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ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme Implemented in partnership with UNDP

RETURN TO WORK (RTW) PLAN

PROGRESS REPORT

An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, financed by the European Union and United Nations Development Programme, and implemented by UNDP.



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I. RETURN-TO-WORK PLANS

Return to Work projects are a valuable mechanism for workshop participants' personal and professional development. As part of your sponsorship, you were required to develop a return-to-work plan on a project you would undertake on your return, applying the knowledge and skills gained from workshop to influence change.

This follow-up on the progress of implementation of the return-to-work plan will be used to determine the most successful projects; and subsequently offer a small number of selected participants the opportunity to attend a 1-day symposium on **Industrialization Impact Assessment** and the **ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme showcase during the EU Raw Materials Week** in Brussels, Belgium (01-02 December). Please include the bio page of your passport with the submission of the progress report.

II. REPORTING STRUCTURE FOR RETURN-TO-WORK PLANS

To facilitate ease of reporting on the progress of your return to work project, the structure below outlines the key project elements that need to be covered. **Please submit the progress update on the Return to Work Project (RWP)** using the structure provided below.

GENERAL INFORMATION
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Brief description of the project: The regulatory framework in the Dominican Republic does not promote the development and the organization of small-scale and artisanal mining. The government is the owner and the responsible of managing the mineral resources. Up to now, the government hasn't exercised these rights and obligations of managing these mineral resources, (Gold, Larimar and Artisanal amber at mall-scale). These rights and obligations include the granting of mining rights and other environmental licenses, as well as the promotion of legal channels for the trading and exportation of these minerals. In this way, the Ministry of Energy and Mines of the Dominican Republic is planning the creation of the legal framework for this mining sector, with an integrated approach, based on the benefit of the country, miners and the communities.



Our main goal is to get the attention from the miners, in order to encourage the awareness of the legislations and laws that will regulate their activities.

What were the expected outcomes and what outcomes did you achieve?

The expected outcome in the short term was the legal framework for the small scale and artisanal mining in the Dominican Republic, and we elaborate the first technical draft of the regulation initiative.

The Department of Promotion and Development mining and the small mining department have been working on the analysis of legislation and formalization of the sector of small-scale and artisanal mining on countries like Peru, Ecuador and Guyana. They have served as positive examples to choose their models and try not to repeat what has not worked for them.

At the same time, we travel to mines and places where the material is extracted and that has helped us to talk with the miners and interact about their realities, this has helped us to make a regulatory proposal focused in the reality of Dominican Republic so that it can lead to a good practice being fair to both the mining and for the state.

This technical document was socialized with all the mining technicians in the Ministry of Energy and Mining after this long process was sent and worked with the legal department, right now is in that direction to be adjusted on legal issues and then be socialized again

What were the expected outputs and what outputs did you achieve?

The inputs required to achieve this first phase were based on:

1-External Advisory: Since last year we worked with consultants from the World Bank, which ended with training of a week in the ministry of energy and mines and people involved in the sector.

The final document together with the experience of training are given a broader view of the sectors involved and points to consider in this process and negotiation with the small miners and the government.

2-International Experience- Good Practice: I participate in a workshop in the City of Peru with the aim of knowing the experience they have in the progress of regulations and formalizing of this sector and to bring these experiences to the Dominican Republic.

3-Review regulations of other countries as well as other accomplish they had in this subject as well and most important the review all the Dominican regulations.

All knowledge gained in each of our meetings, workshops, and all the documents found and review have been socialized with everyone involved in the making of the regulations for the small scale mining, so we can share the same mission but most important, to work with the most real information possible for the sector.

Please describe the key partnerships and collaborations that you established in your country as well as any joint collaboration with other countries.

- 1- World Bank collaboration through consultants to do a study in the sector of small scale mining and workshop in the Ministry of Energy and Mining.
- 2- Program of knowledge exchange agreement with the Ministry of Energy and mining of Peru.

What indicators of success have you achieved since the start of implementation? (Describe the indicators of success in relation to the expected outputs and outcomes)

We have achieved:

- the Gathering and Analysis of Information for the preparation of the technical document for the policy for the small scale and artisanal mining.
- The results and the completion of the study of the small scale and artisanal mining in the Dominican Republic with the collaboration of the World Bank.
- The elaboration of the technical documents for the policy of the sector.
- The realization of the resolution to non-export of raw amber and Larimar, which represents a start for the formalization of the sector.

What strategic opportunities have you acted upon that have contributed to the continued success of your project? (include linkages to sub-regional and regional agendas)

What opportunities opened up for you personally as a result of your RWP?

It's very important and we keep working really strong in to celebrate interinstitutional agreements. The importance of these agreements with other government institutions is crucial for a better implementation of the Regulation. These institutions will be part of the socialization process and will make easier the implementation of the Regulation.

Please explain any problems encountered during implementation of your project, highlighting any deviations from the project plans (Describe the solutions sought for the problems and corrective actions undertaken for the deviations)

The problem encountered in this first stage is to work in a integrate manner and ensure that community, state, institutions involved want to participate understanding that is for the improvement of the sector and the Dominican Republic.

With the completion of a multi-sectoral consultation (talking with person in environmental aspects, Community Relations, and everyone in the value chain, including the state) helped a lot with that problem and we could continue with the collaboration needed.

What specific actions have you undertaken to ensure sustainability of your project?

As we are in the process of our project we understand that the actions to be taken will be scheduled task from the start, always looking for solutions to what may arise, always with an integrated approach, based on the benefit of the country, miners and the communities.

Those actions are:

1. Consultation of the first draft version of the Regulation: In this socialization activity, we will be focused on governance, civil society, associations and cooperatives, miners, community, among others.

2. Elaborate a final version of the Regulation initiative, including the topics that excelled in the previous socialization.
3. Second round of consultation. (Public viewing)
4. Publication and diffusion of the New Regulation Framework

Please describe any future actions in the table below

ACTION PLAN							
Activities	Month 1 JANUARY 2017	Month 2 February 2017	Month 3 March/ April2017	Month 4 May/ June 2017	Month 5 Sept/Oct 2017	Month 6 November 2017	Month 7 December 2017
Activity 1: Consultation of the first draft version of the Regulation: In this socialization activity, we will be focused on governance, civil society, associations and cooperatives, miners, community, among others.		1	1				
Activity 2: Elaborate a final version of the Regulation initiative, including the topics that excelled in the previous socialization				2			

Activity 3: Second round of consultation. (Public viewing)					3		
Activity 4: Publication and diffusion of the New Regulation Framework						4	4
Activity 5:							

NB:

1. Please attach any evidence of commendation/award/certificate received as a result of implementing your return-to-work plan
2. For any Group return-to-work plans, please indicate the name of the person selected by the team for sponsorship to attend a symposium on **Industrialization Impact Assessment** and the **ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme showcase during the EU Raw Materials Week**.

III. SUBMISSION DATE OF THE PROGRESS UPDATE OF THE RETURN-TO-WORK PLAN

The progress update of the Return to Work plan is due by Monday 31st October 2016 and should be sent to: development.minerals@undp.org.