



Workshop on Validating the Code of Practice for Tailings Management in Guyana's Small and Medium-Scale Mining

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Agenda

- 1- Word of welcome and opening remarks
- 2- Presentation of the Code
- 3- Instructions on workshop's methodology
- 4- Work in small groups
- 5- Plenary session
- 6- Closing remarks

Purpose of the Workshop

Purpose:

To comment, enrich, improve, and adapt the draft Code of Practice to ensure its applicability to Guyana's mining sector.

This is YOUR task to provide the inputs for turning this document into a genuine Code of Practice.

Major challenges

- To make it truly amenable to small and medium-scale mining
- To keep it simple
- To keep it concise and...

To enforce it !!!!

Introduction

GGMC is required by mining regulations to publish Environmental Codes of Practice. These Codes of Practice were prepared by SNC-Lavalin with GGMC's input.

This workshop is intended to validate with the stakeholders the draft Code of Practice for Tailings Management in Guyana's small and medium-scale mining.

A faint, large-scale version of the SNC Lavalin logo is centered in the background. It consists of a diamond shape with four curved lines radiating from its center, creating a stylized 'S' or 'L' shape.

A reminder of basic definitions

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What is a Code of Practice ?

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Code of Practice:

A collection of rules and ethical principles, related to a specific field of activity describing the procedures and setting forth standards considered to be Best Practice in the said field of activity.

In large-scale mining, Codes of Practice are usually designed by and for the industry

What should not be in a Code of Practice:

- Limits of emission (regulations)
- Toxicity levels (regulations)
- Technical specifications such as height, speed, depth, strength, etc. (guidelines)
- Recommendations on changing the law or the regulation

What should not be in a Code of Practice (cont'd):

- List of materials (guidelines or operation manual)
- Frequency of monitoring (guidelines or operation manual)
- Quantitative appraisals

What should be in a Code of Practice :

- **General principles and orientations**
- **Statements of intentions**
- **Qualitative appraisals**
- **General indications on HOW the objectives will be achieved**



**What is a Best
Practice ?**

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Best Practice:

« The best way of doing things »

Best practice is about preventing or minimizing risks to human health as well as adverse environmental, social and economic impacts.

Sustainable Development:

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Best Practice is one of the
principal ways of achieving
Sustainable Development...**

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**What is the difference
between an environmental
Code of Practice and
environmental Guidelines ?**

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Guidelines:

Non-binding document, generally designed to provide the user with information, explanations, guidance and help on a specific topic. It is a commonly used tool in enforcing a new regulation. The user can be the Regulator himself or the industry.

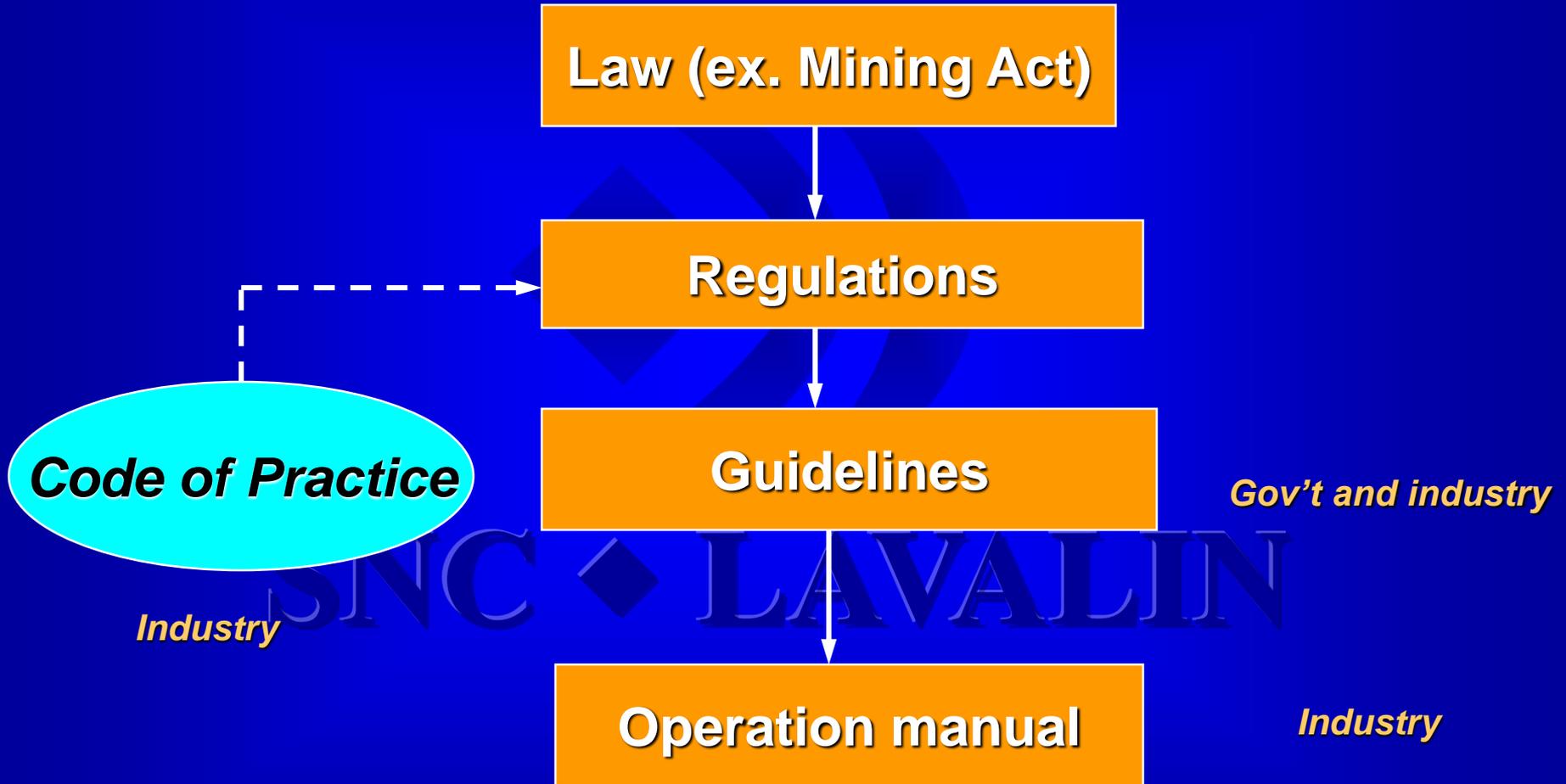
Regulation:

A type of "delegated legislation" promulgated by a state, federal or local administrative agency given authority to do so by the appropriate legislature.

Regulations generally are very specific in nature, they are also referred to as "rules" or simply "administrative law".

Regulations are official rules and must be followed.

To summarize:



Framework of a Code of Practice

1. **Preamble or foreword** (why)
2. **Glossary of terms**
3. **Mission and objectives** (what)
4. **Scope**
5. **Commitments and standards of practice** (how)
6. **Code implementation** (how)
7. **References**

Principle underlying the Codes

The « Peter the Sixth Principle »:

*Prior Planning and
Preparation Prevents Poor
Performance*

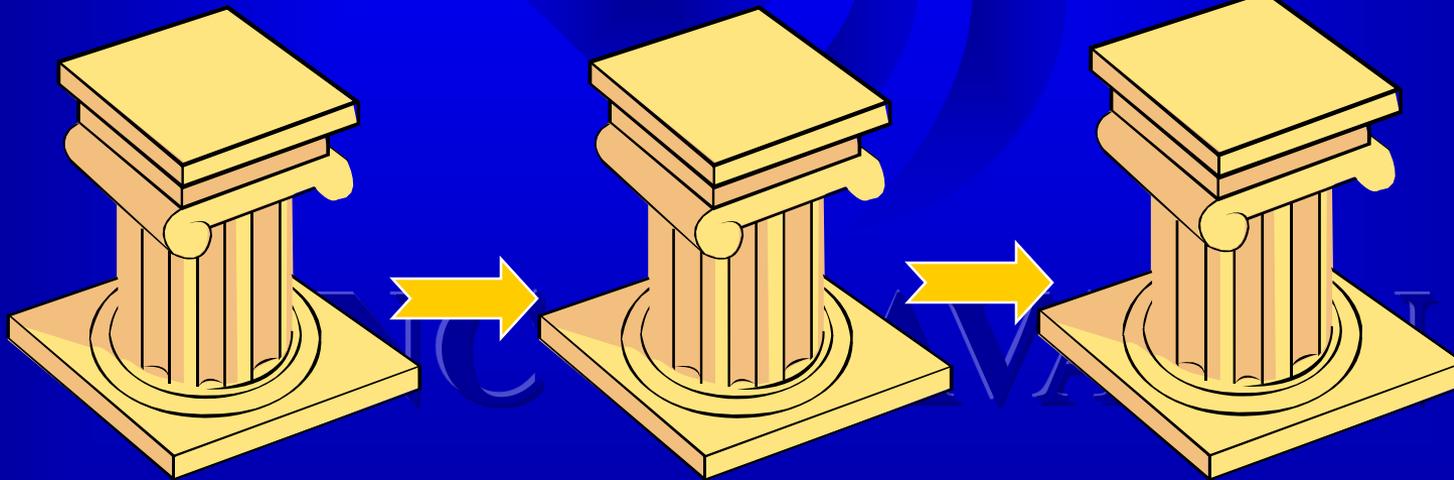
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The Codes' Foundations

1- Planning

2-Implementation

3- Monitoring





Planning

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Planning

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Planning

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Planning



Implementation



Monitoring

Code's mission statement

Promote sound tailings management practices in Guyana's small and medium-scale gold and diamond mining industries in order to minimize impacts on communities and the environment.

Code's objectives

- 1. Protect communities and the environment from adverse effects caused by tailings discharges into the environment;***
- 2. Provide and promote sustainable tailings management in Guyana's small and medium-scale gold and diamond industries***
- 3. Foster proper stewardship of tailings facilities by small and medium-scale gold and diamond miners;***
- 4. Promote the Code's use by small and medium-scale gold and diamond miners;***

Code's objectives (cont'd)

5. *Raise the awareness of and educate all parties as to the importance of sound tailings management practices;*
6. *Ensure that tailings management practices are flexible and dynamic over time;*
7. *Ensure that tailings management practices are credible and verifiable.*

Scope

- *Only environmental issues related to tailings management (no OH&S)*
- *A letter indicates for which sector (Artisanal, Small-scale or Medium-scale) the requirements are intended*

Scope (cont'd)

- ***Addresses decommissioning and closure but not reclamation***

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Structure of the CoP on Mercury

Five (5) topics:

- 1. Overburden stripping***
- 2. Tailings dam site selection and design***
- 3. Tailings dam construction***
- 4. Tailings dam operation***
- 5. Decommissioning and closure of a tailings dam facility***

Principles and standards of practice (Section 5)

They explain in general terms how we intend to achieve the different objectives set out in the Code's mission for each of the 5 topics

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Implementation (Section 6)

This section is meant to provide more specific and technical information on how to achieve the objectives. In other words, it details the Standards of Practice

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Main types of tailings impoundment (Appendix A):

This appendix has been added to the Code for information purposes only in order to help in visualizing the structure of standard tailings dams

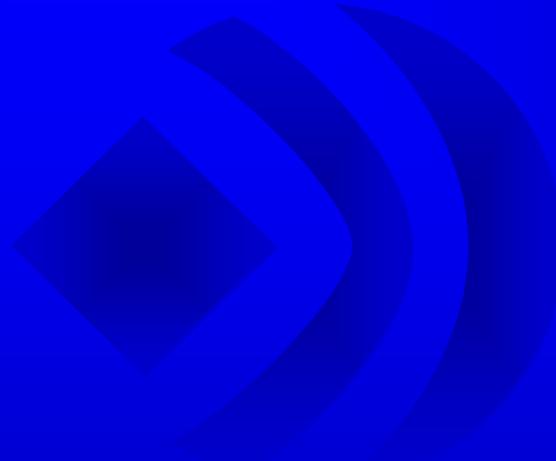
Instructions on Methodology

1- Overburden Stripping

***2- Tailings dam site selection,
design and construction***

***3- Tailings dam operation and
decommissioning***

Plenary session



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