Examining the community perceptions on the Corporate Social Responsibilities of the mining companies in Kahama District, Tanzania

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Abstract

This study examined the community perceptions regarding the engagement of mining companies in corporate social responsibility activities and motive driving the companies to fulfill their corporate social responsibilities using the Carroll’s Pyramid of corporate social responsibility. The study was conducted in Bugama ward, Kahama district in Tanzania. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire with 100 randomly sampled household level respondents and analyzed for descriptive statistics. The findings revealed the engagement of the company in a range of corporate social responsibility activities ranging from the ones that were conveniently beneficial to communities to those that were rationally organized. Economic success was found to be the most important motive. The desire to be identified as ethical and fulfilling philanthropic expectations of the communities had some links with economic profitability and business sustainability. On the other hand, the desire to comply with the laws was found to have the least link with engagement in corporate social responsibility. From these findings, it is concluded that corporate social responsibility is a strategic investment that seek to strengthen social capital. Behind ethical and philanthropic responsibilities appears to be the economic responsibilities that businesses seek to achieve.

Key words: Corporate Social Responsibility, Community, Pyramid, Motive, Tanzania