

Strengthening Control in the Mining Sector Democratic Republic of Congo



Region:
Africa

Focal point:
Mineral
Resources

BMZ-theme:
Sustainable
Economic
Development

Project type:
Bilateral

Project duration:
2018-2021

Cooperation
since: 2009

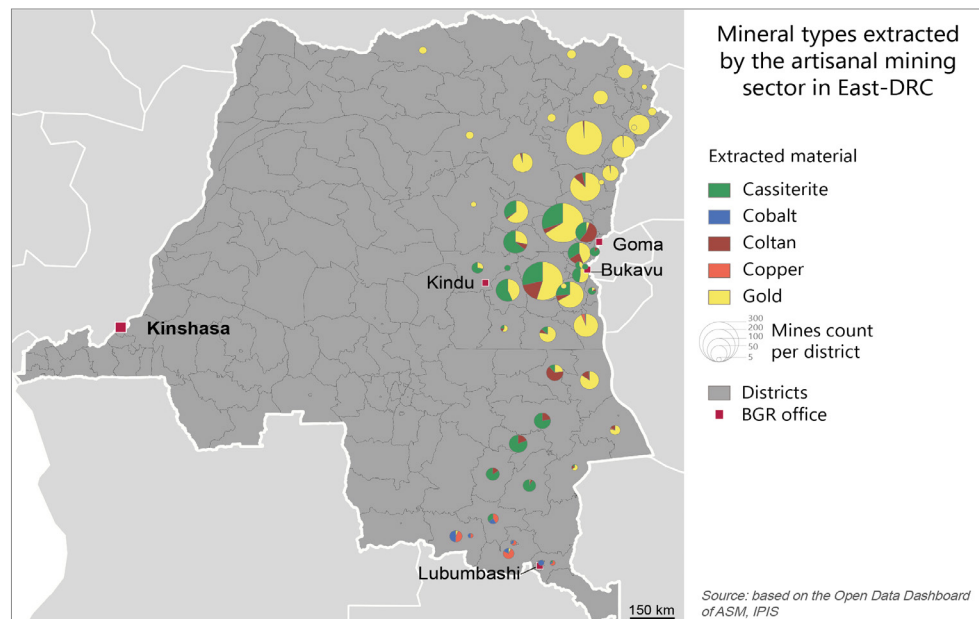
Since 2009, the Congolese Ministry of Mines (MoM) is working with the German-Congolese development cooperation framework, the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) to strengthen its control over the mining sector, supported through capacity building and advisory services.

Following a multi stakeholder approach, working closely with public administration as well as the private sector and civil society, the project has in recent years actively supported local civil society organizations and artisanal mining cooperatives.

The mining sector being of vital importance to DRC's economy, control especially in Artisanal and Small Scale Mining (ASM) is still lacking and more often than not, problems like poor working conditions, child labour and financing of conflicts prevail.

Context

- The mining sector is central to the country's economy: the Large Scale Mining activities cover 20% of the GDP and 98% of the exports.
- DRC is one of the world's largest suppliers of particular technology metals such as cobalt and tantalum.
- There is a strong lack of control of the artisanal extraction sites and trade activities, especially in the gold sector.
- The development of the sector is highly impacted by social conflicts, poor working conditions, and high environmental impact.
- Up to 1 million people are working in the Artisanal and Small-scale Mining sector.
- The illegal trade of so-called conflict minerals (tin, tantalum/coltan, tungsten and gold; 3TG) is the main income for armed groups of eastern Congo.



On behalf of



The project aims at improving the livelihoods of people in the artisanal mining sector, of reducing environmental impact and strengthening governmental control through the development of methods to improve traceability or implementation of a certification system for the artisanal mining sector (Certified Trading Chains CTC)

Strengthening Control in the Mining Sector Democratic Republic of Congo

Partner:



Ministère des Mines



Sustainable
Development
Goals:

1 NO
POVERTY



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



BMZ-Nr:
2017.2135.6

Version:
25/05/2021

Project Activities

The project, by implementing the following activities, contributes to facilitating formal mineral production and trade as a base for responsible international supply chains:

- Introducing the Certified Trading Chains (CTC) certification scheme for responsible artisanal and small-scale mining in the DRC
- Supporting mine validation and inspection missions in order to facilitate market access for "conflict minerals" produced in line with due diligence requirements
- Developing and piloting technical methods to strengthen control and sustainability in the mining sector

Through these contributions, the project ultimately aims at improving the livelihood perspectives for artisanal miners and local communities living around mine sites.



Artisanal Miner in Kampene,
Maniema Province



Cooperative CDMC, Tantal Mine,
Mayi Baridi, Tanganyika Province

Source: BGR

Achievements

- ▶ The current phase of the project focuses on improving the CTC certification scheme for responsible artisanal and small-scale mining.
- ▶ The standard criteria were updated and expanded to include direct references to the OECD Due Diligence Guidance as well as to the new DRC Mining Code of 2018.
- ▶ The mineral scope of the scheme is expanded beyond the 3Ts and gold and now include copper-cobalt ore as well as galena and semi-precious stones exploited through artisanal and small-scale mining.
- ▶ A new governance structure shall be established and operational procedures are adjusted in order to facilitate sustainable long-term application of the CTC scheme.
- ▶ This project phase includes developing various technical solutions to support sustainable mineral supply chains in the DRC, including electronic traceability for gold, among others.
- ▶ BGR will continue its work in the DRC beyond 2021, the new project has a focus on both Artisanal and Small Scale Mining (ASM) and Large Scale Mining (LSM) as part of sustainable economic development.
- ▶ Publications can be downloaded at:
https://www.bgr.bund.de/EN/Themen/Min_rohstoffe/CTC/Mineral-Certification-DRC/Downloads/drc_downloads_node_en.html

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