

Fiona Mactaggart

Fiona Mactaggart is a Researcher at the Wesley-St Andrews Research Institute in Brisbane, and is working on a two-year project that assesses the health and wellbeing needs of mining communities in regional Queensland through a comprehensive Health Needs Assessment (HNA). Prior to this research, Fiona received her Master's in the Control of Infectious Diseases from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, England and worked in the UK and Australia on public health programs. Her interest is in international development and she has begun a PhD with the Berlin University of Technology, Germany, that explores health and wellbeing outcomes of regional and rural mining communities in low and middle income countries (LMICs). More specifically, she is exploring how governments and the mining sector interact to measure and respond to health needs of communities, and will apply lessons learnt from the Queensland-based project to the context of Mongolia—a country undergoing social, economic and environmental change as a consequence of mining. Fiona intends to assess the feasibility of conducting HNAs in rural Mongolian mining communities, and to explore the potential uptake of evidence-based recommendations at policy-level that provide long lasting improvements to community health.