

NIGERIAN RETURN TO WORK PLAN (RWP)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Brief Description of the project:

GROUPING OF ARTISANAL AND SMALL SCALE MINERS IN ABIA STATE INTO CLUSTERS AND PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND FUNDING SUPPORT FOR THEM

Expected Outcomes:

OPTIMIZATION OF OUTPUT, HEALTHIER SAFER OPERATIONS, GREATER CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY, MECHANISED OPERATIONS

Expected Outputs:

MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES, IMPROVED DIGNITY OF LABOUR, MORE OUTPUT FOR LESS WORK

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)

- Organise Artisanal Miners in Abia State into Cooperatives (Minimum of 10 Per Cooperative).
- Register the Cooperatives with the Abia State Government (Rural Agency)
- Apply to the Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals for Registration of the Cooperatives/Application for Formalization of Artisanal Miners
- Federal Ministry of solid Minerals Visits Abia State for verification of Mining Deposit/Cooperatives
- Cooperatives are registered by the Mining Cadastral Office and they can commence Mining.

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

INCREASED OUTPUT, ABILITY OF THE CLUSTERED MINERS TO ACCESS CREDIT FACILITIES FROM GOVERNMENT SME SUPPORT BANKS, ORGANISED OPERATIONS, SHARED FACILITY USAGE

What other strategic opportunities have you identified that will contribute to the success and sustainability of your project?

THE BANK OF INDUSTRY IN NIGERIA JUST APPROVED \$5m FOR THE SUPPORT OF SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISES IN ABIA STATE. WE INTEND TO ASSIST THE CLUSTERED MINING COOPERATIVES TO APPLY FOR THIS FUND AND BENEFIT FROM IT. THERE ARE ALSO OTHER AVAILABLE INCENTIVES WE WILL ENSURE THAT THEY BENEFIT FROM

(include linkages to sub-regional and regional agenda)

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

WE WERE EXPOSED TO THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ABOUND IN THE LOW-VALUE MINERAL VALUE CHAIN. A LOT OF EMPHASIS WAS HITHERTO PLACED ON THE HIGH-VALUE MINERALS. WITH THE TRAINING, WE HAVE REDIRECTED

ATTENTION TO THE LOW-VALUE MINERALS.

AGAIN, WE HAVE A LARGE LIMESTONE DEPOSIT. WE ONLY APPROACHED OUR LIMESTONE IN TERMS OF CEMENT BUT FROM THE TRAINING, WE UNDERSTOOD THAT WE COULD DERIVE EQUAL IF NOT MORE VALUE FROM THE VARIOUS OTHER THINGS THAT COULD BE EXTRACED FROM LIMESTONE.

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).

WE HAVE COMMENCED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR RWP BY SETTING UP A STRATEGIC COMMITTEE IN OUR STATE TO IMPLEMENT THE RWP. WE HAVE HELD A STAKEHOLDERS MEETING WITH THE PLAYERS IN THE SOLID MINERALS SECTOR AND WE HAVE COMMENCED THE PROCESS OF GROUPING THEM INTO CLUSTERS AND COOPERATIVES.

AS WE GO FURTHER, WE INTEND TO EXPOSE THEM TO GREATER CAPACITY IN THEIR FIELD AND TO DO SO, WE WOULD REQUIRE CONSTANT CAPACITY BUILDING OURSELVES TO BE ABLE TO KEEP THE MINERS DULY INFORMED AND INNOVATE NEW WAYS OF SOLVING THEIR PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES.

ACTION PLAN

Period Activities	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7
Activity 1: SET UP STATE MECHANISM	Prepare and submit RWP Plan to Government	Inaugurate Committee to Implement RWP	Committee begins work on stated mandate	Review existing laws and amend where needful	Advocacy visits to key partners	Continue advocacy visits	Review activities
Activity 2: DEVELOP DATABASE OF OPERATORS	Commence information gathering on key data on Solid Minerals Deposits and opportunities in the State	Continue Information Gathering	Continue Information Gathering	Source for Partners to support production of Database	Review draft document produced	Publish comprehensive database of mineral deposits, uses and existing opportunities in Abia State	Follow-up
Activity 3: FORM CLUSTERS & COOPERATIVES	Convene Meeting of all Miners in the State	Commence process of grouping them into clusters and Cooperatives for registration.	Continue Clustering and Grouping process	Commence Registration of Clusters	Continue Registration	Build up-to-date database of players in the sector	Follow-up
Activity 4: VISIT RELEVANT NATIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL	Open Communication with relevant National and	Secure appointments to commence visitations	Visitations	Visitations	Visitations	Visitations	Review

ORGANISATIONS	Sub-Regional Offices/Organs						
Activity 5: APPLY FOR LOANS AND INCENTIVES FOR THE CLUSTERS	Guide Clusters to Apply for Loans	Ensure Applications are duly submitted	Provide support for due- diligence checks	Final Loan Pre- qualification Stage	Support Disbursement of Loans to Clusters	Support Management of funds for stated purposes	Key follow- ups
Activity 6: CAPACITY BUILDING	Hold Stakeholders Meeting	Form Sub- Teams for Extension Visitation	Visit Clusters Regularly for Needs Assessment	Attend Capacity Building Workshops	Visit Stakeholders	Monitor Capacity for adapting to new paradigms	Follow- ups

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For: Nigerian Delegation