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ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT October 1, 2018–September 30, 2019



Contract Number: 7200AAI8C00087
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Photo: Artisanal Diamond Mining site in Abba, Nana-Mambéré that participated in the AMPR Gold Sector Diagnostic conducted by IPIS. Photo by: Parfait Kalessio.

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ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS (AMPR) TASK ORDER UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT October 1, 2018–September 30, 2019

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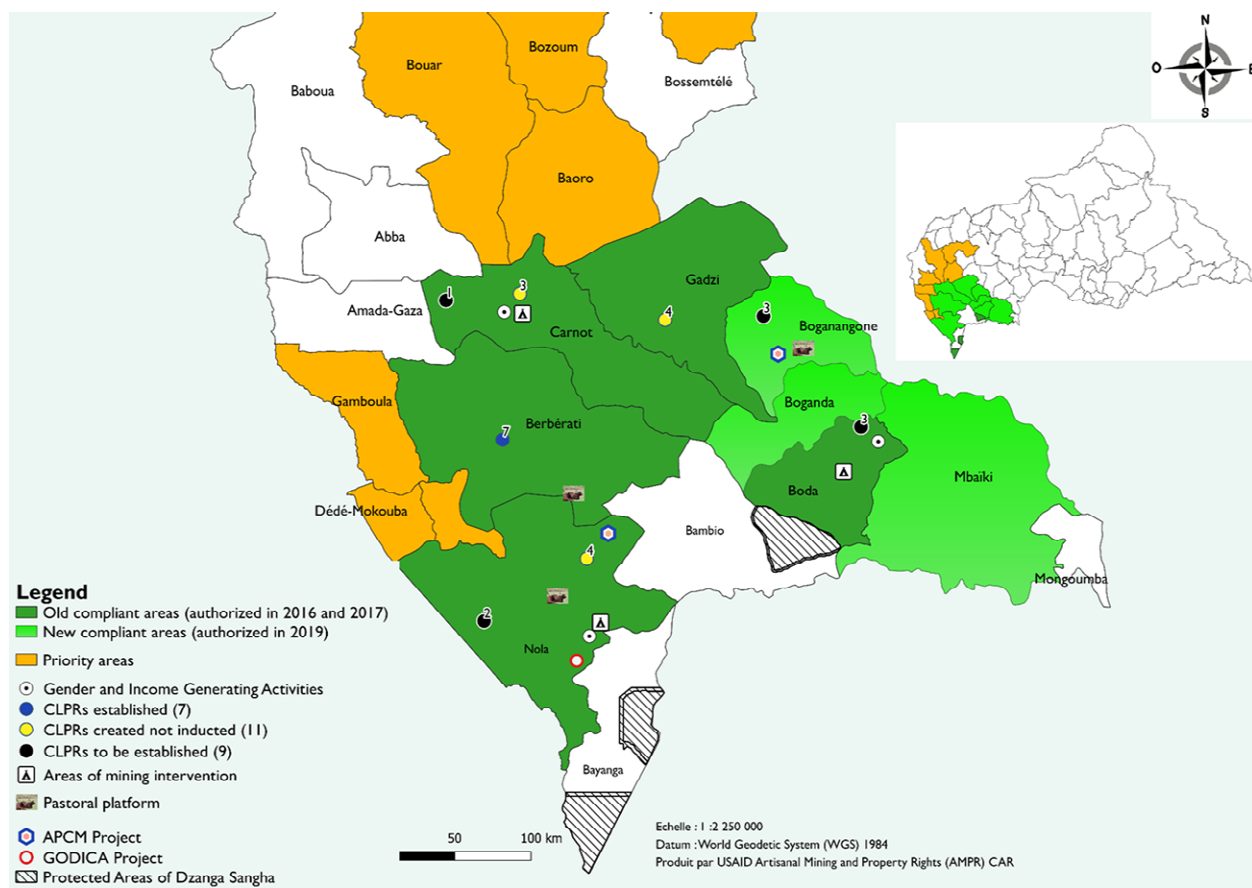
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ALS	<i>Antenne Locale de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at commune level)
USAID AMPR	Artisanal Mining and Property Rights
APCM	<i>Appui A La Professionnalisation Des Cooperatives Minieres De La Republique Centrafricaine</i>
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
BECDOR	<i>Bureau d'Évaluation et de Contrôle de Diamant et d'Or</i>
CLPR	<i>Comité Local de Paix et Réconciliation</i> (local peace-building committee)
CLS	<i>Comité Local de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at zone level)
COP	Chief of Party
DDI	Diamond Development Initiatives
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EU	European Union
GoCAR	Government of the Central African Republic
GPS	Global Positioning System
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IPIS	International Peace Information Service
IR	Intermediate Result
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices
KP	Kimberley Process
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
KPPS	Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MHANR	Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation
MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology
MOV	Means of Verification
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OF	KP Operational Framework for CAR
OU	Operating Unit
PGRN	Natural Resources Governance Project

PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheets
PRADD	Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development
SODEMI	<i>Société pour le Développement Minier en Côte d’Ivoire</i>
STARR II	Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights II
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNCMCA	<i>Union nationale des coopératives minières de Centrafrique</i>
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAF	Central African anti-fraud police
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WB	World Bank
WGAAP	KP Working Group on Artisanal and Alluvial Production
ZEA	<i>Zone d’Exploitation Artisanale</i>

Figure 1: Geological Map of Central African Republic where USAID AMPR implements field activities in the Southwest



I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project supports the USAID Land and Urban Office in improving land and resource governance and strengthening property rights for all members of society, especially women. It serves as USAID's vehicle for addressing complex land and resource issues around artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in a multidisciplinary fashion with a focus primarily on diamonds and, to a lesser extent, on gold production in the Central African Republic (CAR), as well as targeted technical assistance to other USAID Missions and Operating Units in addressing land and resource governance issues within the ASM sector. The project builds upon activities and lessons from the Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development (PRADD I and II) projects. The AMPR contract was signed on September 28, 2018 and will run for three base years, with the possibility of two option years. Most project activities will be carried out in the CAR.

Objective 1 builds capacity for implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) requirements. To launch the initiative, the AMPR team will conduct a gap analysis and identify recommendations to stem rapidly expanding rough diamond smuggling and remove barriers to implementing the KP Operational Framework (OF). USAID AMPR will then support miner education and awareness-raising and implement capacity-building measures such as logistical support for local KP Focal Points and the strengthening of Local Monitoring Committees. AMPR will also design the conceptual framework for piloting decentralized artisanal mining zones (ZEAs) with innovations for local revenue management, while also examining lessons learned and opportunities for miner parcel certification.

Objective 2 strengthens social cohesion and economic development in diamond mining communities. USAID AMPR will build upon lessons learned from PRADD II and expand local structures and processes for fostering peace and reconciliation. AMPR will support the expansion of local Peace and Reconciliation Committees (CLPRs) and support them logistically to monitor and resolve conflicts and conduct peace-building activities. AMPR will continue PRADD II efforts to foster coordination between the government ministries responsible for mining and peace-building. AMPR will also launch livelihood support activities for women as part of a comprehensive Gender Action Plan aimed at promoting their economic and social inclusion.

Objective 3 focuses on understanding the artisanal gold supply chain. AMPR will work with its two sub-contractors IPIS and RESOLVE to implement a baseline assessment of gold and launch an interactive online map of artisanal gold mining sites. AMPR will also organize a workshop to present results from the study and facilitate training and discussion aimed at moving towards a national gold action plan.

Objective 4 responds to USAID Operating Unit requests for technical assistance with respect to understanding the linkages between ASM and development issues.

The AMPR project will implement its activities in close coordination with other donors, especially the World Bank (WB) and the European Union (EU), who both have activities in the sector. The project will foster synergies and avoid duplication through local coordination but also participating in regular calls between the donors.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first complete year of the Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project was implemented successfully. The project supports the USAID Land and Urban Office in improving land and resource governance and strengthening property rights for all members of society, especially women. It serves as USAID's vehicle for addressing complex land and resource issues around artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in a multidisciplinary fashion with a focus primarily on diamonds and, to a lesser extent, on gold production in the Central African Republic (CAR), as well as targeted technical assistance to other USAID Missions and Operating Units in addressing land and resource governance issues within the ASM sector. The project builds upon activities and lessons from the Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development (PRADD I and II) projects. The AMPR contract was signed on September 28, 2018 and will run for three base years, with the possibility of two option years.

The highlights of the year include the following:

- **Start-Up:** The project start-up process was effective and quite efficient thanks to the experience Tetra Tech gained from carrying out PRADD I and II in the Central African Republic. While the Chief of Party and Director of Administration and Finance did not arrive in country until January 2019 much of the programmatic and administrative groundwork was in place thanks to the experience of the core Central African staff who had been retained from PRADD II.
- **Staffing Hiring:** Nearly all staff were recruited and trained by the end of the work plan year. Core administrative staff are in place and fully equipped in a comfortable and safe office space. Six Community Mobilizers were hired and trained in part through assisting the project to carry out a KAP survey in the interior of the country. All but two land tenure specialists remain to be hired. Staff now all work under long-term contracts and receive a full suite of health care, life insurance, and other benefits as required under national labor law. The Chief of Party and Director of Finance and Administration each attended training in the Tetra Tech Home Office in Burlington, Vermont.
- **Year I Work Plan Advancements:** The vast majority of Year I work plan activities were carried out despite the challenges confronted with the US Federal Government temporary shut-down, the challenges of obtaining country registration for the project, and the many other administrative challenges of working in the country. While the project implementation team confronted some difficulties in timely delivery of select contract deliverable studies at the beginning of the project, the pace of submission of key reports improved as Year I progressed. Most importantly, the AMPR team was able to travel to proposed intervention sites through assessments and consultations without any security incidents. The Monitoring and Learning Plan was set up thanks to the hard work of the highly skilled MEL Specialist. The details of the advancements and challenges confronted by each component are listed below with highlights for each component summarized at the beginning of each section. Technical assistance was also provided to the USAID/Sahel Regional Mission and Burkina Faso Country Office as well as the US Embassy in Accra.
- **Relations with Host Country Partners:** The AMPR team placed a premium on strengthening relations of trust and confidence with its two principal government partners – the Ministry of Mines and Geology and the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation. Close working relations were built with these ministries. Participation in all project activities requiring their assistance was very high. Both ministries participated actively in the preparation of the Year II Work Plan. Relations with civil society still need to be strengthened. Inter-donor coordination mechanisms were built. Support from the US Embassy in Bangui has been excellent. AMPR has also established a

strong working relationship with USAID/DRC and primarily through the preparation of the annual work plan.

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3.1. OBJECTIVE I: ASSIST GOCAR TO IMPROVE COMPLIANCE WITH KIMBERLEY PROCESS REQUIREMENTS TO PROMOTE LICIT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year I

- Organized a multi-stakeholder diagnosis on the effectiveness of internal controls and anti-smuggling measures with a focus on the border areas and the obstacles to the implementation of the OF. The diagnostic identified over 100 actions to improve internal controls. The MMG committed to developing a roadmap to strengthen internal controls.
- Completed a study on the impact, relevance/utility, and weaknesses of PRADD I land certificates of customary land tenure delivered to nearly 3,000 miners between 2007 and 2012.
- Completed a study on options for decentralized revenue management in the mining zones in Carnot, Berberati, and Nola. The study focused on whether the SODEMI model of Côte d'Ivoire might be applicable to CAR.
- AMPR completed the first phase of the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) survey in quarter two with a representative sample of 341 mine claim holders. The study focused on the artisanal miner or *chef de chantier*, drawn from active mining sites in the select priority zones of Boganangone, Carnot, Gadzi, Nola, Boda, Sosso-Nakombo, and Dede-Makouba.
- Developed a comprehensive AMPR project communication strategy that includes key methods, messages, and tools.
- Engagement and training of KP Focal Points while awaiting WB clarification on their role and position.
- Supported the US Ambassador to initiate Friends of CAR group to improve technical-political coordination.

Overview of Challenges in Year I

- Pushback and bureaucratic infighting led to slow progress on sensitive issues like the needed changes for the OF and adoption of the actions for reducing diamond smuggling recommended by the AMPR fraud study.
- Context of growing frustration by mining communities with government and foreign actors in the mining sector on exploitative behavior by some state institutions.

3.1.1. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1.1: IMPROVE LEGAL, POLICY, AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CONFLICT-FREE DIAMOND PRODUCTION AT DOMESTIC AND REGIONAL LEVELS

3.1.1.1 ACTIVITY 1.1.1: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COORDINATION TO HALT ILLICIT MINERAL EXPORTS

Description: This activity aims to build upon efforts which began in 2016 to implement a strategy to combat diamond smuggling, notably by land that borders CAR. Government stakeholders have acknowledged that smuggling has reached unprecedented levels, however they attribute the drivers and

pathways to smuggling less toward coordination issues with other countries and more toward the reduced activities of Buying Houses and relaxed airport controls. As such, during the first Year Work Plan AMPR carried out a rigorous and participatory process, including visits to key borders like the Kenzo-Gamboula crossing with Cameroon, to identify root causes for the uptick in smuggling and more generally identify ways to improve the enhanced monitoring mechanisms required under the Operational Framework. AMPR then organized a national workshop to debate conclusions and adopt recommendations that the project can then support through advocacy and activities.

Results: AMPR produced a diagnostic fraud study on the effectiveness of internal controls and anti-smuggling measures in the diamond industry in the CAR. This followed completion of field work by the multi-stakeholder team of the MMG, AMPR technical staff, and an external diamond expert from Côte d'Ivoire, in quarter two. In quarter three, AMPR organized a restricted workshop, attended only by senior and technical officials of the MMG and MHANR, to present the sensitive study findings. AMPR produced a draft report with more than 100 actions and recommendations to improve internal controls. The draft was shared with USAID for review, as well as the VVB and EU, key partners supporting the MMG. AMPR witnessed pushback from the MMG to adopt the findings and recommendations until the report is revised to remove sensitive findings and citations of actors implicated in the unprecedented diamond smuggling. In quarter four, the U.S. Ambassador to the Central African Republic, accompanied by a USAID delegation from Kinshasa and Washington and representatives of the AMPR project, made a courtesy visit to the Minister of Mines and Geology. Following the visit, the Minister nominated a joint committee of representatives of the MMG and AMPR to finalize the AMPR smuggling diagnostic, often noted previously in short-hand as the “fraud study,” prior to being published on the USAID Landlinks website. The joint committee completed the review and submitted the revised version to the Minister for concurrence.

AMPR explained to the MMG the relevance of the fraud study report and the roadmap as tools the GoCAR can use to build consensus on bigger operational reforms, internally and with external partners like KPCS member countries. The government supported the plan to develop a roadmap for reinforcing the OF and reducing fraud. The joint committee discussed the template proposed to coordinate efforts among the various projects in support of the roadmap. AMPR was requested to draft the roadmap to be reviewed by the committee before being presented to the Minister of Mines and Geology for validation, in quarter one of Year II.

Despite the delay in adopting study recommendations, in quarter four, AMPR obtained a copy of the MMG circular note n.004/19/MMG/DIRCAB/CMM of July 2019 that authorizes transactions between collectors of diamonds. The transactions are restricted between two collectors, but this is an important step. AMPR salutes this measure, allowing a small collector to sell to a bigger collector, who then sells to the diamond purchasing houses. The AMPR diamond fraud study recommended this measure to facilitate the collection of diamonds from remote mining zones—where the small collectors spend most of their time—buying diamonds from the artisanal miners.



KEY FINDINGS FROM AMPR SMUGGLING DIAGNOSTIC

- ✓ The KP Operational Framework is not working in CAR. Not only are diamonds from areas under the control of armed groups easily entering the global supply chain, but the KPCS chain of custody has collapsed.

IMPLICATIONS FOR AMPR

1. CAR could benefit from a comprehensive dialogue on the mining sector, especially in light of the semi-industrial and gold mining that are developing following the Khartoum Agreement. The dialogue will help to gain support for the reform, generate technical ideas, and above all, restore confidence in the supply chain.
2. Facilitate integrated development support initiatives to improve working conditions, environmental protection, and livelihoods in mining communities with a focus on women and children.
3. Participate in the process of developing an action plan to strengthen the legal chain and support its implementation.
4. Coordinate closely with diplomatic missions and MINUSCA through a " Group of Friends " (consisting of diplomats), to harmonize messages and support the GoCAR to improve the mining sector's functioning.

3.1.1.2 ACTIVITY 1.1.2: SUPPORT MINISTRY OF MINES AND GEOLOGY INTERNAL REFORMS

Description: This activity aims to contribute to regulatory and institutional reform efforts supported by the WB. At the time of this report, the WB project was not yet fully operational. USAID AMPR will seek to participate in policy and reform discussions and contribute where appropriate, especially with respect to the KP and ASM. Moreover, the report on implementing the OF (see Activity 1.1.1) will consist of recommendations for specific reforms, such as with respect to law enforcement and data collection and management. AMPR will make sure that these and all other similar recommendations are shared with and integrated into a broader reform process expected to begin in the first year and carried onwards.

Results: In preparation for the functional review of the MMG by the WB, the General Directorate of the MMG drafted a three-year action plan, which was shared with AMPR in quarter two. In quarter three, the Director General of the MMG chaired a technical meeting with the Heads of Divisions and Services of the Mining Directorate, which included the AMPR COP and Component Coordinators. The meeting set up a joint Technical Committee with representatives of the MMG, Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat (KPPS), and AMPR to review the legal and regulatory reforms proposed in the action plan. Following two months of technical review, including consultations with Regional Directors and Head of Services of the MMG in the KP compliant zones, the committee identified 36 key interventions for the three-year action plan. The interventions include the formalization of the key actors in the supply chain, review of the traceability documents like the purchase slips, digitization of the production data, improvement of production estimates, revision of the rough diamond evaluation process, and provision of appropriate valuation equipment to the *Bureau d'Evaluation et de Contrôle de Diamant et d'Or* (BECDOR). AMPR and EU GODICA agreed to integrate some of the proposals into their next annual work plans and jointly prepare technical concept notes with best practice recommendations on ASM and the KP.

3.1.1.3 ACTIVITY 1.1.3: INTEGRATE ASM CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE MINING CODE

Description: This activity aims to actively participate in the WB-led Mining Code revision process with respect to ASM policy. At the time of this report, the WB efforts have not yet begun and there was still

uncertainty on if and how the 2009 Mining Code would be revised. As such, AMPR will liaise closely with the MMG cabinet, WB, and others to determine appropriate avenues to participate if and when the process starts. Thanks to diagnostics and workshops foreseen in the work plan, including those about smuggling (see Activity 1.1.1) and adapting the Côte d'Ivoire SODEMI model for village-based revenue management (see Activity 1.2.3), AMPR will be well-positioned to offer specific suggestions for improving the legislative framework based on these processes. With respect to the study tour to Côte d'Ivoire foreseen under this activity, AMPR will wait and see if this will be necessary, as the work planning consultations showed widespread understanding and enthusiasm for the SODEMI model, thanks in part to the screening of documentary films produced by PRADD II, and a visit to Côte d'Ivoire by a regional mining director from Boda, who is now a key advisor at the MMG.

Results: The WB scheduled the revision of the Mining Code for its third year (2020), to provide enough time for broader consultations with key stakeholders on the needed reforms. In Year I, AMPR involved representatives from the MMG in field missions and consultations with mining stakeholders on ASM formalization, which covered topics such as legal options for ZEA and securing artisanal miners' land rights using certificates. The consultations generated recommendations that will guide AMPR to establish legal artisanal mining zones that could serve as best practices in the revision of the Mining Code.

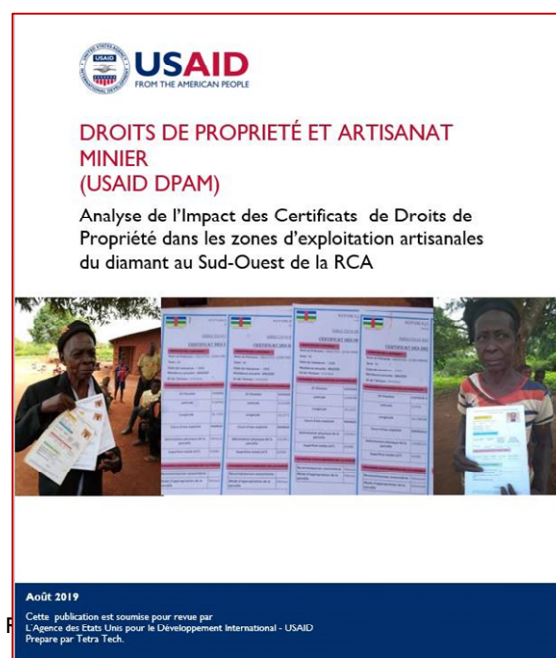
3.1.2. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1.2: EXPAND FORMALIZATION OF LAND AND RESOURCE RIGHTS IN ARTISANAL DIAMOND MINING COMMUNITIES

3.1.2.1 ACTIVITY 1.2.1: ASSESS PRADD I ASM FORMALIZATION PROCESS

Description: This activity aims to take stock of the PRADD I certificates of customary land tenure delivered to nearly 3,000 miners between 2007 and 2012, as well as identify any follow-up activities for AMPR. Through the upcoming consultancy for the next quarter with land tenure specialist Sabine Jiekak, AMPR will organize a study on the certificates which will assess their impact, relevance/utility, and weaknesses. The study will include focus group discussions with certificate holders but will also delve into the legal issues surrounding them, such as if they are valid proof of ownership in case of court disputes. Indeed, one challenge in PRADD I was the lack of a legal basis for rural land certification, and the study will determine if this is still the case or if the regulatory framework for rural land has evolved. AMPR will then organize a workshop to present and debate the conclusions of the study, including if and how AMPR should revive support to individual miners' land rights formalization in subsequent work plan years.

Results: In quarter four, AMPR carried out a performance evaluation of the PRADD I certificates in artisanal diamond exploitation zones in southwest CAR. AMPR's international and national legal land tenure experts drafted the study methodology and ToR, conducted fieldwork, wrote the literature review, and organized a workshop to share the study findings and recommendations. Representatives of the MMG, the Ministry of Urban Planning and Housing, Forestry and Agriculture land law experts, and AMPR technical team attended the workshop.

The workshop generated reflections on the proper categorization and designation of property rights certificates to ensure that they do not conflict with the



Mining Code and various land laws. MMG experts indicated that the term "certificate" should be changed, as only the Minister of Mines and Geology authorizes access, control, and use of land for artisanal mining purposes through measures clearly set out in the Mining Code. Land legal experts argued that access, control, and use of land tenure/customary rights are managed by established land laws and not by property rights certificates. The workshop supported the idea of georeferencing and protecting the land rights of artisanal miners, and that AMPR should continue to support these interventions, but change the name of the document it sends to the beneficiaries. The workshop also recommended a national workshop on options for formalizing artisanal land rights, with participation of representatives from the MMG, the Ministry of Urban Planning and Housing, Forestry and Agriculture, who play specific but related roles in access to land control and use.

KEY FINDINGS FROM LAND CERTIFICATE STUDY

- ✓ The PRADD Certificates program clarified membership and/or individual occupancy on mining claims through a participatory and transparent community process of land owner identification, clarification of the mode of acquisition, and public validation process.
- ✓ The public validation process, with participation by artisanal miners and village leaders, of the information in the certificates has provided for strong local recognition.
- ✓ The PRADD Certificates program has made it possible to determine the boundaries of mine sites by anticipating and resolving conflicts that have arisen on these plots.
- ✓ Awareness-raising activities surrounding the certificates have contributed to increased understanding among artisanal miners about the need to obtain documents to comply with the legal chain of diamond production.
- ✓ The process and the resulting certificates are considered a PRADD activity and document; no certificate has been issued after PRADD and local mining institutions do not use the list of miners with certificates to monitor diamond production or selling.
- ✓ There are no clear records at the local level listing the artisanal miners with certificates, nor an official report of the validation process.
- ✓ PRADD Certificates have been treated as land recognition documents managed by the Mining Administration, meaning they do not comply with land or mining laws.

IMPLICATIONS FOR AMPR

1. Strengthen the commitment between the AMPR project and the GoCAR by establishing an agreement on the operating framework to pilot formal customary rights documentation on mining claims in one or more mining areas. This will consolidate PRADD achievements and build on lessons learned to improve AMPR practice.
2. Reformulate the title of the formalization document to "Attestation locale de reconnaissance de parcelle minière" (suggested title), issued to miners individually or as a group through a mining cooperative. The attestation document could be used as proof of usage or ownership on mining claims both by miners and mining cooperatives.
3. Revise the mining claims formalization documents form by inserting a location map of the parcel, providing information on size, mined areas, non-mined areas, neighboring parcels, and uses.
4. Integrate formalization as a general approach to the management of mining claims as well as various stakeholder relationships within the ZEAs.
5. Systematically document the process both locally and nationally to use lessons learned to strengthen local ownership and ensure replication of the process as needed.
6. Initiate discussions on mining law reform to take into account key elements of the customary property rights of artisanal miners, which could be derived from inheritance, labor, or purchase.

3.1.2.2 ACTIVITY 1.2.2: SUPPORT LAND FORMALIZATION IN ARTISANAL MINING COMMUNITIES

Description: This activity aims to implement recommendations from the study foreseen under Activity 1.2.1, as well as initiate collective land formalization through pilot ASM mining zones called ZEAs. While ZEAs are typically used in other contexts like the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) for reserving secondary deposits for ASM, they can also be used to formalize a partnership between communities and the government such as the SODEMI model in Côte d'Ivoire. Consultant Sebastian Pennes carried out the study as noted below in Activity 1.2.3. Discussions will be held during the Year II work planning process to determine how to take his recommendations into account, especially about the concept of putting in place ZEAs.

Results: In quarter four, AMPR gathered a technical “think tank” of representatives from the MMG, Ministry of Urban Planning and Housing, Forestry and Agriculture, land legal experts, and AMPR component coordinators. The team, while drawing on the recommendations of the impact evaluation workshop of the Certificates of Property Rights (Activity 1.2.1), examined the modalities for drafting the concept note for the presentation of the pilot phase of the ZEAs. The meeting proposed to transform the focus group into an informal technical working group to help design and oversee the implementation of the ZEA pilot phase. In terms of next steps, the group recommended that AMPR organize consultations and awareness-raising sessions in the two target areas for the ZEA pilots to obtain feedback and buy-in for the initiative, as well as consult the mining communities in the pilot zones on the technical plans for revenue generation, management, conditionalities, and land tenure clarification. AMPR will organize a national workshop to validate the proposals from the consultations. The technical recommendations have been included in AMPR's Year II Work Plan.

3.1.2.3 ACTIVITY 1.2.3: PILOT SYSTEM FOR TAXING DIAMOND REVENUES FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Description: This activity is subsequent to Activity 1.2.2 in implementing the ZEA approach in at least two pilot zones, notably with respect to the revenue management model used by SODEMI in Côte d'Ivoire. As per the AMPR contract, the project is designed to focus in the first year on developing and building consensus around the model(s) to pilot. The question of revenue management is particularly tricky, as indicated in the report prepared by Sebastian Pennes. As such, after the preliminary concept was reviewed in May 2019, AMPR's field teams will need to reassess how to move forward on this activity, which was initially designed to open dialogue and conduct awareness-raising in target communities with respect to revenue capture and utilization. AMPR had hoped to begin implementing the pilots by the end of the first year, but now the strategy will need to be revised.

Results: In quarter three, AMPR constituted a technical team including an international specialist in local revenue management worked, AMPR artisanal mining expert and representatives of the MMG. The team conducted consultations with communities and stakeholders in the areas identified for potential pilot zones to work out key technical details related to community natural resources management and monitoring. Following these consultations, the technical team defined the criteria for participatory resource management of mining zones, and attributed scores to each of the visited communities. The diagnostic concluded that the SODEMI model employed in Côte d'Ivoire would not be appropriate for the current institutional context in CAR. The indicators noted below serve as a basis to measure the prerequisite conditions of success if a decentralized minerals management system were to be implemented by AMPR. The eight selected criteria include:

- I. *Leadership:* The authority and legitimacy of the village chief and village elders, their ability to build, maintain or change structures within the community, and the responsiveness of community members to such authority.

2. *Land management*: The cultural knowledge the community has on its own land and its capacity to manage it, like setting limits, authorize and revoke usage rights, and arbitrate between different practices.
3. *Interest and Motivation*: The community's appetite for a new form of management of mining resources in partnership with the government and a USAID-funded project; more generally, its interest to try out new systems.
4. *Production management*: The mining potential of the community (in terms of deposits as well as work force) and the potential for geographic traceability, through setting up a production declaration system.
5. *Community initiative*: The capacity of community members to pool resources together to undertake any sort of enterprise servicing or benefitting the community at large.
6. *Economic diversification*: The breadth of other economic activities conducted by households in the community other than artisanal mining.
7. *Access*: The accessibility of the community by road transportation, both in terms of physical security and road conditions.
8. *Cohesion*: The level of mutual trust between community members themselves.

Table 1: Evaluation criteria for each visited community

Community	Cohesion	Leadership	Community Initiative	Interest/Motivation	Production Management	Land Management	Access	Economic Diversification
SAMA I	Strong	Strong	Weak	Average	Average	Strong	Weak	Average
Somica	Average	Weak	Weak	Weak	Average	Strong	Strong	Strong
Sangouma	Strong	Strong +	Average	Strong	Strong	Strong +	Weak -	Weak
Gboko	Weak	Average	Weak	Weak	Weak	Average	Strong	Strong
Goffi	Strong +	Strong	Average	Strong	Strong	Strong	Average +	Strong
Bolet	Average	Average	Strong	Average	Average	Strong	Average +	Average
Batouri-Danze	Strong	Strong	Average	Average	Average +	Average	Strong	Average +
Ngoungourou	Strong	Average	Weak	Average	Strong	Strong +	Strong	Strong
SCED-Ndelengué	Strong	Average	Strong	Strong +	Strong	Strong	Strong	Strong
Ndolobo	Average	Weak	Strong +	Strong	Strong	Strong +	Strong	Strong

(Table credit: Sebastian Pennes & Hervé Pounou)

The technical team recommended SCED-Ndelengué and Sangouma as potential pilot areas for local revenue management, based on their criteria scores. This is very different from the SODEMI model used in Côte d'Ivoire. Rather, the strategy is to build on some innovative local level arrangements for internal taxation and investment in local community activities. The technical think tank constituted above in Activity 1.2.2 adopted the criteria, which they will integrate in the ZEA concept note. The think tank also proposed other innovative options for generating funds within the pilot ZEA, such as communities obtaining a percentage of the value of rough (non-polished) diamond production, a lump sum from active mining sites, and income from the rental of work equipment to the artisanal miners in the pilot ZEAs. The different options will be proposed and discussed with the target ZEA pilot communities during the various consultations, to obtain their buy-in, and identify other possible options based on the local realities in their communities.

KEY FINDINGS FROM AMPR STUDY ON PARTICIPATIVE MANAGEMENT OF MINING ZONES

- ✓ A model of local governance based on participative management by a local community and mining authorities, as inspired by the Ivorian experience, is premature for the time being in southwest CAR. The minimum requirements to comply with the core components of the “SODEMI model” are not present in the visited communities.

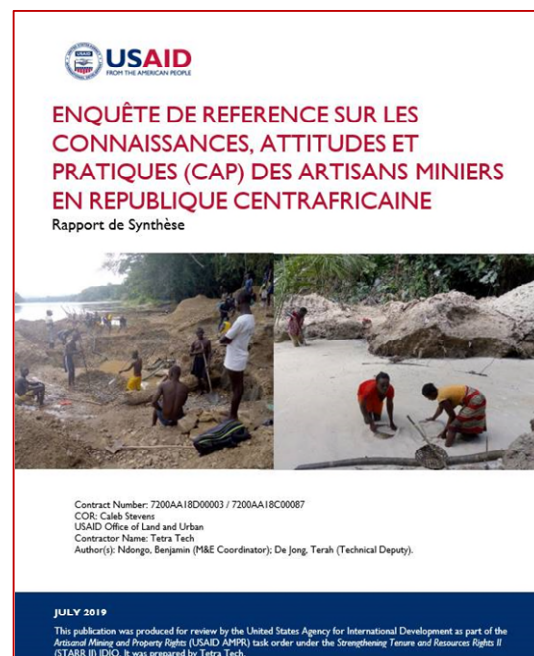
IMPLICATIONS FOR AMPR

1. Given the present dynamics in the Central African diamond sector, it is more appropriate to nurture and support local *groupements*.
2. The key SODEMI elements of production declaration, tax levying, monitoring, and basket fund would be acceptable within the boundaries of one or more groups composed of freely associated members.
3. Successful mining *groupements* may have the potential to grow organically toward absorbing most of the mining population in a community and redistribute funds as a moral duty in the form of community initiatives.

3.1.2.4 ACTIVITY 1.3.1: CONDUCT KAP SURVEYS IN COMPLIANT AND PRIORITY ZONES

Description: This activity aims at periodically measuring knowledge, attitudes and practices of miners in order to assess the effectiveness of awareness-raising activities and discern key trends. The first KAP survey was conducted during the first months of the project with a representative sample of mine claim holders, i.e., the artisanal miner or *chef de chantier*, drawn from active mining sites in select compliant and priority zones. The questionnaire allowed each respondent to be assigned a score on their level of knowledge of the KP and Mining Code, which will form the baseline for the indicator measuring KP knowledge improvement. The project aimed to harmonize the questionnaire and data collection process with related activities, such as the sampling of active mine sites to estimate real production (see PMP) and the development of an interactive online geographic information systems for active gold and diamond mining sites (led by IPIS, see Activity 3.3).

Results: In quarter two, AMPR developed and tested the KAP questionnaire with the active participation of the MMG and the KPPS, in several villages in the KP compliant zones of Carnot and Berberati. In quarter three, AMPR launched the first KAP survey in the zones of Boganangone, Carnot, Gadzi, Nola, Boda, Sosso-Nakombo, and Dede-Makouba, with a representative sample of 341 mine claim holders. The KAP focused mainly on their level of knowledge of the KP and Mining Code. In quarter four, AMPR produced a KAP report and organized a workshop to share the results with the technical experts of the MMG and the KPPS. AMPR presented the key data; after, dynamic discussions unfolded in small groups and the plenary session about actions that can be taken to address the lack of awareness of the Mining Code and the KPPS, evidence of fraud, and other delicate issues identified. The MMG technical team proposed some strong recommendations, including organizing mass sensitization campaigns to raise awareness of the



Mining Code and the OF. The workshop made a resounding call for revisions of the Mining Code to take up the issue of protection for ASM miner's rights and claims. The recommendations will be integrated in AMPR's Year II communication interventions.

KEY FINDINGS FROM AMPR KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, PERCEPTIONS STUDY

- ✓ Agriculture and mining remain highly linked, with most citing either the first or the second as their primary source of income.
- ✓ The phenomenon of producing gold concomitantly with diamonds is remarkable. Taking gold into account represents an added value opportunity and source of additional funding, as well as a significant source of income for women.
- ✓ The study confirmed the prevalence of "day laborers," with almost half the mines surveyed having this type of mining worker. The role of women is also growing, but production is still dominated by men.
- ✓ More than half of the respondents make transactions without purchase slips, even if they are perfectly aware of the obligation to have them.
- ✓ One in four artisanal miners received a visit from a state agent, showing a lack of contact. For contact cases, the PK focal points are the most present, demonstrating the value of their role in proximity communication.
- ✓ 75% of mine managers perceived their tenure rights as secure.
- ✓ Less than 1 in 5 miners have paid their license in 2019. Less than 3% belong to a mining cooperative, despite the existence of over 350 mining cooperatives in CAR.
- ✓ One in five miners are also buyers, buying and even financing other miners or workers.
- ✓ There are enormous gaps in artisanal miners' understanding of the KPCS requirements, Mining Code regulations, and even how the diamond sector operates.

IMPLICATIONS FOR AMPR

1. Ensure that the gold mining management discussion takes into account the existence of co-exploitation between diamonds and gold in the study area.
2. Plan for discussion and analysis sessions to identify financing strategies, ranging from the "traditional" mode of financing by collectors, to an exploration of alternative modes highlighted by the survey.
3. Explore the lack of organization of mining artisans in the field despite the existence of many mining cooperatives.
4. Pursue a policy of agricultural support in mining zone while seeking to better understand and better support the synergies between the two sectors.
5. Continue to reflect on the fact that site managers consider themselves owners.
6. Develop an appropriate strategy for the development of small semi-mechanized mines.
7. Initiate a discussion on the options for formalization or the prohibition of certain practices.
8. Conduct awareness-raising campaigns with a focus on understanding the Kimberley Process and chain of custody and linking these campaigns with technical assistance from KP focal points.

3.1.2.5 ACTIVITY 1.3.2: DEVELOP A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Description: This activity is intended to develop and implement a grassroots communications strategy to increase knowledge and application of KP procedures by all actors across the supply chain. AMPR draws upon results from PRADD I and II, as well as the first KAP survey, to develop a comprehensive strategy. The project will implement this strategy starting in Year II, which will include the translation/adaptation of videos from PRADD I and II, production of videos and interactive community theater scripts, and training of KP Focal Points and AMPR field agents. An intensive grassroots communications campaign will be timed for before the 2020 dry season and the period when most miners acquire their licenses (*patentes*).

Results: In quarter three, AMPR contracted an international communications specialist who developed a comprehensive AMPR project communication plan that includes key strategies, messages, and tools.

The strategy includes feedback from consultative meetings with stakeholders in Bangui including communication focal points from the MMG & MHANR, NGOs, civil society, and publication and communication agencies. AMPR consultant conducted field visits to the mining zones in Boda to obtain communities/beneficiaries' input and perspectives. The communication strategy proposes communication pathways to prevent fraud and smuggling around diamonds and promote social cohesion. The strategy also proposes systematic approaches and behavioral models of change that could guide the AMPR project in Year II in designing and implementing communication activities that encourage sustainable social cohesion and behavior change against fraud by addressing knowledge gaps around the KP and the OF.

In Year I, AMPR produced communication materials identified in the strategy, such as videos for use in sensitization and social dialogue. In quarter three, AMPR produced a lexicon of terminology used in the artisanal diamond and gold mining sector in the CAR. The resulting lexicon of technical terms in French and Sango was validated in a national workshop held in Bangui. This document is helping improve understanding and knowledge of the Central African mining industry; it will also help to clarify and resolve the inappropriate use of technical terms in both languages when revising the Mining Code. The technical film on the evaluation of rough diamonds made in Côte d'Ivoire by the PRADD II project was translated from French into Sango in quarter three. The translation relied on the lexicon, as well as the expressions used by the artisanal miners. AMPR will use the videos in Year II as awareness-raising and self-training materials for artisanal miners in grading and evaluating rough diamonds.

3.1.2.6 ACTIVITY 1.3.3: INTRODUCE INNOVATIVE INCENTIVES FOR DIAMOND PIT OWNERS, DIGGERS, COLLECTORS, COOPERATIVES, AND BUYING HOUSES TO COMPLY WITH THE KPCCS

Description: This activity aims at incentivizing formalization and behavior that is KP-compliant through conditional technical assistance to miners, communities, and buyers. In the first year, AMPR planned to conduct trainings on the use of hand augers in select communities, as the demonstrations and trainings would help build trust with miners and communities. In addition, AMPR will consider carefully as part of the ZEA pilot concept note how to introduce conditionalities, like having access to equipment rental pools for only those miners who obtain their worker cards (as required by law). For example, technical and material assistance will be made contingent on the purchase of licenses, the issuance of mining worker cards, and reporting compliance required by the Mining Code and the KP. The project will also harmonize activities with the anticipated WB project to support mining cooperatives.

Results: The AMPR project did not move forward much on this component during Year I because it was not operational in the field. Year II will be the year when compliance incentives will be carried out in the field. However, Tetra Tech worked closed with the World Bank to put in place a sole-source contract for the Appui à la Professionalisation des Coopératives Minières (APCM) project. The \$1 million project will provide capacity building and technical support to pre-cooperatives and cooperatives in sites adjoining those of AMPR, namely Nola and Boganagone.

3.1.3. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1.4: STRENGTHEN CAPACITY OF GOCAR TO MANAGE AND EXPAND KP-COMPLIANT ZONES EFFECTIVELY

3.1.3.1 ACTIVITY 1.4.1: STRENGTHEN KPPS

Description: This activity aims to support the KPPS in close collaboration with other donors. Building upon recommendations formulated under PRADD II, in the coming years, AMPR will support the KPPS as well as work with other donors to agree on sustainable solutions to issues like the salaries of KP Focal Points. For the first work plan, AMPR intended to identify key needs and issues as part of the diagnostic and workshop on the KP Operational Framework (see Activity 1.1.1), as well as ongoing

discussions with the WB, who have agreed to support some costs related to KP Focal Points. Per discussions with the WB Project Manager for support to the MMG, AMPR will cover the per diem costs for no more than 14 Focal Points in Year I of the project, as well as some motorcycle driver and rental costs until motorcycles are provided to the Focal Points through the World Bank-funded project, *Appui à la Professionnalisation des Coopératives Minières de la République Centrafricaine (APCM)*. AMPR will not pay the fuel costs of motorcycles. A memorandum of understanding spelling out the respective donor and KPPS support to the Focal Points will set forth these arrangements. In addition, this memorandum will spell out the other anticipated functions of the Focal Points and AMPR support related to data collection and management, such as trainings on data analysis.

Results: In quarter four, the Minister of Mines and Geology setup a joint committee of MMG legal experts and AMPR specialists to draft the regulatory text for the CAR KPPS. This activity aimed to assist the MMG to realize the conditions related to the support of the KPPS, established by Decree No. 03.124 of June 20, 2003, which required the formalization of the KPPS text, organization, and operation. During a four-day retreat supported by AMPR, the technical team analyzed the consultancy report carried out by Maurice Miema during PRADD II on the implementation systems of the KPCSs, in other African diamond producing countries. Using the best practices outlined in Mr. Miema's report and experience in supporting the KPPS in Côte d'Ivoire, the team drafted the regulatory text, organization, and function of the CAR KPCS. The document was handed over to the Minister of Mines and Geology for review and submission to the Cabinet of Ministers for endorsement.

AMPR worked closely throughout the year with the WB and the KPPS to support the KP Focal Points. The WB decided not to financially support the Focal Points until the MMG resolves the legal standing of the KPPS. Meanwhile, AMPR kept the 14 Focal Points in the fold by training them in various project activities and hiring them as IPIS consultants to carry out the gold mapping survey. This kept them engaged and not searching for other employment.

Table II: AMPR activities involving the KP Focal Points

#	Activity Type	Activity Description involving the KP Focal Points
1	Training	KP and the OF
2	Training	Traceability system in the production and commercialization of rough diamond
3	Training	Practical training on the use of the global positioning system (GPS)
4	Training	Cartography of artisanal mining sites and data collection using ODK tools
5	Training	Accelerate Participatory Research Methods
6	Field Mission	Data collection to map artisanal mining sites in Western CAR
7	Field Mission	Data collection for the KAP survey in Western CAR.
8	Workshop	Restitution of KAP survey findings and discussions of the next steps.
9	Workshop	Validation of terminology lexicon used in the artisanal diamond and gold mining sector in CAR

3.1.3.2 ACTIVITY 1.4.2: REINVIGORATE THE FRIENDS OF CAR

Description: This activity seeks to adapt a successful model of technical-diplomatic coordination used in Côte d'Ivoire whereby PRADD II and other partners worked with top diplomats to liaise with senior government officials. The approach helped create synergies between diplomatic missions and technical partners, while also proving invaluable when sensitive political or institutional issues negatively affected project implementation. AMPR has broached the idea with local diplomats in Bangui who are enthusiastic in principle. Given that the Friends concept would need to be led by diplomats, AMPR will follow up with the new U.S. Ambassador to see if there is interest.

Results: AMPR supported the U.S. Ambassador to the CAR to organize the first meeting of the Group of Friends for CAR. In quarter four, the Ambassador hosted the French and EU Ambassadors, WB Country Manager, USAID delegation from Kinshasa and Washington, representatives from AMPR, EU GODICA, and WB PGRN projects at her residence for two hours. In the first hour, the AMPR Technical Deputy briefed the diplomats on artisanal mining in the CAR, the KP, the key findings from the smuggling diagnostic, and lessons learned from Côte d'Ivoire on the advantages of diplomatic and technical coordination. In the second hour, each project manager presented its broad technical orientation. The group then discussed possible next steps, though all agreed in principle on the value of a Friends of CAR group and the need for coordinated messaging to the government on the sector.

3.1.3.3 ACTIVITY 1.4.3: SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND GEOLOGY DONOR COORDINATION UNIT

Description: This activity aims at promoting coordination and synergy between different donors working in the mining sector in the CAR. During the Year I work planning and project launch, the MMG reiterated its desire for coordination and for GoCAR to play a central role in project implementation. It is unclear at this point if the MMG will create a formal coordination unit or whether donors will be convened from time to time. AMPR will adapt based on the MMG's directives and may provide some logistical support for meetings (such as catering) although will urge the Ministry to take the lead on convening and funding the meetings.

Results: In quarter four, AMPR supported the MMG in organizing a technical partner meeting to review achievements, overlaps, and processes for future inter-project information exchange. The first ever meeting held in 2019, was attended by a delegation of USAID Washington and Kinshasa, the WB Senior Mining Specialist and representatives of AMPR, EU GODICA, WB PGRN, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) projects. Each project presented its technical objectives, strategic activities, interventions zones, and budget. The partners welcomed the initiative that enabled them to better understand who is doing what and where in support of the MMG.

3.1.3.4 ACTIVITY 1.4.4 SUPPORT TARGETED AMPR INTERVENTIONS

Description: This activity aims to support capacity-building and other in-kind contributions to the GoCAR to strengthen KPCS compliance following a gap analysis of other donors' contributions. As AMPR is the first project underway, it is still unclear how exactly other projects' activities will align. The team has been in close contact with the WB and has contributed thoughts to the EU project ToR, which will ideally lead to complimentary activities and little or no duplication. For example, AMPR and the WB, in concert with USAID, have discussed a joint cost-sharing approach to supporting the logistics and salaries of KP Focal Points. Similar discussions may become necessary with the EU once their project is launched. AMPR will continue to be collaborative, proactive and flexible.

Results: Throughout Year I, AMPR and EU GODICA held numerous technical discussions on how to create synergies and cost savings between the two projects. GODICA shared its approved work plan with AMPR to enable coordinated planning on related activities. AMPR worked closely on the outlines of the ToR for technical assistance to BECDOR, the largest budget line in the GODICA project. The projects also discussed coordination for livelihoods programming, which for GODICA will focus on Nola, inland fish production, and mining equipment rental centers. AMPR and USAID also met senior officials from the Belgian agency ENABEL (including the DRC Country Representative) and senior representatives of the EU Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), the donor for the GODICA project.

3.2. OBJECTIVE II: STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, SOCIAL COHESION, AND RESPONSE TO VIOLENT CONFLICT IN CAR

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year I

- Participatory assessment of Local Peace and Reconciliation Committees (CLPR) and the KP Local Monitoring Units (ALS) in the pilot sites.
- Establishment of 11 new CLPRs in association with the MHANR.
- Facilitation of drafting annual CLPR Action Plans in the six pilot CLPR sites of the Berberati region, Balégo, Yamalé, Bania, Wapo, Nassolé and Nandobo
- Diagnostic on gender dynamics in intervention communities, including the identification of opportunities to support women's economic empowerment and social inclusion.
- Gender Action Plan with a focus on integrating gender dynamics into all activities, as well as the identification of activities for IR 2.2
- Technical consultative meetings on armed pastoralism and transhumance with the MMG, MHANR, Ministry of Livestock, and the General Secretary of the *Fédération Nationale des Eleveurs Centrafricains*
- Joint declaration between the KP monitoring committees and anti-fraud police (USAF) to commit all actors to jointly fight fraud in the Berberati region.

Overview of Challenges in Year I

- Field coordination of social cohesion activities has been difficult due to the absence of the MHANR Regional Offices. The coordination of the CLPR activities was done through the Ministry in Bangui, making it difficult to monitor and report on progress. AMPR discussed the challenge with the Minister of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, who confirmed the nomination of Regional Directors that will be deployed in the next quarter.
- Operationalization of the AMPR Gender Action Plan as a strategic tool to promote women's social and economic empowerment and ensure women's broad inclusion in mining activities is still lacking. This is because the action points in the plan were developed after approval of the Year I work plan. This was by design because of the need for further scoping on opportunities to promote women's social and economic empowerment. In the Year II work plan, gender dynamics have been integrated in interventions for each project component.
- Establishment of dynamics and self-sustainable women's economic empowerment groups has been a challenge. In many villages, women pisciculture and agricultural groups were set up by various humanitarian and development actors; some groups failed to take off and others struggled to survive after the projects supporting them closed. AMPR will focus on capacity building that will focus on promoting self-sustainability for the groups, using experience from PRADD I and II.
- Insecurity on roads and sometimes in project intervention sites. AMPR suspended the creation of CLPRs in Zaoro, Sangou and Bouli due to the attacks on the communities by the 3R armed group.

3.2.1. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2.1: SUPPORT INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ESPECIALLY BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC GROUPS TO RESOLVE CONFLICT OVER LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

3.2.1.1 ACTIVITY 2.1.1: EVALUATE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEES

Description: This activity aims at building continuity with PRADD II under which six CLPR were established in Berberati, though time was limited to support their work. To learn from the PRADD II experience and prepare for an expansion of committees and a strengthening of their capacity, the first activity of this component will be a joint MMG-MHANR evaluation of the committees, with a particular focus on their actions and how they are perceived in their communities. To improve linkages with the OF, the same diagnostic will include an examination of the CLS and ALS committees established in compliant zones at the sub-prefecture and commune levels. The results of the diagnostic will be presented at a national workshop, at which time next steps will be determined.

Results: In quarter two, AMPR completed the participatory assessment of CLPR and ALS in the pilot sites of Balégo, Yamalé, Bania, Wapo, Nassolé, Berberati centre, and Nandobo. AMPR organized a national validation workshop to share the findings on the strengths and weaknesses, relationships between the two types of committees, support needs, and lessons learned. The report on the diagnostic was completed and submitted to USAID at the end of quarter two, along with the principle observations, conclusions, and recommendations of the national validation workshop. The results of this evaluation show that the CLPR and ALS play a key role in resolving conflicts at the local level. While it is sometimes difficult to assign direct causality to the actions of these two institutions with regards to the reduction of conflicts, it is positive that the committee members see their value. The evaluation raises the pressing issue of how the GoCAR will support the recurrent costs of these institutions. However small the costs may be, the committees lack the funds to cover even the most basic necessities.

Unfortunately, the successes the committees achieve in resolving conflicts are not reported to the central government due to the weak administrative linkages between remote villages and Bangui. Over time, the volunteers serving on these committees may become discouraged and disillusioned unless motivation is maintained through improved governmental recognition of their role or through some form of compensation, be it monetary or through skill-building. Yet, for these structures to become sustainable over time, some sort of direct cost recovery is required at the local level, a subject of deep interest to the AMPR project through its initiatives to support decentralized revenue management in diamond mining communities.

In terms of the identified gaps, the evaluation did not invest the time and the financial means to integrate into the study the perspectives of all the social strata of the villagers served by the CLPR and ALS. We do not yet know how different social categories perceive the strengths and weaknesses of CLPRs and ALS. This gap will be filled through a more rigorous participatory evaluation of the perceptions of different segments of the local populations in Year II.

3.2.1.2 ACTIVITY 2.1.2: EXPAND SUPPORT TO CLPRS

Description: This activity aims to increase the number of and support to CLPRs. AMPR intends to build upon the initial successes realized through PRADD II, which encouraged the formulation of Local Pacts to document community agreements. In the first work plan, AMPR will likely expand the CLPRs to cover all three sub-prefectures where the project works. In addition, AMPR will identify and train Focal Points in each CLPR who will record and monitor conflicts, as well as actions and activities led by the CLPRs to promote their resolution. In addition, AMPR will work with each CLPR, both new and old, to identify an action plan for the year and provide some logistical support to implement their activities. AMPR will also look to maximize synergies between the CLPRs and ALS committees. At the same time,

the project will work with the MHANR to identify other donors to support the strengthening of the CLPRs, not only in the diamond mining areas of the southwest, but throughout the country.

Results: AMPR has supported the MHANR to establish CLPRs throughout the compliant zones of the southwestern diamond mining areas of the CAR. Table III presents the localities of the 11 CLPRs set up during Year I. These CLPRs are the only ones outside of Bangui that are formally recognized as “legitimate” from the perspective of the MHANR, because ministry procedures were followed to the letter around the elections of members and their official investiture.

Table III: CLPRs created and supported by AMPR

Prefectures	Sub-Prefectures	CLPR Location	Comments
Mamberé-Kadéi	Carnot	Carnot Center	CLPR created, yet to be inaugurated, no trainings.
		Toutoubou	Same as above
		Mboula Yangere	Same as above
Mamberé-Kadéi	Gadzi	Gadzi Center	CLPR created, yet to be inaugurated.
		Guen	Same as above
		Djomo	Same as above
		Ndninguiri	Same as above
Sangha-Mbaéré	Nola	Nola Center	CLPR created, yet to be inaugurated.
		SCED-Ndelengue	Same as above
		Beya-Pangzi	Same as above
		Ngoungourou	Same as above

3.2.1.3 ACTIVITY 2.1.3: CONTINUE SOCIAL COHESION ENGAGEMENTS IN DIAMOND MINING COMMUNITIES

Description: This activity aims at designing and implementing social cohesion support, including but not limited to activities involving the CLPRs. In the first work plan, AMPR will execute its logistical and programmatic support for the individual CLPR action plans (see Activity 2.1.2). This may include activities like community service or community theater, and/or trainings on dispute resolution. In addition, AMPR anticipates filming some of the community meetings leading to the establishment of CLPRs, and then producing several short videos for use in social dialogue sessions, like the approach used by the PRADD II subcontractor Indigo in Côte d’Ivoire. AMPR will also develop a concept note on the Local Pacts, which under PRADD II were created for several communes, documenting community decisions and positions on sensitive issues. AMPR will take stock of the initial pacts and then develop a methodology to implement them more widely. This will avoid redundancy and create synergies with other activities, such as the ZEA management and zoning plans.

Results: The AMPR project in coordination with technical experts of the MHANR facilitated the drafting of the Annual Action Plans for the seven CLPR of the Berberati region—Balégo, Yamalé, Bania, Wapo, Nassolé, Nandobo, and Berberati center. The plans propose a wide range of activities, like strengthening the capacity of CLPR and ALS actors in conflict prevention associated with pastoralism, methods to prevent conflict, mediation and social dialogue techniques, and ways to organize the national Peace and Reconciliation recognition day. The action plans are structured into two parts—crosscutting intervention needs in all the CLPRs and specific interventions per CLPR pilot site. Among the complex crosscutting issues is the mediation for the return of property to Muslim collectors who were forced to leave the zone during the 2013 crisis. Key activities of the CLPR work plans will be incorporated in AMPR’s Year II work plan. Several video clips of conversations around peace and reconciliation and the role of the CLPR were recorded during the various missions in the field and stored for future use.

Several videos were captured on the creation of the CLPR following procedures for electing of members and their official investiture. AMPR will use them in Year II during the production of the project's "capsules" (short videos of 3-5 minutes collecting stakeholder perspectives on an issue; to be used to spark conversation during social dialogue) and documentaries.

The Component coordinator launched an initiative on pastoralism and violent extremism in the diamond mining areas of the southwest. Over the past year, field research carried out by AMPR suggested that transhumant pastoralists were occupying agricultural lands and were engaging in illicit diamond and gold trade. Cases of livestock theft, and then, retributions, were reported throughout the year. The component coordinator presented his findings at an inter-ministerial workshop, and from this event, received support to set up Pastoralist Platforms at the sub-prefecture level to bring pastoralist, agriculture, and government representatives together to discuss the reasons for the growing violence. The first platform was set up in Berberati. The coordinator launched the first meeting with a "Master Class" of key information about pastoralism, information gleaned from previous AMPR studies, and discussions with various stakeholders. The event led to much fruitful exchange of information and a commitment to continue the discussions, a key tool to reducing misunderstandings around the growing crisis between transhumant pastoralists and sedentary communities.

In quarter four, AMPR Component II Coordinator organized a masterclass on armed pastoralism in the KP mining zone of Berberati. This activity brought together representatives of the Ministries of Mines and Geology, Livestock and Animal Health, Agriculture and Local Development, Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, and MINUSCA. The activity enabled the sharing of experiences and lessons learned between local actors in the pastoral sector, institutional and technical services. The actors also discussed how to reconcile approaches and strategies for social cohesion and the prevention of violent conflicts related to pastoralism and transhumance in compliant mining areas.

3.2.1.4 ACTIVITY 2.2.1: CONSOLIDATE AND COMPLIMENT LEARNING

Description: This activity aims at using lessons learned from PRADD and international best practices in designing a strategic and sensitive approach to the social and economic inclusion of women. As part of the process of identifying activities and developing the Gender Action Plan, AMPR will analyze these lessons and practices and conduct participatory fieldwork with women in ASM communities.

Results: In quarter two, the AMPR Gender Specialist, in cooperation with the AMPR Women's Social and Economic Empowerment Specialist, carried out a gender and livelihoods situational assessment using a participatory/rapid rural appraisal methodology in Meyer, Ganli and Somica (three villages in the Carnot subprefecture). The study also consisted of a review of available information from pertinent literature and documents from 2007 to 2018, including, but not limited to, gender assessments and country profiles by the African Development Bank, the WB, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNDP, and USAID's PRADD I and II projects that conducted work in Lobaye, Sangha Mbaere, and Mambere Kadei. The field-based diagnostic also enabled the AMPR team to practice the use of participatory/rapid rural appraisal tools for the first time. These proved to be powerful instruments to generate buy-in and ideas from both women and men on how to strengthen women's livelihood activities in diamond mining.

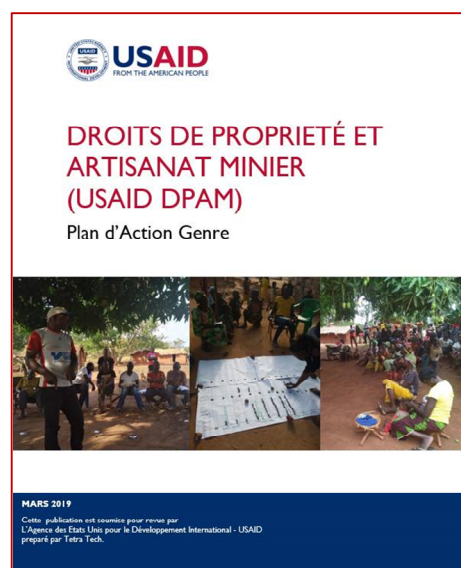
In quarter three, the AMPR Women's Social and Economic Empowerment Specialist and representatives from the MMG carried out a gender and economic activities diagnosis in the Nola, Gadzi, and Boganagone regions to determine if socioeconomic conditions are similar for women in these areas, or whether the gender strategy must be tailored to the specificities of each locality. The diagnosis also identified the levels and methods of women's access to the means of production—notably land, inputs, technical support, and financial resources—and the causes of disparities between men's and women's access to these means of production in the mining zones. According to the findings of the diagnosis, the

2013 political crisis in the CAR led to a weakening of investments in the artisanal diamond mining sector, which especially affected women. Declines in the artisanal mining sector translated to reductions of employment opportunities for women involved in transporting and washing gravel or selling food and services to miners. As a result of the crisis, it appears inequalities have grown between men and women. Women lost previously hard-earned autonomy in the sector, like control over ancillary economic activities like petty trading. The key findings guided AMPR's selection of Nola and Carnot and the types of women's entrepreneurship activities the AMPR project will support in Year II.

3.2.1.5 ACTIVITY 2.2.2: DEVELOP GENDER ACTION PLAN

Description: This activity aims to develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting women's economic and social inclusion, with an emphasis on land tenure dynamics and complimentary livelihoods. The activity will be completed in Year I work plan led jointly by an external consultant, the Component 2 Coordinator, and the women's livelihoods activities coordinator. The team will first conduct a gender mainstreaming training for AMPR staff as part of a broader capacity-building effort in participatory research methods. A series of participatory exercises in the field will complement the literature review, including focus group discussions and value chain analysis for women's existing livelihoods. The resulting plan will outline both the conceptual framework for AMPR and concrete livelihoods and awareness-raising activities that will begin in the first year.

Results: The AMPR Gender Action Plan was completed during Year I and based on field analysis of the role of women in diamond mining in southwestern CAR. Women play a central but underreported role in growing food and providing other services for the male labor force involved in diamond digging. Women earn income from providing considerable paid labor for transporting and washing the diamondiferous gravel. Some women own diamond pits, but cultural taboos often preclude women from diamond digging, though their role in hauling gravel to water sources is essential. The Gender Action Plan identifies gender issues relevant to the AMPR project, examines potential gender mainstreaming opportunities for each specific project objective, and proposes specific activities to strengthen women's livelihoods. The MMG enthusiastically validated the AMPR Gender Action Plan, spurring women technicians within the Ministry to set up a coalition supporting women in the mining sector.



3.2.1.6 ACTIVITY 2.2.3: SUPPORT INCOME AND RURAL LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION

Description: This activity aims to provide training and field support for rural livelihood diversification among women. The precise activities will be defined as part of the Gender Action Plan, including those that will be implemented in Year I work plan. By investing in rigorous and participatory field and desk research, AMPR will be able to identify activities that align



Figure 2: AMPR Team conducting a group discussion with the women of Nougourou village, in Nola. Photo by: Junior Kogoro.

with its overall strategy and have the maximum chance of sustainability and success.

Results: The Gender Action Plan defined the approach for promoting income and rural livelihood diversification—primarily among women—in the southwestern diamond mining areas. AMPR’s conceptual orientation is to generate added value from the diamond revenue circulating around the diamond mining communities and especially for women. This recognizes that women provide vital services to the artisanal mining sector, particularly the diamond diggers’ nutritional needs (namely protein and carbohydrates). Both women and men are food producers, although men tend to carry out agricultural activities during the rainy season and diamond digging in the dry season. The recommendations of the Gender Action Plan guided the development of the ToR for technical support to the women’s income generating activities that the project will support in the Carnot and Nola mining zones in Year II.

The Women's Social & Economic Empowerment Specialist conducted consultations with women in the pilot zones of Nola and Carnot, and compiled information sheets detailing the types of economic activities already in place through women’s associations and groups. The initial discussions with the nascent women’s groups showed that women were interested in a wide gamut of income-generating activities (summarized in Table IV). The AMPR Component II Coordinator will set up sub-contract(s) with specialized consulting firms or non-governmental service providers to support the activities of interest to these women’s groups.

Table IV: Women groups and priority income generating activities

	Locality	Number of Associations	Primary Interest of Associations	Secondary Interests of Associations
Carnot	Carnot Centre	1	Mining	AGR
	Meyer	2	Farming	AGR
	Ganli	2	Farming	AGR+ Pisciculture
Nola	Ngoungourou	2	Farming	AGR + Diamonds
	Loppo	1	Farming	AGR+ Pisciculture+ Mining
	Ndeléngué SCED	3	Farming	AGR + Diamonds
	Total	11		

3.2.1.7 ACTIVITY 2.2.4: ESTABLISH WOMEN'S INNOVATION FUND

Description: This activity aims to provide technical and material support to women entrepreneurs and cooperatives engaged in viable economic activities. Business skills training will be combined with in-kind support to boost productivity. In Year I of the AMPR project, the Gender Action Plan will identify potential entrepreneurs (including women miners), value chains, and existing women’s business groups and propose a series of steps and strategies to support their activities. It is unclear if the innovation fund, which will consist of in-kind financing through material support, will be launched in the first year. The GAP will determine if there are enough entrepreneurs that are ready, or if the first year will focus on capacity building and planning, which would take place concurrently with Activity 2.2.3 focusing on livelihood diversification activities with less structured women’s economic groups.

Results: During year I, the Gender Action Plan identified potential economic diversification activities primarily, but not exclusively, oriented around women. The Gender Action Plan and subsequent field

visits with associations and cooperatives highlight the very low capacity of organizational structures supporting innovative entrepreneurial activities. In Year II the AMPR team will explore how to create an entrepreneurial support program as it continues to learn about the economic climate in the project zones of intervention in Carnot, Nola, and Boda. This coming year will primarily be one of identifying the potential for launching the Women's Innovation Fund, which in subsequent years would take place concurrently with Activity 2.2.3 focusing on livelihood diversification activities with women's economic groups.

3.2.2. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2.3: STRENGTHEN COOPERATION BETWEEN GOCAR MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON SOCIAL COHESION AND KIMBERLEY PROCESS COMPLIANCE

3.2.2.1 ACTIVITY 2.3.1: DEVELOP INTER-MINISTERIAL AGREEMENTS TO PROMOTE PEACE AND SOCIAL COHESION

Description: This activity aims to build upon efforts under PRADD II to foster collaboration and coordination between the MMG and MHANR. At this stage, it is unclear if a renewed agreement between the two ministries will be necessary before being able to expand the CLPRs. The Component 2 and Components 1 and 3 Coordinators will confer closely with government stakeholders to see if formal agreements are needed. Otherwise, AMPR will continue the PRADD II practice of having joint missions and activities to foster collaboration between the ministries, such as the diagnostic of the CLPRs in January (see Activity 2.1.1).

Results: During Year I, the AMPR project supported effective inter-ministerial coordination at the local level in the monitoring and evaluation of peace and security in the mining areas through the various joint missions involving the MMG, KPPS, MHANR, and AMPR, such as during the community consultation on the gender and economic activities in Carnot and Nola. This involvement helped to create a better understanding of the gender dimension in mining activities and role of women in the supply chains of diamond and gold. The AMPR KAP survey revealed that very few women have legal documents like *patents* or workers mining cards (only 10 women licensed in Carnot in 2019). This shows the low participation of women in legal mining activities, a point which the project and the KPPS recognized and agreed to support interventions to boost women's participation and bring them into the legal chain in Year II. The representatives of the MMG and MHANR jointly participated in all social cohesion activities conducted in Year I, like the creation of the CLPRs, and in the master classes on the dynamics of armed pastoralism in the KP compliant mining zones. This created a better understanding of the contribution of the peace interventions of the MHANR as a point of entry for mining activities under the MMG, supported by the AMPR project.

3.2.2.2 ACTIVITY 2.3.2: IMPROVE COORDINATION OF APPROACHES TO PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN DIAMOND MINING COMMUNITIES

Description: This activity aims to avoid duplication of effort among the different actors working to promote peace and reconciliation in the CAR. In its first year, AMPR will focus on building coordination and synergies at the local level, notably through clarifying mandates and roles of the local KP (CLS / ALS) and CLPR committees, identifying and joining existing



Figure 3: Delegation of USAID Kinshasa and Washington, and AMPR representatives meeting the Minister-MHANR, Bangui. Photo by: Prospert Yaka-Maïdé.

coordination mechanisms (like the security coordination meetings led by the sub-prefects), and liaising with other NGOs active in the project's intervention areas. At the national level, AMPR will rely on its government partners to lead coordination amongst donors and other actors.

Results: AMPR facilitated discussions with the MHANR to assess the need to improve the coordination of social cohesion activities between donors and ministries. In quarter four, AMPR facilitated a technical meeting between the MHANR and U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in the CAR—accompanied by a USAID delegation from Kinshasa and Washington—and representatives of the AMPR project. The DCM thanked and congratulated the Minister for the years of collaboration since the start of PRADD II, which has allowed AMPR to successfully create 18 CLPRs in the southwestern mining zones. The Minister acknowledged the vital role the CLPRs play in contributing to calm and social cohesion in the sub-prefectures of Berberati, Carnot, Nola, and Gadzi. She requested that AMPR continue to support the Ministry to extend the coverage of the CLPRs, which are a priority for implementation of the Khartoum Agreement. The Minister also requested that AMPR provide transport and communication means to the CLPRs to enable them to carry out activities in the field. The Minister welcomed the proposal for signing a memorandum of understanding with AMPR, detailing the roles and responsibilities of both parties. She confirmed that her ministry has nominated Regional Coordinators, who will be deployed soon to coordinate social cohesion efforts, which include the work of the CLPRs.

In quarter three, the AMPR Component II Coordinator was asked by the MHANR to support the organization of a capacity-building workshop for ministers following the signing of the Khartoum peace agreement. Ministries are under high pressure to implement features of the agreement focused on decentralized distribution of revenues from resource extraction. AMPR presented the option for grassroots consultations using the CLPR model created with the support of AMPR in the implementation process of the Commission for Justice, Reparations and National Reconciliation. This heightened visibility for AMPR's efforts in supporting social cohesion at the grassroots level.

3.3. OBJECTIVE III: INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBLE GOLD SUPPLY CHAINS IN CAR

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year I

- **Recruitment and training of enumerators:** Four-day training held in Bangui in late March 2019 to train enumerators in mobile data collection tools and field research methods.
- **Field research completed for diagnostic report:** Ten enumerators (five KP Focal Points and five members from civil society organizations) as well as six AMPR field agents collected a total of 322 questionnaires on both gold and diamond mining sites in western CAR. This includes 201 gold mine sites, 61 diamond sites, and 60 mixed sites where both gold and diamonds were being mined.
- **Data cleaning, data management, and data analysis:** All data downloaded from the questionnaire was cleaned and reviewed to check for missing values and potential errors. Data were uploaded in a geo-localized database and statistical analysis was conducted.
- **Drafted Diagnostic of Artisanal Gold Sector:** Gold diagnostic final report drafted, which includes information about gold exports and trade, production, marketing, financing systems, the regulatory and policy framework, institutions and stakeholders, and community resource governance and social cohesion. The final draft will be shared with the MMG in mid-November.
- **Designed interactive webmap:** An interactive webmap was developed, which allows users to sort views by mineral, location, and incidents observed.

- **Design of printed map:** IPIS designed a printed map in English to present the 322 mining sites visited by the teams. A French version will be developed next quarter.

Overview of Challenges in Year I

- **Rainy season:** Data collection for the gold diagnostic took place at the beginning of the rainy season, which created travel difficulties for the teams to access some of the mining sites. In 81 percent of visited mining sites, the number of workers was judged to be lower than usual because of the rain. AMPR would advise for new data collection cycles to happen from October to April to avoid such difficulties.
- **Number of sites visited:** AMPR visited 322 mine sites which represents approximately 12.5 percent of the estimated number of artisanal mining sites in the CAR, and about 36 percent of the 717 known artisanal gold mining sites.¹ The number of visited mine sites is notable given the field conditions, but in some cases the number of sites visited was too small to conduct detailed statistical analytics of subsets of mines per observed attributes. AMPR would recommend the continuation of the mapping project in order to visit more mining sites.

3.3.1. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 3.1: RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY, LEGAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS

3.3.1.1 ACTIVITY 3.1.1: CONDUCT ARTISANAL GOLD SECTOR DIAGNOSTIC TO ASSESS MARKET READINESS

Description: This activity is intended to gather and communicate basic information about ASM gold mining in the CAR in order to enable discussions and analysis on how to align the country's growing gold production with national and international laws and norms. AMPR sub-contractor IPIS will lead a diagnostic study to assess the ASM gold economy while also setting up an interactive mapping system (See Activity 3.1.3). The diagnostic consists of desk and field-based research to understand the production and financing systems, as well as the regulatory framework. Results are to be presented and discussed at a national workshop. AMPR plans to design the workshop in such a way as to build linkages with other donors (notably the EU) and move towards a national action plan. For example, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/EU may conduct a training on the new conflict minerals legislation, and AMPR's second sub-contractor for Component 3, RESOLVE, will then share experiences from the USAID Capacity Building for Responsible Minerals Trade (CBRMT) project in the DRC. Combined with the study results, the workshop will create a space for discussions to establish an action plan.

Results: During the last quarter, the field teams conducted their second data collection mission in the areas of Bossangoa, Bouar, Amadagaza, Abba, and Baboua, located close to the Cameroonian border (see Figure 4 below for map of missions completed). A total of 322 mining sites were visited with an estimated 62,042 artisanal miners working on-site (men, women and children). Questionnaires were completed for each mine site visited and narrative reports were also submitted from the field mission documenting case studies of mineral trade and production.

¹ See U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 2018 and Levin Sources 2018 estimation of the number of mining sites in CAR (2 560 mining sites), including 1 868 diamond sites, 410 gold mining sites and 307 mixed diamond and gold mining sites.

The total collective weekly production of gold sites visited was over 35,700 grams, an average of almost 142 grams per site. However, the disparity of production is enormous; while some sites produced only 1 gram, others reported production of 2 kg per week. Assuming the AMPR sample is representative of the distribution of large and small gold sites in CAR, we can deduce that approximately 5,720 kilograms of gold are extracted annually.

ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT (OCT. 1, 2018–SEPT. 30, 2019)

the same period, and cases of sexual and gender-based violence were reported at 10 sites. The presence of mercury was observed only at 3 sites.

Additional information regarding the visit dates and locations, numbers, and types of mine sites visited is provided in Tables V and VI below:

Table V: Mine sites visited by date, location and mineral type

Dates of Field Mission	Areas covered during mission	Total # of Mine Site Questionnaires Compiled	Total # mine sites visited disaggregated by gold/diamond
April 20 to May 10, 2019	Mbaïki Bossebele Yaloke Baoro Bozoum Bocaranga	190	106 Gold Sites 53 Diamond Sites 31 Mix of gold and diamond
June 11 to July 15, 2019	Baboua Abba Amadagaza Bouar Bossangoa	132	95 Gold Sites 8 Diamond Sites 29 Mix of gold and diamond

Table VI: Mine sites visited by prefecture and number of workers

Préfecture	Number of mine sites	Number of workers
Lobaye	27	4 685
Mambéré-Kadéï	34	7 455
Nana-Mambéré	114	11 540
Ombella-M'Poko	60	26 351
Ouham	27	2 211
Ouham-Pendé	50	9 059
Sangha-Mbaéré	10	741
Total	322	62 042

3.3.1.2 ACTIVITY 3.1.2: FACILITATE GOLD SECTOR ACTION PLAN

Description: This activity aims to foster technical discussions that build on the gold sector diagnostic and lead to an action plan, to be supported by other donors. AMPR anticipates working towards this action plan during the first work plan year, but the exact timing for completion will depend in part on other donors, notably the EU, as well as the level of buy-in from the GOCAR. The workshop planned in the latter part of 2019 to present the gold diagnostic results, ideally in association with an EU/OECD/RESOLVE training, will be key. RESOLVE will work alongside the EU project to support the

government and private sector in developing the action plan. AMPR will also identify any linkages with the WB project supporting mining cooperatives, some of which may be involved in gold, and which may be good candidates for piloting responsible sourcing initiatives.

Results: The gold sector diagnostic and feedback workshop was rescheduled from November 2019 to January 2020 to accommodate the KP meeting and provide the MMG with enough time to process the findings of this first large-scale field visit of gold mining sites and the large quantity of data generated. During a field visit to Bangui scheduled in November 2019, AMPR will share the final draft of the diagnostic report with the MMG, as well as an Excel table with a cleaned version of the dataset, an A0 printed map in French presenting the mining sites visited to-date, and a link to a password-protected interactive web-based map displaying the 322 visited mining sites.

3.3.1.3 ACTIVITY 3.1.3: DEVELOP INTERACTIVE MAP OF DIAMOND AND GOLD SITE LOCATIONS

Description: This activity aims to replicate the mine site monitoring and interactive real-time mapping interface developed by IPIS in the DRC, as well as build on its conflict mapping work in CAR. Based on work plan discussions, AMPR moved up this activity to Year I, given its utility in developing the gold diagnostic and action plan. Data collection for the map was collected by local researchers trained by IPIS for gold mine sites, concurrently with KP Focal Points for diamond mining areas, in the locations specified in the map and table above. The printed and interactive map could be useful for the OF, should the MMG agree to integrate diamond data into the mapping interface.

Results: The final draft, the printed map (in English), and the link to the password protected interactive web map were completed at the end of the quarter. The maps can be made available to USAID upon request.

3.4. OBJECTIVE IV: IMPROVE USAID PROGRAMMING THROUGH INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF LINKAGES BETWEEN ASM AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year I

- The Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy completed a rapid artisanal gold mining assessment in Ghana based on a desk review and field visit to the Wassa Amenfi West District. The assessment was conducted at the request of the U.S. Embassy in Accra and included a list of opportunities for donor engagement. The Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy also presented at a conference on ASM in Accra about best practices in ASM formalization. The assessment was also designed in support of the Supporting Deforestation-Free Cocoa in Ghana activity as part of the USAID ILRG project.
- The Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy completed a desk review of ASM gold in Burkina Faso for the USAID Sahel Regional Mission and Burkina Faso Country Office. The review used existing literature and telephone interviews to identify opportunities and weaknesses in the sector, as well as an examination of existing donor engagement.
- The Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy moderated a high-profile panel at the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum on standards and trends in responsible diamond sourcing. The panel unveiled new commitments by the diamond industry to go beyond the KP and adopt due diligence approaches through the Responsible Jewelry Council's revised standards and the World Diamond Council's system of warranties.
- The Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy presented at the KP Intersessional meeting in Mumbai, India on best practices in mining cooperatives. The presentation was delivered at a session of the Working Group on Alluvial and Artisanal Production (WGAAP).

Overview of Challenges in Year I

- The ASM gold assessment budgets, methodologies, and field time were very limited, allowing only a relatively superficial examination of the issues.
- The Ghana gold assessment was very useful to the USAID ILRG Deforestation-Free Ghana initiative though strategies to address all the policy recommendations are not yet in place. While there was limited feedback from the Burkina Faso assessment, informal discussions with USAID projects in Burkina Faso show that the study has made the rounds, especially for the RISE II project.
- There appears to be limited understanding by USAID operating units (OUs) about the opportunity afforded by Component 4 to co-fund research and other programming. Tetra Tech has recommended additional outreach to explain the mechanism to missions that may have an interest or where ASM is particularly relevant.
- USAID received an unsolicited proposal from Levin Sources regarding a pilot responsible sourcing for diamonds involving jewelers in the United Kingdom. Discussions between Tetra Tech and Levin Sources have taken longer than anticipated, in part due to uncertainty over funding levels and technical scope. This will likely be the main activity under Component 4 next year.

3.4.1. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4.1: ASSIST RELEVANT USAID OPERATING UNITS TO ASSESS THE LINK BETWEEN ASM AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

3.4.1.1 ACTIVITY 4.1.1: PREPARE OUTREACH DOCUMENTS

Description: This activity aims to prepare communication and outreach materials targeting USAID OUs on themes related to ASM and development. USAID prepares briefs on the AMPR project to be shared with OUs. This activity is intended for AMPR to prepare documents during the coming year should a need arise.

Results: There were no activities planned in Year I under this contract activity because USAID indicated it had sufficient outreach materials at this time. AMPR remains ready to respond to any additional requests for producing outreach materials or assisting with outreach.

3.4.1.2 ACTIVITY 4.1.2: CONDUCT DIAGNOSTIC OF ASM NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Description: This activity aims to use desk research and limited consultations to create a global issue brief on key issues and opportunities in countries with USAID programming where ASM is widely practiced. During work plan consultations, USAID determined that such a brief is not needed at this time, but as with all Component 4 activities, AMPR will remain responsive to USAID requests.

Results: There were no activities foreseen or completed in Year I.

3.4.1.3 ACTIVITY 4.1.3 PROVIDE ON-CALL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Description: This activity aims to provide expertise and assistance to USAID OUs as needed. At the time of work plan preparation, there were several possible activities, but none had been confirmed. The Technical Deputy is to work with the Project Manager and USAID to respond to any requests through organizing STTAs or other activities.

Results: AMPR responded to requests from the U.S. Embassy in Accra and the USAID Sahel Regional Mission. Due to budget and scope, these assessments—which both focused on gold—were completed

in-house by the Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy rather than outsourced to consultants or a sub-contractor.

3.4.2. INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4.2: STRENGTHEN KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND UNDERSTANDING OF USAID OPERATING UNITS AND PARTNERS ON THE LINK BETWEEN ASM AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

3.4.2.1 ACTIVITY 4.2.1: PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS ON ASM ISSUES

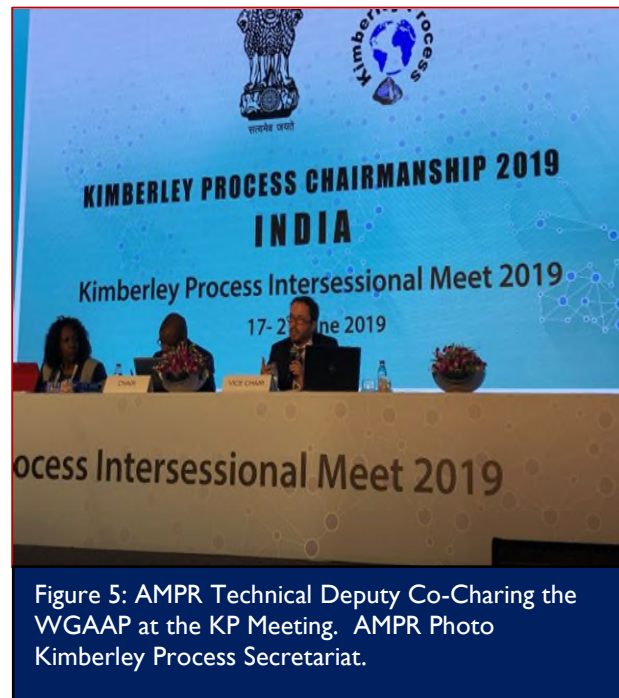
Description: This activity aims to participate in key international forums to remain abreast of international trends and issues that will affect AMPR implementation, as well as contribute to international best practices. In 2019, the Technical Deputy was slated to attend the KP Intersessional to support the U.S. delegation as needed, follow the activities of the CAR KP Monitoring Team, and report on AMPR activities to assist GoCAR. In addition, the Technical Deputy was asked to work with the Diamond Development Initiative (DDI), an international NGO registered in Canada with observer status in the Kimberley Process, to present on best practices for cooperatives management, a request made to USAID by WGAAP and included in the final 2018 KP communiqué.

AMPR was also asked to attend the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum in April 2019, represented by the Technical Deputy. AMPR will monitor other events and propose attending them to USAID as needed. For example, the WB may organize regional ASM conferences in Africa, and the EU will likely support a follow-on artisanal diamond mining forum like the one organized in Zambia in 2018. AMPR will assess the utility of attending such conferences on a case-by-case basis, and/or whether to fund the participation of key local stakeholders (e.g. artisanal miners). USAID will review these proposals as they emerge.

Results: In Year 1, AMPR attended the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum in April, as well as both the 2018 KP Plenary in Brussels and the 2019 KP Intersessional in Mumbai. At the OECD Forum, the AMPR Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy moderated a high-profile panel on diamonds and gathered key information and contacts for the Burkina Faso and Ghana ASM assessments. At the KP meetings, the Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy participated as a member of the U.S. Delegation, advising them on matters related to the CAR. In addition, the Component 4 Coordinator/Technical Deputy delivered a presentation on best practices in cooperatives and assisted the WGAAP Chair to prepare ToR for the second artisanal diamond mining forum. The ToR was debated by WGAAP, but a date has not yet been set for the meeting.

3.4.2.2 ACTIVITY 4.2.2: SHARE KNOWLEDGE ON LINKAGES BETWEEN ASM AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Description: Similar to Activity 4.1.3, this activity aims to provide USAID OUs with specific knowledge needs with respect to ASM. This could include organizing presentations or trainings on ASM for



missions or implementing partners, and/or conducting diagnoses on ASM dynamics in the context of land tenure, agricultural, conservation, or other projects.

Results: During Year I, USAID requested a brief on best practices on gender in ASM. Gender specialist Sabine Jiekak was contracted as a consultant to complete this work, in consultation with the Component 4 Coordinator. By the end of the year, the brief was complete but undergoing revision by the Tetra Tech Home Office.

3.4.2.3 ACTIVITY 4.2.3: PUBLISH RESEARCH IN PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS AND FOR VARIOUS PORTALS

Description: This activity aims to position AMPR as a thought leader on ASM through the preparation of academic and generalist communication and research products. Given AMPR's decision to front-load the Year I work plan with intensive field activity implementation, the project will place less emphasis on this activity than in subsequent years. However, in the latter part of 2019, the project will actively identify blogs or other communications pieces that can convey key findings and developments.

Results: The AMPR Component 4 Coordinator identified an opportunity with a graduate student in the United Kingdom to co-author an article based on a paper presented in March 2018 at the WB Land and Poverty Conference on the SODEMI model of co-management in Côte d'Ivoire supported by the PRADD II project. Other opportunities were also identified to collaborate with academics, such as Dr. Leif Brottem on the issues of armed pastoralism in the CAR. AMPR anticipates completing both papers in Year II.

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

4.1. INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Increasing women's participation in community decision-making: The AMPR project encouraged women to stand for elective positions as CLPR members. The Component II Coordinator, in collaboration with the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, carried out a communication and outreach campaign with the communities to elect women leaders and representatives during the mobilization of the village elective assemblies. Consequently, 25 women were nominated to various leadership positions, ranging from General Coordinators of the CLPRs in their zones, to finance, logistics, communication, and community mobilization managers. By playing catalytic roles in the CLPRs, AMPR helped women to be agents of peace, contributing to bringing about transformational peace and reconciliation changes required for social cohesion in their zones.

During the compilation of the lexicon of the technical terms used in gold and diamond artisanal mining in CAR, the AMPR team held separate consultations with women gold artisanal miners in Carnot and Ndolobo. The women contributed terms that they use in gold mining and processing. This helped balance the views, understanding, and applications of various technical terms by both men and women in the artisanal mining sector in CAR. Their terms were included in the lexicon that was validated by the MMG.

Inclusion of vulnerable populations: AMPR emphasized the inclusion of other vulnerable groups like the pygmy minorities in setting up women's economic groups. The project setup a women's group in Ndélégué SCED, Nola Sub-Prefecture, to deal with specific needs of the pygmy women, who are frequently discriminated against in the mining communities. AMPR also created a joint economic group of Muslim and Christian women in Carnot to facilitate social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between religious groups.

4.2. COORDINATION, COLLABORATION, AND INFORMATION SHARING WITH USAID MISSIONS AND OTHER USAID PARTNERS

The AMPR project participated in two partners meetings in Bangui, organized in July and September 2019, by USAID DRC. Seven USAID partners, including AMPR, presented their project activities, areas of operations, beneficiaries, planned areas of focus for 2020, collaboration with other USAID-funded projects in CAR and/or in DRC, and challenges they are facing. USAID agreed to establish a list of all USAID-funded projects and prepare and share factsheets to enhance its portfolio awareness in CAR. USAID partners agreed to meet on a rotating basis to update each other and share their experiences to discuss best practices and prevent duplication. The partners also agreed on collaborative work to scale up social cohesion, trauma healing, and peace education activities, as well as develop synergies on pastoralism and working in protected areas. USAID will continue to chair periodic partners meetings in the future.



Figure 6: USAID CAR Partners' meeting at Ledger Hotel, Bangui. AMPR Photo Prosper Yaka-Maïdé.

The July meeting was chaired by USAID Peace and Security Officer and USAID Monitoring, Evaluation and Coordination Contract COP. The September meeting was attended by the US Ambassador to the CAR, USAID Central Africa Region Mission Director, Deputy Mission Director, CARPE Senior Technical Advisor, Peace and Security Office Deputy Director, USAID CAR Development Program Specialist, and USAID/OFDA Senior Humanitarian Advisor.

Meeting between the U.S. Ambassador and the Minister of Mines and Geology: The U.S. Ambassador to the Central African Republic—accompanied by a USAID delegation from Kinshasa and Washington—and representatives of the AMPR project, met with the Minister of Mines and Geology. The two-hour meeting held at the MMG discussed ongoing U.S. support to the MMG through the AMPR project. The Ambassador saluted the efforts of the Minister on supporting the implementation of the AMPR project and pledged continued support to enable the Ministry to generate more revenue from the licit minerals trade. The meeting nominated a joint committee of representatives of the MMG and AMPR to finalize the AMPR fraud study, prior to being published on the USAID LandLinks website. The committee will also work on the decree for the operationalization of the KPPS. The Minister pledged to support AMPR's plans to implement pilots for the decentralization management of natural resources through the ZEA and village mining associations. The Ambassador informed the Minister of the efforts to start a Group of Friends to share information and help support the Central African government in strengthening the mining sector.

Every month the USAID Washington COR convenes a coordination call with the World Bank, European Union, and various USAID offices to review project advancements of each institution. The monthly meeting is complemented by Weekly Updates, an effective tool for informing a wide range of actors of project advancements, challenges, and plans for the coming week.

4.3. OFFICES

At the beginning of the second quarter, the AMPR project set up its headquarters in Bangui, which is now fully functioning with all necessary furniture, IT equipment, and supplies. Given the unavailability of some IT equipment in country, the project purchased computer hardware, GPS devices, a Cisco internet router, and projectors in the U.S., which visiting project staff brought with them to CAR. Each staff was provided with a laptop. Additionally, Community Mobilizers were provided with a smart phone and a GPS tracker to enhance communication, security, and data collection. The GPS tracker enables the project management team to track their real-time location, automate reporting, and check route maps during field missions.



Figure 7: USAID AMPR Offices fully functional office in January 2019. Photo by Maxie Muwonge.

The office uses MOOV, a Central African communication and internet service provider, to provide high-speed internet access. This has enabled the field team to conduct weekly Skype check-in calls with the Home Office and access Tetra Tech's secure file sharing and synchronization software. The security company BCAGS (*Bureau Centrafricain de Gardiennage et de Surveillance*) was contracted to secure the AMPR offices. It introduced handheld metal detection scanners and under-vehicle inspection mirrors to strengthen the access and control measures at the office.

AMPR implementing partner IPIS was provided office space within the AMPR offices on a cost sharing basis. Office space on a cost sharing basis was also provided for the World Bank APCM project, which

started activities in the fourth quarter. Cost sharing is based on estimating the square meter use of space and then dividing this by the total cost of rent, utilities, security, and internet.

Following constant power cuts at the office in April and May, the team installed eco-friendly rechargeable batteries at the office at the beginning of the fourth quarter as an alternative power source.

4.4. STAFFING

In January 2019, COP Mr. Maxie Muwonge and Manager of Administration and Finance Ms. Linca Tuyisenge arrived in Bangui and took over their respective positions. Prior to their arrival, Mr. Prosper Yaka-Maïdé, Objectives 1 & 3 Coordinator, served as the acting COP and Mr. Régis Ndaket as the acting Manager of Administration and Finance.

Linca Tuyisenge participated in the annual Tetra Tech all-staff meeting at the Home Office in the third quarter. She was selected by Tetra Tech as the best performing international staff of the year. She made a presentation, sharing her experience in managing finance and administrative roles in challenging field environments.

The AMPR project signed long-term employment contracts with 14 local staff, including the six who started with the project as consultants in quarter one. The contracts were reviewed and approved by a local employment lawyer and Home Office human resources experts to ensure that they conform to the CAR labor laws and fringe benefit requirements.

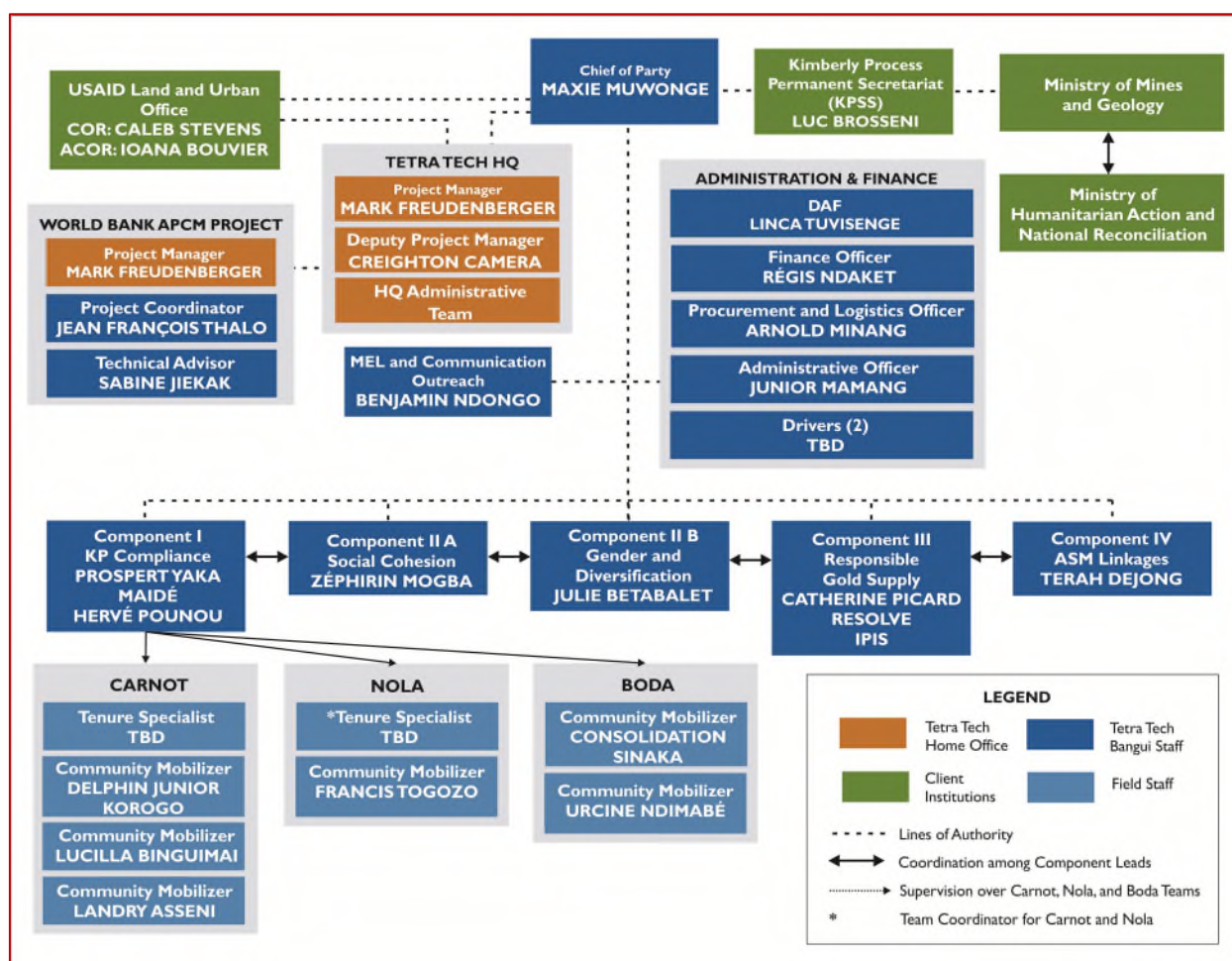
The project also successfully recruited eight employees: six Community Mobilizers, one Administrative Officer, and one Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning specialist. This position was modified because the staff member brings strong skills in data management as well as communications and outreach.

At the end of quarter four, three AMPR regional offices were established in the KP compliant zones of Nola, Boda, and Carnot. The field deployment of project Community Mobilizers will be conducted at the beginning of quarter one of Year II, and the mobilizers and two land tenure experts (yet to be hired) will be based in Nola (2 staff members), Boda (2 staff members) and Carnot (4 staff members).



Figure 8: AMPR Staff hosting the USAID delegation visiting the project offices in September 2019. Photos by William Bouyama.

Figure 9: AMPR Organigram



AMPR project contracted a legal advisor Cabinet Exact Conseil, to obtain a Tax Identification Number and Social Security Registration. This allowed the project to open a bank account and make monthly payments of tax withholdings and social security contributions for employees. Exact Conseil also facilitated the process of electing staff delegates along with a team of government Work Inspectors. The Finance Officer, Régis Ndaket, and the Women's Social & Economic Empowerment Specialist, Dr. Julie Betabelet, were elected as staff delegates.

Health insurance: AMPR contracted SUNU Group to provide health insurance coverage for all long-term employees. The insurance allows employees to receive the best medical care and protection against high medical costs. For approved medical expenses, employees and their dependents pay 20% of the costs while the Insurance Company covers the difference.

4.5. SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Red Cross Central Africa provided first aid training to AMPR staff. The three-day training focused on emergency assistance in case of traffic accidents, snake bites, and other life-threatening incidents. The staff learned how to use the various first aid kit items to preserve life, prevent illness or injury from becoming worse, relieve pain, promote recovery, and protect the unconscious.

BCAGS, a Local Security Company, conducted security and fire safety training of AMPR local staff, including the gardener and cleaner. The training focused on the theory and practice of preventing, responding to, and extinguishing fires.

As a part of the Security plan, AMPR implemented a communication strategy including in areas without phone service. Security updates are made through a Whatsapp group where verified information is shared with all group members. Verified sources are International SOS, local media, NGOs, and UN agencies. The project also uses a phone tree for regular security checks thanks to the “flotte” subscription which allows unlimited phone communication among employees. In remote areas without phone service, employees use a GPS tracker device to send text messages and e-mails to share their location and provide security updates.

5. PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

5.1 THE MONITORING LEARNING AND EVALUATION UNIT

The AMPR project office has set up the monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) unit and various tracking tools, including ways to monitor implementation of the work plan with annual sub-tasks, contractual activities, project deliverables. The MEL Specialist has prepared tools to facilitate routine data collection and quality control. The indicator tracking table has been developed in accordance with the MEL plan to facilitate the monitoring of progress during the life of the project (LOP). To ensure data quality, the data collection protocols (memoranda and cover page for each project indicator) were developed and validated after several exchanges between the AMPR MEL Officer, Technical Deputy, and the Tetra Tech's MEL Specialist in the Home Office.

At the end of every quarter, the indicator memorandum (documented justification of the performance data), and the front page containing the indicator details, baseline and quarterly performance results, are completed. The data sources and means of verification (MOV) is established in coordination with the component coordinators. The completed memoranda are signed by the component coordinators and MEL officer. The cover page per indicator is signed by the MEL Officer and validated by the COP. After the COP's validation, the cover pages and MOVs are systematically scanned and stored in Egnyte (online file synchronization and sharing folders). The originals are filed in hard folders and stored in a locked metallic cabinet.

5.2 COMMENTARY ON SPECIFIC INDICATORS

- For indicator 1, production estimates are based on the five compliant zones. Considering that the number of compliant zones was increased in the course of Year I from five (Berberati, Carnot, Nola, Boda and Gadzi) to eight (with the addition of Boganangone, Bonganda and Mbaïki), this indicator requires updating to better estimate production for the eight compliant areas.
- For indicators 1, 3, and 5, it was difficult to determine the percentage of licensed artisanal miners, estimated rough diamond production that is legally exported, and the numbers of artisanal miners in project intervention zones with basic knowledge of the KP and Mining Code. This was because the data collected by the Regional Offices of the MMG is not disaggregated. The different departments of the MMG in Bangui, sort the data of their respective departments. In Year II, AMPR will work with the respective departments to develop open data kit tools to collect and transmit disaggregated data.
- Some documents, like the list of active collectors and purchasing offices and copies of the purchase slips, were not available. The Department of Commercialization of the MMG would not share the documents with AMPR due to the ministry's confidentiality regulations.
- The official reports from of the MMG's Department of Artisanal Mining were signed neither by the Department Head nor the Director General of Mines. This brings into question the accuracy and validity of the data.

TABLE I. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The baseline values have been updated based on Year I activities, like the KAP survey, providing key information. In addition, Year I and LOP targets reflect those in the revised MEL plan being submitted for USAID approval as part of the Year II Work plan. This approach will harmonize the results with the revised targets and thereby make comparisons easier in subsequent years.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	YI Target	YI Result	LOP Target	COMMENTS
1	Percentage of estimated rough diamond production in KP-compliant zones that is legally exported from CAR	8%	15%	12%	60%	The denominator of 164,000 carats from USGS was not updated in Year I. This data does not yet include export results from September 2019, as they were unavailable at the time of writing.
2	Percentage of major diamond-mining sub-prefectures in the Western part of the country authorized by the Kimberley Process to export rough diamonds	31%	50%	50%	100%	The Year I target was corrected to 50% instead of 25%, a change reflected in the revised MEL plan. This was due to a version control error on the MEL plan. The result reflects the KP Monitoring Team approving three new compliant zones.
3	Number of licensed (registered) artisanal miners	1,000	1,500	1,458	3,000	Due to lack of fully disaggregated data at the MMG, the Year I result is made up of the number of miners in the second half of 2018 combined with the number of miners registered in the first half of 2019. AMPR will maintain this calculation method for the LOP to ensure comparability year on year.
4	Number of diamond buyers (collectors and buying houses) making purchases with official purchase slips	200	200	206	300	The MMG does not yet digitize sales slips, making it difficult to determine who among the registered buyers is actively making legal purchases. As such, the Year I result consists of all officially registered collectors and buying houses. In subsequent years as possible AMPR will endeavor to distinguish between active and inactive buyers. This will be made possible thanks to AMPR and VVB support to improve the data management system.
5	Percentage of artisanal miners in project intervention zones with basic knowledge of KP and Mining Code	35%	N/A	35%	50%	The KAP Survey conducted in Year I resulted in the baseline figure of 35%. See KAP survey report for detailed explanation of mode of calculation.
	<i>Men</i>	33%		33%		
	<i>Women</i>	2%		2%		

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	YI Target	YI Result	LOP Target	COMMENTS
6	Number of specific pieces of land tenure and property rights legislation or implementing regulations proposed, adopted, and/or implemented positively affecting property rights of the urban and/or rural poor as a result of U.S. government (USG) assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-1)	0	1	0	5	In Year I, AMPR supported the government in drafting the legal texts for the KPPS. However, due to ongoing review of these documents, the project will count this result in Year II once completed.
	<i>Number of total related to women's equal rights</i>					
	<i>Stage 1: Analyzed</i>					
	<i>Stage 2: Drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation</i>					
	<i>Stage 3: Reanalyzed/drafted based on the results of public/stakeholder consultation</i>					
	<i>Stage 4: Presented for legislation/decreree</i>					
	<i>Stage 5: Passed/approved</i>					
	<i>Stage 6: Passed for which implementation has begun</i>					
7	Number of adults who perceive their tenure rights to land or marine areas as secure as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-8)	1800	N/A	N/A	240	In Year I the KAP Survey provided the baseline figure of 1,800. The LOP target was set to reflect the revised methodology as reflect in the revised MEL plan.
8	Number of villages having formalized and strengthened their natural resource management capacity	0	0	0	20	The establishment of ZEAs and local pacts did not take place in Year I.
9	Number of groups trained in conflict mediation/resolution skills or consensus-building techniques with United States Government (USG) assistance (Standard F Indicator DR.3.1-2)	0	0	7	15	Dr. Zéphirin Mogba provided introductory training in conflict management using guidelines developed during PRADD II for each one of the seven CLPR's in the Berberati sub-prefecture.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	YI Target	YI Result	LOP Target	COMMENTS
10	Number of USG supported events, trainings, or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict (Standard F Indicator PS.6.2-3)	0	0	7	50	Dr. Zéphirin Mogba provided introductory training in conflict management using guidelines developed during PRADD II for each one of the seven CLPR's in the Berberati sub-prefecture.
11	Number of local women participating in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process supported with USG assistance (Standard F Indicator GNDR-10)	0	10	24	30	Due to the establishment of 11 more CLPRs in Year I, the target was surpassed.
12	Number of consensus building forums (multi-party, civil/security sector, and/or civil/political) held with USG Assistance (Standard F Indicator DR.3.1-3)	0	2	2	20	The result counts the forum between the CLPRs, ALS, and USAF, resulting in a joint declaration to reduce tensions. It also counts the series of consultations and forums conducted as part of the diamond smuggling diagnostic. As per the PIRS, the series of forums were counted only once.
13	Number of disputed land and property rights cases resolved by local authorities, contractors, mediators, or courts as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-3)	0	5	0	50	About half of the CLPRs were trained in the use of conflict registers, but due to delay in the field deployment of staff, no data has yet been collected. This is a high priority for the first half of Year II.
	<i>Disputes resolved by local authorities</i>					
	<i>Disputes resolved by contractors</i>					
	<i>Disputes resolved by mediators</i>					
	<i>Disputes resolved by courts</i>					
14	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (Standard F Indicator EG.3.2-1)	0	0	0	1,000	This activity has not yet begun.
	<i>Type of Individual: Producer</i>					
	<i>Type of Individual: Government Agents</i>					

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	YI Target	YI Result	LOP Target	COMMENTS
	<i>Type of Individual: Private Sector Firm</i>					
	<i>Type of Individual: Civil Society</i>					
	<i>Men</i>					
	<i>Women</i>					
15	Number of gold mining sites integrated into the interactive mapping system	0	0	0	300	The mapping was completed in Year I but integration into the interactive mapping system will take place in Year II.
16	Number of activities benefitting USAID OUs aimed to improve the understanding of linkages between ASM and key development issues	0	2	3	10	The Burkina Faso and Ghana diagnostics are counted, as well as the gender and ASM brief.

ANNEX I: SNAP SHOT



SUCCESS STORY

USAID AMPR SETS UP FRIENDS OF CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC



Coordination and outreach between government and donors supportive of reforms in the mining sector in the Central African Republic is key to long-term policy and programmatic reforms.

Telling Our Story
U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523-1000
<http://stories.usaid.gov>

The USAID AMPR project worked closely with the US Embassy in Bangui to set up the Friends of Central African Republic, a platform of ambassadors supportive of reforms in the mining sector. Adapting a similar structure set up by the USAID PRADD II project in Côte d'Ivoire, the AMPR team worked closely with the US Embassy and USAID Washington and Kinshasa to create this informal consultative platform. The experiences from Côte d'Ivoire were shared about the benefits ambassadors can bring to bear in reinforcing policy reforms in the artisanal mining sector.

The US Ambassador held the first meeting in September, 2019 of the Friends of CAR with Ambassadors from the European Union and France as well as representatives from the World Bank and other development programs supporting the Ministry of Mines and Geology. The inaugural consultative meeting will be expanded soon to include the MINUSCA and other interested Ambassadors. Through these initial meetings, the key topic will be around how the embassies can bring diplomatic weight to bear to support a roadmap against fraud and corruption in the mining sector, an issue that undermines the enforcement of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). Following these initial two coordination meetings, the Friends of CAR will meet with the Minister of Mines and Geology to map out ways that the Ambassadors might support the efforts of the ministry to strengthen compliance with the KPCS and the ministry's own proposed reforms. With the support expressed already by the ministry the Friends of CAR, the stage is set for constructive and collaborative discussions.

The Friends of CAR is an innovation for the Central African Republic, but one already proven effective in other diamond and gold producing countries. The coordinated messaging, and support, from the highest levels of the donor community are expected to give results, results not only around compliance around an international convention, but most importantly, contributions to increasing tax revenues from legal exports of diamonds and gold, so desperately needed by the national government.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA

On Wednesday, September 18, 2019, CAR National Radio and Radio Notre Dame covered and broadcasted the courtesy visit of the U.S. Ambassador to the CAR with the MMG, and that of the U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in the CAR with the Minister of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation. In both meetings, the U.S. Embassy diplomats were accompanied by a USAID delegation from Kinshasa and Washington, and representatives from the AMPR project. AMPR representatives were interviewed by the radios on the objective of the visits and its support to the two ministries.

The Ministry of Mines and Geology invited over the year the national press corps to cover the US Embassy and USAID visits to the Ministry. The coverage of these events was reported out in the written press and national television.

ANNEX 3: PROJECT STAFF

TABLE 2. PROJECT STAFF

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
1. Maxie Muwonge	Chief of Party	Maxie.Muwonge@dpamcar.org
2. Linca Tuyisenge	Director of Administration and Finance	Linca.Tuyisenge@dpamcar.org
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6. Zéphirin Mogba	Objective II Coordinator	Zephirin.Mogba@dpamcar.org
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16. Delphin Junior Kogoro	Community Mobilizer	junior.delphin@dpamcar.org
17. Landry Roselin Asseni	Community Mobilizer	Landry.Roselin@dpamcar.org
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19. Félicité Agnès Yasselo	Office Cleaner	-
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22. Pam Doran	Contract Specialist	Pam.Doran@tetrattech.com

ANNEX 4: DATA

AMPR generated new data from the KAP survey conducted in the KP compliant zones, involving 341 mine claim holders (*chefs de chantiers*), of which 5% are women and 95% are men. The tables below summarize data that provided new understanding about the current dynamics in the ASM sector in the

Existence of gold exploitation on diamond mining sites									
	Berberati	Boda	Boganangone	Boganda	Carnot	Gadzi	Nola	Sosso-Nakombo	Total
Diamond	24%	10%	4%	2%	21%	12%	6%	0%	79%
Gold and Diamond	1%	6%	6%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	21%
Total	25%	16%	10%	5%	22%	14%	8%	1%	100%

CAR.

Knowledge of the CAR Mining Code: Persons or entities authorized to export diamonds according to the 341 mine claim holders surveyed	Percentages
Anyone	3 %
Artisanal miners	3 %
Collectors	26 %
Buying Houses	32 %
Mining Coopératives	10 %
Mining Company	11 %
Whoever has a licence	1 %
Types of conflicts existing in the sites according to the 341 site managers surveyed	Percentages
Conflicts over the boundaries of the site	20 %
Conflicts with artisanal miners on the sharing of earnings	9 %
Conflicts with artisanal miners who stole diamonds	8 %
Conflicts with site insurer on the selling price	5 %
Conflicts with a buyer on the selling price	4 %
Source: AMPR KAP Study, May 2019	

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