

La minería en América Latina: Inversión extranjera directa. © ELLA

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Latin American mining investment is led by the private sector. The key policy question that Latin American countries are addressing, then, is how to ensure that foreign direct investment (FDI) promotes socially and environmentally sustainable economic development. Mining investment enhances gross domestic product (GDP) growth, but does not necessarily address challenges like environmental governance, employment generation or local-level community development. However, the Latin American experience shows how some countries are attracting the kinds of foreign investment that can address these challenges, with a focus not only on the quantity of FDI, but also on quality, in terms of meeting the social and environmental standards of the international mining industry. Governments have also implemented fiscal arrangements to increase state capture of extractive rent and to promote local level benefits. This brief describes these challenges in the Latin American context, and provides an overview of the investment policies and incentive packages countries are using to attract responsible FDI and turn foreign investment into concrete and sustainable development.

Palabras Clave: América Latina, minería, industria extractiva, inversión extranjera, sector privado, empleo, medio ambiente, desarrollo sostenible

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