



## ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme Implemented in partnership with UNDP

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### 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

Returns 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: Sensitisation and valorisation on the extraction of Sapphire in River Mbven directly below G.H.S Mbiame – Mbven sub division. There exist currently 56 functional artisanal miners specialised in Semi-pressures and pressures stones specifically Sapphire in the locality, only the youthful population is involve. Due to the recent recording of numerous working related accidents, and other health and safety related issues in the community, this project seeks to address such constrains as well as how they can be tackled

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

The expected outcomes were as follows










- Mobilizing the young artisans to participate in environmental and natural resource management for health, safety and increased sustainable livelihoods.
- To organize and recognize young artisan groups/organizations by linking them with socio - economic opportunities available national or international wise.
- To encourage young artisans to join themselves so as to participate in a wide range of activities appropriate to their age and stage of development in regards to mining activities.
- To bring together diverse stakeholders through working collaboratively in taking actions that result in productive and sustainable livelihood for young artisans in regards to environmental impacts, community, health and safety issues .
- To create a productive and self-sustaining youth population, capable of protecting themselves and their communities against the risks of Environmental degradation, Distortion of ecosystem, Global warming, HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Violence
- To help young artisans to gain a greater understanding and respect for their own traditions and those of others by engaging in programs that reflect the principles of equality, diversity and inter dependence.
- To conduct research on young artisans concerned issues socially and economically
- To provides opportunities for the young artisans to build their own enterprises and create wealth for themselves and the nation through;
  - I. Organizing and conducting training, seminars and workshop.
  - II. Linking them with financial institutions for financial support.
- identify potential environmental impacts as well as health, safety and other social problems the community can be faced,
- legalization of the activity
- Educate and sensitize would be operators and already existing operators on possible solutions as well as good practices governing the sector.
- Increment on the level of employment, boost up the income level of artisans and improve on their living conditions.

### **The outcomes achieved were as follows**

- Successful education and sensitization of would be operators and already existing operators on possible solutions as well as good practices governing the sector.
- Successful mobilization of young artisans to participate in environmental and natural resource management for health, safety and increased sustainable livelihoods.
- Successful education and sensitization of young artisans to join themselves so as to participate in a wide range of activities appropriate to their age and stage of development in regards to development minerals.
- Research conducted on young artisans concerned issues socially and economically
- Identification of potential environmental impacts as well as health, safety and other social problems the community can be faced,

**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.

**The expected outputs were as follows:**

-  **Progressive reports on the different phases of implementation of the project.**
-  **Progressive change in the living conditions of artisans and the community**
-  **Mining permit obtained**
-  **A steady market and steady buyers for different grades of the product established**
-  **Organize group(s) of artisans formed**
-  **Artisans should be able to master the good techniques of mining**
-  **Develop their skills and acquire new skills**
-  **Promote artisanal mining entrepreneurs**
-  **Work together with local authorities**

**The output achieved were,**

- Education of miners on mining techniques in regards to environmental, health and safety issues in Mbiame, Mbven sub division, Bui division, NW Region-Cameroon from the 18<sup>th</sup> of January to January 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was attended by 42 people, 22 males and 20 females giving the gender balance of 52.38% and 47.62% respectively
- Education of over 1000 people from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 at the national museum Yaounde-Cameroon during the first edition of young Cameroonian entrepreneur forum
- Successful dialogue traditional authorities in Mbiame Fon's Palace
- Introduction of good mining practices in regards to community, health and safety issues

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

- ✓ I have become a member of development minerals alumni in my country and EU-Development minerals alumni where I usually addressed youths concern issues in artisanal mining
- ✓ Close collaboration with the Ministry of Mines Industries and Technological Development
- ✓ Close collaboration with other artisanal miners
- ✓ Close collaboration with the ministry of Youths and Civic Education
- ✓ Close collaboration with the local authorities
- ✓ Close collaboration with municipal councils
- ✓ Close collaboration with youths across the nation

**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)**

- ❖ Works towards a global approach, by seeking out alliances with organizations inside the country and overseas that may be willing to come forward and participate in achieving the group objectives by partnering, networking or becoming a member
- ❖ Working closely with other organizations, associations, institutions, industries, government agencies and academia nationally and internationally will ensure that the benefits of youth progress eventually percolate down to every single person in the society.
- ❖ Enhanced capacity to conduct research and improve training and education through interaction.
- ❖ work from side to side using their technical/professional skills for their development
- ❖ Share their skills for better efficiency of their output
- ❖ Job safety analysis plan (Effective use of Personal Protective Equipment and good working conditions through close monitoring of artisans).

**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)**

- ✓ Capacity building which is very important in fostering technological upgrading and improving proper management of the mine side in regard to community, health and safety on development minerals
- ✓ Creation of public awareness by promoting and facilitating National awareness Campaigns and Educational Programs on the young artisans socio-economic development and to obtain from members and other sources information relating to young artisans affairs, and to disseminate such information amongst the public and the society by means of circulars, publications, lectures, seminars, or otherwise.
- ✓ Regular use of PPE, mining closure, and rehabilitation of mines to ensure environment, health and safety in the community
- ✓ Advanced exploitation techniques (to increase productivity and respect work safety);

**Increase marketing technique (search for potential users and new users).**

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

- Close collaboration with other artisans
- An opportunity to conduct trainings with other artisanal miners
- The opportunity to attain future trainings organize by ACP-EU development minerals program
- A steady network with other existing mining structures
- An opportunity to attain the first edition of young Cameroonian entrepreneur forum (FOJEC) from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017

**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)**

- Inadequate finances to ensure proper sensitization and conduction of workshops as program in my return to work plan
- No steady funding source for return work plan
- We tackle this financial problem in our own way own. I as the president of the organization, I pledged for some funds from friends internationally which were not enough to tackle all the financial needs but greatly help in the realization of some of the project objectives

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

- Artisans will organize Conferences, workshops, Seminars & Talks to enable local and neighboring Students, researchers, and young artisans from different mines & non professionals groups to interact and share their socio-economic ideology and other matter related to their future. This will help them
    - I. Support local resources (physical space, cultural institutions, and advocacy groups)
    - II. Draw on community expertise and personal experiences and provide a space to talk about the things that “matter the most”
  - Create a steady and sustainable network
  - Permanent control of production to ensure continuity in the different seasons
  - Assure a continuous market by signing of partnership agreements and or memorandum of understanding with some manufacturing firms or industries using this mineral as raw material
- Supply of basic working equipments

**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							
<b>Activity 1:</b>	Mobilization of artisanal miners	Meeting with the traditional authorities					
<b>Activity 2:</b>		Artisanal miners	Application for				

		mobilized in a group	exploitation permit				
<b>Activity 3:</b>			Procurement of the necessary mining tools	Proper exploitation and management of the mine site(s)			
<b>Activity 4:</b>				Established connections with the artisanal mining opportunities for youths	Research on transformation firms across the globe		
<b>Activity 5:</b>					Establish market links		
<b>Activity 5:</b>							















Picture 1-6 above: Method of extraction  
 By: Tata Wirba Usmaila  
 January: 2017



Selection of gravel in search of sapphire  
 By: Tata Wirba Usmaila  
 January: 2017





### **Mining closure**

By: Tata Wirba Usmaila

January: 2017



Group of artisanal miners in Mbiame,  
North West Region

By: Tata Wirba Usmaila

February: 2017



Visit by technical personnel's to Mbiame,  
North West Region By: Tata Wirba Usmaila  
March: 2017



Meeting with the paramount Fon of Mbiame  
By: Tata Wirba Usmaila  
March: 2017





Sapphire Samples collected from Mbiame,

By: Tata Wirba Usmaila

April: 2017







Knowledge sharing during the First Edition of Young Cameroonians Entrepreneur forum,

Yaoundé, Cameroon

By: Tata Wirba Usmaila

April: 2017







Water deviation to ensure safety in the mine site

By: Tata Wirba Usmaila

May 2017

**NB:**

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

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

The progress update of the Return to Work plan should be sent by **Monday 24 April 2017** to: [development.minerals@undp.org](mailto:development.minerals@undp.org).