Conference synthesis

Research and policy for sustainable development of natural resources in Africa
Implications for Science, Technology and Policy in Africa

• Research challenge: increasing production, profitability

• **New type of science:** more integrative, interdisciplinary, focused on systems

• **Recognising** different types of 'useful' knowledge

• Networking with a range of partners
Theme 2: Enhancing collaborative governance and management of the extractive industries
Implications for Science, Technology and Policy in Africa

• Encourage transparency and reduce corruption in the sharing of mineral resources (state, NGOs)
• Governments should re-consider how to effectively participate in mining as a business partner and benefit from it and learn from countries like Botswana (state, researchers, companies, NGOs)
• Regulate and encourage small scale miners (state, researchers, NGOs)
• Make efforts to improve on the technical capacity of institutions within the framework of regional integration to facilitate the diffusion of knowledge and skills (state, researchers)
• Ensure coherence in the current process of mining reforms and harmonization in Africa (states, researchers, NGOs, Companies)
• Commitment to public disclosure of information, especially on environmental Audit reports (state, researchers, NGOs)
• Develop policies that encourage downstream processing (state, companies, researchers)
• Review mining laws and contracts to raise revenue (state, researchers, NGOs, companies)
Theme 3: Promoting green economy instrument for natural resources development, food security and poverty reduction
Implications for Science, Technology and Policy in Africa

• Developing countries are asked to
  – Reorient current strategies in order to achieve long-term benefits
  – Undergo large-scale structural transformation
  – Risk hurting the poor and vulnerable populations
  – have trade-offs between green growth and existing development objectives
  – Make adjustment for complex political economy processes (short vs long term, winners vs loosers)

• Experience of past structural adjustment initiatives cautions against ignoring trade-offs and political economy considerations
  – Implies an important role for foreign assistance in capacity building:
    – Facilitate transfer of green technologies and skills
    – Protect losers from adjustment costs
    – Limit political resistance to reforms
    – Finance higher development costs and consider the implications of de-prioritizing other development goals