

## THE RESPONSIBLE MINERALS TRADE (RMT) PROGRAM



### OVERVIEW

USAID's Responsible Minerals Trade (RMT) Program is a \$12.5 million program designed to create a pilot conflict-free supply chain, promote civilian control of the minerals sector through regulatory reform, ensure vulnerable populations are protected, and support Great Lakes regional auditing and monitoring of conflict-free minerals (gold, tantalum, tin, and tungsten). USAID works closely with the U.S. Department of State and private sector organizations to implement the Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade (PPA) which leverages an additional \$2 million worth of private sector funds. USAID/DRC coordinates with other U.S. Government activities in support of responsible minerals trade, including activities funded by the State and Defense Departments and the regional USAID East Africa Mission.

### ACTIVITIES

#### Public-Public Alliance for RMT

The PPA includes the U.S. State Department and USAID, along with representatives from U.S. end-user companies, industry associations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Great Lakes regional public international organizations.

#### Start-up Conflict-Free Supply Chain Infrastructure and Regulatory Reform

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Portfolio: \$3,500,000

Through this activity, USAID enhances civilian control of the DRC's mineral trade through infrastructure improvements and institutional reforms. The program will provide technical assistance to operationalize the conflict-free supply chains, and complete or rehabilitate administrative buildings, mineral trading centers and a road in South Kivu. The CdNs are part of a pilot project led by the Government of the DRC, the UN Mission to DRC (MONUSCO), and its Stabilization Support Unit. IOM will also establish pilot certification and traceability systems in and around the CdNs and other areas of South and North Kivu.

#### PPA Support to Promote In-Region Traceability

Implementing Partners: To be designated—October 2012

Portfolio: \$2,000,000

The PPA leverages \$2 million in private sector funding to respond to opportunities to improve responsible mineral trade in the Great Lakes region and to serve as a resource for companies and other organizations seeking balanced and current information on responsible minerals trade.

The PPA also provides a mechanism for appropriate communication and collaboration in establishing common positions vis-à-vis supply chain initiatives, ensuring that systems being developed are harmonized in scope and activity and can be relied on by all participants. Information can be found at the PPA website--[www.resolv.org/site-ppa/](http://www.resolv.org/site-ppa/)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Alain Mukeba  
Communications Specialist  
Mobil Building,  
Avenue Isiro, 198  
Kinshasa-Gombe  
Tel: (+243) 81 555 4440  
Fax: (+243) 81 555 3528  
E-mail: [amukeba@usaid.gov](mailto:amukeba@usaid.gov)

### USAID IN THE DRC

<http://usaid.gov/where-we-work/africa/democratic-republic-congo>

## THE RESPONSIBLE MINERALS TRADE (RMT) PROGRAM CONTINUED

### **RMT: Community Reconciliation and Economic Development through Opportunities in the Mineral Sector**

Implementing Partner: Pact

Portfolio: \$1,200,000

Pact's Community Reconciliation and Economic Development through Opportunities in the Minerals Sector Program (CREDO) strengthens and promotes new economic governance, alternative livelihoods, and security mechanisms in eastern DRC. CREDO creates economic and alternative livelihoods opportunities for women and displaced artisanal miners and other vulnerable community members in the mining communities around pilot conflict-free supply chains, as well as promotes community reconciliation and social dialogue on natural resources, formalization of artisanal mining, and citizen participation.

### **RMT: Protection of Artisanal Mining Communities: Reducing Trafficking in Mining**

USAID/DRC will implement a quantitative and in-depth assessment of child and adult trafficking in targeted mining areas of eastern DRC and other regions where trafficking is prevalent. The assessment will provide an objective basis for developing a program in coordination with other U.S. Government departments and other donors, in order to demonstrate practical approaches to reducing adult and child trafficking in artisanal mining.

### **RMT: Institutional and Human Capacity Building for Responsible Minerals Trade**

This project will provide a framework for the Government of DRC to transition artisan mining to formalized responsible artisanal and industrial development. It will also support pilot conflict-free minerals supply chains through the provision of institutional analysis, technical assistance, and capacity building to the Ministry of Mines at the national, provincial, and local levels. Targeted training and technical assistance to civil society organizations, including human rights and development NGOs; cooperatives or *creuseur* (artisanal miner) groups; and *comptoir* (exporter) and *negociant* (trader) associations will assist local Congolese in implementing conflict-free certification, traceability, and due diligence systems. Following an initial start-up phase of supply chain development, additional resources will be available for scaling-up and gap filling of the DRC pilot supply chain.

The project will also support regional auditing and monitoring of supply traceability in order to build the credibility of regionally-led efforts to monitor these supply chains. Through support to the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region and its Regional Initiative on Natural Resources, the project will also strengthen regional and international efforts to support a third party supply chain audit mechanism and an independent minerals chain auditor. This accountability is critical to providing the confidence to international end-users that the conflict-free certification will keep them in compliance with U.S. and international law and guidance, such as the Dodd-Frank, Section 1502 regulations and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) guidance on conflict-free due diligence.

### **Other USG Programming in Support of Responsible Minerals Trade**

**USAID East Africa** is implementing a multi-year institutional capacity program in support of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region to build the overall strength of the Executive Secretariat as well as the Regional Initiative against the illegal exploitation of Natural Resources (RINR) which will complement the USAID DRC support to ICGLR.

**State/International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau (INL):** State/INL supports a \$2 million program to train and equip the DRC's mining police to play an appropriate role in mining sector security and replace the role of armed groups and criminal elements of the DRC Army in and around mine sites. This project is closely coordinated with USAID's programming listed above to synchronize start-up activities.

**State/Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Bureau (DRL)** supports two projects: a State/DRL \$1.2 million program through the NGO Pact to support a grass-roots approach aimed at sustainably increasing security, strengthening human rights protections, moving toward mine demilitarization, and reducing corruption in DRC and Rwanda; and a \$692,988 project through Heartland Alliance to promote alternative livelihoods and worker rights in artisanal mining.