



**References for Coal Action Network's (2015) report Ditch Coal**  
[www.coalaction.org.uk/ditchcoal.pdf](http://www.coalaction.org.uk/ditchcoal.pdf)

## **Appendix I**

### **Methodologies for Researching Each Country**

#### **Russia Section Methodology**

Of the countries looked at for this report, researching the specific mines from which coal is extracted and exported to the UK proved most difficult in relation to the Russian Federation. In order to have the greatest chance of success CAN contracted a Russian speaking researcher, Alexandra Kocho-Williams, who has experience of researching other fossil fuels. As with research into USA mines and exports CAN searched publicly available resources online. In relation to Russia this was less successful, as less of this information was publicly available and fewer NGOs operate in the country:

*“I believe that the data is available at least in theory, but it is not readily accessible. Mine-by-mine data may or may not be available. It does appear that there is data on which mining regions of the country export to specific locations. However the only source for this data that I have been able to locate is a subscription service, which charges hundreds of pounds for access, and then only to highly specific data sets[...]I have not been able to find any way to obtain data on these questions directly from Russian government sources.”* Said Alexandra Kocho-Williams. [1]

However it did yield some results, shown in the Russia Section.

The location of mines was predominantly found through the Mining Atlas website, although many of the mines could not be located because the translations on companies' websites into the Latin alphabet were ambiguous, and the graphics on their websites were not always very detailed.

([https://www.mining-atlas.com/operation/Komsomolets\\_Coal\\_Mine.php](https://www.mining-atlas.com/operation/Komsomolets_Coal_Mine.php))

In the USA and Colombia it was possible to pinpoint many of the coal mines using information from the companies' websites, this was much less feasible in Russia because of the sheer density of mines in the Kemerovo Oblast. When a site has been named, it is generally after a settlement which has numerous mines in its vicinity.

#### **Colombia Section Methodology**

The first part of the section on Colombia introduces the big players in Colombian coal mining, Drummond, Prodeco and Cerrejón, and looks at Colombian coal exports to the UK.

The second part outlines the military and economic strategies that have led to the mining boom in Colombia. It has been developed through relationships and participation in the struggles of Colombian communities and organisations by the author. References are sometimes there as sources for further information for the reader, backing up the original source of knowledge.

The third part gives case studies of conflicts which coal companies have created in the main coal mining areas, Cesar and La Guajira.

**Cesar:** In the course of this research, the author was able to revisit the coal mining area of Cesar, having worked alongside trade unions there in 2010, and meet with old colleagues and the Las Cruces community. Three days were spent learning about their perspectives on life, community, and coal, beginning friendships and witnessing their organising processes to defend their right to life. With members of Las Cruces, the author visited other individuals and communities affected by Drummond and Prodeco, encounters which were productive for all.

**La Guajira:** In 2007 the author met José Julio Pérez, a community leader from Tabaco, a village that had been illegally bulldozed in 2002 for coal mining in La Guajira. In 2009, as part of a human rights delegation, the author visited the villages of Roche, Tamaquito, Chancleta and Patilla who were fighting eviction. [2] In 2014, a Popular Tribunal took place which published a damning critique of Mining in La Guajira. There have been several documentaries made by local community groups and national NGOs to make the problems more visible. This section draws on these critiques and translates them into English to be heard by a wider audience.

### **USA Section Methodology**

CAN has looked at the coal ports and terminals which supply the UK, from EIA data, [3] and Port of Clyde statistics. [4] From this starting point CAN has sought to highlight some of the companies potentially supplying the ports in the USA, and looked at the mines and conditions created by coal extraction in the places where these companies mine.