



Between the plough and the pick: informal mining in the contemporary world

Thursday & Friday 5 & 6 November 9am – 5pm

Keynote speakers

Professor Saleem Ali

University of Queensland

Professor Nancy Peluso

University of California, Berkeley

Professor Gavin Hilson

University of Surrey

Dr Deborah Fahy Bryceson

University of Edinburgh

Location

Lecture Theatre 1 (APCD Theatre)

Hedley Bull Centre, Building 130, Cnr
Garran Rd and Liversidge St, ANU

Registration at

crawford.anu.edu.au/events/current

E rspv.crawford@anu.edu.au

T 6125 4343 or 0409 158 145

Please note conference registration
date/time and venue:

Wednesday 4 November, 4pm

**Foyer, Lecture Theatre 1 (APCD
Theatre), Ground floor**

Hedley Bull Centre, Building 130, ANU

Presented by

Resources, Environment
and Development Program

Crawford School of
Public Policy

ANU College of
Asia & the Pacific



Millions of people in economically poor countries are engaged in mineral extractive practices today. These informal extractive practices have been described as Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM), described here as informal mining. Those who engage in these practices are often the poorest and most exploited labourers, performing the most insecure and dangerous tasks. They produce enormous amounts of mineral resources and in the process establish a livelihood (and often a path out of poverty).

These miners are inextricably engaged with global commodity values and supply chains, and are intimately involved in the production of new extractive territories and rural economies. Their labour re-shapes agrarian communities and landscapes of resource access and control. Collectively, these miners have also been redefining our understanding of the political economies, political ecologies, and resource geographies of commodity extraction. This social and economic milieu holds significant implications for scholarly understandings of contemporary mineral-dependent livelihoods, agrarian transitions, informality, and the social meanings of destitution and poverty.

You are invited to participate in this international conference that aims to engage with the themes around agrarian transition, the political ecology of mineral extraction, the global processes driving the informalisation of mining, the roles played by local social-political-historical context, and aspects of labour processes.

The conference will also disseminate the results of two ARC research projects on investigating informal mining in India, Indonesia and Lao PDR: 'Beyond the Resource Curse' (Discovery Project, led by Dr Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt) and 'Going for Gold' (Linkage Project, led by Dr Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt and Dr Keith Barney).

More information about the two projects: www.asmasiapacific.org