



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.



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 number of selected participants the opportunity to attend future training events.

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: : <i>Evaluations of flat stones (dolomitic marbles and micaceous schists paving stones) operations by small scale miners around Lusaka and Kafue towns in Zambia with a view of suggesting and enlightening the operators of the available opportunities aimed at contributing to enhancement of the sector.</i>
What were the expected outcomes and what outcomes did you achieve? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Identify and highlight challenges faced by these operators in terms of security of tenure of mineral rights, environment, marketing and sustainability of their operations</i>• <i>Operators are availed with necessary information on opportunities available in the sector.</i>

- *Identify and evaluate the legality of sites from which the rocks(flat stones) are extracted, Numbers of individuals involved in extraction and sale of the flat stones are quantified.*
- *Gender and age distribution of people dependent on this line of business ascertained.*

Achieved:

Security of tenure - it was established during the project that the quarrying is dominated by unlicensed or illegal operators who are either simply vendors or sellers and miners or pit owners. Only two licensed operators of flat stones or dimension stones, both foreigners were identified.

Environment – Site visits established that there is a large number of sites where quarrying for both building aggregates and flat stone (paving or dimension stones) is taking place nearly all them unlicensed and some of the very closed to legal residential areas(see picture). Result is a lot of unmitigated negative environmental degradation and negative impact around the city of Lusaka.

Marketing (demand)– Both men and women are involved in stone quarrying either as quarry owners or as vendors. A big marketing challenge for paving flat stones is from manufactured paving bricks which, though not cheaper, have better aesthetic beauty and easier and more cost effective to lay.

Sustainability - key to sustainability of these operations lies on the operators(both miners and vendors) formalizing their business.

What were the expected outputs and what outputs did you achieve? Please be specific. For example, if you held a workshop or presentation to share the knowledge you gained during the training workshop: Where was the workshop held? When? How many people attended? What was the gender balance? Please also attach as an appendix any photos or other media.

OUTPUTS:

1. Various problems and challenges faced by flat stones small scale miners were identified and documented
2. Regulatory status of operations are evaluated and established that most of the operators are not licensed or registered.
3. Established that the operations have a negative environmental effect on the city and surrounding areas.
4. Available resources: Flat stones resources available to the operators are not yet quantified because this mining has been going on mainly informally for a very long time. This includes mining of larger boulders which are crashed as aggregates.

5. Way forward:

A. To encourage them to form cooperatives so that they are licensed because there is a special license type(artisans mining right) only available to Zambians or cooperatives whole owned by Zambia which will enable them access governments empowerment financial resources in form of grants or business soft business loans. These include Youth empowerment fund, Women's empower Funds, etc

B. Operators were advice to be organized as their current operations are in disorder and too close to each – for licensing there is a minimum area size to be granted of 3.3Ha. Currently several pits would fall within this area hence individuals cannot get separate licenses. There is therefore need to come together and gets one mining right.

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

Partnership:

1. Partnered with Zambian government's program on Development minerals based in the Min of Mines and with the ACP-EU Development Minerals project based at Geological Survey Department (GSD).

2. With some local miners association with the view to get them help sensitize these operators for the need to be regularized.

3. The project will also link with GSD's programs on industrial minerals and gemstones.

4. The project is also involving the Copperbelt University's Department of Geology with the view of extending it to other Zambia's mining towns.

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)

1. Met with several groups of stone mining (open pit owners) and sellers (vendors). A few do both mining and selling.

2. Miners were introduced to regulators in the ministry of mines and availed the necessary procedures on legal requirement explained to them.

3. Enlightened the miners on empowerment Program by Citizen Economic Empowerment Commissions available to viable projects. Information on available credit lines is availed to the operators.

4. Operator made aware of the ACP-EU Capacity building Project on development Mineral.

5. Issues relating to the environment are highlighted to the operators. Findings indicated that some operations are very close to build up areas which is detrimental to the environment.

6. Unsafe working environment especially unsafe pits.

7. Established that in the same areas around Lusaka there is mining for aggregates, flat stones and other dimension stones as well as talc, granites and aggregates.

8. Established that the number of people dependent on the quarrying activities for their livelihood is large –quite a few hundreds

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?

1. UNDP opened an office for development mineral in Zambia and the project will work very closely with this office and its activities

2. Will work with the Geological Survey to explore past and future works on development or low value minerals in Zambia.

3. In the Ministry Mines and Minerals Development as part of Low Value minerals project, mining engineers from time to time hold workshop for small scale miners to train them on Safe mining.

4. Personal opportunity is to scale up the project to look at the overall status of industrial mineral in Zambia.

5. Before this project we did not know the extent of operations on these development minerals. There is massive construction in Zambia in general in both rural and urban areas all utilizing these development minerals.

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)

1. Resources, specifically financial resources for fuel and other logistics, to undertake field work not readily available so the project is currently restricted around Lusaka.

2. Most miners or dealers are unconvinced on the need to be licensed. They feel it's too expensive for them to pay regulatory fees eg license fees. So Government is not realizing any revenues from mineral royalty tax.

3. Access to data such as land ownership information where the miners are operating is sometimes difficult.

4. Regulatory authorities are unable to curtail illegal quarrying perhaps due to the following reasons:

1. Lack of human resource capacity
2. Lack of financial resources to undertake sensitization work
3. Lack of required co-operation among regulatory and law enforcement agencies

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

1. Documentations of small scale mining operations has been incorporated into the annual work plans of the ministry of Mines for the next three years.

2. Plans to extend this project, resources allowing, to areas outside Lusaka.

3. To do laboratory test on development Minerals to check their suitability for their intended various uses in collaboration with the Geological Survey Department.

4. Lobbying for support and cooperation from other stake holders

Please describe any future actions in the table below

ACTION PLAN							
Period	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7
Activities							
Activity 1: Documentations Small scale Miners	Quarter 1						
Activity 2: Extensions to others areas							Quarter 4

Activity 3: Laboratory test				From Quarter 2			
Activity 4: Lobbying for Partners	From Quarter 1						
Activity 5: Finnish any un achieved objectives	From Quarter 1						

NB:

1. Please attach any evidence of commendation/award/certificate received as a result of implementing your return-to-work plan

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 20th March 2017** and should be sent to: development.minerals@undp.org.