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PROPERTY RIGHTS AND ARTISANAL DIAMOND DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROGRAM (PRADD) – GUINEA

THIRD QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT
(OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2008)



JANUARY 2009

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COVER PHOTO: Citizens of Sibiribaro village, Kérouané Prefecture, during PRADD-Guinea Participatory Rural Appraisal activities, December 2008.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BAF	<i>Brigade Anti-Fraude</i>
BNE	<i>Bureau National d'Expertise des Diamants et des Matières Précieuses</i> (The National Bureau of Expertise; Guinean government agency that oversees diamond and precious gem exports)
CNDD	National Committee for Democracy and Development
CONADOG	<i>Coordination Nationale des Diamantaires et Orpailleurs de Guinée</i> (private organization representing diamond producers, buyers and exporters in Guinea)
COP	Chief of Party
CPDM	<i>Centre de Promotion et de Développement Miniers</i> (Center for Mining Promotion and Development)
DNM	<i>Direction Nationale des Mines</i> (National Direction of Mines)
DPDDA	<i>Droits de Propriété et Développement du Diamant Artisanal</i> (French acronym for PRADD pilot project)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FPDM	Fund for Mining Promotion and Development
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoG	Government of Guinea
KP	Kimberley Process
MMG	<i>Ministère des Mines et de la Géologie</i> (Ministry of Mines and Geology)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRADD	Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development Pilot Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Program

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 PRADD AND THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS

The Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development pilot program (PRADD) is an element of the support provided by the United States Government, through the U.S. Department of State, to the Kimberley Process (KP), which was established in 2000 by representatives from the diamond industry, civil society, and major diamond-producing and trading countries with the intent of suppressing the trade in conflict diamonds. The KP is voluntary but member nations are permitted to trade only with other KP members, thus offering an economic incentive to retain membership as long as non-members bear the cost of being excluded from legitimate trading channels. Currently, there are 74 KP member countries (27 of which are represented through the European Union). All the major diamond producing and trading countries are KP members. Only those diamonds that are certified as originating from non-conflict areas and that are sealed in tamper proof containers at the point of export are traded between KP members.

To retain membership, participants are required to adhere to a number of rules including the enactment of national policies aimed at reducing illicit diamond export and import, and the timely submission of trade and production statistics, which are vital for monitoring trade flows. In order to adhere to these rules, member countries need a system of internal controls capable of regulating and tracking the flow of diamonds from the point of extraction to export.

Guinea was identified, along with the Central African Republic, as a target country for PRADD in 2006, but nationwide strikes and political unrest in Guinea in the first quarter of 2007 led the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to postpone project design and implementation there. In November 2007, ARD carried out a preparatory mission to Guinea, strongly supported by the US Embassy and USAID, which reconfirmed the interest of the Guinean Government and other artisanal diamond sector stakeholders in participating in the PRADD project. Guinea is an important producer of alluvial, artisanal diamonds, ranking 11th in the world in 2005. It has been a KP participant since 2003, and in collaboration with the powerful Guinean association of diamond miners, collectors, and exporters (CONADOG), has made important strides in formalizing the artisanal diamond sector and increasing the proportion of diamonds entering officially-sanctioned marketing circuits.

Indeed, in anticipation of the establishment of KP, Guinea implemented its own certification system beginning in 2001. Nevertheless, the preparatory team's in-depth consultations with government, private, and civil society actors confirmed the persistence of serious regulatory deficiencies in the artisanal sector that contribute to property rights-based conflicts and illicit diamond marketing. The latter not only deprives Guinea of needed revenues for development but is suspected as a source for weapons trade, and potentially funds local and regionally-based terrorism. The small-scale and itinerant character of much – though not all – of Guinea's artisanal diamond mining make it particularly difficult for the Government of Guinea (GoG) to exercise effective monitoring and regulation of this sector, or to improve living conditions in the very remote diamond producing region of southeastern Guinea. Thus, a significant portion of artisanal diamond mining activity remains unregulated and unregistered in Guinea.

The core problem being addressed by the PRADD-Guinea pilot project has two dimensions:

- Insufficient monitoring of the industry and a lack of reliable information to ensure the integrity of the KP; and
- Insecure property rights, poverty, and exploitation of artisanal miners and mining area communities.

Regarding the first dimension, one of the most significant obstacles to bringing alluvial diamond producing countries into the Kimberley Process has been the inability to capture accurate production data at the mine sites. This problem was compounded in early 2007 when many existing records on diamond production in and around the epicenter of the Guinean diamond sector, Banankoro, were allegedly destroyed during the period of political instability and rioting.

Concerning the second dimension, artisanal diamond mines often operate in conditions that make them vulnerable to a variety of rent-seekers and predators with detrimental effects on producers and their livelihoods, as well as on national economic growth and the natural environment. Ironically, alluvial diamond production areas within Africa are among the poorest areas in their respective regions, despite millions of dollars of diamond production. This is certainly the case in Guinea, where the diamond-producing *prefectures* of K  rouan  , Macenta, and Kissidougou are among the poorest in the country.

The two dimensions of the core problem are linked: the same lack of transparency and ineffective regulatory systems that inhibit information collection also enable those with more power or means to continue to exploit the relatively powerless.

The PRADD project premise is that more clearly defined land tenure and property rights, if generally recognized as legitimate and combined with improved production data, will serve to bring alluvial, artisanal diamonds into the legal chain of custody and improve the livelihood options of local populations. The fundamental goal of the PRADD project is to achieve a system of control and access (i.e., property rights) regarding alluvial diamonds from mine to export that is clearly defined, widely recognized, socially acceptable, and reliably functioning. Based on the above over-arching goal and objectives, PRADD has defined the following five results to be achieved during its pilot phase in Guinea:



- R1 – A system for reliable production and export information for diamonds exists at pilot sites;
- R2 – A process to identify and acknowledge land and property rights holders in target areas has been developed;
- R3 – The benefits of artisanal diamond production better serve the development needs of local populations;
- R4 – Measures to reduce the negative environmental impacts of artisanal diamond mining have been developed for pilot areas; and
- R5 – A program for raising public awareness and accountability is operating.

The execution of the PRADD pilot project has been divided into four phases: a scoping phase;

a design phase; a design validation and start-up phase; and a project implementation phase. The first three phases have been completed, and the project implementation phase has been underway since April 2008. The present report provides detailed information on administrative and project-related activities conducted for the third quarter of PRADD-Guinea implementation, from 01 October – 31 December 2008. Activities conducted before 01 October 2008 have been presented in earlier reports.

2.0 SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS QUARTER

The third quarter of pilot project implementation was a period of intense activity that saw PRADD make important strides, particularly towards the achievement of Results 1, 2, and 3. Below is a summary of activities and accomplishments, organized by project result. Note that several activities, although categorized under one result, contribute to the achievement of multiple results. For example, the participatory rural appraisal exercises conducted this quarter provided important information in support of Results 1, 2, and 3. Activities are categorized under the results to which they are most relevant.

RESULT 1 – A SYSTEM FOR RELIABLE PRODUCTION AND EXPORT INFORMATION FOR DIAMONDS EXISTS AT PILOT SITES

Completion of policy review of the artisanal diamond mining sector: This policy review, focusing on Mining Policy with an emphasis on information collection and management systems, was prepared by the PRADD Principal Technical Advisor in support of PRADD Result 1: “A system for reliable production and export information for diamonds exists at pilot sites.”

National workshop to review mining policies, and diamond production and marketing information systems: The above policy review’s content and conclusions were validated at a 17 October 2008 workshop in Conakry that was attended by over 20 representatives of GoG agencies charged with designing, interpreting, implementing, and enforcing mining policy in the country.

RESULT 2 – A PROCESS TO IDENTIFY AND ACKNOWLEDGE LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS HOLDERS IN TARGET AREAS HAS BEEN DEVELOPED

Completion of policy review of land tenure, natural resources management, and mining legislation: Policy Review 2 focuses on statutory property rights in Guinea as they pertain to alluvial diamond production. This study supports PRADD Result 2: “A process to identify and acknowledge land and property rights holders in target areas developed.”

National workshop on land tenure and natural resource property rights policy: This workshop was held in Conakry on 20 October 2008. Its purpose was to validate and disseminate the findings and recommendations of Policy Review 2.

Participatory rural appraisal (PRA) of local property rights: In-depth participatory research in and around two village clusters in Kérouané Préfecture represented PRADD-Guinea’s first systematic effort to gather information on customary property rights and natural resource management systems in the pilot zone. Both PRA teams were warmly received by their respective host communities and were able to explore even sensitive issues with candor. These included the role of the military and security forces in

clandestine diamond mining, the sources of conflict between indigenous communities and outside actors in the diamond zone, and the role of women and children in the artisanal diamond sector.

Establishment of baseline situation on statutory property rights in diamond triangle: As detailed in Section 3, PRADD-Guinea continued to make progress gathering and analyzing existing legal texts (mining titles, decrees, *arrêtés*, etc.) governing formal diamond production in Guinea. PRADD achieved an important breakthrough when the Center for Mining Promotion and Development (CPDM) – the Ministry of Mines structure responsible for governing all industrial and semi-industrial mining concessions – agreed to share a copy of its geo-database with PRADD, and further agreed, in principle, to work together with PRADD and the National Direction of Mines (DNM) on the development of an up-to-date, comprehensive geo-database that will include information on all diamond production in Guinea (artisanal as well as industrial and semi-industrial).

RESULT 3 – THE BENEFITS OF ARTISANAL DIAMOND PRODUCTION BETTER SERVE THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF LOCAL POPULATIONS

Targeted research and workshops: The purpose of the above-mentioned public finance study and workshop was to determine why public revenues from diamond production and sales do not contribute sufficiently to local development in diamond-mining regions. The findings and recommendations from these activities, together with the participatory research undertaken in December in the pilot zone, have set the stage for the development of a detailed action plan for the achievement of R3 by the end of 2009.

RESULT 4 – MEASURES TO REDUCE THE NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ARTISANAL DIAMOND MINING HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED FOR PILOT AREAS

Activities in support of R4 have not yet begun.

RESULT 5 – A PROGRAM FOR RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IS OPERATING

Building trust and increasing transparency: Through a series of public studies and workshops at the local and national levels, PRADD-Guinea has succeeded in opening a public debate on issues heretofore treated as taboo both in Conakry and in the diamond producing region. The vast extent and varied nature of clandestine diamond mining, the role of informal structures known as *bureaux de condition* in managing these activities, and the complex interactions between local communities, commercial diamond mining interests, and the Guinean state are now squarely on the table for public discussion. This represents an important public relations breakthrough for the pilot project.

Finding common ground: Representatives from all stakeholder groups now understand that PRADD-Guinea's most fundamental objective is to prevent conflict involving diamonds by strengthening Guinea's internal capacity to manage its own diamond wealth so that it better serves the interests of the country and its people. This message resonates equally well with wealthy "masters" and impoverished gravel-carrier girls in Banankoro, with the military Préfet of Macenta and the clandestine diamond miners in his prefecture, with the Governor of Kankan and members of the national and international non-governmental organization (NGO) communities, and with the Director-General of the National Bureau of Expertise (BNE) and the National Director of Mines in Conakry.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Support for annual Kimberley Plenary in New Delhi, India: In November 2008, PRADD-Guinea supported the participation of its principal Government of Guinea counterpart in the annual Kimberley Process Plenary Meetings in New Delhi, India. The National Director of Mines, Sidiki Condé, co-presented the PRADD-Guinea project with the project's Principal Technical Advisor, Dr. Kent Elbow. Mr. Condé was pleased to have the opportunity to represent his government and our project at this important event, and returned from New Delhi with a deeper understanding of PRADD's international context and renewed enthusiasm for ensuring our pilot project's success.

Collaboration and relation building with the Government of Guinea: The advances made by PRADD in the third quarter occurred against a backdrop of escalating instability and political turmoil. In the wake of the 27 August 2008 sacking of the Minister of Mines and Geology, Ahmed Kanté, and the replacement of PRADD's designated counterpart, the National Director of Mines, Moumini Sylla, it was necessary for PRADD's Chief of Party (COP) and technical staff to devote time in late second quarter and early third quarter to building trust and enlisting support among a new set of government partners.

Early November saw rioting in Conakry, though fortunately this did not lead to a repeat of 2007's nationwide strikes and violence, as some feared it might. On 22 December 2008, Guinean President Lansana Conté died following a long illness. Early the next morning a group of military officers calling themselves the National Committee for Democracy and Development (CNDD) announced that they had seized control of the government. On 24 December, their spokesman, Captain Moussa Dadis Camara, proclaimed himself Guinea's next president. At the time of this writing, the *coup d'état* had not led to any significant increase in violence or banditry, and the CNDD-led government seemed to be responding to international pressure to organize free and fair multi-party elections by the end of 2009. Nevertheless, on 6 January, the US Department of State announced a suspension of all non-humanitarian, non-election related foreign assistance to the Government of Guinea.



PRADD-Guinea Public Relations & Community Development Specialist, Yomba Sanoh, with the President of the Sibiribaro Women's Association, "Mama" Fofana, during PRA exercises. (December 2008)

ARD awaits further instructions from USAID on whether and when this suspension is likely to be lifted, and remains hopeful that the pilot project will be allowed to continue building on the momentum that it had gathered over the course of 2008.

3.0 DETAILED PROJECT ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

3.1 NATIONAL WORKSHOP TO REVIEW MINING POLICIES AND DIAMOND PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION SYSTEMS

This workshop was held in Conakry on 17 October 2008 and attended by over 20 technical staffers from all relevant agencies of the Ministry of Mines and Geology, and other GoG agencies specifically charged with surveillance and control of diamond production and marketing in Guinea. These included the National Directorate of Mines, the National Directorate of Geology, the CPDM, the BNE, and the *Brigade Anti-Fraude* (BAF). The purpose of the workshop was to review and validate the information contained in the policy review of the artisanal diamond mining sector prepared by the PRADD Principal Technical Advisor, Dr. Kent Elbow (see below). Specifically, the workshop sought to accomplish the following:

- Share knowledge on existing information management systems relating to the production and marketing of artisanal diamonds in Guinea;
- Validate, with Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG) partners, PRADD-Guinea technical staff members' understanding of mining legislation as summarized in the policy review document;
- Discuss and debate the effectiveness of Guinea's chain of custody systems and mechanisms;
- Strengthen collaboration between PRADD and MMG, especially as concerns new officials appointed as part of the GoG ministerial reshuffling of 27 August 2008.

Dr. Elbow travelled to Guinea to participate in this workshop, which was organized and facilitated by the PRADD-Guinea consultant, Mamadou Saliou Diallo. For PRADD-Guinea and each of the agencies represented, the event was a significant step towards increased transparency and more effective information sharing. Sensitive subjects such as the prevalence and location of clandestine diamond mining, discrepancies in the CPDM geo-database, and imperfect information sharing between CPDM and the DNM, were explored with candor and in a spirit of constructive collaboration.

3.2 COMPLETION OF POLICY REVIEW OF THE ARTISANAL DIAMOND MINING SECTOR

This document was validated during the above-described workshop, and finalized shortly thereafter. Electronic and hard copies have been delivered to USAID-DC and USAID-Guinea. A French translation was commissioned and will be available in January for distribution to workshop participants and other interested actors.

3.3 NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LAND TENURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE PROPERTY RIGHTS POLICY

To take full advantage of the Principal Technical Advisor's October mission to Guinea, PRADD organized this workshop to follow immediately on the heels of the mining policy and information workshop described above. The land tenure and property rights workshop was held at the Hotel Camayenne on 20 October, and was attended by a larger and more diverse group of GoG technical specialists and officials drawn from a range of agencies within the Ministry of Mines and Geology, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of the Interior and Security, and the Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development. The purpose of this workshop was to validate and finalize a second policy review document prepared by Dr. Elbow, specifically by exploring the following themes:

- Presentation and discussion of information gathered by PRADD-Guinea on statutory property rights pertaining to artisanal diamond production in Guinea;
- Solicit suggestions and advice from workshop participants regarding PRADD-Guinea's review and analysis of the legal texts and regulations governing property rights pertaining to artisanal diamond production.

3.4 COMPLETION OF POLICY REVIEW OF LAND TENURE, NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND MINING LEGISLATION

This document was validated during the above-described workshop, and finalized shortly thereafter. Electronic and hard copies have been delivered to USAID-DC and USAID-Guinea. A French translation was commissioned and will be available in January for distribution to workshop participants and other interested actors.

3.5 PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL OF LOCAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

In December, PRADD-Guinea mobilized an experienced, multi-disciplinary team to undertake PRA trainings and research in the pilot zone. The Senior Technical Advisor/Manager, Steve Reid; Principal Technical Advisor, Kent Elbow; as well as the PRADD-CAR Program Coordinator, Dr. Zéphérin Mogba, travelled to Guinea to assist with the training and implementation of these fundamental participatory research sessions. In addition, two local expert consultants were recruited to participate in the PRAs: an experienced PRA team leader, Mr. Ibrahima Barry, and a gender analysis specialist, Ms. Denise Koundounou (see bios in Appendix 3).

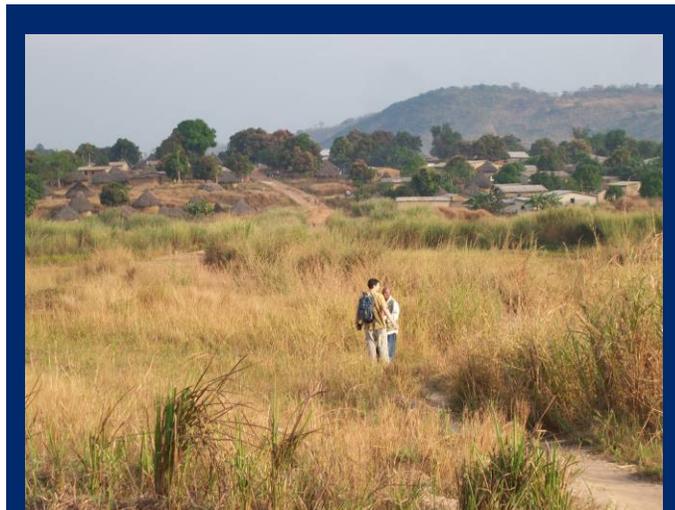
The PRA activities were carried out in and around the villages of Soumassania and Sibiribaro, in Kérouané Préfecture. In both of these rural mining communities, local populations have found themselves in conflict with semi-industrial diamond mining operations and with the government authorities responsible for allocating land to artisanal, semi-industrial, and industrial mining.

Key findings from the Kérouané PRAs include the following:

- Artisanal diamond mining is an important economic activity for most residents of the two village clusters covered by our research. Residents of these villages work as wage-laborers at sites operated by statutory title holding "masters," as well as at clandestine sites operated informally by so-called "sous-masters." They also work for themselves, or as laborers earning a percentage of the revenues

from any diamonds they find, on small-scale plots of various kinds, ranging from narrow pit wells to shallow riverbeds in areas of superficial mineralization.

- Village residents consistently deplored the process by which diamond-rich lands falling within and adjacent to areas traditionally managed under customary systems of authority are allocated under statutory law. Many formally-established artisanal parcels are held by non-indigenous, absentee title holders, and often sit idle for long periods. The presence of these idle plots fuels resentment among local residents and provides an incentive to clandestine activity. The process by which semi-industrial exploration and production permits are assigned is perceived by local communities as opaque and insufficiently sensitive to local needs and aspirations. A common complaint by many residents was that semi-industrial operations extract large amounts of wealth from lands traditionally belonging to the community, while failing to invest in local public infrastructures such as roads, bridges, schools, and health clinics. Conflict between local communities and semi-industrial mining operations is common.
- Clandestine diamond mining is ubiquitous in and around both PRA sites. In both village clusters, “*Bureaux de Conditions*” are the *de facto* authorities for allocating land to clandestine producers, monitoring their production, levying “shadow taxes” on their revenues, and managing these revenues. The origins of these informal management structures can be traced to the years immediately surrounding national independence from France in 1958, when the Guinean security forces were implicated in serious human rights abuses in the diamond-producing region. All of the *bureaux* studied by the PRADD-Guinea PRA teams included local military representatives as members, and all acknowledged that a significant percentage of the revenues they collected were handed over to the military. Do *Bureaux de Conditions* serve as a protective buffer between clandestine mining communities, on the one hand, and predatory elements within the military, on the other? Or are the *bureaux* themselves part and parcel of a predatory, protection racket system? These remain open questions, to which the answers may well vary on a case-by-case basis.
- The role and rights of women and youth, especially young girls, are precarious in the communities studied. Women and girls provide most of the lowest-wage labor at both legal and clandestine diamond mining sites. The existence of coerced and forced labor and the worst forms of child labor in



PRADD-Guinea Technical Advisors Kent Elbow and Mahmoud Sano during transect of contested lands peripheral to Sibiribaro Village. (December 2008)



Women of Sibiribaro village at a PRA session focusing on the impact of diamond mining on women and youth. (December)

the Guinean diamond sector cannot be ruled out. Prostitution, early and unwanted pregnancy, early onset of sexual activity, coerced marriage, and sexual and domestic violence were all mentioned repeatedly by women and girls as negative impacts of the diamond sector on local communities.

3.6 ESTABLISHMENT OF BASELINE SITUATION ON STATUTORY PROPERTY RIGHTS IN THE DIAMOND TRIANGLE

PRADD-Guinea made significant progress in gathering data on statutory property rights this quarter. The project gained the buy-in of the CPDM, the GoG agency charged with managing all semi-industrial and industrial mining permits nationally.

The CPDM's Deputy Director-General cooperated fully with the October 2008 mission of ARD's home office Geographic Information System (GIS) expert, Nick Thomas, even providing PRADD-Guinea with a complete copy of the CPDM geo-database. CPDM representatives were valuable participants in both of the October policy review workshops in Conakry, and are eager to formalize a partnership with PRADD-Guinea and the National Directorate of Mines, to consolidate geo-referenced data on all artisanal, semi-industrial, and industrial diamond mining activity in the country into one shared geo-database.

Of the ten baseline data gathering tasks relating to statutory property rights and mining policies presented in last quarter's progress report, six have now been completed and the remaining four were either underway or ready to be launched by the end of December 2008. Progress toward establishment of a statutory property rights baseline is summarized in the table below.

Task	Q3 Progress Update
1. Compile global positioning system (GPS) coordinates to define principal diamond-producing zones in Guinea.	Completed for the southeast Guinea "Diamond triangle"
2. Obtain appropriate satellite imagery	Completed in October 2008
3. Mission to Guinea by ARD's GIS specialist to evaluate CPDM mining geo-database & develop plan for further data collection	Completed in October 2008
4. Compile a complete list of statutes defining legal status of all lands within pilot zone	Ongoing throughout Q3; subject to change due to the CNDD Military Government's announced review of all Guinean mining concessions
5. Collect GPS coordinates from artisanal parcels in pilot zone	Postponed until later 2009; further community sensitization required before undertaking this task
6. Enter all statutory data in PRADD-Guinea geo-database	To be undertaken in Q1 2009
7. Train CPDM and DNM technicians in data entry & management	To be undertaken in Q1 2009
8. Policy analysis of mining sector & information management systems	Completed in October 2009
9. Policy analysis of property rights & natural resource management (NRM) systems pertaining to alluvial diamond production	Completed in October 2009

3.7 WORKSHOP TO VALIDATE FINDINGS OF STUDY OF PUBLIC REVENUES FROM DIAMOND SECTOR

This major study was finalized and its findings and recommendations validated during a two-day workshop in Kissidougou, on 25-26 November. Among the most important findings of this study are the following:

- Public revenues in the form of duties, royalties, and taxes deriving from the diamond sector are managed by three structures: the DNM is in charge of collecting and managing tax revenues from the award and renewal of exploitation permits; the BNE is charged with levying and managing the export sales tax on all diamonds produced and sold in Guinea; and finally, the area tax (*taxe superficiare*) paid directly by industrial and semi-industrial concession holders to local authorities, is managed at the level of the local collectivity, with support from the Prefectoral Service of Mines and Quarries. All three of these revenue management mechanisms suffer from constrained human, material, and technical capacity and lack of transparency.
- Laws intended to ensure that public revenues from diamond production are managed transparently and are distributed, at least in part, to local collectivities in diamond-producing communities, are not effectively implemented or enforced.
- A joint decree by the Ministry of Mines & Geology and the Ministry of Finance, apportioning public revenues from the diamond sector between the state, local collectivities in diamond producing regions, and the Fund for Mining Promotion and Development (FPDM), is badly needed but does not yet exist.
- The existing statutory legal system for allocating land to artisanal and semi-industrial diamond production is widely viewed as unsatisfactory by indigenous local communities.
- In most diamond-producing communities, revenues from clandestine production are taxed and managed extra-legally by committees known as “*Bureaux de Conditions*” whose members often include a local military representative, and whose financial management procedures are entirely opaque.

3.8 PUBLIC AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

The third quarter of PRADD-Guinea implementation raised public awareness of the pilot project significantly through activities at the local, regional, and national levels. Nationally, the two Conakry-based workshops on mining policies and information management systems, and property rights in land and natural resources, were both well-attended by directors and mid-level technocrats from all of PRADD’s GoG partner agencies.

Regionally, the Kissidougou-based Public Finance workshop brought together project stakeholders from all sectors. This event enjoyed the strong support and active participation of the Kankan Region Governor’s Chief of Staff, who expressed his interest in holding a follow-on workshop in Kankan, to explore the issues raised at the Kissidougou in greater depth and with the aim of improving public revenue management at the regional level.

Locally, the PRA activities undertaken in Kérouané Préfecture were an opportunity for in-depth community sensitization in the rural heart of the PRADD-Guinea pilot zone. Upon arrival in Sibiribaro village, the PRA team received an initially cool reception from youth and community leaders who suspected PRADD of being a semi-industrial mining operation. By the end of the first day of participatory research, this misconception had been cleared up and PRADD's objectives and methodology effectively explained to community leaders and opinion makers at the local level.

3.9 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Local staff recruitment: PRADD-Guinea added one new member to its full-time staff during the third quarter, hiring Mr. Yagouba Diallo, a driver and mechanic with over seven years' experience at Africare-Guinea. The search continued throughout the quarter for a qualified natural resource management expert to assume coordination of Result 4 activities, as well as for a short-term GIS Specialist.

Consultant utilization: During the third quarter, the project employed the services of consultants, including public finance expert Ahmédou Tall; gender specialist, Ms. Denise Koundounou, who played a key role in the December PRA activities held in Kérouané Préfecture; workshop facilitator, Mr. Mamadou Saliou Diallo, who organized and led the two policy review validation workshops held in Conakry on 17 and 20 October; and workshop facilitator/PRA specialist, Mr. Ibrahima Barry, who facilitated the Public Finance Study workshop in Kissidougou, on 25-26 November, and participated in the December PRA exercises as the leader of one of the two Kérouané PRA teams.

Transportation: PRADD-Guinea's main project vehicle, a 2008 Toyota Land Cruiser, remains in good working order and serves the project well. Unfortunately, the World Food Program (WFP) flight which provided reliable Conakry-Kissidougou-Conakry service three times per week for much of 2008, has since December decreased this service to one flight per week. The flight is often full and it is not possible for the PRADD-Guinea team to make flight reservations by phone from Banankoro.¹ For this reason, ARD believes that a second four-wheel drive vehicle will be required to ensure safe travel between Banankoro and Conakry by PRADD-Guinea staff and consultants, while ensuring that the Banankoro-based project team is not left without a four-wheel drive vehicle for significant periods of time. Early in the third quarter, PRADD-Guinea purchased two Yamaha AG-100 all-terrain motorcycles, in accordance with USAID vehicle procurement regulations. These two vehicles have been insured and are operational since late September 2008.

¹ Per UN/WFP/Guinea regulations, for each passenger's reservation a flight registration form must be signed and stamped by ARD's COP or Office Manager and deposited in original, hard copy at WFP's Conakry or Kissidougou office three days prior to the flight. WFP cannot confirm reservations until the day before each flight, and flights are frequently canceled for technical and logistical reasons.

4.0 PLANNED Q4 ACTIVITIES

The military coup d'état of 23 December and the subsequent suspension of non-humanitarian, non-election related US Foreign Assistance to Guinea have left PRADD-Guinea in a state of limbo at the time of this writing. Two important field activities: the joint BNE-DNM-PRADD fact-finding mission to clandestine diamond mining sites across the country, and the second round of participatory rural appraisal exercises, this time in Macenta Préfecture, have been put on hold as ARD awaits word from USAID on the future of PRADD-Guinea.

PRADD-Guinea and ARD hope that, in making its final decision, the US Government will consider not only the technical progress made over the first year of pilot project implementation, but also the abundant goodwill with which PRADD staff and consultants have been received at all levels, from the halls of the Ministry of Mines and Geology in Conakry to the clandestine diamond fields of Kérouané, and the growing trust and transparency that has infused our work with GoG partners over the past several months.

Specifically, two major breakthroughs occurred during the past quarter. The first was CPDM's new willingness to share its mining geo-database with PRADD-Guinea, and their agreement, in principle, to work together with PRADD and the DNM to build a complete, accurate, and up-to-date database of all diamond mining activity in Guinea (artisanal, semi-industrial, and industrial). This means that Results 1 and 2 may now be achieved with full GoG buy-in.

The second breakthrough was with BNE, whose new Director-General, Ms. Anne-Marie Sakho, has expressed a growing willingness to work closely with PRADD-Guinea, especially in the wake of November's Kimberley Process plenary meetings in New Delhi, India. International NGOs, including Global Witness, have accused Guinea of laundering conflict diamonds produced in Côte d'Ivoire and selling them through the BNE as KP-certified stones. PRADD-Guinea can neither confirm nor deny these allegations, but BNE is keen to dispel them by demonstrating that recent, significant increases in KP-certified diamonds exported from Guinea are being driven by increased domestic production (clandestine as well as legal), and not by an influx of true conflict diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire. In late December 2008, Ms. Sakho presented PRADD-Guinea with a budget and proposal for a joint DNM-BNE-PRADD fact-finding mission to all of Guinea's known diamond-producing regions, including localities such as Macenta, Guéckédou, Forécariah, and Kindia, where no legal diamond mining is currently authorized, but where significant levels of clandestine production is rumored to be ongoing.

PRADD-Guinea is poised to move forward with both of these initiatives conditional upon receipt of USAID authorization to resume collaboration with GoG structures.

If PRADD is permitted to continue operations in Q4, its principal activities will include:

- (R1) Participatory appraisal of local-level practices with regard to diamond production and sales information practices on legal artisanal diamond parcels and in areas of "clandestine" production.
- (R1) Completion of a "gap" analysis on diamond production and sales information systems, comparing policy prescriptions to participatory and rapid research findings at the pilot sites.
- (R2) Work with local leaders in pilot sites of Soumassania and Sibiriabaro to identify and map diamond mining zones in their *terroirs* and to devise a system for identifying and "registering" informal miners.
- (R2) Completion of inventory of legal texts of statutory property rights in the diamond triangle.

- (R2) Support CPDM in the development of GIS map of statutory property rights in the diamond triangle, combining both semi-industrial and artisanal permits.
- (R3) Broad dissemination of the results of a study on public revenues from diamond exploitation and support to stakeholders in diamond-producing zone for the organization of targeted lobbying activities.
- (R4) Launch a participatory assessment of the adequacy of current land rehabilitation requirements in the diamond mining zone.
- (R5) Develop a pilot information program (eight 30-minute segments) with Kerouané-based radio station on issues relevant to artisanal diamond stakeholders to create favorable conditions for the implementation of PRADD activities.

APPENDIX 1: REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS PRODUCED DURING Q3

	Reports/documents	Date	Observations
1	Quarterly Progress Report, June-September 2008	September 2008	
2	Study of public revenues generated by diamond mining	September 2008	French version completed ; English version in translation
3	Policy review: The Artisanal Diamond Mining Sector In The Republic Of Guinea	November 2008	French version available in January 2009
4	Policy review: Land tenure, NRM, and Mining Legislation	November 2008	French version available in January 2009
5	Report of two policy review workshops: The Artisanal Diamond Mining Sector, and; Land Tenure, NRM, And Mining Legislation	November 2008	Available in French
6	Report of workshop to present and validate the study of public revenues generated by diamond production in Guinea	December 2008	French version available; English version in translation
7	Report of PRA on customary land tenure conducted in PRADD project sites in Guinea – Site of Sibiribaro	December 2008	Being formatted by ARD home office
8	Report of PRA on customary land tenure conducted in PRADD project sites in Guinea – Site of Soumassania	December 2008	Being formatted by ARD home office

APPENDIX 2: WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING ORGANIZED DURING Q3

N°	Date	Subject	Objectives	Location	Days	Number and category of participants							
						Elected		Officials		Partners		Total	
						H	F	H	F	H	F	H	F
01	17/10/08	Guinea Mining Sector : Information collection and management systems and procedures	<p>Share knowledge on existing information management systems relating to the production and marketing of artisanal diamonds in Guinea.</p> <p>Validate, with MMG partners, PRADD-Guinea technical staff members' understanding of mining legislation as summarized in the policy review document.</p> <p>Discuss and debate the effectiveness of Guinea's chain of custody systems and mechanisms.</p>	Hotel Camayenne/ Conakry	1			25	5			25	5
02	20/10/08	Statutory property rights in the development of artisanal diamonds	<p>Presentation and discussion of information gathered by PRADD-Guinea on statutory property rights pertaining to artisanal diamond production in Guinea.</p> <p>Solicit suggestions and advice from workshop participants regarding</p>	Hotel Camayenne/Conakry	1			33	6	1	2	34	8

N°	Date	Subject	Objectives	Location	Days	Number and category of participants							
						Elected		Officials		Partners		Total	
						H	F	H	F	H	F	H	F
			PRADD-Guinea's review and analysis of the legal texts and regulations governing property rights pertaining to artisanal diamond production.										
03	25 au 26/11/08	Restitution et validation de l'Etude sur les revenus publics provenant de l'exploitation du diamant	Present and validate the final report on public revenues generated by diamond mining in Guinea. Undertake participatory analysis of flaws detected in legal and regulatory framework. Identify desired and feasible changes, obstacles to change, and roles of each actor. Elaborate and validate a concrete plan of actions to improve the current situation.	Conference room of Rural Radio of Kissidougou	2	4		26	1	13	3	43	4
04	09 au 20/12/08	Training in Participatory Rural Appraisal	Strengthen the technical capacities of project team and partners to conduct participatory rural appraisals. Better understand the role of the diamond sector in the local economy of southeastern Guinea. Improve understanding of customary tenure systems in the diamond-producing zone. Assess application of the statutory tenure system.	PRADD training room, Banankoro	12	2	2	12			1	14	3

APPENDIX 3: CONSULTANT UTILIZATION DURING Q3

Mr. Ibrahima Barry, Workshop Facilitator and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Expert: Mr. Barry is a Guinean citizen with 34 years experience as secondary school educator, workshop facilitator, teacher-trainer, and participatory rural appraisal expert. He holds a master's degree in development project management from the Department of Economic, Social, and Political Sciences at the University of Louvain in Belgium, and has worked as a consultant to the European Union, Africare, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and many other donor agencies and NGOs in Guinea. He played two important roles in support of PRADD-Guinea this quarter: as facilitator of the 25-26 November public finance workshop in Kissidougou, and as a trainer and team leader of the Sibiribaro PRA exercise in December.

Ms. Denise Koundounou, Gender Analysis Expert: Ms. Koundounou is a native of Kissidougou, Guinea with over 30 years experience in the fields of rural development extension, education, and gender analysis. She assisted PRADD-Guinea with PRA exercises in Kérouané. Her local cultural knowledge, professional experience, and empathy enabled her to gather valuable information and insights regarding the challenges facing women and girls in mining communities.

Dr. Zéphérin Mogba, PRADD-CAR Programs Coordinator and PRA Expert: Dr. Mogba, a professor of sociology at the University of Bangui as well as Program Coordinator for PRADD-CAR, made his first trip to Guinea in December 2008 to lead PRA trainings in Banankoro and to serve as team leader for the participatory research carried out in and around the village of Soumassania. His mastery of participatory research methods, long experience with development issues related to alluvial diamond mining in Africa, and detailed understanding of the PRADD methodology made him an invaluable member of the PRA team.

Mr. Mamadou Saliou Diallo, Workshop Facilitator: Mr. Saliou Diallo is an expert workshop facilitator and educator with over thirty years experience in Guinea and other countries, and is the director of a highly-regarded national NGO, Guinée Ecologie. He has worked as a consultant to many USAID-funded projects in Guinea and across the West Africa region, and is fluent in English, French, and Pulaar. Mr. Diallo organized and facilitated both of the October policy review workshops in Conakry.

Dr. Kent Elbow, Specialist in Land Tenure and Property Rights: Dr. Elbow returned to Guinea twice during the third quarter, first in October to overlap with Nick Thomas' mission and to help organize and conduct the two policy review validation workshops held in Conakry on 17 and 20 October; and again in December, to prepare and co-direct PRA activities in the pilot zone. As always, Dr. Elbow contributed importantly to the success of all of these activities.

Mr. Steve Reid, PRADD-Guinea Senior Technical Advisor/Manager: Mr. Reid made his second trip of 2008 to Guinea in December, to participate in PRA trainings and begin to prepare for the early 2009 COP transition. Mr. Reid has over 15 years experience as a COP to USAID-funded democracy and governance and institutional strengthening projects in francophone Africa.

Mr. Nick Thomas, ARD GIS Expert: Mr. Thomas is ARD's in-house GIS expert. He traveled to Guinea in October 2008 to assist PRADD-Guinea in assessing the quality and content of the GoG mining geo-database managed and maintained by CPDM, and to develop a technical strategy for future collaboration between PRADD-Guinea and GoG on geo-database development.

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