

Dear ECCR members, partners and friends

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Launch of new report *Philippines: Mining or Food?* and action guide

A major new report from the Working Group on Mining in the Philippines, highlighting how mining is destroying island environments, livelihoods and food security, was launched on 9 February. Speakers at the London launch focused on the City’s role in financing the Philippines mining sector and on the involvement of UK-based and UK-registered mining companies including BHP Billiton and Xstrata.



London launch: Clare Short MP; authors Clive Wicks and Dr Robert Goodland; Bishop John Arnold, auxiliary in the Catholic Diocese of Westminster; Anglican Bishop Michael Doe, General Secretary of USPG: Anglicans in World Mission. Photo: Luke Teague

Manila launch with Philippine Senator Aquilino Pimentel. Photo: Rhia Muhi, LRC KsK Friends of the Earth Philippines



Launch on Sibuyan Island, Philippines. Photo: Cathal Doyle

Links:

- [Abbreviated version of the report](#) including recommendations to mining companies and investors.
- [New ECCR action guide](#) for raising concerns with mining companies and investors.
- Media reports: [Ekklesia](#) and [Churches Together in England](#).
- Photographs and reports of the [London](#) and [Philippines](#) launches.
- ECCR Board member [Frank Nally interviewed on YouTube](#) about the report.

Statement from Bishop Michael Doe, General Secretary of USPG: Anglicans in World Mission:

'We are in partnership with the two Anglican churches in the Philippines and in particular the Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI) which I visited in 2007. The IFI works closely with those affected by and protesting against the mining companies, and in October 2006 the Supreme Bishop of this church, Bishop Alberto Ramento, was killed following several threats to his life ... I welcome the publication of this report for the evidence it provides on both the human rights and environmental consequences of the way that the current investment in mining is being carried out.'

ECCR workshops at Soundcheck and Partnership for Development

ECCR will lead two workshops in the coming weeks – all are welcome to attend:

Saturday 28 February: 'Adopting a multinational, and ECCR's experience with Shell' at [Soundcheck 09](#), the SPEAK Network's annual gathering, 1.15-2.15 pm, Synergy Centre, 220 Farmers Road, London SE5 0TW.

Thursday 19 March: 'Working together to promote corporate and investor responsibility' at [Partnership for Development, the Ecumenical World Development Consultation 2009](#), 5.15-6.45 pm, High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Herts. Further details of the three-day event (18-20 March) are available from [Flo Da Gama](#) at Christian Aid (020 7523 2180) or [Maranda St John Nicolle](#) of Christian Concern for One World (01235 850267).

ECCR can provide a speaker for regional or local church meetings and events, and for colleges and schools. Please contact [Helen Boothroyd](#) (tel. 01325 580028).

Today! USPG: Anglicans in World Mission course for Lent

What connects the headlines in our newspapers, the Gospel of Luke, and a Church of England mission agency? The answer is a small Greek word translated as 'Today'. USPG: Anglicans in World Mission has produced a Lent course which links the themes of Luke's Gospel with what's happening around the world today. It takes Luke's usage of this word and focuses on how the mission of Jesus was all about such issues as 'justice & freedom', 'healing & reconciliation' and 'wealth & poverty'. Copies of the course are free. An accompanying book (£5 inc. postage) by USPG's General Secretary, Bishop Michael Doe, provides a reading and commentary on the same themes for every day during Lent. Details at www.uspg.org.uk/Resources or from USPG: Anglicans in World Mission, 200 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YB, enquiries@uspg.org.uk, tel. 020 7378 5678.

'How would religion regulate financial markets?', JustShare debate, 31 March, London

What do Judaism, Islam and Christianity have to say about money and markets? What sorts of regulation would their teachings suggest, and why? Join the Rt Revd Peter Selby, former Bishop of Worcester and Deputy Chair of the Church of England's Ethical Investment Advisory Group, Mr Tarek El Diwany, partner at Islamic finance consultancy Zest Advisory LLP, and Zaki Cooper, previously adviser to Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sachs and currently Director of Business for New Europe, for this topical inter-faith debate organised by [JustShare](#). Chair: Claire Foster, Director of the Ethical Dimension and of the St Paul's Institute. Tuesday 31 March 2009, 1.05 pm, St Mary-le-Bow Church, Cheapside, London EC2V 6AU. All are welcome. Further details from [Rachel Lindley](#) (07732 014181).

Put People First: march for jobs, justice and climate on 28 March 2009, London

On Saturday 28 March 2009, thousands of people will march through London as part of a global campaign to challenge the G20 leaders to deliver decent jobs and public services for all, an end to global poverty and inequality and a green economy, when they meet in London on 2 April 2009. More than forty organisations have joined the Jobs, Justice, Climate platform to date including ECCR members and partners CAFOD, Christian Aid and Traidcraft, environmental groups and trade unions. www.putpeoplefirst.org.uk

National Ethical Investment Week, 17-23 May 2009

ECCR and [UKSIF – the sustainable investment and finance association](#) are working on a guide to help churches get involved in this year's [National Ethical Investment Week](#) through worship, displays and newsletter articles. Members will receive a copy. Others can request one from [Helen Boothroyd](#). The overlap Sunday with Christian Aid Week provides a particularly appropriate opportunity.

Thank you for your evaluation feedback – still time to comment

ECCR would like to thank members and partners for your helpful feedback as part of our annual programme evaluation. We are considering carefully all comments and suggestions received and would welcome further responses from members and partners who would still like to respond. Please contact [Helen Boothroyd](#).

With all good wishes.

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ECCR is a company limited by guarantee in England & Wales (No. 2764183) and a Body in Association with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

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ECCR's monthly e-newsletter reaches more than 300 people and is circulated midway through every month except August. Members and partners are welcome to submit brief news items for inclusion. Please send to [Miles Litvinoff](#).

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