

## Publication

"It is like we are living in a different world": health inequity in communities surrounding industrial mining sites in Burkina Faso, Mozambique, and Tanzania

**JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)****ID** 4646299**Author(s)** Leuenberger, A.; Cambaco, O.; Zabr , H. R.; Lyatuu, I.; Utzinger, J.; Munguambe, K.; Merten, S.; Winkler, M. S.**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Leuenberger, Andrea](#) ; [Zabre, Raogo Hyacinthe](#) ; [Lyatuu, Isaac](#) ; [Utzinger, J rg](#) ; [Merten, Sonja](#) ; [Winkler, Mirko](#) ; [Cambaco, Olga](#) ;**Year** 2021**Title** "It is like we are living in a different world": health inequity in communities surrounding industrial mining sites in Burkina Faso, Mozambique, and Tanzania**Journal** Int J Environ Res Public Health**Volume** 18**Number** 21**Pages / Article-Number** 11015**Mesh terms** Burkina Faso; Health Equity; Humans; Mining; Mozambique; Tanzania

Background: Health equity features prominently in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, yet there are wide disparities in health between and within countries. In settings of natural resource extraction (e.g., industrial mines), the health of surrounding communities is affected through myriad changes in the physical, social, and economic environment. How changes triggered by such projects translate into health inequities is poorly understood. Methods: This qualitative study explores potential layers of inequities by systematically coding perceived inequities of affected communities. Drawing on the framework method, we thematically analyzed data from 83 focus group discussions, which enrolled 791 participants from 10 study sites in Burkina Faso, Mozambique, and Tanzania. Results: Participants perceived inequities related to their individual characteristics, intermediate factors acting on the community level, and structural conditions. Due to environmental pollution and land loss, participants were concerned about unsecured livelihoods. Positive impacts, such as job opportunities at the mine, remained scarce for local communities and were claimed not to be equally distributed among community members. Conclusion: Extractive industries bear considerable risks to widen existing health gaps. In order to create equal opportunities among affected populations, the wider determinants of health must be considered more explicitly in the licensing process of resource extraction projects.

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