

COMPANION CURRICULUM TO

BLOOD DIAMOND

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

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EDWARD ZWICK

When I first read about Sierra Leone, I was shocked. I'd read books about the colonial "scramble for Africa," about the exploitation of its ivory, rubber and gold, but to learn the history of diamonds was to learn the story of Africa all over again.

In certain ways the movie we've made is very conventional, an action drama about three people whose lives are forever changed by the discovery of a single rough stone. But because the story takes place in such a charged political context it is also an opportunity to evoke the kind of provocative images and complex issues seldom treated in Hollywood films. It's always been my belief that entertainment and ideas need not be mutually exclusive, and that political awareness can be raised as much by narrative as by rhetoric.

If a single piece of work was capable of bringing about immediate change, then so many well-intentioned films over the years would have long ago solved the world's problems. But raising consciousness is a distance event, not a sprint. It's important to remember that 150 years ago in this country it was entirely acceptable for a man to own another man. Twenty years ago people thought nothing of drinking and driving. Five years ago you could smoke in restaurants and on airplanes. These are remarkable paradigm shifts, but they only came about by a number of people willing to hold up a mirror, unflattering at times, in order to show the world to itself. As a filmmaker, all I can do is to add my voice to the chorus. Eventually the aggregate effect of movies, songs, documentaries, and editorials are compounded until it reaches a kind of tipping point. And change happens.

The United States purchases about nine billion dollars' worth of diamonds every year, more than two-thirds of the world's sales. If its consumers insist that each stone be accompanied by a verifiable warranty, it's going to have a very powerful effect. This is one of those rare situations in which an individual can become pro-active by virtue of nothing more than educating himself. We simply have to take responsibility for our consumerism.

I have nothing against diamonds (or rubies or emeralds or sapphires). Gems are beautiful and desirable. To buy or not to buy is an individual decision. But it has to be an informed decision. I do object when their acquisition is complicit in the debasement of children, or the destruction of a country. I find it unconscionable that the resources of the third world be exploited for the sake of our vanity, and above all that billions of dollars of corporate profit are built on the backs of workers paid a dollar a day. The story of Sierra Leone is not unique.

My hope is that in telling a story like this, it might help prevent it from happening again.

- Edward Zwick 2006

**HOW TO USE
THIS GUIDE**

The companion guide for *Blood Diamond* provides activities and lessons designed to engage learners in discussion of issues which seem difficult and complex, such as the connection between natural resource exploitation and regional conflict. Designed to be as comprehensive and informative as possible, this guide can be used in its entirety as an in-depth unit of study or individual lessons can stand alone as learning extensions after watching the film. An alternative to showing the whole film is using clips that correlate with individual lessons. For more tips on using film in educational settings, please go to our website:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/education>

Additional resources, such as interactive maps, international documents, fact sheets, and links to actions and reports can also be found at our website.

Prior to showing the film, educators should prepare learners by discussing key topics addressed in the film. For example, educators could review the history of Sierra Leone or review a map of the region. After viewing the film, or clips from the film, give students the opportunity to share their reactions and questions. Use the movie discussion guide to facilitate critical discussion of the film.

Use the glossary provided at the end of this guide to assist students with understanding concepts, terms, and organizations that may be unfamiliar to them. Lesson 2, Natural Resource Conflicts, is intended as an additional resource, complete with maps and case studies, to help students understand the connection between natural resource exploitation and regional conflict.

For additional reports and studies, or for more information about how to take action on the issue of conflict diamonds, please visit the following websites:

Amnesty International: Blood Diamond – <http://www.amnestyusa.org/blooddiamond>

Global Witness: Diamond Campaign – <http://www.globalwitness.org/campaigns/diamonds/>

If you have questions or would like additional support, please contact the Human Rights Education program of Amnesty International (education@aiusa.org) or visit our website.

* Please take the time to fill out the feedback form found at the end of this guide or online at:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/education>

**COMPANION
CURRICULUM
OBJECTIVES**

- ✓ To introduce discussion and analysis of the social and political changes in Sierra Leone in 1999, as depicted in the film *Blood Diamond*
- ✓ To analyze personal motivations for our actions and the effects our actions have on others
- ✓ To examine the connection between natural resource exploitation and regional conflict
- ✓ To engage students in discussion of corporate social responsibility and consumer action

**TARGET
AUDIENCE**

This guide is designed primarily for high school and college age students, as well as adult learners. It can be used in social and international studies classes, history classes, or as a stand-alone learning opportunity. It can also be used in community settings, such as film festivals, house party screenings, or group meetings.

DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS

1. What human rights issues were illustrated in the film? What international laws are in place to stop or prevent those abuses?
2. Do you think the violence depicted in the film is necessary to accurately portray the situation in Sierra Leone in 1999?
3. After the RUF burns Solomon's village, they chop off the hands of the villagers. What is the significance of this action? What does it symbolize?
4. The film began and ended in Antwerp, Belgium. How did events in Belgium relate to events in Sierra Leone?
5. Why did Danny Archer become involved in the conflict diamond trade?
6. In the beginning of the film, all Danny seems to care about is himself. At the end of the film, however, he is willing to die to protect Solomon. What prompted Danny's change of heart?
7. When Danny talks to Benjamin, the school teacher, Benjamin says that he wants to believe all people are basically good, but his experience tells him otherwise. Danny replies that people are just people. What do you think he means by this statement?
8. At the end of the film, Solomon comes face to face with Captain Poison, the RUF commander responsible for forcing Solomon into slavery and turning his son, Dia, into a child soldier. Captain Poison says that Solomon might think he's the devil, but it is only because he lives in hell. In what ways is Captain Poison a product of his environment and in what ways is he a product of his choices?
9. For each character in the film, diamonds represent a different idea or symbol. Captain Poison, for example, sees the pink diamond as his ticket to a better life. What do diamonds represent to each of the characters?
10. What tactics does the RUF use to turn children into soldiers?
11. All of the characters are changed by events they have witnessed. How does each character respond to the conflict around him or her?
12. Maddy, the journalists and other foreign players, such as aid workers, struggle with reporting what they see, doing their duty, and actually helping individuals in need. They often fall prey to an "us" vs. "them" attitude. How does the film deal with the idea of "the other"?
13. Though the film focuses on the devastation of war, it also deals with reconciliation, rehabilitation, and hope. What are some specific scenes that deal with these topics? How can the country begin to reconcile and recover from the effects of war?

* Note to Educators: Please share with us any additional or alternate questions you or your students posed during the discussion. Use the feedback form found at the end of this curriculum guide or online at: www.amnestyusa.org/education

QUESTION	How can an individual or community take personal or collective responsibility in a society fractured and ravaged by war?
TIME	One Class
OVERVIEW	<p>In the movie <i>Blood Diamond</i>, the characters' choices and actions are limited by outside events such as the diamond trade, the fight for independence, the corruption of the government in Sierra Leone, the decisions of the United Nations, and the complexities of international politics. For example, Solomon is part of a society that has become so fractured by war that his community's ability to join together to effect change is severely limited. How, then, can his community begin to find a voice? How can fractured societies form a sense of community? How can his individual choices and actions, as a fisherman in a small village, impact the larger forces that are arrayed against him in order to create meaningful change? This lesson is designed to analyze the choices and actions of the characters in the film in order to better understand the ways in which their choices, however limited, impact their society and the actions of other characters or groups. Once students have analyzed the ways in which even limited actions can effect change, they will complete a mapping exercise designed to help them think through the ways that they can personally take effective action on an issue of their choosing.</p>
OBJECTIVES	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Demonstrate knowledge of external factors which influence personal action- Develop a causal diagram which highlights the causes and effects of a character's actions- Analyze the choices available to an individual in a conflict environment and the ways in which those choices can influence the individual's community or the external factors in the conflict- Discuss the issues of personal and collective responsibility in a conflict environment- Create a causal diagram of an issue of their choosing and discuss ways in which they could take personal or collective responsibility to create effective change
PREPARATION	<p>Resources and Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handout 1.1 – <i>Blood Diamond</i> Character List• Handout 1.2 – Personal Responsibility Diagram
PROCEDURE	<p>1. In the film, Danny accuses Maddy of writing about the conflict in Sierra Leone without taking any meaningful action to help others or stop the conflict. His comment raises the issue of the scope of Maddy's personal ability and responsibility to take action. Her actions, though limited by the information available to her, the choices of those around her, and her role as a journalist, were still meaningful because her articles contributed to a growing awareness of the conflict in Sierra Leone. Combined with the actions of others, her work helped to change the direction of the conflict in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>Consider the following questions in a class discussion. Students should use specific examples from the film to support their answers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Think of specific actions that a person could take to create change in a conflict environment.2) If a person's freedom of choice and movement is limited, is their mandate to take personal responsibility lessened?

3) In a conflict environment, traditional ideas of community are often shattered, limiting the ability of a group to take collective action. What are the responsibilities of a community in a conflict environment? What are some ways that a community can take collective action in a conflict environment?

4) In what ways can an individual take action to help foster a renewed sense of community? How does a sense of community enable more effective action?

2. Before beginning a conversation about personal responsibility, one must first examine the choices available to an individual within a given situation. Examining the choices available enables one to determine the types of personal actions that are possible and the types of actions that will best effect change. Handout 1.2 uses a simplified variation of a causal loop diagram, often used to chart the effectiveness of foreign policy initiatives, map complex systems and illustrate the ways that factors within a system interact and loop back to impact the overall situation. After examining the causal diagram, it becomes apparent that the effects of a person's choices often work over time to influence the external limiting factors, thereby making change possible and creating additional choices and pathways for the individual and his or her community.

For example, Danny gives Maddy a list of his contacts within the diamond smuggling trade in exchange for her help finding Solomon's family at the UN refugee camp. Danny's choice to reveal his sources created the opportunity for Maddy to publish an exposé about conflict diamonds, which in turn led to more stringent UN sanctions and the possibility of peace talks. The effect of Danny's decision, then, looped back to affect the external factor of conflict, which had until that point influenced and limited his personal choices and actions.

After creating a causal diagram for a character, students can begin to talk about what the responsibilities of the character are or should be, and what actions the character can take to fulfill his or her responsibilities. Explain the concept of a causal diagram and review the example on the handout. (See the reference section for further information about causal loop diagrams.)

3. Divide the students into small groups. Assign each group one of the characters or organizations featured in the film. (See Handout 1.1 for a list of characters and organizations) Each group will analyze the choices that the character made in the film. Following the example on Handout 1.2, the students will map the character's choices, the external limiting factors for that character, and the effects of the character's choices on the overall conflict and other characters. The students should consider the following questions during group work:

- 1) What were the character's motivations for his/her actions?
- 2) Does his/her attitude change over the course of the movie? How and why?
- 3) How would you characterize the level of his/her personal responsibility at the outset of the film? Did this level change as events unfolded? If so, how and why?
- 4) How were the character's choices limited/affected by outside events?
- 5) How were the character's choices limited/affected by his or her role in society?
- 6) How were the character's choices limited/affected by his or her belief system?
- 7) How were the character's choices limited/affected by his or her culture?
- 8) What choices were available to him or her?
- 9) How did the character's choices either open up new paths for other characters or close paths to other characters?
- 10) How did the character's individual choices impact the overall conflict in Sierra Leone? How did his or her choices impact other external factors?

**EXTENSION
ACTIVITY**

- 11) Identify two or three attempts by the character to protect human rights in his/her country or community. If there were no such attempts, why not?
- 12) What further actions could the character have taken to create more effective change?

4. After the students have finished the mapping exercise, each group will give a presentation of its character map. Facilitate a class discussion about the ways that the characters and organizations interacted to impact the situation in Sierra Leone. Ask for final thoughts about the ways in which people can take personal and collective responsibility and action in a conflict environment.

Ask students to choose one issue that is important to them, whether it be wildlife conservation, sweatshop labor, police brutality, or access to healthcare. Either individually or in groups, the students will develop a causal diagram to map the choices available to them, and the ways in which they can take personal responsibility on the issue. Students should consider the following questions:

- 1) What are the external factors which affect personal choice on this issue?
- 2) Who are the players involved in this issue? Who has the most power? Who has the least power? Who are the players in between?
- 3) How does each group affect the other?
- 4) In what ways is each group limited either by ideology, culture, or position? In other words, what are the influencing factors?
- 5) What choices are available to each group?
- 6) How can the actions of one group open additional choices and actions for other groups?
- 7) What actions are currently being taken by each group to address the issue in question?
- 8) Are the actions effective, given the limitations and powers of each group and the ways in which the groups interact?
- 9) What actions could increase the effectiveness of the movement?
- 10) How would those actions affect the other groups?
- 11) What choices could the individual make to more effectively create change on the issue?
- 12) How can individuals work together in community to address the issue in question?

After the projects are completed, the students will present the results of the project to the class and engage in a class discussion of the findings.

RESOURCES**How to Develop Causal Loop Diagrams**

http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newTMC_04.htm

Causal Loop Diagram Example: Research Initiative to Understand and Model State Stability

<http://esd.mit.edu/wps/esd-wp-2005-01.html>

(Use the link to access the paper, and then download the PDF version to view diagrams)

CHARACTERS AND
INFLUENTIAL
ORGANIZATIONS

- ❖ Danny Archer – Leonardo DiCaprio
- ❖ Maddy Bowen - Jennifer Connelly
- ❖ Solomon Vandy – Djimon Hounsou
- ❖ Dia Vandy (Solomon's Son) – Kagiso Kuypers
- ❖ Jassie (Solomon's Wife) – Benu Mabhena
- ❖ Benjamin (School Teacher) – Basil Wallace
- ❖ Captain Poison (RUF commander) – Davie Harewood
- ❖ Cordell Brown (Ransacked Archer's apartment) – Antony Coleman
- ❖ The Colonel (Archer's mercenary boss) – Arnold Vosloo
- ❖ Ambassador Walker – Stephen Collins
- ❖ Van de Kaap (Head of diamond company) – Marius Weyer
- ❖ Government of Sierra Leone
- ❖ Diamond Industry
- ❖ Government of Belgium
- ❖ Government of Liberia
- ❖ United States Government
- ❖ The United Nations
- ❖ Aid organizations
- ❖ The RUF
- ❖ Consumer
- ❖ Activist

Introduction

At first glance, the lives of the characters in the film seem to be dictated by forces that are outside their control. It is difficult to talk about issues of personal or collective responsibility when the entire community is fractured and ravaged by war. How, then, can an individual in a conflict situation take personal responsibility to prevent human rights abuses? How can an individual help to heal a broken community so that the community can take action? In order to begin to answer these questions, one needs to understand the external forces which limit/affect the choices available to the individual. Then, one must examine how individual choices or actions can relate back to the larger external forces to create change. Causal diagrams, such as the simplified version below, help to map complex systems and guide thinking about the ways in which factors within a system interact to create change. Directions for the diagram use Benjamin as an example, and include a completed causal diagram for Benjamin. Use the directions and the blank causal diagram to map a character from the film.

* Note – The diagram does not visually represent the ways in which Benjamin's actions affect other factors on the diagram or other characters.

**DIRECTIONS
& EXAMPLE OF
BENJAMIN (THE
SCHOOL
TEACHER)**

1) Begin the mapping process by thinking of at least four external, or limiting, factors that influence the individual's action.

External Factors Affecting Benjamin

- a) War in Sierra Leone
- b) United Nations
- c) Diamond Industry
- d) Child Soldiers

2) Think of at least two issues that influence these external or limiting factors.

Influencing Factors Affecting External Factors

- a) War in Sierra Leone – Affected by East/West tensions and the rebel groups' struggle for power after the withdraw of colonial powers
- b) United Nations – Affected by the needs and policies of multinational corporations and international politics
- c) Diamond Industry – Affected by UN sanctions and consumer/market economy
- d) Child Soldiers – Affected by lack of troops for rebel forces and ease of obtaining small arms and training young children

3) Brainstorm at least two ways in which each of the external, or limiting, factors affect the character.

Effects of External Factors on Benjamin

- a) War in Sierra Leone – Results in fractured society; Forces Benjamin to begin a rehabilitative school for child soldiers in hiding
- b) United Nations – Results in the introduction of aid organizations, such as UNICEF, which support the foundation of rehabilitative schools for child soldiers; UN sanctions and peace agreements lead to temporary cease fires, which lead to the release of some child soldiers from military service
- c) Diamond Industry – Buying of conflict diamonds leads to extended conflict and natural resource exploitation
- d) Child Soldiers – Training of child soldiers leads to the formation of a generation of children who lack education or skills; Training child soldiers leads to the increased probability that future generations will resort to violence in an attempt to solve issues.

4) Personal beliefs, cultural beliefs, and religious and national ideologies also influence individual action. List at least two beliefs that influence the action of the character.

Personal and/or Cultural Beliefs of Benjamin

- a) Believes nation can be saved/ Strong sense of national identity
- b) Believes in rehabilitation
- c) Believes people are inherently good
- d) Believes in power of education

5) List at least four choices that the character makes.

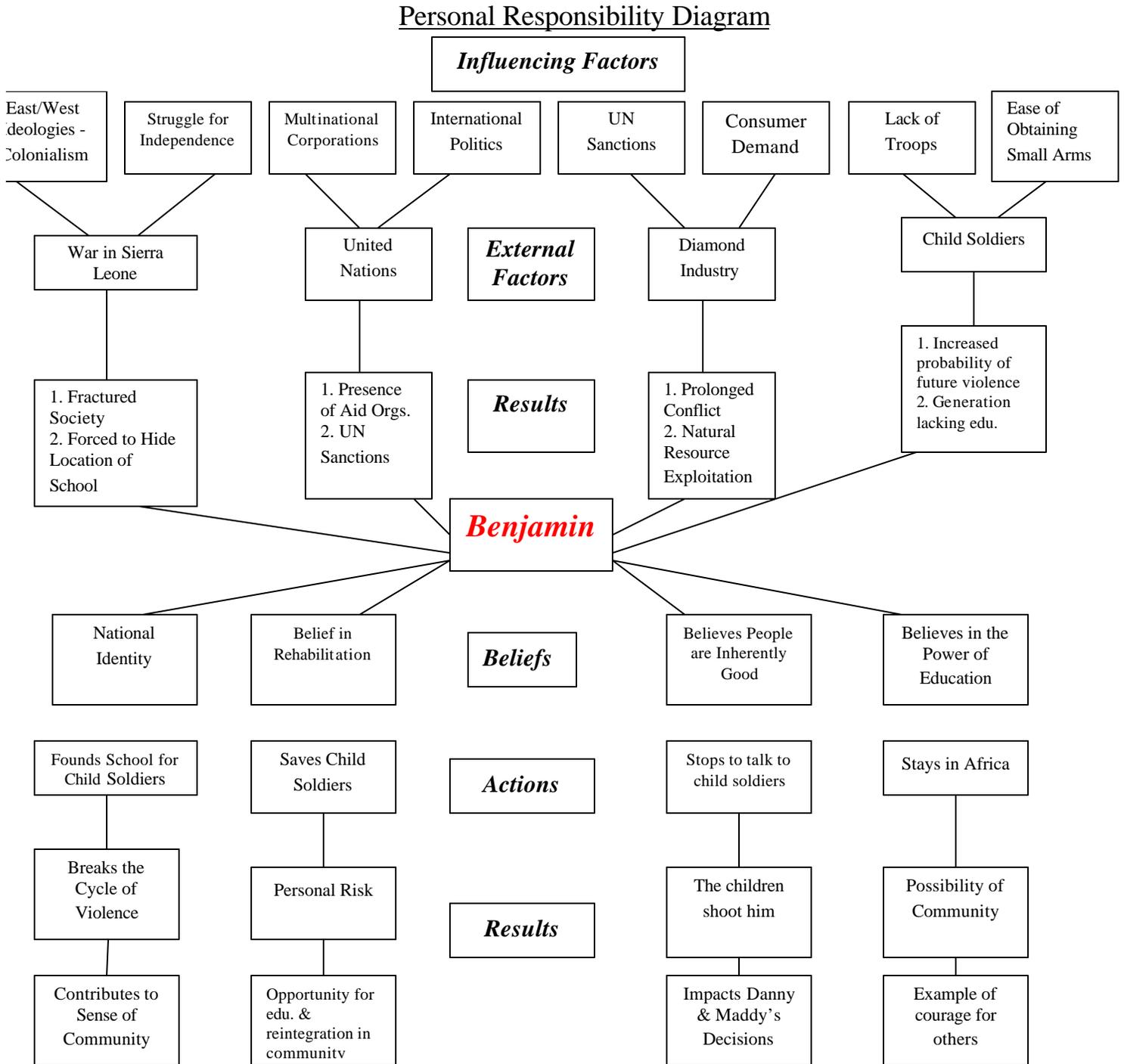
Actions or Choices of Benjamin

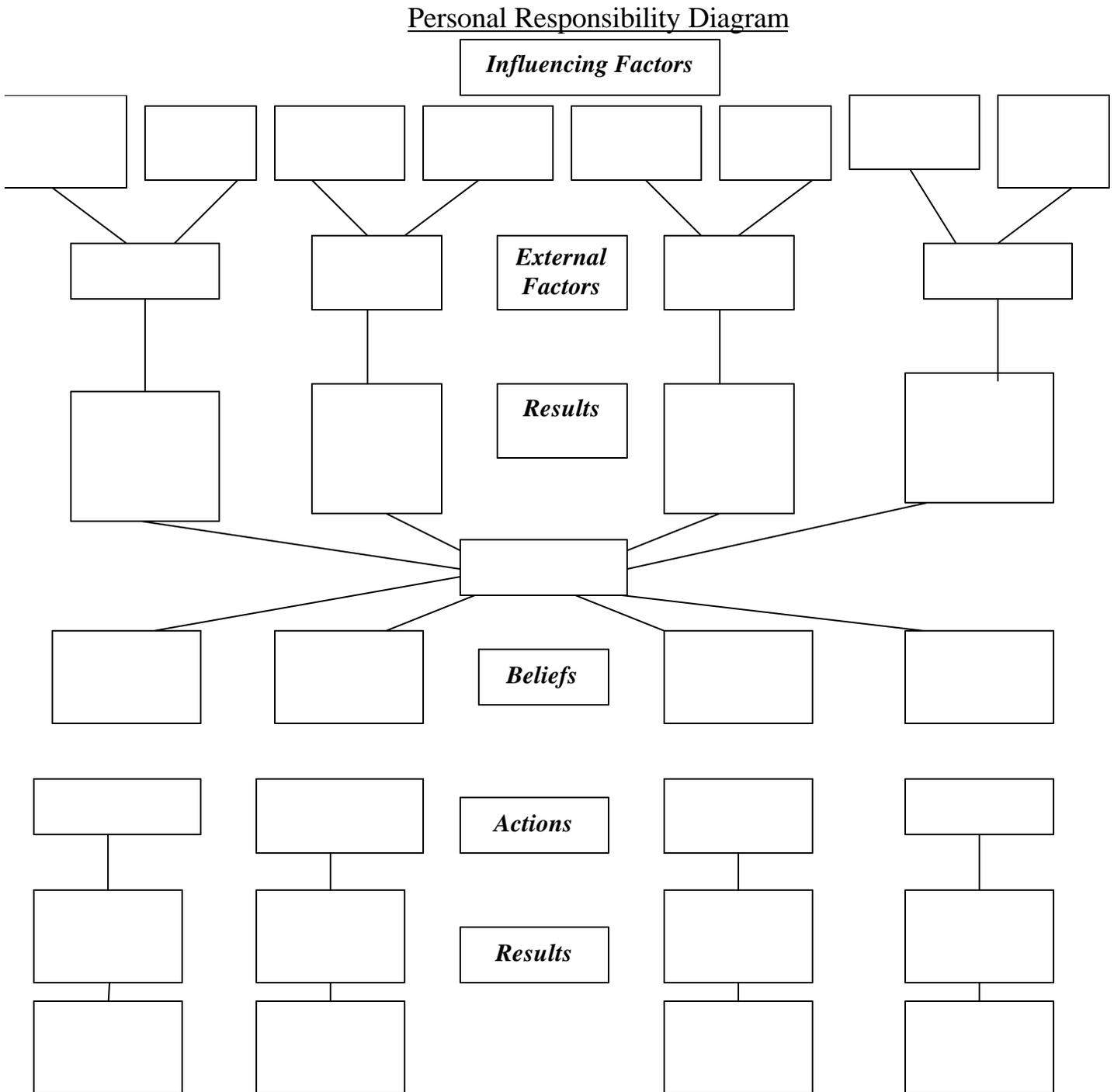
- a) Stays in Africa
- b) Finds rehabilitative school for child soldiers
- c) Actively helps child soldiers escape from military service
- d) Stops car to talk to child soldiers who have guns

6) List at least one result, whether positive or negative, of the action/choice.

Result of Actions or Choices Made by Benjamin

- a) His choice to stay in Africa resulted in the possibility of community and is an example of courage for others.
- b) His choice to found a rehabilitative school resulted in a sense of community for the child soldiers, helped to break the cycle of violence, and gave both the child soldiers and other members of the community hope in the future.
- c) His choice to actively help child soldiers escape resulted in a risk to his personal safety, as well as a second chance for the children and a sense of hope and courage for the community.
- d) His choice to stop the car and attempt to help the child soldiers flowed from his belief in the basic goodness of others and his belief that people can be rehabilitated. Though his choice led to his shooting, it also contributed to the evolution of both Maddy and Danny's characters. In the end, his actions helped make their choices possible.





INTRODUCTION

Blood Diamond reveals the gruesome realities of the role of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone's recent civil war. Unfortunately, as Edward Zwick mentions in his introduction to this guide, the story of Sierra Leone is not unique. Armed struggles for access to oil and natural gas, diamonds and minerals, cocaine, timber, water, and of course land itself, have a long history of causing worldwide humanitarian crises. From colonial exploitation to modern conflicts in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the former Soviet Union, many lands rich in natural resources have been devastated by war and poverty. This paradoxical "resource curse" has generated volumes of study on the links between abundance of natural resources, poor governance, negative economic growth, war, and human rights abuses.

WORLD MAP
OBJECTIVE

Lesson 2 provides resources to explore these links. Because of the scope of the materials on natural resource exploitation, we have created an interactive online map coupled with representative case studies, rather than a comprehensive lesson plan. Each case study focuses on a country that has suffered from conflict arising from, or exacerbated by, natural resource exploitation, and includes a recent historical timeline, discussion questions, and further studies section.

NATURAL
RESOURCE
CONFLICT

In contrast to the ideological wars fought during the Cold War, modern conflicts often center on the struggle to control natural resources such as oil, gemstones, minerals, and timber. More and more, the illicit exploitation of resources can be directly linked to violent conflict, environmental disaster, and human rights violations. In the late 1990s alone, the number of conflicts nearly tripled, leaving millions dead and tens of millions displaced (Porto).

In some countries, groups fight for access to oil, minerals, gemstones, or timber in order to fund conflicts originally triggered by other factors such as a struggle for independence or perhaps ethnic or religious tensions. Elsewhere, armed conflict begins as a struggle for these resources, motivated by either need or greed.

"In many instances, resource extraction itself causes conflict," says Michael Renner of Worldwatch. "Around the world, the operations of oil, mining, and logging companies are causing severe tensions with local populations, often indigenous communities. ...Typically, these operations confiscate land from local people without proper compensation. They cause an array of environmental problems by poisoning drinking water, destroying arable land, clear-cutting forests, and despoiling hunting and fishing grounds... [Meanwhile] the economic benefits from resource extraction mostly accrue to outsiders: the central government, multinational corporations, and assorted foreign investors."

Wealth in "lootable" resources (high value goods which can easily be traded or sold) does not necessarily predict war. Conflicts are generally a result of the combined geographic, political, economic, and military factors which weaken governments and their economies, while giving rebels the opportunity to mount insurgency campaigns. Nevertheless, the rising frequency and devastating human right and environmental consequences of these natural resource conflicts demands increased awareness and immediate action.

Michael Renner. *The Anatomy of Resource Wars*. Worldwatch Institute: www.worldwatch.org

João Porto. *Scarcity and Surfeit: The Ecology of Africa's Conflicts*. African Centre for Technology Studies and Institute for Security Studies: <http://www.iss.co.za/Pubs/Books/ScarcitySurfeit/Main.html>

EXTENSION

Lesson 2 resources can be applied in a wide range of lesson plans and classroom activities. For example, they can be used to spark debates on the causes of regional conflict, to facilitate analysis of the political, economic, environmental, and human rights impacts of resource wars, to raise awareness about the impact of consumers and corporations, or simply to expand discussion on resource wars, their causes, and potential resolutions. Several ideas include:

- Debate the causes of regional conflicts. Do natural resources cause wars, or merely prolong them? Consider the colonial legacy in resource exploitation, and the power vacuum that accompanied decolonization, existing ethnic or religious tensions, government corruption and abuse, and the accessibility of natural resources.
- Have students design Ethical Consumer posters which trace the link between a resource conflict or human rights abuse, environmental devastation, and everyday purchases (diamonds, furniture, cell phones, chocolate, etc). Posters should state the problem as well as a possible solution (e.g. an environmental policy, a corporate accountability strategy, or advertising for a human rights-friendly company).
- As *Blood Diamond* demonstrates, there are many players involved in resource conflicts, such as forced laborers, traders, smugglers, corrupt local officials, arms dealers, corporations, and consumers. Which of these most often profit from resource conflicts? What economic and legal measures aim at keeping the illegal trade of conflict resources in check?
- Discuss the efficacy of international industry standards such as the Kimberley Process and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. Where are they successful? Where are they less successful? Have students group into mock delegation teams to present any specific reforms they would recommend.
- Global Witness acts as an independent monitor, publishing papers on human rights abuses of government and rebel groups in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Have student groups create their own monitoring report on a recent resource conflict.

SOURCES

The case studies below draw information from a number of resources, in particular country reports by the United Nations, BBC, and Global Witness. GNI and Corruption statistics based on Transparency International's 2006 Corruption Perceptions Index and the World Bank's 2005 database on GNI per capita. Additional articles are cited at the end of individual case studies.

BBC Country Reports and Timelines:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/

Global Witness Reports:

www.globalwitness.org

Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index:

http://www.transparency.org/news_room/in_focus/cpi_2006/cpi_table

United Nations Country Reports :

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/countryprofile/profile.htm>

World Bank Country Reports:

www.worldbank.org/countries/

IN SHORT

CAMBODIA

Population: 14,800,000

Resources: Rubies, sapphires, timber

Conflict: Extended armed civil conflict since 2000

GNI per capita: US \$380

Corruption Rating: 151 out of 163 (Higher Scores = More Corruption)

Life expectancy: 56.0 years

OVERVIEW

The civil war from 1970 to 1975, the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979, and the Cambodia-Vietnam War from 1978 to 1979 virtually destroyed Cambodia's economy. Although rice is Cambodia's most important crop and a staple of the Khmer diet, by 1974, under wartime conditions, rice had to be imported, and production of Cambodia's most profitable export crop, rubber, fell off sharply. Between 1976 and 1978, hundreds of thousands of people died from malnutrition, overwork, and mistreated or misdiagnosed diseases.

With the end of the Cold War, timber revenue began to replace foreign support for the warring factions in Cambodia's long running civil war. While timber exploitation made fortunes for political and military leaders on both sides, the exploitation of timber became a cause for armed conflict in its own right. Timber wars have erupted in Cambodia, Sierra Leone, the Ivory Coast, the DRC, Burma, and Liberia.

Both sides in the Cambodian civil war, the Government and the Khmer Rouge, used timber to fund their war efforts. Global Witness estimated the value of the Thai-Cambodian cross-border timber trade to the Khmer Rouge was approximately \$10-\$20 million per month in 1995. Conflict over timber resources has led to mass torture, exploitation, and forced displacement in Cambodia. In addition, timber exploitation has wreaked havoc on the environment and local economies. Extensive deforestation has had severe repercussions for indigenous populations, exacerbating the grievances which lead to rebellion and conflict.

Over the past 30 years, Cambodia's forest cover is estimated to have diminished by one-third. The deforestation of Cambodia has severe implications for the country's ecology, agriculture, population survival, security and future prosperity. The ecological effects of deforestation in a country where 80% of the population relies on subsistence agriculture are already taking hold, with successive failures of the rice crop and siltation of the waterways, diminishing valuable fisheries.

The floods that Cambodia and other countries around the Mekong River have experienced in recent years are a testimony to the terrible consequences of deforestation. The floods in 2000 were the worst in 70 years: 350 people died and hundreds of thousands of people were displaced. The UN blamed these floods on deforestation. According to the government, the floods cost the country over \$156 million. This contrasts to the \$92 million in timber royalties collected by the government between 1994 and 2000.

FORESTRY
REFORM
PROCESS

“As part of the country's forestry reform process, all logging companies have been required to produce **Sustainable Forest Management Plans** and **Environmental and Social Impact Assessments**. These plans were originally due by 30th September 2001; however the deadline was extended by a year following pressure from the Department of Forestry and Wildlife. A logging moratorium was imposed by the government on 1st January 2002 and is due to remain in place until the plans have been accepted. Global Witness found the Malaysian company, GAT International, conducting logging operations during this moratorium and the company's timber-harvesting licence was revoked after intense diplomatic pressure from the donor community.

The Sustainable Forest Management Plans cover access to the forest, access to non-timber forest products and the provision of community forests. Three million Cambodians live within 30 kilometres of a logging concession and it is vital that forest-dependent communities are engaged in meaningful consultation during this crucial phase. Public disclosure of the plans for community consultation is a legal requirement and has been linked by the World Bank to the release of a \$15 million Structural Adjustment Credit.

The plans were finally released on 11th November 2002. World Bank consultants had stated that six months would be needed for meaningful public consultation over the content of the plans. The government initially allowed only 19 days, but, in the face of heavy criticism, subsequently extended the consultation period. While allowing sufficient time for consultation is important, the overall quality of the consultation process is much more critical.

On the basis of a thorough examination of the Management Plans and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments submitted, Global Witness believes all to be wholly inadequate and supports the commissioning of an independent review of the plans by a panel of experts.

There remain significant additional threats to Cambodia's forestry reform process. These include the arbitrary and non-transparent allocation of annual cutting permits in production forest outside the designated forest concessions. Other damaging practices include the granting of non-forestry land use concessions in forested areas. These are frequently used as a pretext for commercial timber harvesting.

The legal framework for land use planning in Cambodia has yet to be completed. Further regulatory provisions are needed to cover the entire forest production area system and the establishment of community forests as well as other issues.”

SOURCE

Global Witness: “Summary of the Cambodia Campaign: The Forestry Reform Process”
<http://www.globalwitness.org/campaigns/forests/cambodia/reform.php>

9 TH – 15 TH CENTURIES	TIMELINE
1863 - 1945	Khmer Empire rules The declining Khmer empire accepts French protection and is integrated into French Indochina.
1946	A new constitution permits Cambodians to form political parties. Communist guerrillas begin an armed campaign against the French.
1950	French sources report that Viet-Mihn guerillas have infiltrated Cambodia and opened an arms-smuggling route to Thailand.
1953	Cambodia wins its independence from France. Pol Pot helps set up the Communist Party.
1965	King Sihanouk breaks off ties with the US and allows North Vietnamese guerrillas to set up bases in Cambodia as part of their campaign against the US-backed government in South Vietnam.
1969	The US begins a secret bombing campaign against North Vietnamese forces on Cambodian soil.
1970	Sihanouk deposed. Prime Minister Gen. Lon Nol assumes power. He sends the army to fight the North Vietnamese in Cambodia. Exiled in China, Sihanouk gathers the support of the Khmer Rouge (KR) guerillas.
1975	The KR, led by Pol Pot, occupy the capital and overthrow Lon Nol. Urban dwellers are forcibly evacuated to the countryside to become agricultural workers. Money becomes worthless, basic freedoms are curtailed and religion is banned. Hundreds of thousands of the educated middle-classes are tortured and executed. Others starve or die from disease or exhaustion. The total death toll during the next three years is estimated to be at least 1.7 million.
1979	Vietnamese army and Cambodian exiles force Pol Pot and the KR to retreat to the Thai border.
1981	A pro-Vietnamese party wins Cambodian elections. The United Nations refuse to recognize the new government. The government in exile, including the well-armed, Chinese-backed KR and two non-communist factions, retain their UN seat.
1985 - 1989	Hun Sen becomes prime minister. Cambodia is plagued by guerilla warfare. Hundreds of thousands become refugees. Vietnamese troops withdraw. Hun Sen tries to attract foreign investment by abandoning socialism.
1990	War intensifies. As US and China withdraw their support, KR guerillas rely increasingly on the exploitation of rubies, sapphires, and timber resources taken primarily near the Thai border.
1991	A peace agreement is signed in Paris. A UN transitional authority shares power temporarily with representatives of the various factions in Cambodia. Sihanouk becomes head of state.
1993	After elections, a three-party coalition is formed with the royalist party's Prince Norodom Ranariddh as prime minister and the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) leader Hun Sen as deputy prime minister. The monarchy is restored; Sihanouk becomes king again. Ban on raw timber exports does not stop illegal logging.
1994	Thousands of Khmer Rouge guerrillas surrender in government amnesty.

1995	<p>Early clashes between KR rebels and coalition government troops, as well as Thai-Cambodian border skirmishes, give way to smaller-scale fighting later in the year amid mounting concern about government repression. Cambodia is steeped in corruption and illegal extraction. Mining and logging licenses granted to Thai companies earn the KR as much as \$240 million a year in the early-to-mid 1990s. Meanwhile, the Cambodian government is making \$100-150 million a year from secret, illicit deals giving Vietnamese loggers access to timber concessions.</p> <p>In response to international pressure following Global Witness' 1995 report on timber conflict in Cambodia, the Thai government closes the Thailand-Cambodia border, and Cambodia introduces a ban on timber exports which takes effect late 1995.</p>
1996	<p>Global Witness exposé of KR plans to sell \$35 – 90 million worth of timber to Thailand.</p> <p>Although thousands of KR troops defect, rising tensions within the coalition government provoke shoot outs between rival government troops.</p>
1997	<p>After months of escalating political tension and violence, government forces loyal to Hun Sen stage a coup that ousts Ranariddh and execute leaders of his royalist troops. Despite mass defections and internal divisions that result in the execution of a former defense minister and the reported imprisonment of leader Pol Pot, Khmer Rouge guerrillas continue extrajudicial killings and, after the coup, cooperate with royalists in fighting government troops.</p>
1998	<p>Following a February ceasefire between forces loyal to Prince Ranariddh and the government, armed clashes largely arise from government pursuit of the remnants of Khmer Rouge troops in northern Cambodia. Several villagers die in Khmer Rouge attacks, but most of the 70+ civilian deaths in 1998 are attributed to political killings by government forces, and to violence before and after July elections.</p>
1999	<p>After final defections to the government, the Khmer Rouge ceases to be a military threat. Police and military extrajudicial killings continue, but with no reported political motivations.</p>
2000	<p>350 die in severe flooding, which the UN attributes to deforestation. Hundreds of thousands are displaced. According to the government, the floods cost over \$156 million – considerably more than the \$92 million in timber royalties the government collected between 1994 and 2000.</p>
2002 - 2006	<p>Despite the imposition of a moratorium on cutting in forest concessions in January 2002, uncontrolled logging continues under the umbrella of the concession system. Land concessions for supposed agro-industry projects and licenses for collection of tree stumps are frequently used as a pretext for unsustainable timber harvesting. Overall, Cambodia's forestry sector remains characterized by lack of transparency, poor governance and corruption.</p>

DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS

1. How did the illegal harvesting and trafficking of timber affect conflict and human rights abuses in Cambodia?
2. How can consumers find out the origin of the timber products they purchase? In what other ways can consumers take personal responsibility to stop widespread deforestation and other environmental and human rights abuses resulting from illegal timber harvesting?
3. The forestry reform efforts in Cambodia have had mixed results. What steps could governments, companies, or citizens take to make timber reforms more effective? What other measures should Cambodia take to ensure its resources are profitable rather than harmful to its people?
4. How can the international community work to protect the human rights of Cambodian people?
5. What is Good Wood? How can you raise awareness about Good Wood?

EXTENSION

Using the Global Footprint Network website <<http://www.footprintnetwork.org/>>, document your personal, class, and/or community ecological footprints.

SOURCES

Alice Blondel: "The Logs of War" *Monde Diplomatique*. Jan 2004:
<http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/natres/timber/2004/01logsofwar.htm>

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IN SHORT

COLOMBIA

Population: 46.5 million

Resources: Coca, Petroleum, Natural Gas, Copper, Iron

Conflict: Armed conflict involving government forces, paramilitaries and guerilla groups

GNI per capita: US \$2,290

Corruption Rating: 59 out of 163 (Higher Scores = More Corruption)

Life expectancy: 71.99 years

OVERVIEW

Colombia is situated in the northern part of the South American continent, sharing its borders with Panama, Brazil, Ecuador, Venezuela and Peru. It has a population of approximately 46 million people, making it the fourth largest country in South America. It has significant legal natural resources such as gold, silver, emeralds, platinum, coal and oil. Unfortunately, Colombia's illegal natural resource is also one of its most lucrative. Farms all over the country grow the coca plant which is instrumental in the production of cocaine. Over 50% of the world's cocaine is produced in Colombia, as is a significant portion of the world's heroin.

Colombia has been mired in civil war and violence for approximately forty years. The fighting exists mainly between leftist guerilla groups, illegal right-wing paramilitary groups, and government police and security forces, with innocent civilians often caught in the crossfire. The complex violent conflict has been fueled largely by Colombia's natural resources – primarily crude oil and cocaine. Oil now provides one third of Colombia's total export earnings and, though concrete figures on cocaine exports are harder to come by, it is estimated that 90% of all cocaine in the U.S. originates in Colombia.

THE CONFLICT

Those involved in the struggle for control over the lucrative coca plant include the Colombian government, one of the largest guerilla groups known as FARC (Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia), several smaller guerilla groups, and influential drug cartels. Though figures vary, it is estimated that the U.S. government has spent approximately \$5 billion in the last twenty years on a "drug war" fought mainly on Colombian soil. The armed conflict between paramilitary groups, government forces and guerilla group such as FARC and the National Liberation Army (ELN) have caused innumerable civilian casualties as well as "disappearances," giving Colombia the dubious distinction of having both the highest rate of kidnappings and the highest rate of murders per capita in the world. Allegations of rape and the use of child soldiers have been levied against all groups involved. Human rights defenders and journalists have also been targeted for violent attacks or kidnapping.

Colombia has one of the largest populations of internally displaced people in the world. The displacement, primarily caused by recurring violence, is also attributed to the U.S. government's policy of spraying herbicides on coca plants, forcing poor farmers to attempt to relocate. Most farmers, however, are under tight control by groups such as FARC and have no other option than coca farming to feed their families.

A public statement issued by Amnesty International at the second session of the UN Human Rights Council states, "All the parties to the conflict continue to show grave disregard for human rights and international humanitarian law and have been responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and other crimes under international law, including killings, "disappearances", torture, and kidnapping."

**PLAN
COLOMBIA**

The administrations of Colombia's President Pastrana and the U.S.'s President Clinton collaborated on a U.S. economic assistance program called Plan Colombia, the goals of which included the following:

- To fight the illicit drug trade,
- To increase the rule of law,
- To protect human rights,
- To expand economic development,
- To institute judicial reform,
- To foster peace.

Between 1999 and 2004, the U.S. provided approximately \$3.67 billion dollars of economic assistance to Colombia, including \$3.01 billion for police and military spending and \$0.66 billion to Social and Economic Development.

In July of 2003, the Washington Office on Latin America compiled a report card for Plan Colombia; giving it an 'F' in each of the 6 areas the Plan had listed as its goals. The report describes the detrimental effects of the plan on Colombia's farmers, and accuses U.S. policies of "undermining democracy and causing enormous damage."

Critics of Plan Colombia's lack of success cite the following problems:

- Spraying herbicides on coca plants has eradicated poor farmers only source of income
- Spraying herbicides has poisoned the land, making it impossible to farm new crops and therefore causing the internal displacement of even more people
- Much of the US economic assistance was earmarked as military aid, increasing the government's capacity to commit human rights abuses
- US targeting of coca crops in Colombia has resulted in forcing farmers over the borders into Peru and Bolivia
- Targeting the coca supply in Colombia has done little to curb the demand for cocaine in the US
- Though there has been a decrease in coca production, production levels remain high, and the slight decrease in production has not affected the purity or availability of the drug in the U.S.

Due to the failures of Plan Colombia to provide economic security and protection of human rights, other solutions must be explored. Several alternative development production programs are currently being explored to assist the areas of Colombia which depend on coca crops for sustenance. When planning or vetting these programs, it is imperative to ensure they are sustainable. Farmers must be given economic incentives to grow crops other than coca, and must be taught a sustainable model. Eradicating coca crops in Colombia, and stemming the demand for cocaine into the U.S. has no quick fix, as the failures of Plan Colombia have shown. It is time for alternative solutions that seek to protect the welfare of Colombian citizens.

**SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY**

Shared Responsibility, an initiative introduced by the office of the Vice President of Colombia in 2005, seeks to educate people in "consumer nations" about the detrimental effects of the drug trade in Colombia. Shared Responsibility proposes that people in nations where cocaine is readily available and consumed need to know the effects of their drug use on the people of Colombia. The initiative also encourages people to fund and participate in sustainable development programs which provide Colombian farmers with alternatives to cultivating the coca plant.

Vice President Francisco Santos led the launch of the organization's international campaign in England in November 2006. The campaign will emphasize the concept of a shared responsibility

between Colombia as a producer nation, and the U.S. and European nations as consumer nations in the eradication of the drug trade. The launch was held in London and attended by high-level anti-narcotic officials. The launch also included talks by five Colombian women whose lives have been affected by the cocaine trade in their native country. One of the most important components of the launch included community meetings in which British citizens were educated about the situation in Colombia.

SOURCES

Shared Responsibility

<http://www.sharedresponsibility.gov.co/>

Washington Office on Latin America

<http://www.wola.org>

Timeline

- 1525** Spain begins conquest of Colombia.
- 1849** Conservative and Liberal parties founded.
- 1899-1903** "The War of the Thousand Days": around 120,000 people die in civil war between Liberals and Conservatives. Panama becomes an independent state.
- 1948** Assassination of left-wing mayor of Bogota ignites riots.
- 1948-1957** 250,000-300,000 killed in civil war.
- 1958** Conservatives and Liberals agree to form National Front in a bid to end the civil war; other parties banned.
- 1966** Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC, the current largest guerrilla grouping) set up.
- 1978** President Julio Turbay (Liberal) begins intensive fight against drug traffickers.
- 1984** Campaign against drug traffickers stepped up following assassination of justice minister.
- 1985** Eleven judges and 90 other people killed after M-19 guerrillas force their way into the Palace of Justice; Patriotic Union Party (UP) founded.
- 1986** Virgilio Barco Vargas (Liberal) wins presidential elections by record margin. Right-wing paramilitary groups begin murder campaign against UP politicians, amid continuing violence by left-wing groups and death squads run by drugs cartels.
- 1989** Liberal and UP presidential candidates murdered during presidential election campaign, reputedly at the behest of drug cartels; Cesar Gaviria elected on anti-drug platform.
- 1993** Pablo Escobar, Medellin drug-cartel leader, shot dead while trying to evade arrest.
- 1995** Ernesto Samper Pizano (Liberal) elected president and is subsequently charged and cleared of receiving drug-cartel money for his election campaign.
- Peace talks**
- 1998** Andres Pastrana Arango - a Conservative - elected president, begins peace talks with guerrillas.

NOV 1998	Pastrana grants FARC a safe haven the size of Switzerland in the south-east to help move peace talks along. The zone is off-limits to the army.
JAN 1999	Peace talks formally launched but proceed in stop-start fashion. Pastrana and FARC leader Manuel "Sureshot" Marulanda meet.
JULY 2000	Plan Colombia Pastrana's "Plan Colombia" wins almost US\$1 billion in mainly military aid from the US to fight drug-trafficking and rebels who profit and protect the trade.
JUNE 2001	FARC rebels free 359 police and troops in exchange for 14 captured rebels. FARC accused of using safe haven to rearm, prepare attacks and conduct drug trade.
OCT 2001	Government, FARC sign San Francisco agreement, committing themselves to negotiate ceasefire. Pastrana extends life of safe haven until January 2002.
JAN 2002	Pastrana accepts FARC ceasefire timetable and extends safe haven until April.
FEB 20 2002	Pastrana breaks off three years of tortuous peace talks with FARC rebels, says hijacking of aircraft hours earlier is final straw. He orders rebels out of demilitarized zone. Government declares war zone in south after rebels step up attacks.
MAY 2002	Independent candidate Alvaro Uribe wins a first-round presidential election victory, promises to crack down hard on rebel groups.
AUG 2002	Moments before Alvaro Uribe is sworn in as president, suspected FARC explosions rock Bogota. Twenty people are killed. Days later, Uribe declares state of emergency.
OCT 2003	14 out of 15 of President Uribe's planned austerity measures and political reforms rejected by voters in referendum. Three ministers, national police chief resign.
MAY 2004	FARC's Ricardo Palmera, the most senior Colombian guerrilla ever captured, is jailed for 35 years.
JULY 2004	Right-wing AUC and government begin peace talks. AUC leaders address Congress.
JAN 2005	Bitter 15-day dispute with Venezuela over the capture of a FARC leader on Venezuelan soil. The affair is resolved at talks in Caracas in February.
JUNE 2005	New law offers reduced jail terms and protection from extradition for paramilitaries who turn in their arms. Rights groups say the legislation is too lenient.
DEC 2005	Exploratory peace talks with the second biggest left-wing rebel group, the National Liberation Army (ELN), begin in Cuba.
FEB 2006	Colombia and the US agree on a free trade deal. The agreement awaits ratification in both countries.
NOV 2006	A rebel group (believed to be FARC) kills sixteen police officers in a pre-dawn attack on a police building in northern Colombia.

DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS

1. How do the growing, harvesting and trafficking of the coca plant affect the conflict in Colombia?
2. How can Americans take personal or collective responsibility to stem the demand for cocaine? How can Colombians take personal or collective responsibility to stem the flow of cocaine?
3. How do you think the US and Colombian governments could more effectively allocate spending in the “war on drugs”?
4. What alternatives to coca farming could be provided for local farmers? How can governments and citizens promote sustainable development?
5. How does the choice to buy or sell cocaine here in the United States affect people in Colombia?
6. How can the U.S. and Colombian governments, in correlation with the international community, work to protect the human rights of Colombian people?

FURTHER
STUDY

Create anti-drug posters that will act as public service announcements to inform the public about the connection between the drug trade in Colombia and human rights abuses.

SOURCES

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CNN

<http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/americas/archive/>

Human Rights Watch

<http://www.hrw.org>

PBS

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/shows/colombia/map.html>

Shared Responsibility

<http://www.sharedresponsibility.gov.co/>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

<http://www.unodc.org>

Washington Office on Latin America

<http://www.wola.org>

IN SHORT

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

Population: 57,549,000

Resources: 26% of the world's known diamond deposits can be found here, along with large amounts of gold, silver, copper, coltan, cobalt, cassiterite, oil, gas, and timber.

Conflict: Extended armed civil conflict particularly since the 1990s, claiming as many as 4 million lives over the past decade alone.

GNI per capita: US \$120

Corruption Rating (According to Transparency International): 156 of 163 countries
(Higher Scores = More Corrupt.)

OVERVIEW

The second largest country on the African continent and abundantly wealthy in natural resources, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is an oft cited example of the “resource curse.” Home to 26% of the world’s known diamonds and one third of the world’s cassiterite (tin ore) reserves, the DRC is also rich in cobalt, copper, coltan (used in making cell phones), oil, gas, silver, zinc, gold, manganese, timber, and uranium. Yet, according to the World Bank, the DRC is also one of the world’s most debt-laden countries and suffers from rampant poverty. According to the World Food Programme, 16 million Congolese have critical food needs, and 80% of the population has no access to safe drinking water. 70% have little or no access to health care, and the DRC’s infant mortality rate is the highest in Africa. Due to widespread institutionalized corruption, only a handful of the country’s elite have profited from the extraction of the country’s resources, while the rest of the population suffers from hunger and extreme poverty. One miner, interviewed by Global Witness in a July 2006 report, stated, “We know that the Congo is rich. But despite this . . . we don’t have enough to eat. Only one category of people profits.”

Unfortunately, violence surrounding the extraction and exploitation of natural resources in the Congo has been a recurrent feature in Congolese history. As one journalist noted, “Few regions on Earth contain as many treasures as this one -- and few are as blood-drenched.” Severely exploited and underdeveloped during Belgian colonial rule, the DRC had little infrastructure when it gained independence in 1960. Its political and economic instability were aggravated by civil and ethnic conflicts both inside the DRC and in surrounding areas. As fighting escalated in the early 1990s, the nation suffered increasingly bloody and brutal conflict which has claimed nearly four million lives since 1996.

THE RESOURCE CONNECTION

Diamonds, the DRC’s most valuable export, are one of several resources which are traded illegally to fund rebellion and perpetuate conflict. While armed warfare has subsided considerably, fighting between the national army and rebel groups continues, particularly in

Eastern Congo where rebels have taken control of diamond, gold, tin ore, and coltan mines. To finance defense spending, the DRC government has granted huge concessions including offshore oil wells to Angola, a share of a diamond mines to Namibia, and mining, forestry, and agricultural rights to Zimbabwe.

Corruption is widespread, so while individuals profit from the violence, the overall population has an average annual income of \$120 and a life expectancy of 43 years. Seventy-five percent of children born during the war died or will die by their second birthdays. A significant portion of copper, cobalt, and other minerals are mined informally and exported illicitly, depriving the government of a significant source of revenue that could ostensibly be used to increase the quality of life for Congolese citizens. Those who labor in informal mines are subject to many labor and human rights abuses, including working without protective clothing, formal equipment, or training. Due to corruption and lack of oversight, miners suffer from extortion at the hands of both governmental and rebel soldiers. They may earn, on average, no more than three dollars per day of work.

**EXTRACTIVE
INDUSTRIES
TRANSPARENCY
INITIATIVE (EITI)**

The EITI, announced by Tony Blair at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, is a coalition of governments, companies, civil society groups, investors, and international organizations that supports increased transparency and accountability in resource rich countries. The developers of EITI maintain that knowing what governments receive and what companies pay for natural resources is a critical first step in holding people accountable for the way that natural resource revenue is spent, thereby encouraging good and stable governance. The DRC signed up to EITI in 2005, but according to "Digging in Corruption," a Global Witness report issued in July 2006, the country still suffers from widespread corruption and a lack of transparency in the mining sector. Government priorities for improving the mining sector should include regaining control over mining areas, reducing smuggling, enforcing the Mining Code, improving transparency by implementing EITI standards, and adopting the International Labor Organization's Safety and Health in Mines Convention.

16 TH -17 TH CENTURIES	TIMELINE
	European merchants engage in slave trade in Kongo.
1870S	Belgian King Leopold II sets up a private venture to conquer trade territory in Kongo, under the auspices of humanitarian and anti-slavery action. He commissions explorer Henry Morton Stanley to treatise with local chiefs in the Congo basin to establish Leopold's authority.
1884-1885	European powers recognize Leopold's private claim to Congo at the Conference of Berlin.
1885-1908	Leopold's Congo Free State conducts systematic extraction of Congolese ivory and rubber through forced labor and a private mercenary army, the <i>Force Publique</i> .
1908	In response to protests over the mass atrocities carried out under Leopold's rule, Belgium annexes Congo. Between five and fifteen million Congolese are said to have been killed or worked to death harvesting rubber and ivory during Leopold's control of the territory.
1908-1959	Economy controlled by elite Belgian mining interests, who continue to employ the <i>Force Publique</i> to force or coerce labor in mines and agriculture, and collect revenues from rubber, palm oil, and minerals. Given the low standard of living, illicit trade networks for natural resources arise, often controlled by specific ethnic communities.
1950S	Militant labor conflict in copper mining region of Katanga.
1960	Country declares independence as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Patrice Lumumba wins the first national election. Within months, Lumumba is deposed by army leader Joseph Mobutu and killed by secessionists from Katanga (with US and Belgian involvement suspected). Political instability and civil conflict ensue.
1965-1980S	Mobutu takes power with US backing in a military coup, and renames the country Zaire. He nationalizes many foreign-owned firms and forces European investors out of the country. His corrupt military control over natural resources proves ruinous. As the economy deteriorates steadily, Congolese citizens increasingly rely on smuggling to survive.
1990-1994	Mobutu allows multi-party politics, though he retains significant powers. Rival pro- and anti-Mobutu government factions established.
1994	Hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees flee to eastern Congo following the genocide in Rwanda.
1996	Rwandan troops invade eastern Congo and back a rebel group headed by Laurent Kabila.
1997	Kabila's rebel forces, aided principally by Rwanda, capture the capital Kinshasa. Zaire is renamed the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Mobutu is overthrown and Kabila installed as president.
1998	The rebellion splits: rebels backed by Rwanda and Uganda rise up against Kabila and advance on Kinshasa. Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia send troops to support the Congolese army. The rebels take control of much of the east of DRC.
1999	Rifts emerge between Congolese Liberation Movement (MLC) rebels supported by Uganda and Congolese Rally Democracy (RCD) rebels backed by Rwanda. The MLC, RCD, and six countries involved in the war sign a ceasefire agreement in Lusaka.

- 2000** | UN Security Council authorises a 5,500-strong UN force to monitor the ceasefire but fighting continues between rebels and government forces, and between Rwandan and Ugandan forces.

Reports declare that the war has killed 2.5 million directly or indirectly, and that parties are deliberately prolonging conflict to plunder gold, diamonds, timber, and coltan.
- 2001** | President Laurent Kabila is shot dead by a bodyguard. Joseph Kabila succeeds his father.
- 2003** | Peace accords between the DRC and Uganda, Rwanda, and the main rebel groups. Uganda and Rwanda promise to withdraw their troops, in exchange for DRC disarmament and arrests of those implicated in Rwanda’s 1994 genocide. Congolese rebel leaders and opposition party members are to be given portfolios in a transitional government.
- 2005** | Fighting in the east between the Congolese army and renegade soldiers from a group allegedly backed by Rwanda. Rwanda denies involvement.

Parliament adopts a new constitution.
- 2006** | Uganda warns that its troops may re-enter DRC after a group of Ugandan Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) rebels enter via Sudan. Wave of soldiers from former Zairean army returns after almost eight years of exile in neighboring Republic of Congo.

International Court of Justice rules that Uganda must compensate DRC for its abuses and plundering during the war.

Accused of forcing children into armed combat, warlord Thomas Lubanga becomes first war crimes defendant at the International Criminal Court in the Hague.

Presidential and parliamentary elections are held – the first in four decades. Thousands are displaced in the northeast as the army and UN peacekeepers continue to disarm forces prior to elections. In November, Joseph Kabila is declared the winner of the presidential elections, beating the main opposition candidate, MLC leader Jean-Pierre Bemba. Forces loyal to Kabila and Bemba clash in the capital city of Kinshasa.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the current demand for new cell phones and computers in the United States affect both conflict and mining practices in the DRC?
2. The EITI is a recent initiative. What monitoring strategies should be adopted to ensure country and industry compliance?
3. What measures should the DRC government take to help end the “resource curse”?
4. What could mining companies do to ensure fair wages and adequate labor standards in mining areas? In what other ways could the mining industry play a positive role in improving the quality of life for Congolese citizens?
5. How could companies that buy large quantities of copper, cobalt, and cassiterite, such as cell phone manufacturers, improve the quality of life for Congolese citizens, ensure fair wages, and guarantee safe working conditions for miners in the DRC?
6. What steps could activists and consumers take to improve the quality of life for miners in the DRC?

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IN SHORT

NIGERIA

Population: 131,859,731

Resources: Petroleum, natural gas, tin, iron ore, coal, lead, zinc, limestone

Conflict: Longstanding religious and ethnic tensions, corruption in government, civilian unrest in regard to multi-national oil company operation within the country

GNI per capita: US \$560

Corruption Rating: 152 out of 163 (Higher Score = More Corruption)

Life expectancy: 47.66 years

OVERVIEW

The film *Blood Diamond* focuses on the human rights violations that occur when natural resources are mismanaged and exploited, using the example of diamonds in Sierra Leone. Unfortunately, Sierra Leone is not unique, and its fate is shared by neighboring countries also rich in natural resources, such as Nigeria. This case study documents the escalating conflict for control over Nigeria’s most lucrative natural resource: oil.

Nigeria, a West African country bordered by Chad, Cameroon, Benin and Niger, is Africa’s most populous nation with over 130 million people. Nigeria’s population is made up of about 200 ethnic groups, 500 indigenous languages, and two major religions - Islam (concentrated in the North) and Christianity (concentrated in the South). Nigeria is the world’s eighth largest producer of oil, and the fifth largest supplier of oil to the U.S. Oil comprises 95 percent of Nigeria’s export revenues, 76 percent of its government revenues, and about a third of its gross domestic product (GDP).

THE CONFLICT

Sixteen years of military rule ended in Nigeria in 1999. Under the newly formed civilian government, longstanding ethnic and religious tensions flared, and government corruption was rampant. Though Nigeria is one of the world’s largest producers of oil, over half of the country’s population lives below the poverty line. The “trickle-down effect” has been virtually non-existent, with those at the top of both the private and government sectors experiencing windfall profits while the majority of Nigeria’s citizens live on less than \$2 a day. It is also ranked as one of the top ten most corrupt nations in the world.

Though there are several conflicts that currently exist in Nigeria, for the purpose of this case study we will examine the conflicts caused, or exacerbated by, the extraction of Nigeria’s most valuable natural resource, oil. The conflict surrounding the extraction and exportation of oil in Nigeria exists between the large oil corporations, the (mostly poverty-stricken) people of Nigeria, and the Nigerian government. Despite being one the largest producers of oil in the world, over 60% of Nigeria’s citizens continue to live below the poverty line. Many citizens, especially those who live in the oil rich delta area, regularly protest (both violently and non-violently) against foreign oil companies and the Nigerian government to illustrate their frustration with a lack of fair wealth distribution. The violence in Nigeria has caused a one quarter loss in daily production. A January 2006 report, commissioned by Shell, stated that the level of conflict in the Nigeria delta region is comparable to that in Colombia and Chechnya.

Over the last ten years, Nigerian citizens have held several protests each year against the large oil companies which occupy their land. The non-violent protests have often come in the form of “occupation,” with a group of people taking over an oil facility for a short period of time and shutting down production in order to make their demands heard. Unfortunately, many protest activities have also been violent, including car bombs, kidnapping, murders and vandalism.

**Nigeria
Extractive
Industries
Transparency
Initiative (NEITI)**

It has long been suspected that corrupt government officials and oil company employees have collaborated in the theft of oil revenues, amounting to approximately \$232 million over a five year period. To begin to combat the problems of missing revenue and corruption, President Olusegun Obasanjo committed to EITI in November 2003, and launched Nigeria EITI in February 2004. The NEITI process consists of three stages. The first audit is aimed at reconciling information on payments and receipts. A second audit is focused on amounts of oil and gas produced, lifted, lost, refined and exported. A third audit reviews the transparency and appropriateness of the industry processes, and makes recommendations for improvement.

In a November 2006 report, Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) disclosed that it has tracked most of the missing \$232 million oil revenue between 1999 and 2004. It is now up to the Nigerian president to decide the best remedy for the situation. The report alleges an almost total lack of transparency in the business practices of oil companies operating in Nigeria. It goes on to suggest that figures have been intentionally tampered with and that the Nigerian government should stop relying on oil companies for information on levels of production. The report also chastises the Nigerian government for granting oil companies "undue privileges."

	TIMELINE
1472	Portuguese navigators reach Nigerian coast.
16TH – 18 TH CENTURIES	Slave trade: Millions of Nigerians are forcibly sent to the Americas.
1850s	British establish presence around Lagos.
1861 – 1914	Britain consolidates its hold over what it calls the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, and governs by "indirect rule" through local leaders.
1960	Independence declared, with Prime Minister Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa leading a coalition government.
1967	Three Eastern states secede as the Republic of Biafra, sparking bloody civil war.
1983	Major-General Muhammad Buhari seizes power in bloodless coup.
1985	Ibrahim Babangida seizes power in bloodless coup, curtails political activity.
JUNE 1993	Military annuls elections when preliminary results show victory by Chief Moshood Abiola.
AUG 1993	Power transferred to Interim National Government.
NOV 1993	General Sani Abacha seizes power, suppresses opposition.
1995	Ken Saro-Wiwa, writer and campaigner against oil industry damage to his Ogoni homeland, is executed following a hasty trial. In protest, European Union imposes sanctions until 1998, Commonwealth suspends Nigeria's membership until 1998.
1999	Parliamentary and presidential elections. Olusegun Obasanjo sworn in as president.
2000	Adoption of Islamic, or Sharia, law by several northern states in the face of opposition from Christians. Tension over the issue results in hundreds of deaths in clashes between Christians and Muslims.
2001	Tribal war in Benue state, in eastern-central Nigeria, displaces thousands of people. In October, army soldiers sent to quash the fighting kill more than 200 unarmed civilians, apparently in retaliation for the abduction and murder of 19 soldiers.
OCT 2001	Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, South African President Mbeki and Algerian President Bouteflika launch New Partnership for African Development, or Nepad, which aims to foster development and open government and end wars in return for aid, foreign investment and the lifting of trade barriers to African exports.
JAN 2002	Blast at munitions dump in Lagos kills more than 1,000.
	Ethnic Violence
FEB 2002	Some 100 people are killed in Lagos in clashes between Hausas from mainly-Islamic north and ethnic Yorubas from predominantly-Christian southwest. Thousands flee. City's governor suggests retired army officials stoked violence in attempt to restore military rule.

OCT 2002	International Court of Justice awards the disputed Bakassi peninsula to Cameroon, but Nigeria is adamant that it will defend its right to the oil-rich area.
APRIL 12 2003	First legislative elections since end of military rule in 1999. Polling marked by delays, allegations of ballot-rigging. President Obasanjo's People's Democratic Party wins parliamentary majority.
APRIL 19 2003	First civilian-run presidential elections since end of military rule. Olusegun Obasanjo elected for second term with more than 60% of vote. Opposition parties reject result. EU poll observers cite "serious irregularities".
JULY 2003	Nationwide general strike called off after nine days after government agrees to lower recently-increased fuel prices.
AUG 2003	Violence between Ijaw and Itsekiri people in Delta town of Warri kills about 100 people, injures 1,000.
MAY 2004	State of emergency is declared in the central Plateau State after more than 200 Muslims are killed in Yelwa in attacks by Christian militia; revenge attacks are launched by Muslim youths in Kano.
AUG – SEPT 2004	Deadly clashes between gangs in oil city of Port Harcourt prompts strong crackdown by troops. Amnesty International cites death toll of 500, authorities say about 20 died.
FEB 2005	Nine foreign oil workers are kidnapped during an attack on an oil facility
JULY 2005	Paris Club of rich lenders agrees to write off two-thirds of Nigeria's \$30billion foreign debt.
JAN 2006	Militants in the Niger Delta attack pipelines and other oil facilities and kidnap foreign oil workers. The rebels demand more control over the region's oil wealth.
FEB 2006	More than 100 people are killed when religious violence flares in mainly-Muslim towns in the north and in the southern city of Onitsha.
APRIL 2006	Helped by record oil prices, Nigeria becomes the first African nation to pay off its debt to the Paris Club of rich lenders.
MAY 2006	More than 150 people are killed in an explosion at an oil pipeline near Lagos.
AUG 2006	Nigeria hands over the disputed Bakassi peninsula to neighbouring Cameroon under the terms of a 2002 International Court of Justice ruling.
OCT 2006	Villagers take over and occupy three Shell oil platforms
NOV 2006	Two oil workers, from England and the U.S. are kidnapped during a raid on a Norwegian oil services ship off Nigeria's southern coast
	Armed protesters overrun and shut down an oil facility operated by Italian oil firm Agip.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the extraction and exportation of oil affect conflict in Nigeria? How does the demand for oil in America and other industrialized nations affect the conflict in Nigeria?
2. What can the Nigerian government, oil companies, the international community, and civil society do to ensure more transparency of oil revenues and more wealth distribution of oil profits?
3. What can consumers do to encourage both oil companies and governments to respect human rights and improve quality of life for Nigerian citizens?
4. What are some ways that Nigerians could non-violently protest against the practices of the large oil companies?
5. Do oil companies such as Royal Dutch/Shell, Chevron, and Agip have a responsibility to the economic welfare of Nigerian citizens? If so, what are the responsibilities?
6. What are some sustainable development ideas for Nigerians affected negatively by oil extraction and exportation?

SOURCES

Amnesty International
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/countries/nigeria/index.do>

BBC News
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1064557.stm

CNN
<http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/africa/archive>

Nationmaster
<http://www.nationmaster.com>

Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI)
<http://www.neiti.org/>

Transparency International
<http://www.transparency.org>

United Nations Development Program
<http://www.undp.org>

The World Bank
<http://www.worldbank.org>

LESSON 3

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

QUESTION	What is corporate social responsibility, and how does it impact the promotion and protection of human rights?
TIME	Two Classes
OVERVIEW	<p>The goal of this lesson is to help students develop an understanding of corporate social responsibility, and the ways in which corporate controls and informed consumerism can impact regional conflict and human rights issues. The students will first read three articles about corporate social responsibility outside of class, and then work together in groups to develop a definition for the term. In small groups, students will list the responsibilities they believe corporations should have both to their employees and to the communities in which they operate. Next, the students will analyze a case study about conflict diamonds. Building upon the resource guide in lesson two, the students will examine the ways that voluntary corporate initiatives, legal controls, and international standards work together to prevent human rights abuses. In addition, students will read and discuss a handout about the Kimberley Process and the role of the international community in encouraging or enforcing its principles. Excerpts from Global Witness and Amnesty International reports questioning the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process will be used to generate further discussion about the relationship between the international community and multinational corporations. Finally, the students will evaluate the role of the consumer in creating and encouraging the development of a culture of corporate social responsibility. As an optional extension activity, the students will evaluate one product to determine its impact on all stakeholders and the ways in which the consumer can encourage change within the company.</p>
OBJECTIVES	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Define corporate social responsibility and list the responsibilities of companies- Explain the connection between corporate social responsibility and human rights- Analyze the role of the international community in encouraging and enforcing corporate compliance with international principles- Understand the Kimberley Process and evaluate its effectiveness- Brainstorm consumer and activist strategies for promoting corporate social responsibility
PREPARATION	<p>Resources and Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Copies of three articles (Listed Below)❖ Handout 3.1: Corporate Social Responsibility Quiz❖ Case Study: Conflict Diamonds: Cote D'Ivoire❖ Handout 3.2: Understanding and Evaluating the Kimberley Process
INTRODUCTION	<p>* Note – While this lesson is designed to be as comprehensive as possible, CSR is a growing and controversial field. Please take the time to review the resources listed at the end of the lesson and familiarize yourself with the topic.</p> <p>As is demonstrated in the film <i>Blood Diamond</i>, the diamond industry directly enabled the continuation of the conflict in Sierra Leone through its practice of purchasing smuggled conflict diamonds despite international embargoes. Certain diamond companies' desire to maximize profit at all costs resulted in countless human rights abuses in Sierra Leone. Global Witness, Amnesty International, and other NGOs worked to expose the connection between the illicit trade in conflict diamonds and the ever worsening civil war. As a result, the international community developed the Kimberley Process, and the diamond industry agreed to police itself and set up a System of Warranties.</p> <p>In the case of conflict diamonds, it is obvious that the economic goal of certain companies, governments, and individuals exceeds concern for their impact on conflict and subsequent human rights abuses. Many advocates of corporate social responsibility (CSR) argue that</p>

companies should organize their business ventures around the idea of a triple bottom line, consisting of concern for economic growth, social progress, and ecological balance. As becomes evident in the articles listed below, opponents of CSR advocate for a free market system which operates according to the rules and regulations of the local government rather than on a system of controls developed by the international community or by businesses themselves. As Milton Friedman states in his article, "there is one and only one social responsibility of business—to use its resources and engage in activities designed to increase its profits so long as it stays within the rules of the game . . ." In conflict areas and areas with weak governments, however, the "rules of the game" are rarely codified or enforced. International standards, reporting and other transparency initiatives help to fill this legislative gap. Many of these initiatives, however, remain voluntary.

Given the differing perspectives and definitions of corporate social responsibility, it is useful to begin with an exercise that asks students to think critically about the rights and responsibilities of business.

PROCEDURE

1. Before class, the students should read the following articles and document any reactions or questions they have.

- Aslam, Abid. "Backgrounder: Corporate Social Responsibility." 6 Nov. 2006.
http://www2.gsb.columbia.edu/ipd/j_corporatesocial.html

- Friedman, Milton. "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase its Profits." 13 Sept. 1970. 30 Oct. 2006
<http://www.colorado.edu/studentgroups/libertarians/issues/friedman-soc-resp-business.html>

- Khan, Irene. "Understanding Corporate Complicity: Extending the Notion Beyond Existing Laws." Business Human Rights Seminar. London, 8 Dec. 2005.
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/business/document.do?id=ENGPOL340012006>

2. Begin class by distributing Handout 31, or write the quiz on the board. Poll the students to see in which areas they think companies can or should provide the greatest benefits to society.

3. Divide students into small groups. Each group will discuss the following questions and develop a comprehensive definition of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) using the articles they read as references to support their answers.

1. As entities that operate within a society, corporations are afforded certain rights, and therefore have responsibilities. What rights do you think corporations have? What rights do you think they should have?
2. What responsibilities do you think corporations have? What responsibilities do you think they should have?
3. In America, CSR is traditionally defined as corporate philanthropy. In Europe, CSR is defined by adherence to a triple bottom line and incorporation of sustainable development models. How would you define CSR? Does corporate philanthropy address or solve human rights issues?
4. What are some examples of companies abusing human rights? Examples of companies promoting human rights?
5. What are companies' responsibilities in relation to human rights? Should companies develop human rights policies? If so, what should those policies entail?
6. Who should regulate corporations? To whom should businesses be held accountable? What types of initiatives should be voluntary and what types should be mandatory?
7. What is the ideal relationship between corporations and governments?
8. Should businesses be held accountable to a triple bottom line?
9. What is the difference between effective CSR and "greenwashing" or "bluwashing"?
10. What is the role of stakeholders? What is the role of shareholders?
11. Is CSR good for business?

4. After the groups have had time to discuss the questions, ask a representative from each group for the group's definition of CSR. As a class, list the responsibilities that corporations should have and ask why the corporation should be held responsible in each situation. Discuss the groups' answers to the other discussion questions.

5. Distribute "Conflict Diamonds: Cote D'Ivoire." Either individually or in groups, the students will read the case study. The students will then use the discussion questions at the end of the case study to begin a conversation about the connection between the diamond industry, regional conflicts, and human rights abuses. Use the resource guide at the end of this lesson to find additional materials, including maps and reports, relating to Cote d'Ivoire.

6. A wealth of organizations and international bodies have attempted to define, regulate, and enforce CSR policies. Most organizations currently rely on a voluntary reporting and monitoring system. For example, the United Nations developed the Global Compact, a set of ten basic principles modeled on international documents to which companies have voluntarily agreed to abide. The UN Human Rights Norms for Business, approved by a UN subcommission in 2003, explains the human rights obligations of companies, highlighting best practices and various modes of monitoring and enforcement. The Norms provide a standard for companies to measure themselves against, a benchmark against which national legislation can be judged, and a framework for advocacy groups. Other international initiatives include the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the International Labour Organization's Core Labour Standards (ILO).

Distribute the UN Human Rights Norms for Business. Ask students to read the Norms for Business, and brainstorm ideas for ways that companies and governments could implement the standards it promotes.

7. Distribute Handout 3.2: Understanding the Kimberley Process. Ask students to read the report individually, and write down any questions they have about the Kimberley Process. Discuss the ways that international and national laws affect the actions of corporations, and answer student questions about the Kimberley Process. How could governments, NGOs, and consumers work together with companies to ensure the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process?

8. As a class, brainstorm ways that consumers can impact the actions of companies. Ask students to think of specific examples and ideas. Leave the students with the following questions:

- How can you as a consumer or activist affect the actions and decisions of a large multinational corporation?
- What actions can you take to encourage businesses to adopt policies that promote human rights and the triple bottom line?

**EXTENSION
ACTIVITY #1**

Either individually or in groups, students will evaluate a product of their choice to determine its manufacturer's impact on all stakeholders. The students will research whether or not the company already has a CSR policy, and if so, what the policy entails. Also, the students will research the company's environmental, economic, and human rights record, and evaluate whether or not the company enacts CSR values. If the company is not a good corporate citizen in the opinion of the students, what could the company do to increase its CSR standing? What can the consumer do to encourage the adoption of increased internal regulations that better reflect the triple bottom line? Finally, the students will present one action that the consumer can take to ensure that the company abides by international or national standards. As a further extension, the students will present their findings to the class.

**EXTENSION
ACTIVITY #2**

During the National Day of Action on Conflict Diamonds, Amnesty activists visited 246 jewelry stores to conduct a survey of how well jewelers knew company policies about conflict diamonds. Access details about the survey and the results at:

http://www.amnestyusa.org/business/action_update.html

Ask students to visit local jewelry stores to perform a similar survey. Students will report results to the class. As an additional activity, hold a teach-in about conflict diamonds and report local results. Ask students to brainstorm and implement ideas for raising local awareness about conflict diamonds. Refer to Amnesty International's Buyers Guide (<http://www.amnestyusa.org/diamonds/BuyersGuide.pdf>) for more ideas.

ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Amnesty International Report: "Human Rights and Transnational Companies"
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/diamonds/document.do?id=ENGPOL300242006>

Global Witness: "Making It Work: Why the Kimberley Process Must Do More to Stop Conflict Diamonds"
<http://www.globalwitness.org/reports>

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs: "Cote D'Ivoire: Cocoa and Diamonds Fund Military Spending"
<http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?REPORTID=50165>

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS/PRINCIPLES

Amnesty International Report: "UN Norms for Business" – An Introduction To and Evaluation of the Norms
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/business/unhrbusinessnorms.doc>

CSR Europe's Questions and Answers on the UN Norms for Business
http://www.csreurope.org/whatwedo/unnorms_page5097.aspx

Global Reporting Initiative
www.globalreporting.org

International Labour Organization: Core Labour Standards
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/norm/index.htm>

Kimberley Process
www.kimberleyprocess.com

UN Global Compact: 10 Universal Principles for Business
<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

UN Human Rights Norms for Business

http://www.amnestyusa.org/business/un_norms.html

ONLINE RESOURCES

Amnesty International: Business and Human Rights

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/business>

Business and Economic Development Impacts

www.economicfootprint.org

Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights

<http://www.blihr.org/>

Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Home>

Corporate Accountability

www.corporate-accountability.org

Diamond Facts (An Educational Page by World Diamond Council)

www.diamondfacts.org

Global Witness

www.globalwitness.org

World Business Council for Sustainable Development

www.wbcsd.org

World Diamond Council

www.worlddiamondcouncil.com

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Campbell, Greg. Blood Diamonds: Tracing the Deadly Path of the World's Most Precious Stones. Boulder: Westview Press, 2002.

McDonough, William and Michael Braungart. Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things. New York: North Point Press, 2002.

Roberts, Janine. Glitter & Greed: The Secret World of the Diamond Cartel. New York: Disinformation Co., 2003.

Stiglitz, Joseph. Globalization and its Discontents. New York: Norton, 2003.

Werther, William B. and David Chandler. Strategic Corporate Social Responsibility: Stakeholders in a Global Environment. New York: Sage Books, Inc., 2006.

Zoellner, Tom. The Heartless Stone. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2006.

SUSTAINABILITY INDICES

Dow Jones Sustainability Index

<http://www.sustainability-indexes.com/>

FTSE4Good Index Series

http://www.ftse.com/Indices/FTSE4Good_Index_Series/index.jsp

Goldman Sachs Energy, Environmental, and Social Index

www.pewclimate.org/document.cfm?documentID=572

Sustainable Measures

www.sustainablemeasures.com

Directions: Rank the following areas in order of greatest benefit.

In your opinion, in which of the following areas can companies provide the greatest benefit to society?

- ❖ Providing Jobs _____
- ❖ Encouraging Economic Development _____
- ❖ Protecting Biodiversity _____
- ❖ Tackling Energy and Climate Change Challenges _____
- ❖ Investing in Education and Training _____
- ❖ Improving Human Health _____
- ❖ Reducing Poverty _____
- ❖ Driving Innovation and Technology Change _____
- ❖ Protecting and Promoting Human Rights _____
- ❖ Reducing Corporate Complicity in Conflict Areas _____
- ❖ Developing Policies for Sustainable Consumption _____
- ❖ Improving Supply Chain Management _____

DEVELOPED FROM:

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

www.wbcsd.org

UN GLOBAL COMPACT ISSUES

www.unglobalcompact.org

IN SHORT

COTE D'IVOIRE

Population: 17,654,843

Resources: leading cocoa producer, diamonds, timber, oil

Conflict: Extended armed civil conflict since 2002

GNI per capita: US \$840

Corruption Rating: 151 of 163 countries (Higher scores are more corrupt)

Life expectancy: 46.0 years

OVERVIEW

In 2002, the “miracle of West Africa”, applauded for its peaceful history, erupted in violence with an army-led rebellion in the northern Muslim part of Cote D'Ivoire. The Ivorian conflict stemmed partly from anger among the northern population against pervasive discrimination by the predominately Christian controlled government in the South. Alassane Ouattara, a candidate favored by citizens in the North, was prohibited from running for president in the 2000 elections because of Article 35, a constitutional article stating that both parents of a presidential candidate must be Ivorian nationals. Many people in the north are not considered “true Ivorians” by the southern constituency because they share closer cultural and ethnic ties with countries to the north of Cote d'Ivoire, such as Mali. In addition to tensions over ethnicity, northern citizens were also concerned about their right to own property, a right they felt was threatened by the national government. Rebel groups in the North stated that they would not disarm until Article 35 had been amended, but the national government stated that the rebels should not be rewarded for taking up arms, and would not amend Article 35. The road to peace has been further complicated by the presence of UN peacekeeping forces. In October 2005, the UN passed a resolution to keep President Gbagbo in office for another year, due to the fact that the country was too fractured to hold democratic elections. The UN also appointed Prime Minister Charles Konan Banny to oversee the peace process, and dissolved the National Assembly, actions which generated riots against what was perceived by Gbagbo's supporters as an impeachment of national sovereignty.

As the conflict has escalated, so have the human rights abuses. Both sides are actively recruiting child soldiers, committing extrajudicial executions, and engaging in extortion and looting. The national government uses militia forces and hate media to incite violence, and the educational, healthcare, and judicial systems continue to deteriorate. Core issues of the conflict that have yet to be resolved include exploitation of ethnicity for political gain, competition over land and natural resources, and corruption.

THE DIAMOND CONNECTION

Both sides are exploiting natural resources to fund their sustained military campaigns. The national government is using proceeds from the sale of cocoa, the nation's primary export, to fund the army, while rebel forces in the North are smuggling diamonds in exchange for money and supplies. A significant volume of conflict diamonds from rebel held areas in Cote d'Ivoire are entering the legitimate diamond trade. Despite the UN embargo prohibiting the sale of small arms to Cote d'Ivoire, loose legislation and loopholes have allowed significant amounts of small arms to be smuggled into the country. In December of 2005, the UN Security Council unanimously approved a resolution banning the import of rough diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire, renewing the existing arms embargo, and establishing a panel of experts to monitor the embargo on diamonds and arms.

TIMELINE	
1893	France declares Cote d'Ivoire a French colony and uses slave labor to exploit its wealth of natural resources.
1958	Cote d'Ivoire becomes a republic within the French Community.
1960	France grants independence under President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who remains in power until his death.
1995	Henri Konan Bedie re-elected in a ballot boycotted by opposition party, in protest of restrictions imposed on their candidates.
1999	Alassane Ouattara, a Muslim, leaves job at International Monetary Fund to run for president in 2000. His plan to challenge Bedie splits country along ethnic and religious lines because opponents say he is a national of Burkina Faso, not Cote d'Ivoire. Bedie flees to France after he is overthrown in military coup led by Robert Guei.
2000	Guei proclaims himself president after announcing he has won presidential elections, but is forced to flee in the wake of a popular uprising against his perceived rigging of the poll. Laurent Gbagbo, believed to be the real winner in the presidential election, is proclaimed president. Opposition leader Alassane Ouattara, excluded from running in the poll, calls for a fresh election. Fighting erupts between Gbagbo's mainly southern Christian supporters and Ouattara's primarily northern Muslim supporters.
2001	President Gbagbo and opposition leader Ouattara meet for the first time since violence erupted between their supporters in October 2000 and agree to work towards reconciliation. Reports of child slave ship off Africa's west coast spark allegations of child slavery in cocoa plantations, straining international relations. The government uses cocoa money to buy arms and supplies. Amnesty International criticizes government's human rights record over alleged extra-judicial killings of 57 northerners during presidential election campaign in October 2000.
2002	Mutiny in Abidjan by soldiers unhappy at being demobilized grows into full-scale rebellion Short-lived ceasefire in October gives way to further clashes over key cocoa-industry town of Daloa.
Jan. 2003	President Gbagbo accepts peace deal proposing power-sharing government at talks in Paris.
March 2003	Political parties and rebels agree that new government will include nine members from rebel ranks.
May 2003	Armed forces sign ceasefire with rebel groups.
July 2003	At a ceremony in the presidential palace, military chiefs and rebels declare that war is over.
Dec 2003	19 killed in armed attack on state TV building in Abidjan.

March 2004	Deadly clashes during crackdown on opposition rally against President Gbagbo in Abidjan First contingent of UN peacekeeping force deployed.
May 2004	UN report claims March's opposition rally was used as pretext for planned operation by security forces. It also states that more than 120 people were killed and alleges summary executions and torture.
Nov. 2004	Ivorian air force attacks rebels; French forces enter the conflict after nine of their soldiers are killed in an air strike. Violent anti-French protests ensue. UN imposes arms embargo.
April 2005	After talks in South Africa the government and rebels declare an "immediate and final end" to hostilities.
June 2005	More than 100 people were killed during massacre of western town of Duekoue, a primary cocoa growing region just outside the UN Zone of Confidence which serves as a buffer zone between the North and the South. 10,000 were displaced.
Oct. 2005	President Gbagbo invokes a law which he says allows him to stay in power. The UN extends his mandate and elections are put off for another year.
Dec. 2005	Economist Charles Konan Banny is nominated as prime minister by mediators. He is expected to disarm militias and rebels and to organize elections by October 2006.
Jan. 2006	Supporters of President Gbagbo hold violent demonstrations over what they see as UN interference in internal affairs.
June 2006	Militias loyal to President Gbagbo miss disarmament deadlines.
Sept. 2006	Political, rebel leaders say they've failed to make any breakthrough on the main issues standing in the way of elections - principally voter registration and disarmament.
Nov. 2006	UN Security Council resolution extends the transitional government's mandate for another year until October 2007.

**THE
KIMBERLEY
PROCESS**

Despite the UN embargo and the provisions detailed in the 2003 Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, the UN Group of Experts on Cote d'Ivoire found that a significant number of conflict diamonds are entering the legitimate diamond trade through Ghana, where, due to poor controls and corruption, they are being certified as conflict free. The Kimberley Process, an international governmental certification scheme, requires governments to pass legislation enforcing a certification process guaranteeing that diamonds are conflict free. Participants are only allowed to trade rough diamonds with other participants, and must abide by all UN embargoes and restrictions. The Kimberley Process is a government-run scheme, but members of the diamond trade voluntarily agreed to implement a system of self-regulation requiring the development of a code of conduct to prevent buying or selling of blood diamonds, the education of company employees about the industry's policies and government regulations concerning conflict diamonds, and a System of Warranties requiring that all invoices for the sale of diamonds and jewelry containing diamonds must include a written guarantee that diamonds are conflict free. They agreed that rough diamond traders would have this system independently verified.

Unfortunately, the Kimberley Process is not being fully and effectively implemented in all participating countries and many governments are not effectively monitoring the diamond industry's compliance. Some parts of the diamond industry have continued to purchase conflict diamonds, although fewer have entered the legitimate trade since the passage of the Kimberley Process. Conflict diamond traders in Cote D'Ivoire smuggle diamonds from diamond mines in rebel-held areas into neighboring countries including Ghana and Mali. Ghana is a member of the Kimberley Process, and conflict diamonds originating in Cote d'Ivoire are mixed with legitimate diamonds and certified as conflict free. The diamonds then move into rough diamond centers, such as Antwerp, where they are declared at the Diamond Office. Diamond experts on duty check all diamond parcels for weight and value, and the diamonds then pass into the hands of legitimate companies. In a statement to Global Witness, a representative of De Beers claimed that, ". . . if you are sitting in Tel Aviv or Moscow or New York whatever the potential for positive identification you have not a clue where they [diamonds] came from. Just to be clear if he [diamond seller] says they are Scottish diamonds [there are no diamond mines in Scotland], you take his word for it . . . they could be diamonds from the moon" ("A Rough Trade: The Role of Companies and Governments in the Angolan Conflict" December 1998). Diamond experts, however, claim that diamonds are so distinctive that one can often trace the source of the diamond down to the exact mine where it originated.

Currently, there is no standard tracking system implemented by the diamond industry as a whole which ensures diamonds are conflict free and Global Witness reports that many in the industry do not meet even basic measures of self-regulation. The current influx of diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire proves there are weaknesses in the control systems which threaten to render the Kimberley Process irrelevant. Only through more stringent enforcement of legislation, government oversight, and effective self-regulation within the industry will the trade in conflict diamonds cease.

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS**

1. How does the diamond industry affect the conflict in Cote D'Ivoire?
2. What provisions do you think would make the Kimberley Process more effective?
3. How could governments better enforce the Kimberley Process?
4. Should diamond industries be self-regulating?
5. What do you think the diamond industry should do to ensure that all diamonds are conflict free?
6. What steps do you think activists and consumers can take to ensure that diamonds are conflict free?
7. How could the diamond industry play a positive role in Cote d'Ivoire and other diamond producing nations?

**ADDITIONAL
SOURCES**

Amnesty International: www.amnestyusa.org/diamonds/index.do

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs: www.irinnews.org

The Kimberley Process At Risk: A Global Witness Fact Sheet**SUMMARY**

The Kimberley Process has helped in combating the trade in conflict diamonds, also known as blood diamonds, but serious weaknesses remain. The United Nations has recently reported that a significant volume of blood diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire is entering the legitimate trade. Despite this, political will is waning. Governments are blocking efforts to strengthen the Kimberley Process and the diamond industry has failed to police itself. The Kimberley Process' objective to stop the trade in blood diamonds will not be met unless these challenges are confronted effectively. The millions of lives lost and widespread devastation from diamond-fuelled civil wars demands that the international community and the diamond industry make this process work so that diamonds never again fuel conflict.

WHAT IS THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS?

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (Kimberley Process) is an international governmental certification scheme that was set up to prevent the trade in diamonds that fund conflict. Launched in January 2003, the scheme requires governments to certify that shipments of rough diamonds are free from blood diamonds. Countries that participate must pass legislation to enforce the Kimberley Process. They must also set up control systems for the import and export of rough diamonds. Participants are only allowed to trade rough diamonds with other participants. The aim is to prevent blood diamonds from entering the Kimberley Process system.

The Kimberley Process was negotiated by governments, civil society organizations and the diamond trade in response to civil society campaigning against the trade in diamonds that fund and fuel conflicts. Since its conception the Kimberley Process has heralded a new approach to regulating the natural resource trade, setting an important precedent for subsequent global initiatives, such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. The Kimberley Process is a political agreement and currently 71 countries participate: 46 countries and the European Union.¹

HOW DID THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS BEGIN?

In 1998, Global Witness began a campaign to expose the role of diamonds in funding conflict, as part of broader research into the link between natural resources and conflict. Growing international pressure from Global Witness and other NGOs demanded that governments and the diamond trade take action to eliminate the trade in blood diamonds. In response, in May 2000, the major diamond trading and producing countries, representatives of the diamond industry, and NGOs met in Kimberley, South Africa to determine how to tackle the blood diamond problem. The meeting, hosted by the South African government, was the start of an important and often contentious three-year negotiating process to establish an international diamond certification scheme.

A key motivation for some countries and the diamond industry to take part in this process was the recognition that the blood diamond issue could seriously damage the diamond industry's integrity and undermine consumer confidence if not addressed. African producing countries were particularly concerned about consumer perceptions of African diamonds and how this could affect their ability to compete with diamonds from Russia, Canada and other countries. They wanted to ensure that consumers could buy diamonds originating in any country and be confident that they were conflict-free.

Over the next three years, the Kimberley Process was formed. In November 2002 it was endorsed by participating governments, the diamond industry and NGOs and was finally launched in January 2003. The Kimberley Process was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

**HOW DOES IT
WORK IN
PRACTICE?**

The Kimberley Process participants (governments) and observers (the diamond industry, NGOs) meet once a year to discuss the implementation of the scheme. Working groups monitor participants' implementation of the scheme, assess applications to join, gather and analyze statistics, and discuss technical issues. Global Witness, Partnership Africa Canada (PAC), and other NGOs have had an unusual level of involvement in developing and building support for the scheme, helping to write the Kimberley Process Technical Document, and playing an active role in negotiations and implementation.²

In 2006 participants in the Kimberley Process are undertaking a formal three year review to assess its effectiveness and make recommendations to strengthen it so that it achieves its aim of eliminating blood diamonds. This review presents a crucial opportunity to close the loopholes in the Kimberley Process and make sure it is credible and effective in practice. Unfortunately, key governments taking part in this review have been unwilling to take strong and much-needed actions to strengthen the Kimberley Process and respond to the situation in Cote d'Ivoire and in other countries with weak controls.

**IS THE
KIMBERLEY
PROCESS
WORKING?**

Despite the Kimberley Process, blood diamonds still exist and are entering the legitimate trade. Although the scheme makes it more difficult for diamonds from rebel held areas to reach international markets, there are still significant weaknesses in the scheme that undermine its effectiveness and allow the trade in blood diamonds to continue.

A United Nations Group of Experts on Cote d'Ivoire has recently found that poor controls are allowing significant volumes of blood diamonds to enter the legitimate trade through Ghana, where they are being certified as conflict free, and through Mali. As well as pointing to the need for stronger diamond controls in the region, the Group of Experts recommends that international trading centers introduce better systems for identifying suspicious shipments of rough diamonds. Many other diamond producing countries have weak government diamond controls that cannot guarantee the diamonds they export are conflict-free.³

In the DRC since the peace agreements signed in 2002, fighting between the national army and various rebel groups has continued in parts of the country, particularly in the east. Some of this fighting has centered around diamond mines and other areas rich in natural resources.

Weaknesses in the Kimberley Process are found across the diamond pipeline, including in countries with trading, cutting and polishing centers. A recent United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) report shows that blood diamonds may be entering the US because of major weaknesses in the implementation of the Clean Diamond Trade Act, the US law which implements the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). According to the GAO report, "the United Nations (UN) and other sources report that illicit trading of rough diamonds still exists and could potentially finance civil conflicts as well as criminal and terrorist activities." The GAO report further concludes: "To succeed, KPCS depends on all participants having strong control systems and procedures for collecting and sharing trade data on rough diamonds, for inspecting imports and exports of these diamonds, and for tracking confirmations of import and export receipts."⁴

There is still a flourishing illicit trade in diamonds globally. They are a high value commodity that are easily smuggled and Kimberley Process controls have not been able to stop this. For instance in Sierra Leone Kimberley Process experts assess the illicit trade to be between 15 and 20%.⁵ This is a problem to the Kimberley Process because any kind of illicit trade exposes gaps in the system that unscrupulous diamond traders can use to trade in blood diamonds. In addition, the illicit trade has been shown to fund terrorism and aid money-laundering activities. Many illicit traders are known, but the industry is still largely secretive and unwilling to tackle

**HOW TO MAKE
THE KIMBERLEY
PROCESS MORE
EFFECTIVE**

the problem by working more proactively with law enforcement agencies. The diamond industry has failed to honor its commitments to support the Kimberley Process by not policing itself effectively while governments have failed to step up to the line and hold the industry accountable for this.

The Kimberley Process must be strengthened significantly. Global Witness is calling for the Kimberley Process to be effectively implemented in all participants' territories. The Kimberley Process must require that participants have strong diamond control systems in place that are fully implemented. This must include adequate checks to make sure the diamond companies are complying with the scheme. The diamond industry must also deliver on its commitments and operate in a more accountable and transparent manner. The Kimberley Process is increasingly being hailed as a success and the problem of blood diamonds is perceived to be solved by some. This is leading to complacency and a lack of political will to improve the scheme.

The following actions must be taken by the Kimberley Process governments if this agreement is to be effective and credible in stopping the trade in blood diamonds.

- **Strengthen government controls**

The Kimberley Process should require a set of specific controls to be implemented in every participant's territory. Currently, there are no baseline standards that all participants control systems must meet. Controls over the trade in diamonds in every country should underpin the Kimberley Process and ensure traceability from mine to export. Although on paper a participant's diamond control systems may look strong, all too often the enforcement is hollow. As a result, many participants' controls over their diamond sector are weak or poorly enforced, creating gaps that blood diamonds can infiltrate. Many countries do not even carry out adequate checks to ensure that the industry is complying with Kimberley Process requirements and there has not been a systematic evaluation of how governments are monitoring the industry. A set of controls specific to participants (artisanal diamond producing, trading, and cutting and polishing countries) should be required. These should outline required elements for participants' systems of control, including verification of industry compliance.

- **Increase government oversight of the diamond industry**

As the industry has failed to police itself effectively, the Kimberley Process must step in and require the industry to set up auditable systems to tackle blood diamonds at all points across the diamond pipeline. Controls and oversight, both by government authorities and the industry, must be robust and effectively enforced all along the diamond pipeline. This includes physical inspections of imports and exports to make sure that packages are in compliance with the Kimberley Process as well as random sampling of companies trading in rough diamonds to verify that they are in compliance with the Kimberley Process. To have most impact on preventing the trade in blood diamonds, government monitoring and verification of industry compliance with the Kimberley Process must explicitly be made a minimum requirement of the scheme. The peer monitoring system should evaluate how a country is monitoring and verifying industry compliance as an integral part of its reviews.

- **Publish statistics**

To increase the transparency and openness of the Kimberley Process, the scheme should publish detailed statistical data on diamond production and trade which has been compiled since 2003 and so far not made public. Statistical data is an important way to detect anomalies in the diamond trade that could indicate blood diamond trading. This information is not commercially sensitive. It should be made available to external organizations that can provide assistance to countries to strengthen Kimberley Process control systems.

- **Finance the scheme**

Greater and sustained resources are needed to better coordinate and strengthen implementation of the scheme. The Kimberley Process is not funded and is run by those that volunteer time and resources. This is not sustainable and places an undue burden on those who volunteer. A funding arrangement must be found that will result in more equitable burden sharing in terms of effort and financing and will increase assistance for capacity building of governments and civil society. To ensure effective involvement of civil society, member countries should actively engage and finance NGOs to promote effective Kimberley Process implementation at the country level and hold governments and the industry to account, particularly in countries with artisanal mining sectors.

For more information on Global Witness' recommendations to strengthen the Kimberley Process, please see the independent review of how the scheme is working commissioned by Global Witness: *An Independent Commissioned Review Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Kimberley Process* at www.globalwitness.org/diamondreports. Global Witness has also made an open submission to the Kimberley Process review:

http://www.kimberleyprocess.com:8080/site/www_docs/related_docs1/review_kpcs_-_response_global_witness.pdf

References

1 For a full list of current participants see the Kimberley Process website

<http://www.kimberleyprocess.com:8080/site/?name=participants>.

2 To read the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme Technical Document, see

<http://www.kimberleyprocess.com:8080/site/?name=kpcs&PHPSES>

SID=e5b162e1ea8331c29582a1906fdf9c2a

3 See Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada press release, UN Report Condemns Conflict Diamond Exports, 9 October 2006.

http://www.globalwitness.org/press_releases/display2.php?id=382

4 See GAO report, Agency Actions Needed to Enhance Implementation of the Clean Diamond Trade Act, September 2006.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06978.pdf>

5 A Kimberley Process review visit to Sierra Leone in 2005 estimated that up to 20% of production is being smuggled out through neighbouring countries.

INTRODUCTION:	Though we have chosen to focus this curriculum guide on the issues of natural resource exploitation and corporate social responsibility, we recognize that the film addresses other pressing issues, such as the small arms trade and the recruitment of child soldiers. We encourage you to address these topics with students and to talk about the connection between natural resource exploitation and all areas of conflict. The Human Rights Education Department and Amnesty International have already compiled many resources about child soldiers and the small arms trade. Please refer to the links listed below for additional information and lesson plans about these important and urgent issues.
CHILD SOLDIERS	<i>Innocents Lost</i> Curriculum Guide – This guide, based on the book by journalist and author Jimmie Briggs, covers the areas of human rights law, the small arms trade, girls in conflict, international justice and impunity, and reintegration and recovery. It also examines the issue of child soldiers across a range of conflicts and countries, including Rwanda, Colombia, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Afghanistan. A photo essay is included at the end of the guide. http://www.amnestyusa.org/education/innocents_lost.html
SMALL ARMS TRADE	Small Arms Curriculum Guide – This guide, adapted from the <i>Lord of War</i> curriculum, contains lesson plans covering human rights abuses arising from the small arms trade, political transition and conflict, and arms brokers. http://www.amnestyusa.org/education
REHABILITATION AND RECONCILIATION	<i>Catch A Fire</i> Curriculum Guide – Lesson 3 of this curriculum guide, based on the feature film <i>Catch A Fire</i> , covers the issue of reconciliation and is centered around the quote attributed to Nelson Mandela, “Until we can forgive, we will never be free.” http://www.amnestyusa.org/catchafire

ARMS BROKERING	Activities that are designed to facilitate, arrange or conclude an arms deal. The term is also used to refer to those supplying transportation and financial services to complete an arms deal.
ARMS TRANSFERS	All forms of arms shipments across international borders, including aid, free gifts of surplus weapons and ammunition, commercial sales, brokered sales, and licensed production.
BLUEWASHING	The act of bluewashing is very similar to greenwashing. Bluewashing occurs when companies gain public favor by signing international treaties and documents, such as the UN Global Compact, which make them appear to be socially responsible despite the fact that they maintain policies which exploit people and hurt the advancement of sustainable development. Many companies do this in order to boost sales of their products and eliminate criticism from the public.
CONFLICT DIAMONDS	Conflict diamonds are diamonds which originate in conflict areas and are used to financially support violent rebel or governmental groups. These groups use diamonds to purchase small arms, medicine, and other supplies, resulting in prolonged conflict and increased human rights abuses.
CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY	Too often large corporations are allowed to regulate themselves and to operate in a culture of impunity, without oversight, without monitoring, and without stringent legislation. The term corporate accountability refers to the moral or legal obligation of companies to be accountable to shareholders, stakeholders, and society. The concept of corporate accountability is closely related to transparency initiatives, international standards, and corporate social responsibility.
CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)	Corporate Social Responsibility is the idea that companies, like people, are afforded certain rights within society, and therefore have certain responsibilities, not only to their shareholders, but to all stakeholders and to the societies in which they operate. CSR requires that businesses account for and measure the economic, social and environmental impacts of their decisions, and asks that companies exceed mere compliance with minimum legal requirements. CSR initiatives ask that companies adopt ethical policies that reflect a concern for human rights and sustainable development.
EMBARGO	A ban. A trade embargo can be applied to a wide or narrow range of goods (such as arms or diamonds) and may be imposed on an entire country. Some states or regional organizations impose embargoes as part of their foreign policy, but only the UN Security Council has the right to impose an embargo that must be honored by all states.
EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE	“The EITI supports improved governance in resource-rich countries through the full publication and verification of company payments and government revenues from oil, gas and mining. Many countries are rich in oil, gas, and minerals and studies have shown that when governance is good, these can generate large revenues to foster economic growth and reduce poverty. However when governance is weak, they may instead cause poverty, corruption, and conflict – the so called “resource curse”. The EITI aims to defeat this “curse” by improving transparency and accountability.” http://www.eitransparency.org/section/abouteiti
FIDUCIARY DUTY	Fiduciary duty implies a trusting relationship between two parties (the fiduciary, or trustee, and the principal, or beneficiary) that requires the fiduciary, who has the power and the obligation to act on behalf of the beneficiary, to make decisions that benefit the beneficiary. CSR has expanded the traditional definition of fiduciary duty, so that companies are now required to make decisions that benefit all stakeholders, as well as the environment. Fiduciary duty implies that the company may not take advantage of any stakeholders with whom it has established relationships,
GLOBAL REPORTING INITIATIVE (GRI)	The GRI, an independent, global organization that is a collaborating centre of the UN Environment Programme, provides resources and frameworks which help companies and individuals report on economic, environmental, and social performance. About 1,000 organizations currently participate in the GRI reporting process, and work together to improve and advance CSR and sustainable development, as well as corporate accountability and transparency.

GREENWASHING	The act of greenwashing is when companies that exploit the environment attempt to cover up their policies and actions by using images and rhetoric that make them appear to be ecologically responsible.
KIMBERLEY PROCESS CERTIFICATION SCHEME (KPCS)	In 2000, NGOs, governments, and representatives of the international diamond industry met together at a conference in Kimberley, South Africa, to discuss how to prevent the sale of conflict diamonds. They decided to implement an international certification scheme for rough diamonds. Participants must enact stringent internal controls to prevent illegitimate trade, and each batch of diamonds shipped or sold must be accompanied by a Kimberley Process Certificate. Though the Kimberley Process applies only to governments, the diamond industry voluntarily signed the System of Warranties. (See "System of Warranties")
KIMBERLEY PROCESS CERTIFICATE	The Kimberley Process Certificate is, ideally, a forgery proof document which ensures diamonds did not originate in conflict areas and that the shipment is in compliance with the rules of the KPCS.
LEGAL ARMS SALES	Arms transactions that are explicitly approved by governments of both the export and import countries, as well as any transit countries with trans-shipment controls in place.
NATURAL RESOURCE CONFLICT	Violent conflict driven by natural resources: either by competition for the resources themselves, or because the sale or trading of these resources funds the high costs of war.
SHAREHOLDER	A shareholder is a person who owns stock within a company and can vote on company policy. Shareholders are in a unique position to affect the direction of the company and can speak out if they feel that a company's policy is unfair or unjust to a certain group of people.
SHAREHOLDER ACTIVISM	Companies hold annual meetings to discuss their financial status with shareholders and the public, and provide an opportunity for shareholders to voice their concerns about company policies and share ideas about the direction of the company. Shareholders can also introduce resolutions that will be voted on by other shareholders at the meeting. Many companies, who feel that their primary responsibility is to shareholders, take shareholder suggestions seriously because they know that shareholders can vote on company policy and can withdraw their money from a company if they feel they are not adequately providing for economic, social and environmental development. Shareholder activism, and the press it receives, puts inside pressure on companies, which when coupled with outside activist pressure, often creates meaningful policy change.
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS	Arms designed for personal use. Light weapons are designed for use by several people serving as a crew. Small arms include revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles, and light machine guns. Light weapons include heavy machine guns, grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of anti-tank missiles, rocket systems, and anti-aircraft missile systems, mortars of calibers of less than 100mm, ammunition, shells, and missiles for all the above, grenades, landmines, and explosives.
STAKEHOLDER	A stakeholder is any person who is affected by the actions of a corporation, including labor unions, employees, consumers, and communities in which the company operates. If a company adopts CSR policies, it should operate in a way that ensures all of its stakeholders, regardless of their financial status, are being treated fairly and equally.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	According to the Brundtland Report, sustainable development is development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Sustainable development encompasses economic development, social development, and environmental protection, including water and energy conservation, the promotion of sustainable patterns of production and consumption, and the development of sustainable agriculture. The United Nations Division for Sustainable Development was formed as a branch of the UN Department of Economic and Social Development to deal with this burgeoning issue.

SUSTAINABILITY INDEX	In 1999, the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes became the first global indexes to provide benchmarks for measuring and managing sustainability portfolios. The indexes measure performance based on economic, environmental, and social criteria. The index measures the top ten percent of companies identified by a systematic corporate sustainability assessment of each industry group. Other sustainability indexes include the FTSE4Good Index and the Goldman Sachs Energy, Environmental, and Social Index.
SYSTEM OF WARRANTIES	The System of Warranties was agreed to by the World Diamond Council, the body representing the diamond industry on conflict diamonds, to support the Kimberley Process and stop the trade in conflict diamonds. The diamond industry agreed to set up a system of warranties which mandates that all diamonds must be accompanied by an invoice with a warranty stating that the diamonds are conflict free. All diamond companies must keep records for up to five years, and must audit invoices annually. All System of Warranties invoices will contain the following statement: "The diamonds herein invoiced have been purchased from legitimate sources not involved in funding conflict and in compliance with United Nations Resolutions. The undersigned hereby guarantees that these diamonds are conflict free, based on personal knowledge and/or written guarantees provided by the supplier of these diamonds."
TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE	Companies have traditionally honored a single bottom line: profit. Concern only for profit, however, ignores the impact that businesses have on the environment, community, and human rights. The triple bottom line asks that businesses look at their ecological and social impact in addition to their economic performance. Sustainability Indexes, used by many investors, are used to measure a company's triple bottom line.
THE WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	The 180 companies within this coalition, including Chevron, Dell, Sony, General Motors, and PepsiCo, have pledged to act as sustainable development and CSR leaders for other companies. According to the WBCSD website, the companies have a "shared commitment to sustainable development through economic growth, ecological balance, and social progress." The WBCSD helps to promote the business case for sustainable development, to develop framework for sustainable development, to demonstrate business leadership in the field, and to help transitioning nations develop policies for sustainable development.
UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT	In 1999, the UN joined with labor unions, civil society, and companies to draft universal environmental and societal principles. The Global Compact, originating from this initiative, includes ten principles based upon international standards and documents. The principles, which cover the areas of human rights, labor, the environment, and anti-corruption practices, are designed to promote responsible corporate citizenship and invite businesses to be part of the solution to the challenges of globalization. It is a voluntary initiative, and does not include enforcement or monitoring procedures.
UN HUMAN RIGHTS NORMS FOR BUSINESS	"The Norms were put together by an expert body of the <i>UN Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</i> and set out in a single, succinct statement a coherent and comprehensive list of the human rights obligations of companies. They do not create new legal obligations, but simply explain how existing obligations under international law are relevant to companies and their global operations. The entire thrust of the UN Norms is to encourage the development of stable environments for investment and business, regulated by the rule of law, in which contracts are honored, corruption reduced, and where business enterprises, both foreign and domestic, have clearly defined rights and responsibilities." Amnesty International Business and Human Rights
THE WORLD DIAMOND COUNCIL (WDC)	In 2000, The World Diamond Council was created in order to maintain the implementation of a system that tracks the sales of diamonds. It was set up to represent the diamond industry on conflict diamonds and work to stop the trade in conflict diamonds. The Council agreed to set up a system of self-regulation that if properly implemented and monitored would help to ensure that conflict diamonds do not enter the legitimate diamond trade.

Name:

Location:

Email:

Age level of learners:

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