

AAPF ACTIVITY COMPLETION BRIEF (10 January 2013)

Mining Governance Study Tour (1) to Australia 20 August – 3 September 2011







Background: The Australian Government and African governments are collaborating through a variety of means to share mining governance experiences. This stems from the significant expansion of the mining, oil and gas industries in a majority of African countries; the challenge of channeling the benefits of these industries into sustainable development impacts; and the long history of these industries contributing to Australia's growth. The study tour was a result of a request for mining governance support by African governments.

Objective: The objectives of the Mining Governance Study Tour to Australia were to:

- provide an overview of the governance framework applied to Australia's mining sector;
- strengthen relationships between Australian and partner government agencies; and
- help partner governments clarify their requests for assistance in the mining sector.

Activity description: The study tour covered areas related to management and regulation of the mining sector such as: revenue and taxation; mining production and processing; geological surveying; infrastructure planning and support; licensing and regulation; occupational health and safety; corporate social responsibility; and environmental concerns. Participants visited mines in: the Bowen Basin in Queensland; the Pilbara in Western Australia; and South Australia. They also met with stakeholders, including state government departments, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy, educational institutions, mining sector service providers and community representatives.

 Activity Number:
 72/01

 Date approved:
 16/08/2011

 Date commenced:
 20/08/2011

 Date completed:
 03/09/2011

 Total cost:
 AUD549 343

 ■ AusAID:
 AUD549 343

Results

Activity outcomes: Participant feedback, via the Study Tour Participant Survey and verbal feedback to facilitators and the AAPF, was overwhelmingly positive and indicated that the study tour met its stated objectives. Participants identified the following activities as highlights: visiting mine operations (both open cut and underground); meeting with government officials and discussing policy issues; and developing relationships and networks with Australian organisations and individuals.

Participation by country and gender:

Country	M	F	Total
Botswana	2	2	4
Ethiopia	4	0	4
Ghana	4	0	4
Kenya	3	1	4
Liberia	4	0	4
Mozambique	2	4	6
Malawi	4	0	4
Namibia	1	2	3
Tanzania	4	0	4
Economic Commission for Africa	1	0	1
TOTAL	29	9	38

Feedback from participants: Martha Tsheehama, from Namibia, said: "My favourite part of the tour was the visit to the BHP Olympic Dam uranium mine in South Australia. I was interested in the way they were developing the mine and the mine's relationship with the community."

Lessons learned:

- Participants were interested in visiting Aboriginal communities; hence, this should be incorporated in future tours
- Allow more time to prepare the program and to brief host organisations about the study tour's governance focus. Discuss what could be included during the site visit to support this focus.

Next steps: The Mining Governance Study Tour was an early mining governance activity for AAPF and African governments. It was an effective example of delivering assistance to build capacity in African governments in the key area of mining governance. The study tour allowed each country to reflect on what further support the AAPF could provide within the mining sector – facilitators captured this information at the end of the study tour. The AAPF will work with individual countries to support follow-on activities.



