

## Sustainable Development Strategies Group

Sustainable Development Strategies Group has developed a list of twelve major indicators of risk in order to allow for rapid assessment of project risk. The twelve major risk indicators are:

### TWELVE INDICATORS OF RISK

- 1. High biodiversity values in the project area; relatively intact ecosystems.**
- 2. Development that affects traditional indigenous lands and territories or indigenous communities.**
- 3. Sites of cultural or religious significance that would be disrupted by mining.**
- 4. Development that requires either direct relocation of communities, or indirect displacement as a result of disruption of livelihoods.**
- 5. Presence on the site of any considerable number of artisanal miners.**
- 6. History of violent conflict (e.g., guerilla movements), especially those directed specifically against mining projects.**
- 7. Significant water quantity issues: either too little water, or too much water to manage effectively.**
- 8. Water quality issues, particularly high acid generation potential.**
- 9. Local history of poorly managed and environmentally damaging mining operations.**
- 10. Perceived threat to the local economy; lack of an effective mechanism to deliver ongoing development benefits locally.**
- 11. Serious inadequate infrastructure: transportation, communication, energy or other.**
- 12. High levels of endemic corruption.**

We do not assert that these are *causes* of mining related conflicts. Indeed, the cause of conflict may in many cases be the lack of capacity of major actors such as government and companies to understand these issues or to know how to manage them successfully.

As a group, we believe that they may show real value in predicting the potential for conflict.