



Activity brief (December 2014)

Support to University of Ghana Legal Faculty to improve capacity in mining law and governance

1 September 2013 – 12 February 2015



Background: Lack of capacity in Ghanaian tertiary institutions to produce mining governance professionals contributes to the limited number of Ghanaian professionals skilled in mining law, tax or governance within government, industry and civil society.

Objective: The main objective of the activity is to contribute to improved governance of Ghana's mining sector. Specifically, the activity will establish the University as a provider of graduate and executive training in mining law and governance and as a source of advice to the region.

Activity description: The Australian Government is supporting collaboration between the law schools of the University of Ghana and the University of Western Australia (UWA) to develop a mining law and policy 'executive-level short course' in Accra. The International Mining for Development Centre has brought the two law schools together, with support from the Australian Government. Specific activities will include:

- the delivery of three 'executive-level short course' training programs in mining law and governance at the UGFL, in partnership with Australia;
- a train-the-trainer exercise to build the capacity of four UGFL academics;
- the preparation of new teaching materials on mining law and governance, with assistance from Australian experts, for a potential postgraduate course;
- the design of a regionally focused postgraduate law course; and
- a technical adviser to assist the UGFL to set up an advisory service.

Participants on the courses are being drawn from all of the relevant sectors that are affected and involved in mining in Ghana: senior government officials, company representatives, local authorities, national and international non-government organisations, the judiciary, and academia.

The courses provide an excellent opportunity for senior members of all relevant sectors to learn, understand and network with each other. Better understanding of how community, government and industry operate, and what their priorities are, is expected to lead to better policies and operations. The working relationships that develop from these courses will lead to much better collaboration, innovation, and negotiation within Ghana's mining sector and the wider West African mining region.

The executive-level short courses contain a curriculum that draws on Australia's reputation as a leading nation for mining innovation and legal expertise and incorporates the University of Ghana's reputation for academic excellence.

Sector: Extractives

Expected outcomes:

- An increased access to executive training programs in mining law and governance for Ghana and the region.
- Better quality and more timely advice and capacity building from UGFL for government agencies engaged in mining industry governance.

Results to date: This initiative has ensured that the Faculty of Law at the University of Ghana has provided high-quality executive-level training programs in mining law and governance, and sound legal advice on technical mining issues to the region.

Participating country: Ghana

Date approved:	21/05/2013
Implementation partners:	UWA and UGFL
Total cost:	AUD 555 804