

GRANT MITCHELL

Junior and Emerging Miners Desk, Minerals Council South Africa

Grant Mitchell has been involved in the mining industry since 1985 when he joined the then Chamber of Mines Research Organisation as a Senior Researcher in the human resources and labour relations fields. During his tenure at the Chamber he was the author of reports on health and safety, technology transfer and its impact on human resources and worker participation in decision making. In 1997 he joined the Minerals and Energy Policy Centre as a Senior Policy Analyst where he was involved in the development of the White Paper on a new minerals policy for South Africa. During this period, he was the researcher tasked with investigating the Junior Mining sector and helped develop a national strategy for small scale mining in South Africa. Between 2002 and 2014 he worked as an independent consultant in mining policy and development. His clients have included the South African Mining Development Association (he was a founder member), the Chamber of Mines, Mintek, the Mining Qualifications Authority (he was the chair of the Small Scale Mining Technical Reference group) and the International Labour Organization. In 2011 he was a lead researcher on a report on Nationalization of the mining industry under the auspices of the SAIMM.

He has sat on a number of national committees for the mining sector including: the Mining Industry Growth and Development Task Team (MIGDETT), various sub committees of the Mining Development Board and the National Steering Committee of Service Providers to the Small-Scale Mining Sector (NSC).

In 2014 he was appointed as Lead: Junior and Emerging Miners Desk at the Minerals Council South Africa. Starting with fewer than ten members the Desk has increased to thirty five Junior mining and exploration companies, including three mining associations representing over a thousand entities. He currently sits on the SMME sub committee of Business Unity South Africa, and the artisanal mining sub committee of the ICMM. He was also part of the Exploration Revival Task team which crafted an Exploration Implementation Plan for South Africa in 2022.

He is the author of over fifty research and consultancy reports on the mining sector and acts as a panelist at Webinars and Seminars, as well as being interviewed in the print media. In his capacity at the Minerals Council, he engages with key stakeholders on behalf of the sector, including the DMPR, National Treasury, the JSE and the IDC as a few examples.

He holds a master's degree in Industrial and Labour Studies from the University of Kwa Zulu Natal (a thesis on the gold mining sector), and a post graduate diploma in Social Policy from the London School of Economics.