

From conflict to development diamonds

The Kimberley Process, and Africa's artisanal
diamond mines

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The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

- 'Conflict', 'Blood' diamonds: *a rebel's best friend*
- Diamonds (and resources in general) **do not** cause conflict, resource mismanagement can: popular perception, but bad science
- The Kimberley Process (°2000) as an international, multi-stakeholder response
- KPCS (°2003): a technical solution to a geological problem, creating a global, closed market for rough

Geological map of NE-Angola

Tshikapa



Congo



- KP Participants issue a Certificate: guarantee of origin
- Weak internal controls in artisanal diamond producing countries threaten integrity and effectivity of the KPCS
- Moscow Declaration 2005, creation of WGAAP to deal with the specific problems of artisanal diamond mining
- Belgian FPS Foreign Affairs commissioned EGMONT to study these dynamics



Artisanal Diamond Mining Project



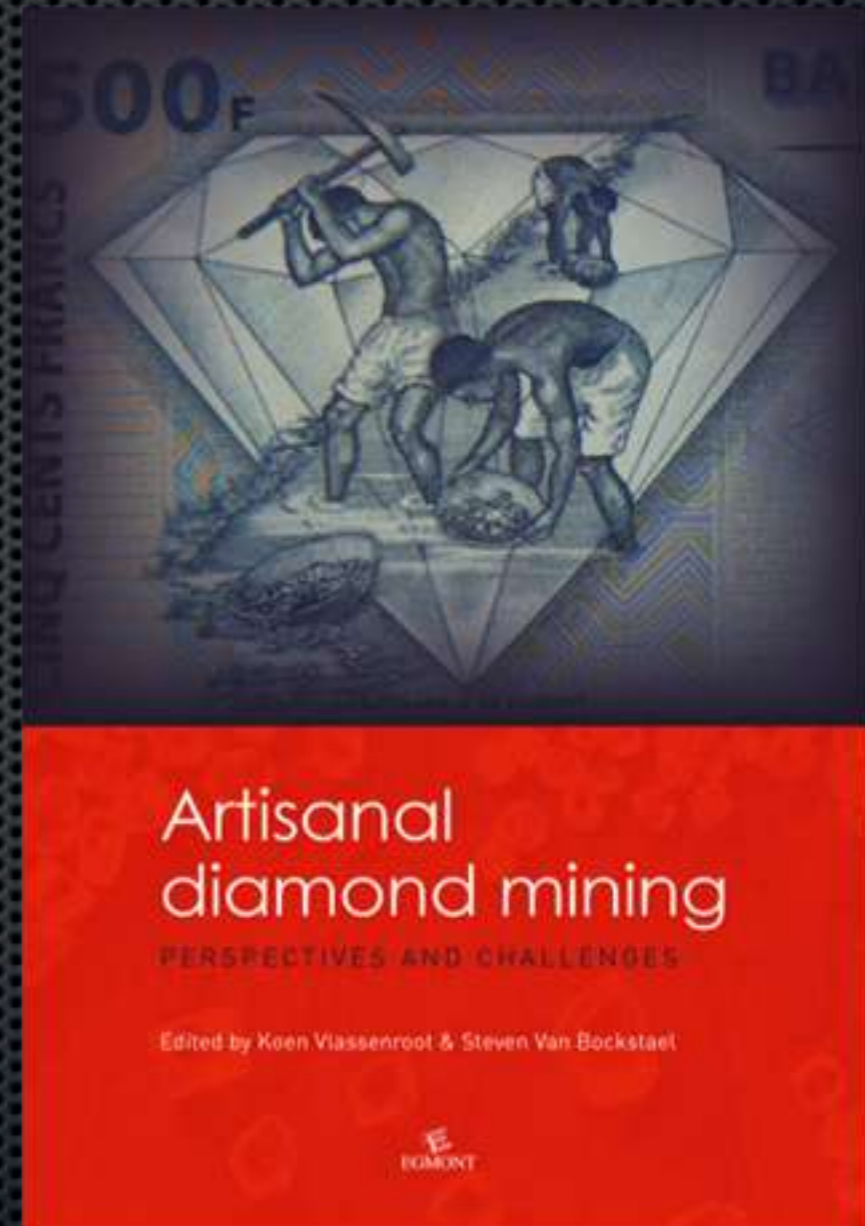


- Two objectives
 - strengthen KPCS integrity by improving internal controls, regulation over informal extraction and trade
 - empower artisanal diamond diggers/miners, improve livelihoods, encourage positive role of ASDM in driving rural development
- Cooperation with WGAAP, CASM
- Strength in combination: two desired outcomes, one policy



Artisanal Diamond Mining Project

- Research project, based on existing and new research
- Cooperation with academics and practitioners
- Officially launched at KP Plenary, November '08, New Delhi





- Main findings
 - Reality-based formalization: from the ground up
 - Make use of existing 'structures', how informal these may seem: rationalisation will follow
 - Understand the **logic** of **why** mining/trading takes place in a certain way, use that knowledge to gradually improve transparency
 - Local ownership is key: artisans need to be convinced formalization will benefit them (and it does: Brazil)
 - Incentives
 - Swift, effective procedures
 - Official, legal way must be competitive (at least)



- State capacity needs serious enhancement, but is not the answer to everything
- Cooperatives have limitations
 - Diamond as a high-value resources: trust!
 - Encouraging formalization of mining gangs rather than introducing 'ready-made' structures
 - Brazilian, Venezuelan "cooperatives": limitations make it successful
- Transborder mining areas: towards regional economic cooperation



Artisanal Diamond Mining Project





2009 -2010?

- French translation of the book will be published very soon
- Continuation of the project, regional diamond complexes. Delivering set of policy guidelines
 - Angola (Lunda Norte, DRC)
 - Mano River Union countries
 - Côte d'Ivoire (???)
 - Guinée (?)