

Madagascar – CASM
Organizing gold miners in the Daraina forest
for conservation and resource stabilization
Terms of reference

Background

The Daraina conservation project poses an interesting challenge to conservation; the population is mostly farmers who rely on forest resources for a large portion of their livelihood. Because of this the landscapes has become a mosaic typified by grasslands and forest fragments ranging in size from a few hectare to several thousand hectare. Within this same area there are gold deposits. There are only a few sites being mined by small local operators. Each operator controls several miners. They do not use any chemical inputs such as mercury or cyanide; only panning and sifting techniques.

Gold mining issues are local, but still need to be managed. Two of the mining sites are in or near future protected forest sites. The largest mining holes are craters up to 15 meters deep and across. Uncontrolled craters are a hazard to the local population and potential environmental risks for erosion and degradation of agricultural land. Because the miners are not legally represented, much of the gold mining is done rapidly to avoid possible patrols by authorities. Rapidity contributes to increased hazards for miners and negative externalities for the population.

Health issues such as polluted drinking water and increased exposure to HIV are potential risks to the community from increased mining activities that need to be addressed. Run off water from mining holes can pollute drinking water. Due to cultural norms, high rates of prostitution in large cities and the large instantaneous sums of money miners can earn they have an increased risk of being exposed to Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's) and HIV. Increased risk for miners translates to increased risk of STD/HIV transmission in local mining villages when miners return from traveling.

Objective and scope of work

The challenge of managing mining interests is also an opportunity to demonstrate to the population that both conservation and economic interest can coexist. The project's goal is to facilitate the establishment of a formal mining industry that will serve as the liaison between authorities and mining communities for implementation of best practices, education for miners and the community, and securing land tenure rights.

The specific objectives of this contract is for Mr. Robert Bemahavory to set up and coordinate the activity of the different stakeholders, including the FANAMBY, to implement the project based on the proposal submitted to CASM on April 15, 2002. He will also be responsible to deliver the products mentioned below.

Products

The products to be delivered by December 31, 2002 consists of a final report including:

- Description of the process, including agreements between stakeholders, organizational issues related to this type of process and lessons learned regarding (i) the establishment of an association, (ii) the establishment of best mining practices, (iii) the development of educational modules for health and environment, (iv) the establishment of land tenure and (v) spin-off community benefits in both environmental and socio-economic terms. .
- Conclusions and recommendations
- Annex 1: Documentation supporting the conclusions and recommendations
- Annex 2: Budget accounting

Time schedule

The estimated time schedule is the following:

Initiation of work: July 15, 2002

Progress report: October 15, 2002

Delivery of the products: January 31, 2002.

Fees

The services will require a maximum of 23 days of work at USD200.00/day, representing a total amount of USD4,600.00.

Schedule of payments

An advance payment of 80% of the total fee will be disbursed at contract signing, in order to arrange proper launching and implementation of the activities

A final payment of 20% of the total fees will be paid upon reception and approval of the products.

Contact persons

For all matters related to the contract, you will refer to Mr. Jeffrey Davidson

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