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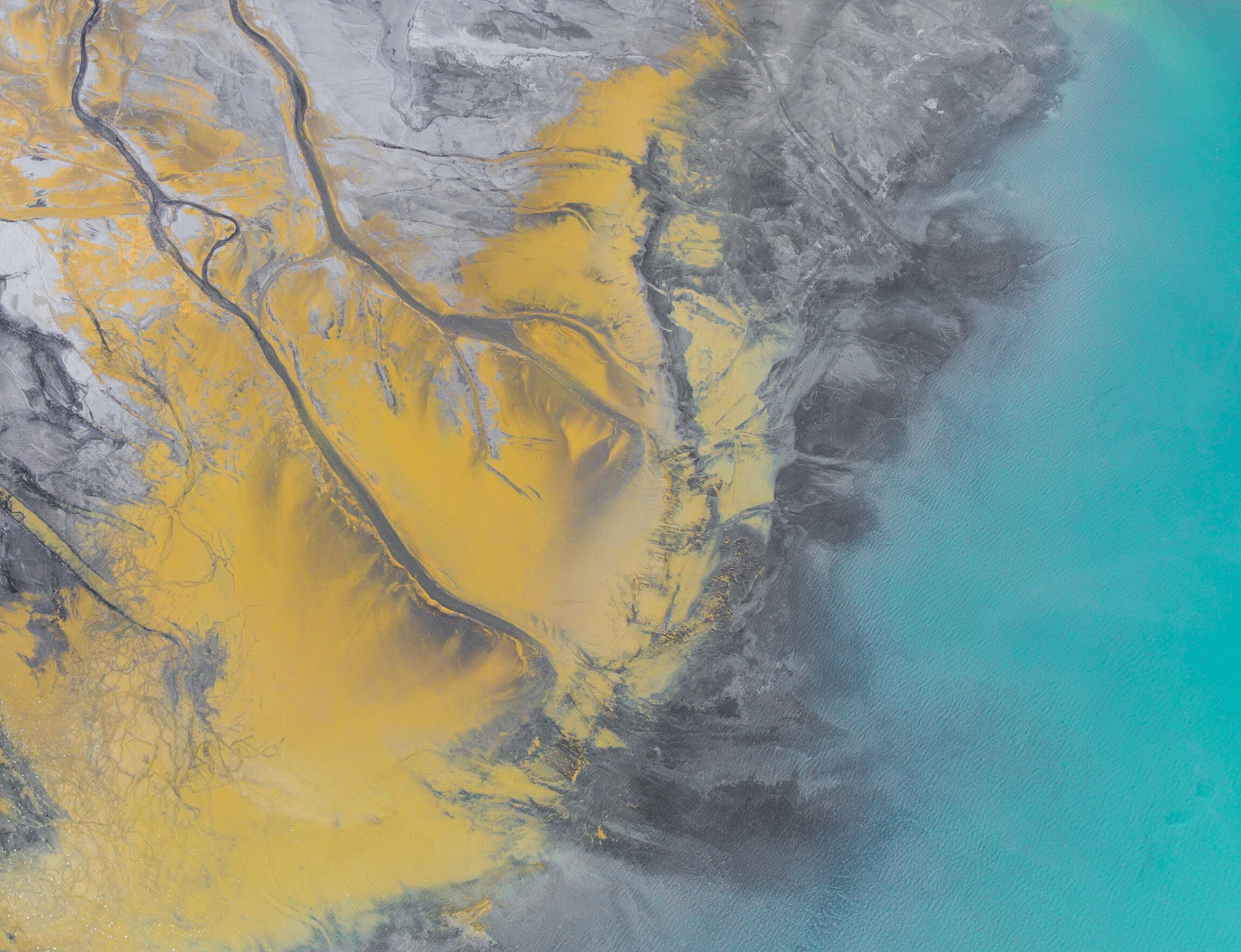
# extract

## MINING EXPERIENCES - REVEALED

DISCOVER MINING THROUGH THE  
AUTHORS' OWN EXPERIENCES AND  
KNOWLEDGE

## ETHICAL COSTS OF MINING

LEARN FROM THESE ETHICAL COSTS  
AND SEE FOR YOURSELF IF MINING  
SHOULD BE TOLERATED OR NOT



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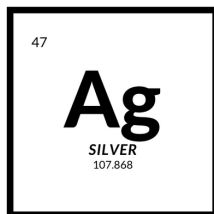
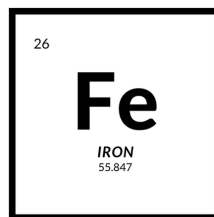
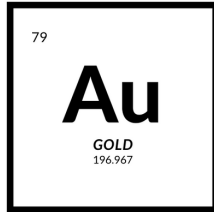
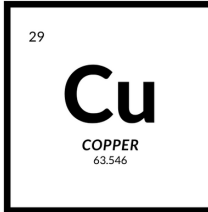
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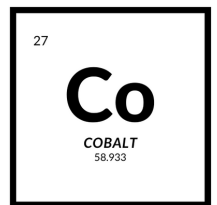
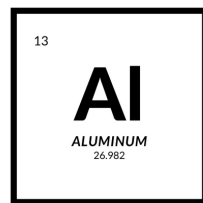
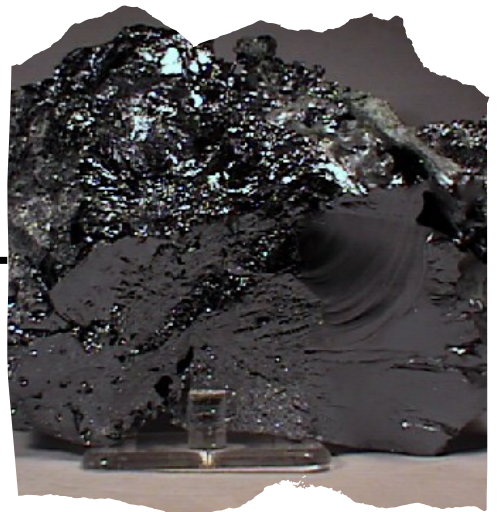
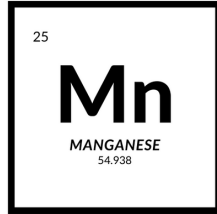
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# 9 Top Commodities

in the Philippines





# TOP PICKS: BEST MINES

in the Philippines



## MALANGAS COAL RESERVATION

 ZAMBALES

## BOYONGAN MINE

 SURIGAO





**CANATUAN MINE**  
📍 **ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE**

**RIO TUBA MINE**  
📍 **PALAWAN**



Cotributes 25.7 billion  
tax remittances



Accounts 4.26 billion  
dollors of exports



# Mining

## ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Accounts for 0.65% of GDP



Provides 200,000 jobs





# A steward's response

A DEONTOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE EFFECTS OF MINING  
BY RIZELLE MAE D. MENDOZA

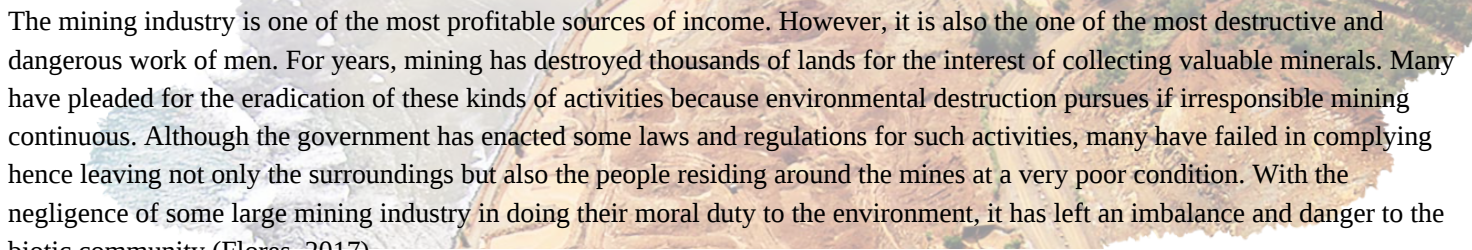
Deontological ethics is a theory that highlights the relationship between duty and morality if a human being. According to Britannica, the deontological ethics defines an act depending on the characteristic of the action itself and not based on its end product. This kind of ethics basically tells us that doing what is morally good is not based on the outcome but on how our course of action is aligned to our moral duties.

In relation to mining, deontological ethics can be applied in acting upon what is morally good or what is aligned to our moral duty as human beings. It can be practiced in doing our role and responsibility as people living on Earth. In one of the seven principles that we learned during our grade school years, it states that "nature is beautiful, and we are the stewards of God's creations." We were though that each of us is responsible in keeping our nature clean and healthy. For this is the only home where we can breathe, survive and acquire resources for our needs, it is our moral duty to nurture and protect our environment at all cost. As stewards of the creation, the environment, it is one's duty to conserve the beauty of the environment and choose decision that would not harm our surroundings in any way.

However, as time pass, the greed of some human has surpassed their sense of responsibility for nature as they slowly violate their duty to sustain the environment all for their own gain. In consequence, the environment is facing the threats of destruction as man-made activities that causes harm to the surrounding, such as mining, becomes prevalent.

*"It is our moral duty to nurture and protect our environment at all cost."*





The mining industry is one of the most profitable sources of income. However, it is also the one of the most destructive and dangerous work of men. For years, mining has destroyed thousands of lands for the interest of collecting valuable minerals. Many have pleaded for the eradication of these kinds of activities because environmental destruction pursues if irresponsible mining continuous. Although the government has enacted some laws and regulations for such activities, many have failed in complying hence leaving not only the surroundings but also the people residing around the mines at a very poor condition. With the negligence of some large mining industry in doing their moral duty to the environment, it has left an imbalance and danger to the biotic community (Flores, 2017).

With the continuous practice of irresponsible mining, air and water pollution have worsened with the huge amount of toxic gas and liquid being released into the air and the waters. It has contributed greatly on environmental degradation and deforestation. It has destroyed and poisoned habitats and ecosystems leaving animals with no homes and at a great risk of danger. And most importantly, mining has caused a great loss in the lives of the people, their livelihood and their health. However, these outcomes and consequences do not matter in the deontological approach of ethics.

As defined earlier, deontological ethics assesses one's action or choices on moral duty regardless of its consequences to other's welfare. Therefore, a follower of deontological ethics will consider his or her moral duty and responsibility to nature rather than what irresponsible mining can cause other living being. A believer of this theory will be against irresponsible mining not because it causes harm to animals and people but because destroying nature is bad and not morally good- because it violates their nature and moral duty to the environment. Tolerating activities that would go against what is morally good and right pushes firm believers to disagree with mining.

An individual who firmly believe in this approach of ethics only concerns himself/herself into doing activities that would not negatively affect nature by any means. They would stick to the basics and ensure that every action that they do would not go againts their duty to keep nature clean and healthy. In the perspective of mining companies, as believers of this approach, the perfect response is to stop a since being engaged in such activities is not "ethically" acceptable and morally right when it comes to doing our moral obligation as stewards of nature.



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# Why the future is ours to mold

A TELEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE EFFECTS OF MINING  
BY RENEE ESTOMATA

By definition, *Teleological Ethics* pertains to the theory of morality that derives duty or moral obligation from what is good or desirable as an end to be achieved. Simply, it pertains to how an action's "goodness" is based off the outcome.

With that, teleological ethics tells us not to simply consider the present situation but to somehow, think and consider the future effects.

Evidently, we are aware that mining is done as it is essential to the production of goods, services and infrastructure that improve the quality of our lives. However, along with that, mining also produces severe effects to the environment by inducing loss of biodiversity, soil erosion etc.


Hence, the real question is, *"Are all these benefits worth doing at the expense of our environment and the quality of life of our future generations?"*

Mining, despite the major contribution it has on our everyday lives as consumers, does create problems for people and for future generations. For example, one adverse effect of mining is air pollution that is brought about by unrefined materials. The poor quality of air, due to pollutants, in these mined areas can damage the health of people living nearby. Hence, can you imagine if there are kids nearby the area who grow up having respiratory problems and ailments due to the mining process.

On the other hand, mining also causes the loss of biodiversity. These means that a large number of living things do loose their habitats amidst this situation. According to Chepkemoi (2017), the effects of mining can actually wipe out a whole species. This can affect generations of human population because one way or another, all species work together to form an ecosystem and one cannot live without the other.



# Why the future is ours to mold



For a believer of *Teleological Ethics*, he/she would indeed consider the after effects of engaging in the process of mining. He/she would consider if the ends do indeed justify the means.

At the end of the day, a firm believer of such ethics would disagree to engaging in mining activities as such act can cause so much trouble for current and future generations. Beyond that, mining does not only affect the human population but it affects our overall diversity and ecosystem.

Moreover, considering how technology has advanced in present time, anything is possible now that humans have a greater capacity of creating a more environmentally sustainable way of extracting the raw materials that they get from mining.

Mining companies should consider using sustainable equipment and engaging in waste disposal procedures or consider replenishing the local environment as often as possible. These little acts will in turn, will slowly make the area habitable and back to its original state.

There are more solutions like such out there, we simply need to dedicate more research towards it and encourage more firms to be more environmentally sensitive and sustainable. If we make the change now, then our future generations will not need to suffer.

## REFERENCES

Chepkemoi, Joyce. (2017, April 25). What Is The Environmental Impact Of The Mining Industry? Retrieved from <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-environmental-impact-of-the-mining-industry.html>

# A third side of the coin

By: Joshua Tindalo C Arao

Utilitarianism is an ethical concept that mainly concerns itself upon the parameters of maximizing the welfare of everyone that is involved in a situation (Eggleston, 2012). A process that determines impartial decisions through empirically measured observations and arguments. In the Philippine-mining context, capitalism mainly ventures to be the point and reason of the mining industries' development and expansion.

Although on one hand, the economic benefits of mining in the Philippines cannot be taken lightly, as it has an industrial peak of PHP32 billion from 2019 alone as an industry and forecasts promise more as mining discoveries further increase the mineral reserve rate of the country. Some mining companies as well, have greatly invested in ensuring that their firms and the affected communities create a shared value paradigm to take a step towards the welfare protection of the affected communities (Cosbey et al, 2016). On the other hand, mining as a practice comes with unprecedented repercussions through environmental degradation, labor force safety, and ethnical preservation. Through the years, corporate interest has always bested nature stability which has further worsened the environmental balance of society (Flores, 2017).



Hence, mineral mining will always have its advantages and drawbacks, however, where does one find the gray area of sustainability and prosperity--this gives a spotlight to examine the economically-environmental dilemma under the impartial and sustainable lens of utilitarianism.



Given that every sentient-being depends on the environment as a foundational need to survive, it is through utilitarianism that one can take into account the value and gravity of everything involved as it is (Wolff, n.d.). Through the utilitarian methodology of empirical value, society is unblinded to the benefits of profit but takes into account the cost to society's welfare. This allows affected parties such as families, ethnic tribes, and even environmental ecosystems to be protected against the pitfalls of capitalism.



In a study proposed by Asheim and Mitra (2010) they proposed taking into account the value of society's future welfare which allows an evaluation of environmental policies to have the regulation of recuperative environmental and societal sustainability. This allows both parties the breathing room for one to produce and continue its functions to the economy without the society shouldering the welfare disruption brought upon by unsustainable mining practices.

Incorporating this practice framework in the Philippine context allows the country's policymakers, NGOs and private corporations to adopt and adapt to the growing need of the times. Through impartiality and sustainability, the mining industry shall operate in a manner of mutuality by engaging with affected communities and ecosystems and perpetuating the welfare and health of the mining industry's labor sector.



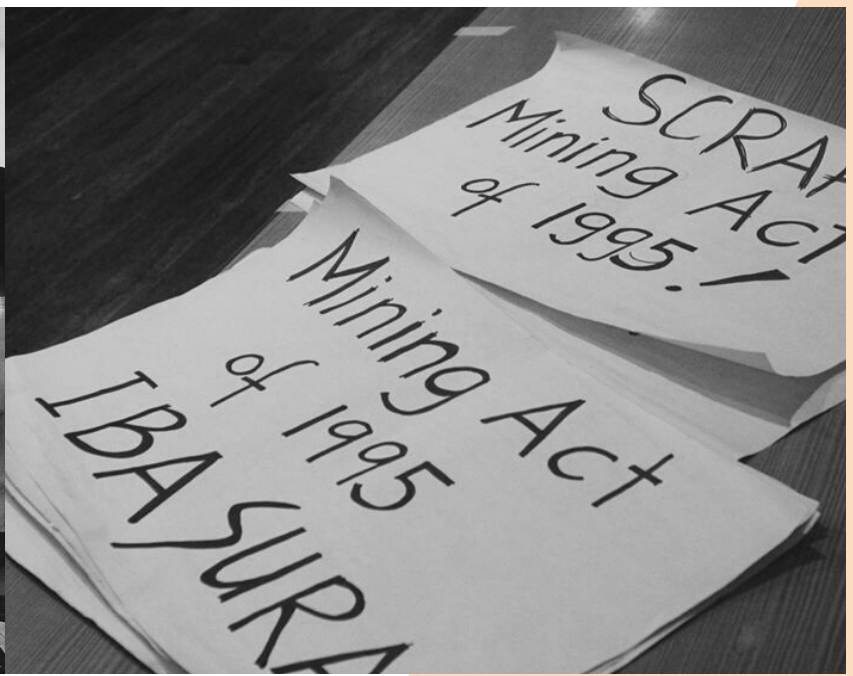


## How Mining Affects Lives

Michelle Andrea V. Santos

Having to study in Assumption during senior high school, I had learned to love exposing myself to different people to be a woman of faith and action. We have always been opened to different activities that encourage us to involve ourselves in society especially to the marginalized. I am lucky to be part of one of the activities where my friends and I were able to be with the alliance "Alyansa Tigil Mina" (ATM). They had a press conference where representatives from different regions presented their report about the current situation of mining in their region; which (we hope) caught the attention of the people in position in the government to help them.

Alyansa Tigil Mina, an alliance born out of the collective concern of Non-Government Organizations, People's Organizations and other Civil Society Groups against the impending threat of the revitalization of the mining industry in the Philippines, aims to shift the policy framework on extracting minerals in the Philippines, from simply "extracting and profiting from mining minerals" to "mineral management towards national industrialization".



Members of this alliance continue to sacrifice for the betterment of the mining industry in their region. One of the speakers talked to us and asked for our help to spread the news about their situation through social media. She has been mocked and slandered by the media yet she continues to fight for their rights because large scale mining negatively affects their lives in so many ways. Their basic resources became scarce, the tourism industry in their area deteriorated, and their way of living was altered. In just a short period, we were allowed to see the strident reality that our fellow citizens face everyday.

If people in the government cannot do something to help our kind-hearted countrymen, then it becomes our calling to do something and make a change. As students who can see this reality, we are now the ones responsible to help them. No act of kindness is too small. "Ayaw namin, ayaw namin: large scale mining. Moratorium sa pagmimina, ipatupad na!". I am here to hear their simple chant, to change their lives.

# SYNTHESIS AND *policy* *recommendations*

Philippines being one of the most sought countries for raw materials and natural resources, solutions regarding the conflict in mining should not be inclined towards the entire eradication of the industry. The Deontological Approach is the most ideal among the three approaches, as the solution of halting mining activities would pose drastic environmental improvement. However, given the situation of the Philippines where mining is becoming a potential major contributor to its economic growth, stopping it would be the least attainable solution. It is important to note that the mining industry has its share on the overall employment in the country, thus, demolishing it would mean that the present laborers in that industry would be jobless. Nonetheless, under this approach, the probable solution would be transforming the mining sites into tourism hubs (e.g. Itogon) and providing alternative jobs that are related to environmental preservation. Similarly, the Teleological Approach also disagrees with the engagement of businessmen in such activities as it is a major threat to the environment. Moreover, this approach gives emphasis on the

technological advancement and its ability to provide equipments that are efficient and environmental-friendly. Since the Philippines is simply starting their journey on their technological development, inventing sustainable equipment is still not foreseeable. Therefore, adopting existing environmental-friendly equipment is the more appropriate solution. Additionally, in order for the Philippines to execute such policy, they should increase the government's budget on Research & Development and on DENR. Lastly, the Utilitarian Approach argues that it is vital to include all stakeholders in addressing the conflict in the mining industry. Such stakeholders include the indigenous people, communities, ecosystem, etc. Under this approach, the solution gives emphasis on inclusivity where policymakers must come up with policies that mutually benefit all the stakeholders. Hence, the policymakers must come up with a policy package that focuses on prevention of severe environment degradation while simultaneously countering social injustice by providing social development programs for the people affected.





## Transforming Mining Cites into Tourism Hubs

### TO EXECUTE:

1. Implement an environmental policy that limits the mining activities
2. Mandate all mining companies to integrate tourism and livelihood in their operations. Incentivize participating mining companies such as income tax holidays



## Eco-friendly Practices

### TO EXECUTE:

1. Allocate sufficient budget to R&D and DENR to be able to adopt advance and environmental-friendly mining equipments
2. Mandate all mining companies to utilize "*Green Mining Technology*"
3. Have tree-planting initiatives or seed-planting initiatives

A woman in traditional attire is speaking into a microphone at a protest. In the background, there are several red banners with white text. One banner clearly says "STOP COOPERATE WITH KMU". Another banner says "NOYNOY SALOT". There are also banners with "KMU" and "DANA" visible. The scene is outdoors with trees in the background.

## Social Development Programs

### TO EXECUTE:

1. Empowerment of Local Communities - allow the communities to voice-out their opinions regarding mining operations
2. Minimize involvement of mining companies to prevent them to use any form of bribery to capture the communities' acceptance on their operations. In this way, they can operate at a socially acceptable level
3. Livelihood programs and provision of job opportunities for affected communities

The predominant idea of mining which is the degradation of natural resources can be combated if we introduce tourism, eco-friendly practices, and social development programs in this industry. We can promote environmental preservation and livelihood for the affected population.

# PHILIPPINES

## SEATED ON MOUNTAINS OF GOLD

In the Philippines, gold prospecting activities are widespread in the whole region. One example of methods to extract gold is through gold panning; this method is being practiced by professional and even kids that are helping out for the welfare of their families. In the country, Gold is one of the top mines and covers at least a percentile in the country's GDP. It shows that gold mining really does contribute to income in the Philippines.

