

WOULD YOU FIGHT?

WE ASKED AGGRIEVED ARTISANAL MINERS IN EASTERN CONGO.

 Nik Stoop, Marijke Verpoorten

Abstract

To meet the rising demand for minerals, mining companies have ventured into fragile areas, often at the expense of artisanal miners. This has led to grievances, and at times violence. Who among the aggrieved intend to use violence? How can peace be maintained? We use individual-level data to address these questions. Among a sample of 469 about-to-be-evicted artisanal miners in Eastern Congo, we inquire about the intention to engage in several forms of violence. We identify how this intention varies with miners' past exposure to violence and attitudes towards policies that seek social peace. A large proportion of miners intends to destroy the company's property, attack its employees, use fire arms, or join an armed group. These would-be-fighters are motivated by grievances, as well as material and social incentives. Our results contribute to understanding the micro-motivations underpinning the local resource curse and entail concrete lessons for mining policies.



Keywords

1. Natural resources
2. Artisanal mining
3. Industrial mining
4. Conflict
5. Democratic Republic of Congo

Output so far

- [“Would you fight? We asked aggrieved artisanal miners in Eastern Congo.”](#) *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 2021.
- [“Conflict Minerals Legislation: Shooting at the Wrong Target ... Again.”](#) *Political Violence at a Glance*, 2021.
- [“Van mijnen in Oost-Congo naar technologie in je smartphone.”](#) Video for the University of Antwerp's Kinderuniversiteit. Science communication to children aged 8-12, 2021.
- [“Essays in development economics : case studies from Benin and the DRC.”](#) PhD thesis Nik Stoop, 2017.

Contact & more information

 nik.stoop@uantwerpen.be

 marijke.verpoorten@uantwerpen.be

 More info on project [webpage](#)

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