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# The Future of Mining in South Africa

## Sunset or Sunrise?

### A MISTRA PUBLICATION

*The Future of Mining in South Africa: Sunset or Sunrise?* comes at a time of debates around the Mining Charter. It is the hope of the authors that the issues raised in this volume will encourage broader discussion on the role of mining in a South Africa that is striving to improve its growth and development and even serve as a catalyst for change.

The book covers issues like the potential of platinum to spur industrialisation, land and dispossession on the platinum belt, the roles of the state and capital in mineral development, mining in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, **the experiences of women in and affected by mining since the late 19th century** and mine worker organising: history and lessons and how post-mine rehabilitation can be tackled.

It was inspired not only by an appreciation of our country's extensive mineral endowments, but also by a realisation that, while the South African mining industry performs relatively well on many technical indicators, its management of broader social issues leaves much to be desired. It needs to be deliberated whether the mining industry can play as critical a role going forward as it did in the evolution of our economy.

This book has an international appeal as it shows what the future of mining is for all mineral-rich countries given the current global moment of climate change, cumulative environmental damage caused by mining and an industry dominated by transnational corporations. The book offers key questions and a methodology to investigate them, which can be applied to/ by any country.

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#### ABOUT MISTRA

**The Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA)** is an independent research institute that takes a long-term view on the strategic challenges facing South Africa.

MISTRA was founded by a group of South Africans with experience in research, academia, policy-making and governance who saw the need to create a platform of engagement around strategic issues facing South Africa. It is an institute that combines research and academic development, strategic reflection and intellectual discourse. It applies itself to issues such as economics, sociology, history, arts and culture and the logics of natural sciences.

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