

AAPF ACTIVITY COMPLETION BRIEF (7 March 2013)



Study Tour for Mining Governance and Africa Down Under

20 – 31 August 2012



Results

Activity outcomes: The study tour assisted government officials to strengthen their understanding of the frameworks governing the mining industry in Australia and to apply appropriate lessons and learning in their home countries.

Participation by country and gender:

Country	M	F	Total
Burkina Faso	2	0	2
Cameroon	2	0	2
Democratic Republic of Congo	1	0	1
Ethiopia	2	0	2
Gabon	0	2	2
Ghana	4	0	4
Guinea	3	0	3
Liberia	2	0	2
Madagascar	2	1	3
Niger	3	0	3
Nigeria	1	0	1
Senegal	3	0	3
Sudan	4	0	4
Uganda	1	1	2
Zambia	2	0	2
Zimbabwe	3	0	3
TOTAL	35	4	39

Feedback from participants: Participant Abubakar Saiku Ohere, Mining Engineer from Nigeria, said: "The study tour has tremendously improved my understanding of the processes of managing social issues associated with mining."

Lessons learned:

- More time for questions and discussion is needed, especially on field visits.
- Access to informed staff and senior management at site visits is desirable.
- Available mining legislation, including sample contracts, must be available to participants.

Next steps: All participants interviewed indicated they would be interested in further support from Australia through the following: alumni follow-up and activities; future study tour participation; establishing links and partnerships with Australian organisations in Africa (as well as Australia); partnerships with Australian educational institutions such as University of Western Australia's Centre for Exploration Targeting, and Curtin University's WA School of Mines; and financial support or investment and knowledge-sharing.

Background: The study tour was developed in light of the success of previous study tours and in response to requests from a number of African countries to learn about governance of the mining sector to promote sustainable development.

The Australian Government and African governments are collaborating through a variety of means to share experiences on mining governance. The objectives of the study were closely linked to the Australian Government's Framework for Mining-related Assistance to Africa.

Objective: The objectives of the Mining Governance Study Tour to Australia were to provide an overview of mining and related extractive industry operation and policy in Australia; to help participants understand the supplier development practices of mining companies; to help participants develop links and networks with institutions, companies and individuals they met during the study tour; and to help participants identify appropriate lessons which they could apply in their country.

Activity description: During the study tour, participants were hosted at formal and informal functions by different institutions that included: Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia School of Mines – Curtin University, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Western Australia Department of State Development and Goldfields Institute of Technology. Participants met with community, local council and industry representatives, and they were able to interact with presenters. The program also incorporated participation at the Africa Down Under Mining Conference and Africa Research Forum in Perth during the final week of the study tour.

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