

20 March 2017

The Responsible Mining Foundation (RMF) contracted International Resources for Fairer Trade (IRFT) in 2016, to facilitate and coordinate a Roundtable Consultation on the Responsible Mining Index (RMI), and arrange field visits to a mine and mining community.

This included all logistics arrangements, recommending and inviting participants from civil society and mining affected communities, study and understanding of the mining issues under discussion, development of the workshop agenda and facilitation process, facilitation and translation in city and rural context, debriefing, translations, and accompanying the RMI delegation on the field visits.

Our impression of the IRFT organisation and staff on this project was:

- · Efficient and regular communication
- · Proactive engagement and arrangements
- Responsive to the terms of reference and interim requests from RMI
- · Self-organising and self-sufficient as a team
- Mature judgement and advice to RMI on cultural and other region-specific matters
- Thoughtful about audience specific engagement and facilitation (city-based vs rural)
- · Good and reliable administration and submission of expenses and invoices
- · Willingness to provide post-project follow up and tidying up of loose ends
- · And, lastly, personal passion and empathy for their work and communities they work with.

Having previously worked with IRFT on a project for Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) in 2014 as well, I recommend them without reserve to any prospective organisation who might work with this team of professionals.

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