



## AAPF ACTIVITY COMPLETION BRIEF (10 March 2013)

Francophone Mining Governance Study Tour

14 – 25 May 2012



**Background:** In light of the success of mining governance study tours in the past and in response to requests from a number of Francophone African countries, the AAPF planned a Francophone mining governance study tour for 29 government officials from nine countries. It focused on geology/mining; regional development, including logistics; communities and environment; and mining and fiscal regulation.

**Objective:** The study tour objectives 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 that they met during the study tour; and to help participants identify appropriate lessons that they could apply in their country.

**Activity description:** The program incorporated theoretical presentations and hands-on field visits, allowing sub-groups the opportunity to meet with private sector companies and community groups; visit large-scale mining operations; and interact with local and state government departments. The tour began with introductory overview sessions in Brisbane, about the mining governance frameworks in Queensland.

The study tour then split into two groups to visit open-cut coal mines and related support infrastructure in the Bowen Basin, and to meet with relevant education and training institutions, local government and industry representatives in Rockhampton, Gladstone and Mackay. The study tour ended with the two groups re-joining in Mackay for a trip to Bowen to meet with Indigenous groups and visit a rail yard and port, before returning to Brisbane.

**Activity Number:** 131/01

**Date approved:** 16/03/2012

**Date commenced:** 14/05/2012

**Date completed:** 25/05/2012

**Total cost:** AUD501 087

**AusAID:** AUD501 087

## Results

**Activity outcomes:** The outcomes of the activity included:

- enhanced understanding of mining and related extractive industry operation and policy in Australia;
- enhanced understanding of the supplier development practices of mining companies, particularly coal;
- development of relationships and linkages between Francophone African government agencies/entities and institutions, companies and individuals they met during the study tour; and
- enhanced knowledge to help participants think about the management and development of the mining sector in their home country, and helped them identify appropriate lessons they could apply in their country.

### Participation by country and gender:

Country	M	F	Total
Algeria	3	0	3
Burkina Faso	4	0	4
Central African Republic (CAR)	3	0	3
Gabon	2	0	2
Madagascar	2	2	4
Mali	4	0	4
Morocco	2	0	2
Niger	5	0	5
Tunisia	2	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>

**Feedback from participants:** Participant Onivola Randriamiarisoa (Ministry of Energy and Mines) from Madagascar said: "It seems like we have the same resources as Australia, but Australia has developed quickly whilst Madagascar has gone another way. We have definitely learnt a lot about how Australia has addressed these challenges and how to tackle them for our own country's progress."

**Lessons learned:** Participants were interested in pursuing further learning on specific thematic areas presented in the study tour (e.g. finance and logistics). Special themed study tours would allow participants to have greater exposure to the issues and explore their interests at a deeper level. However, it must be noted that as a general mining governance study tour, there are limitations to how much more in-depth content can be presented. Stronger facilitator briefings throughout the study tour would help manage expectations and ensure participants are aware of these limitations.