy Meeting. The Global Steering Committee is a 10-person panel comprised of regional representatives and donor organizations. The GSC oversees the work of the international secretariat. The secretariat, which is based in London, is led by the international director and a staff of approximately 10 people.

Organizations can join the international coalition as members directly or through national and regional coalitions. In more than 40 countries, groups of civil society organizations have chosen to form national coalitions that organize around advocacy and capacity-building goals. In many countries, these coalitions are supported by a

“The government should disclose information about the whole chain of decisions, with a complete, complementary set of information. For instance, revenue data might be accompanied by information on the applicable tax rates and taxable income. Such information should be disclosed at an appropriate level of disaggregation such as location, project and product type.”

– Natural Resource Charter, Precept 2

This reader is intended for use in conjunction with Precepts 2 and 11 of the Natural Resource Charter.

secretariat overseen by a steering committee. Thirty coalitions have hired a national coordinator to help facilitate work between civil society groups and maintain a consistent voice for advocacy. Regional coalitions garner representatives from national coalitions as well as some organizations in countries without national coalitions.

PWYP's membership includes several leading global organizations campaigning on natural resource governance, including NRGI, Global Witness, Oxfam America and the One Campaign.

WHAT IS PWYP'S GOAL?

PWYP aims for citizens in resource-rich countries to experience sustainable benefits from their natural resources. PWYP sees transparency as a key means to hold governments and companies to account for their role in managing natural resources. PWYP's work spreads across the "chain for change" with concentration in three main pillars:

- **Publish Why You Pay and How You Extract.** This campaign asks for decisions to extract to be made in a transparent and accountable manner that allows benefits for all citizens. Part of this effort is a call for contract transparency and disclosure of audited information about what minerals are extracted.
- **Publish What You Pay.** The initial ask of the coalition focuses on revenue transparency—for companies to publish what they pay and governments to publish what they receive. This is often linked closely with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Another venue for revenue transparency are mandatory disclosure requirements. These requirements make it necessary for publicly listed companies to disclose information about their revenues.
- **Publish What You Earn and How You Spend.** Here PWYP seeks information about how governments and companies spend revenues. This looks to annual government budgets as well as corporate social responsibility spending.

"Publish Why You Pay calls for contract transparency and disclosure of audited information about what minerals are extracted."

WHO FUNDS PWYP?

PWYP receives the majority of its funding from the Open Society Foundations and the Hewlett Foundation. The remainder of funds come from a variety of civil society organizations, donor branches of governments, and other foundations.

Case study: PWYP Canada's fight for mandatory disclosure

PWYP Canada was established in 2008 and has grown to include 15 member organizations. With Canada home to approximately 60 percent of the world's mining companies and over a third of the world's oil and gas companies, transparency of operations and revenues there could have a watershed impact of the industry. As a result, the coalition has prioritized creating mandatory reporting obligations as an advocacy objective.

In 2013, the government of Canada pledged at a G8 summit that it would establish mandatory reporting requirements. The PWYP coalition has been intimately involved in discussions with the government since the announcement, seeing it as a key opportunity for Canada to position itself as a leader by establishing strong mandatory reporting standards. In addition to serving on a multi-stakeholder roundtable about potential requirements, the coalition published a detailed report providing recommendations of the key features necessary for the law to serve its purpose. When the legislature proposed a law in 2014, PWYP Canada promptly responded with analysis and recommendations. It called for the law to require financial reporting to be *disaggregated* on a project-by-project basis.

In the meantime, PWYP Canada published a guide for how to find information about mining companies and their operations that is already available on the stock exchange. PWYP Canada has worked to train PWYP coalitions in other countries where Canadian companies operate to access information about the companies' operations.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- Is there a PWYP coalition in my country? If so, how is it structured, and who leads the group?
- If not, does my organization agree with the aims of PWYP? Are we interested in joining?
- Is my government meeting the policy demands of PWYP?
- What other countries influence the extractive industries in my country? Are there organizations in those countries that are part of PWYP that I could collaborate with?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Natural Resource Charter, Precept 2, 11, available at: http://www.resourcegovernance.org/sites/default/files/NRCJ1193_natural_resource_charter_19.6.14.pdf.

PWYP Passport, available at: <http://extractingthetruth.org/extractingthetruth.html>.

PWYP's Chain for Change, available at: <http://chainforchange.org.uk/>.

Parham, Henry, and Mabel van Oranje, Publishing What We Learned (2009), available at: <http://www.publishwhatyoupay.org/en/resources/publishing-what-we-learned>.

NRGI readers on EITI, Contract Transparency, and Transparency Movements and Mechanisms.

The Natural Resource Governance Institute, an independent, non-profit organization, helps people to realize the benefits of their countries' oil, gas and mineral wealth through applied research, and innovative approaches to capacity development, technical advice and advocacy.
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