

Programme Partners:



Implementing Partner



## **TRAINING WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY, HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE DEVELOPMENT MINERALS SECTOR**

Uganda, April 2017

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### **RETURN TO WORK (RTW) PLANS**

*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 are required to develop a return-to-work plan on a project you will undertake on your return, applying the knowledge and skills gained from workshop to influence change.

Periodic follow-up on the progress of implementation of the plan will be undertaken by UNDP.

## II. REPORTING STRUCTURE FOR RETURN-TO-WORK PLANS

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

GENERAL INFORMATION
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<b>Brief Description of the project:</b>  <b>MITIGATING THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF DUST IN STONE &amp; SAND MINING QUARRIES</b>  <i><b>Theory of Change:</b> This project is developed under the assumption that if artisanal miners are fully aware of the lethal outcomes of excessive inhalation of dust containing silica, they will take early measures to control dust in their mines/quarries as well as limit their inhalation of polluted air.</i>  Silica is found in many rocks such as granite, sandstone, gneiss, slate as well as sand and other development minerals which make the bulk of the construction materials extracted and processed by artisanal miners across Uganda.  This project seeks to boost artisanal miners' understanding of the potential adverse health impacts of conducting their operations without any Personal Protective Equipment. Particularly the project targets those artisans involved in the extraction and processing of construction materials (sand, rocks and stones) who are constantly exposed to dust that contains silica and hence are prone to contracting silicosis.  Silicosis causes an incurable fatal condition called fibrosis or scarring of the lungs. The most lethal aspect of silicosis is that it manifests over a relatively long period of time (5-10 years) and is often confused by the miners for a simple respiratory illness and thus left unattended until it causes their death.

This project will develop visual illustrations in the form of posters depicting the impact of silica dust on the internal organs of the human body. The posters will show, in graphical pictures, how dust gradually erodes the human respiratory system up to a point where it cannot function anymore, leading to death.

These messages will be in English as well as translated into at least three local languages that are predominantly spoken in mining areas in East and Central Uganda. The posters will be printed on water proof cardboard material so that they can be pinned on trees, walls or even rocks across different mines in Central and Eastern Uganda to serve as a constant reminder for miners that excessive inhalation of silica dust ultimately leads to death.

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Artisanal miners are fully aware of the adverse effects of excessive silica dust inhalation and proactively take measure to reduce dust in their mines or quarries through sprinkling water, sheltering or other methods
- Artisanal miners take steps to limit inhalation of silica dust by covering their noses and mouths with masks, hankies or any other suitable material as they work

**Expected Outputs:**

- 5,000 posters printed on water proof cardboard material distributed and displayed in mines and quarries in Central and Eastern Uganda.

**Please describe how you plan to implement the return to work project:** (outline key partnerships and collaborations across sectors in your country as well as any joint collaboration with other countries)

This project will be implemented in three phases:

- 1) The first phase will be conceptualisation and development of the appropriate messages to run on the posters. This will involve extensive research on the health impact of silica dust on the human body so that the information is both factual and verifiable.
- 2) The second phase will be to engage a good graphics designer and/or artist who can produce the illustrations as pre-conceived in the first phase. This phase will also involve identifying good translators to convert the information into local languages. The material will then be sent for printing.
- 3) Finally, will be the distribution of the posters in the different mines in Eastern and Central Uganda as well as to different stakeholders at the local government level.

In the distribution, there will be close consultation and collaboration with key actors in the mining regions both from local government and civil society partners. We shall take advantage of any mining-related meetings in those regions to book a slot to talk about the posters and what they represent and also call upon local government and other relevant agencies to encourage miners to take their health and safety seriously.

**What indicators of success will you employ?** (include indicators of success that go beyond activity-level implementation)

**Indicator 1:** A marked increase in the number of artisanal miners in stone and rock quarries taking measures to reduce dust in their work places through sprinkling water, sheltering or other methods

**Indicator 2:** A marked increase of artisanal miners taking steps to protect their bodies from inhalation of silica dust by covering their noses and mouths with masks, hankies or any other suitable material as they work

**Indicator 3:** A significant increase in the number of artisanal miners that appreciate and can explain the adverse health impacts of excessive inhalation of silica dust on the human body.

**What other strategic opportunities have you identified that will contribute to the success and sustainability of your project?** (include linkages to sub-regional and regional agenda)

There is an ongoing drive by government to register and eventually formalise artisanal mining in Uganda. However, one of the key issues that the government finds challenging while dealing with artisanal miners is the issue of Health and Safety because their operations are highly informal and many times risky. This project can easily link with the strategic objectives of the government in formalising artisanal mining because it will boost the knowledge of the miners regarding their health and safety and encourage them to take their health more seriously so that they are able to live healthier and more productive lives as miners. Because of this positive message, we anticipate that the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, more especially the Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines (DGSM), will be both points of distribution for the posters and that their field officials will be ambassadors to spread the message even further. We also anticipate working through other civil society organisations that work in mining areas like the Ecological Christian Organisation (ECO-Karamoja Region) to support us in distribution of the posters.

**What aspects of the training will be most useful in implementing your project? Explain**

The information on environment, health and safety that was acquired from the training will be most useful in the delivery of this project as it provides some baseline on the current situation across mines and quarries in Uganda. The field visit to the stone quarry and the sand mining site that was part of the course also provided some insights on how quarries are run and managed that will be helpful in both the conceptualisation of the messages and the delivery of the posters.

**What are your future plans?** (Include any additional capacity building needs for your professional development that you have identified during the course of the workshop).

Beyond producing educative material for the miners, I plan to identify one quarry/mine and intensify the sensitisation there as well as build their capacity to eventually develop into a model mine/quarry that exemplifies best practice in health and safety. This model site will then serve as a practical training site for other miners to learn and be motivated to have similar standards in their own mining areas.

ACTION PLAN							
Period	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7
Activities							
Activity 1: Research and Conceptualisation of messages							
Activity 2: Translations and Developing Graphical Images							
Activity 3: Printing of the posters							
Activity 4: Distribution of the posters							
Activity 5: Monitoring of Impact of the project							

### III. SUBMISSION DATE OF THE DRAFT RETURN-TO-WORK PLAN

The draft Return to Work plan should be sent **by Monday 1 May 2017** to [hope.kyarisiima@undp.org](mailto:hope.kyarisiima@undp.org) and copy to [development.minerals@undp.org](mailto:development.minerals@undp.org)