

**Sierra Leone United
Mineworkers Union
Grassroots Diggers Project**

Grassroots Diggers Project

CASM-Africa Day 10th September 2009

9th Annual CASM Conference

Maputo, Mozambique

Ezekiel Dyke: UMU General Secretary



“UMU Grassroot Diggers Workshop - June 2009”

2009/09/30

UMU

Presentation Outline

- Background of intervention
- Activities and outputs
- Positive impact on the Artisanal Mining Sector in Sierra Leone
- The future
 - Constraints
 - Opportunities

Background of intervention

- Artisanal mining regime in Sierra Leone
- Objectives of intervention
- Funding
- Other support

AM Regime in Sierra Leone

- Legislation
 - New law
- Regulations
 - New regulations
- Other initiatives
 - Research
 - Advocacy
 - Mitigating Environmental Impacts

Objectives of the intervention

- Advocacy
- Improving diggers' working conditions
- Mainstreaming artisanal mining

Funding

- DFID
- Membership fees from LSM



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Other support

- Ministry of Mineral Resources
- Adam Smith International
- Local authorities



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Activities and outputs

- Workshops
- Basic terms and conditions of work for diggers
- Awareness raising
- Advocacy

Workshops



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Workshops

IN TONKOLILI DISTRICT

GRASS ROOT DIGGERS JOIN UMU.
BENEFITS OF ORGANISE-DISCIPLINE UNIONIZED
WORK FORCE-INCLUDING GRASS ROOT DIGGERS.



REGULATION TO ENSURE
BETTER WORK PERFORMANCE
AND DISCIPLINE.

DISCIPLINED AND
RESPONSIBLE
WORKERS -
INCREASE IN JOB
PERFORMANCE.

INCREASE IN PRODUCTION
REDUCE SMUGGLING
/PINCHING ACTIVITIES.

HARMONIOUS WORKING
RELATIONSHIP AND
PEACEFUL
CO-EXISTENCE.

LET WORK FORCE
JOIN THE UMU!
FOR BENEFITS
OF
EVERY ONE.



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Positive impact

- Basic terms and conditions of work for diggers
- Livelihoods have improved
- Health and safety being addressed
- Mainstreaming into national mining policy

The Future

- Constraints
- Opportunities



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Constraints

- UMU limited resources
- Informal structure of the ASM
- Negative image of ASM
- Ad hoc approach for addressing of ASM in SL
- Lack of capacity

Opportunities

- Utilising the institutional capacity of a union for LSM to advocate for the rights of ASM
- Championing the formalisation and mainstreaming of ASM
- Recognise the contribution of ASM to the economy
- Awareness raising and dissemination of the law, regulations and other information
- Capacity building to improve viability

Conclusion

- Development of a government policy framework in which to implement the initiative
- Partnership with a donor agency
- Support from government and other stakeholders including traditional leaders
- Involvement wide range of stakeholders
- Intensive bottom-up approach in the implementation of initiative

THANK YOU

From the
SIERRA LEONE
UNITED MINeworkERS UNION