**Item 4**

**Project Assumption**

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# Project Overview

This report evaluates the assumptions and limitations inherent in the project focused on cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This project aims to inform the audience about the ethical concerns associated with cobalt extraction, emphasizing assumptions regarding resources, capabilities, and potential hurdles.

# Assumption

*Capabilities of the Project Manager*

An assumption is made that the project manager possesses the requisite skills, knowledge, and leadership abilities to navigate the complexities of ethical mining initiatives. The project manager additionally has the required skills to develop the website to display the information gathered during the duration of the project.

*Extent and Availability of Resources:*

Assuming the availability of technological and logical resources is crucial. This includes ethical mining practices, technologies, and funding for mining communities for continuous learning and adaptation. While creating the website, the availability of a domain name and server is necessary.

# Constraints

*Limitations of the Project Manager*

Recognizing the student project manager’s limitations is vital. There is a lack of understanding of mining practices and regulations in the cobalt belt, along with the fragility of the communities surrounding the mining operations and local dynamics.

*Anticipated Barrier to Project Completion*

The project anticipates challenges in gaining information about mining sites due to information availability and finding first-hand accounts about the situation.

*Anticipated Barrier to Large-Scale Implementation:*

The large-scale implementation of ethical mining practices faces potential resistance from the established industry players reluctant to change. Currently with foreign investments, the prospect of following the current new Mining code had diminished. Currently the new Mining code plans to improve shares of taxes and prices of metals, with an example of increase in royalty rates from 2% or 2.5% to 3.5% for non-ferrous and precious metals, rising to up to 10% for minerals (Vella ,2023)

# Overall Conclusion

In conclusion, while the project aims to shed light on the ethical concerns sourrounding cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo, it is imperative t acknowledge the assumptions, limitations, and potential barriers in this project. This includes the capabilities of the project manager, the availability of resources, and the challenges of navigating industry dynamics and local complexities.

**References**

Vella, H. (2018, March 26). *Overhauling the DRC’s mining code*. Mining Technology. https://www.mining-technology.com/features/overhauling-drcs-mining-code/?cf-view