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PROPERTY RIGHTS AND ARTISANAL DIAMOND DEVELOPMENT II (PRADD II) QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT, APRIL–JUNE 2014



JULY 2014

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COVER PHOTO: Oblique aerial image of Gberdeabon artisanal mining site, Forécariah District, Guinea, acquired by a DJI Phantom quad-copter in June 2014. Image credit: United States Geological Survey.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
BNE	<i>Bureau National d'Expertise</i> (National Evaluation Bureau in Guinea)
CONADOG	<i>Confédération Nationale des Diamantaires et Orpailleurs de Guinée</i> (National Confederation of Diamond Dealers and Alluvial Gold Miners of Guinea)
CUA	<i>Club Union Africaine</i> (Ivoirian NGO)
ePORT	Electronic Program Observation Reporting and Tracking
ERC	Evaluation, Research, and Communication Project
EU	European Union
GIA	Gemological Institute of America
GIS	Geographic Information System(s)
GRPIE	<i>Groupe de Recherche et de Plaidoyer sur les Industries Extractives</i>
IE	Impact Evaluation
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
KP	Kimberley Process
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
LSM	Large-Scale Mining
LTPR	Land Tenure and Property Rights
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology (in Guinea)
MRU	Mano River Union
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
PRADD II	Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development II
RLRS	<i>Service National des Ressources Foncières Rurales</i> (Rural Land Resources Service)
SODEMI	<i>Société de Développement Minier</i> (parastatal mining company in Côte d'Ivoire)
SMARTER	Sustainable Mining by Artisanal Miners
STA/M	Senior Technical Advisor/Manager
STARR	Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights
UN	United Nations
UNADOR	<i>Union des Diamantaires et Orpailleurs</i>
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WDDF	Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development II (PRADD II) project supports governments in implementing mining best practices in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea, and promotes good governance of the mining sector at the international level through the Kimberley Process (KP), the international mechanism that prevents rough diamonds from fueling conflict. The program—a \$19-million, five-year joint USAID/European Union (EU) initiative—is a follow-on project to PRADD, USAID's former flagship mining project that was implemented from 2007 to 2013 across Central African Republic, Guinea, and Liberia.

The objective of PRADD II is to increase the number of alluvial diamonds entering the formal chain of custody, while improving the benefits accruing to diamond-mining communities. Artisanal miners labor under archaic and difficult working conditions and live in extreme poverty, often receiving less than nine percent of the retail price of the stones they extract. Poverty prevents miners from acquiring the licenses required to operate within the law, the equipment necessary to increase their gains, and the assets needed to diversify their livelihoods. Not surprisingly, miners often become incentivized to mine quickly, sell fast, and quickly move on to new sites. These practices have devastating economic and environmental consequences, negatively impact export revenues, and prevent compliance with the Kimberley Process.

THE PRADD II APPROACH

Drawing upon the fields of property rights, economic development, governance, and behavioral change, PRADD II bases its approach on the premise that secure property rights create positive incentives for miners to be good stewards of the land. When artisanal miners' rights to prospect and dig for diamonds are formal and secure, they are more likely to sell through legal channels, enabling the government to track the origin of diamonds and prevent them from fueling conflict. Clarification and formalization of mining claims also help to clarify the rules governing access, use, and transfer of rights. This appeals to owners of the land, as well as to prospective investors.

PRADD II further strengthens the diamond value chain by designing alternative systems of financing, equipment, and marketing, which benefits diggers, miners, intermediaries, and exporters. The project introduces complementary livelihoods, including the conversion of exhausted mining sites into agricultural units, and specifically targets women to uptake these livelihoods in an effort to mitigate the environmental damages of artisanal mining while providing diversified income and food security.



At the policy level, PRADD II supports governments in improving diamond-mining legislation and regulations. In 2013, the project produced the Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework (WDDF), which helps diamond-producing states translate international best mining practices into action. The framework was endorsed by the Kimberley Process in November 2013. Finally, PRADD II combines local, national, and international communication tools to mobilize civil society groups and change the behavior of artisanal miners and decision makers regarding the trade of rough diamonds. PRADD II's goal is to use behavior-change communication approaches to alter the way miners view diamond trade and production—from a source of conflict to a powerful tool for development that will contribute positively to national economies, miners, and their communities.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development Project II (PRADD II), under Contract No. AID-OAA-I-12-00032/AID/OAA-TO-13-00045, is implemented by Tetra Tech under the Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights (STARR) Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) and under the auspices of the USAID Land Tenure and Property Rights (LTPR) Division. This quarterly report, covering the period from April to June 2014, summarizes activities carried out in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea during the first quarter of the annual work plan. This report also summarizes the activities carried out in northern Côte d'Ivoire under financing from the European Union's Instrument for Stability managed by the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments. Under this contract, PRADD II submits concurrently the six-month activity report. The two reports should be read concurrently by the European Union.

The report is divided into three sections corresponding to the overall programmatic structure of the project—advancements in Côte d'Ivoire, in Guinea, and in regional support to the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS).

2.1 COTE D'IVOIRE

Technical Accomplishments

- Supported the government of Côte d'Ivoire in final negotiations before the lifting of the United Nations (UN) diamond embargo, in place since 2005. PRADD II provided technical assistance to the Ivoirian government on its communication with the United Nations Security Council, and offered information and feedback to diplomats, thereby shaping the outcome in New York.
- Assisted the government of Côte d'Ivoire in developing a post-embargo action plan, which was presented at the KP intercessional in Shanghai, attended by the country director.
- Concluded the government validation of the first PRADD II work plan, in effect through December 2015. The adoption marked the end of a sensitive and complex process with 30 entities across five ministries.
- Completed an initial land and conflict diagnostic in Séguéla and Tortiya, which offered insights on the nature of conflict dynamics and current mechanisms for resolution.
- Signed the *Club Union Africaine* (CUA) subcontract and worked closely to operationalize this key partnership in PRADD II's land-tenure programming, including finalizing the choice of villages to delimit.
- Strengthened KPCS compliance through a technical analysis of the mining code's application decree. The analysis resulted in substantial changes to the final adopted document.
- Adapted the Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework methodology to Ivoirian institutional realities and negotiated a subcontract with Ivoirian KP civil society organization *Groupe de Recherche et de Plaidoyer sur les Industries Extractives* (GRPIE) for its implementation by plenary.

- Set the foundations for upcoming activities through intensive strategic planning with respect to supporting an ethical diamond value chain, integrating gender and alternative dispute-resolution programming into PRADD II's work, building a collaborative relationship with national mining company *Société de Développement Minier* (SODEMI), and kick-starting PRADD II's environmental rehabilitation work.

Administrative Accomplishments

- Signed the *Club Union Africaine* and GRPIE subcontracts; initiated the bidding process for aquaculture-feasibility study subcontract.
- Established administrative systems needed to implement the *Club Union Africaine* subcontract in compliance with EU and USAID procedures.
- Completed renovations and opened two sub-offices in Séguéla and Tortiya for *Club Union Africaine*, bringing the number of PRADD II offices to four.
- Fostered a culture of high performance and ethical conduct through the sensitive termination of three staff contracts, combined with additional ethical training and individual performance evaluations.
- Built staff morale and capacity through PRADD II's second quarterly work-planning retreat, which included a day devoted to tools in dealing with community conflict in mining.
- Completed registration of Tetra Tech's legal entity in Côte d'Ivoire.

2.2 GUINEA

Technical Accomplishments

- PRADD II and the *Service National des Ressources Foncières Rurales* (Rural Land Resources Service, RLRS) staff agreed that a seminar on land tenure be organized in September 2014 as a starting point to strengthening the capacity of staff and other stakeholders.
- Scope of work negotiated with RLRS for a team of consultants to conduct legal and institutional analysis of the constraints related to implementing the rural land policy declaration and the land code as they relate to formalizing customary tenure rights in Guinea.
- Mini-field diagnostic at the sixth site of the project intervention area completed.
- Conventions with the six representatives of the six communities of the project signed with PRADD II to implement the project.
- United States Geological Survey (USGS) completed in June the aerial photography and geomorphological sampling in all six sites of the project.
- Detailed information was collected on reasons why miners are not purchasing parcels in Forécariah.
- The French translation of the artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) cadaster assessment was completed, and copies were distributed to the Guinean Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG).
- And introductory presentation about SMARTER (Sustainable Mining By Artisanal Miners) mining and land rehabilitation was given to 12 representatives of the MMG.
- Plan for Gemological Institute of America (GIA) diamond valuation training has started. Training dates are set for third week of September.

- Public outreach and awareness campaign on the USGS mini-helicopter flyover was conducted in all of the communities of the PRADD II intervention area.
- Scope of work for Hadji Diakité, PRADD II regional gender specialist, was completed.
- PRADD II and Evaluation, Research, and Communication (ERC) project conduct a workshop to define an action that details all of the activities that each project will undertake through the implementation of the impact evaluation.

Administrative Accomplishments

- National team has prepared the first quarterly work plan based on the annual work plan.
- Another six months of rental of the office has been made.
- Negotiation is ongoing with officials at the prefecture in Forécariah to identify a house for PRADD II field office.

2.3 GENERAL AND REGIONAL SUPPORT TO THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS

- Actively engaged with the Mano River regional harmonization initiative technical team in defining an appropriate PRADD II role to facilitate the implementation of the action plan. This included a presentation at the KP Working Group on Monitoring session at the Shanghai, China, intercessional by the Côte d'Ivoire country director, and the drafting of a proposed memorandum of understanding between PRADD II and the regional approach technical team.
- Country director from Côte d'Ivoire participated as a member of the United States delegation in the KP intercessional in Shanghai, with a focus on Côte d'Ivoire's post-embargo obligations and plans, the Mano River harmonization initiative, and strategies to foster positive engagement with the Central African Republic.
- Coordination of communications and discussions between the country directors and the home office around partnerships with the USGS mission to Guinea, Mano River Union engagements through the Kimberley Process, and support to production of weekly updates, the year-one work plan, and quarterly reports.

FIGURE 2: MAP OF DIAMOND OCCURRENCES IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

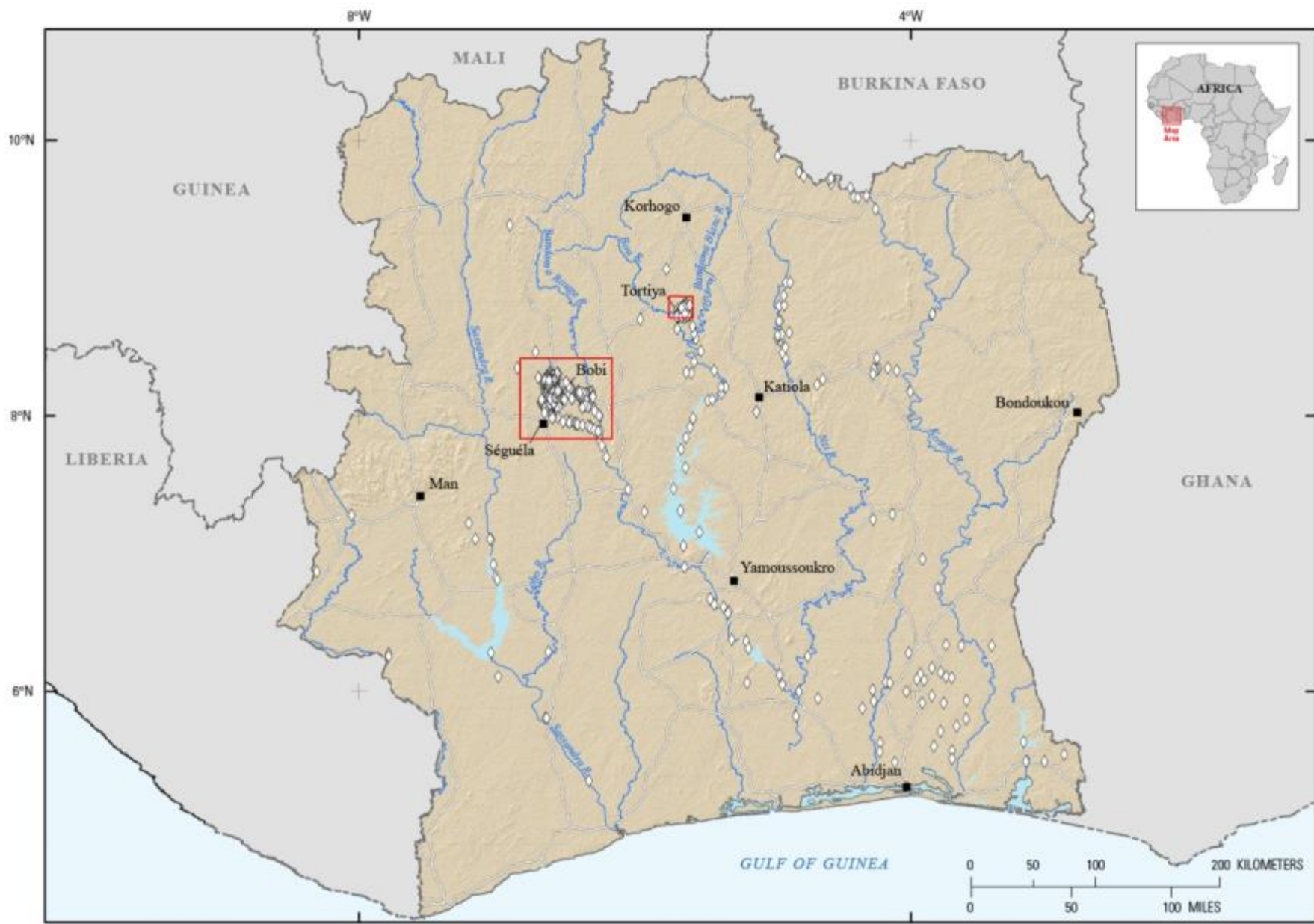


FIGURE 3: MAP OF SÉGUÉLA PROJECT SITES

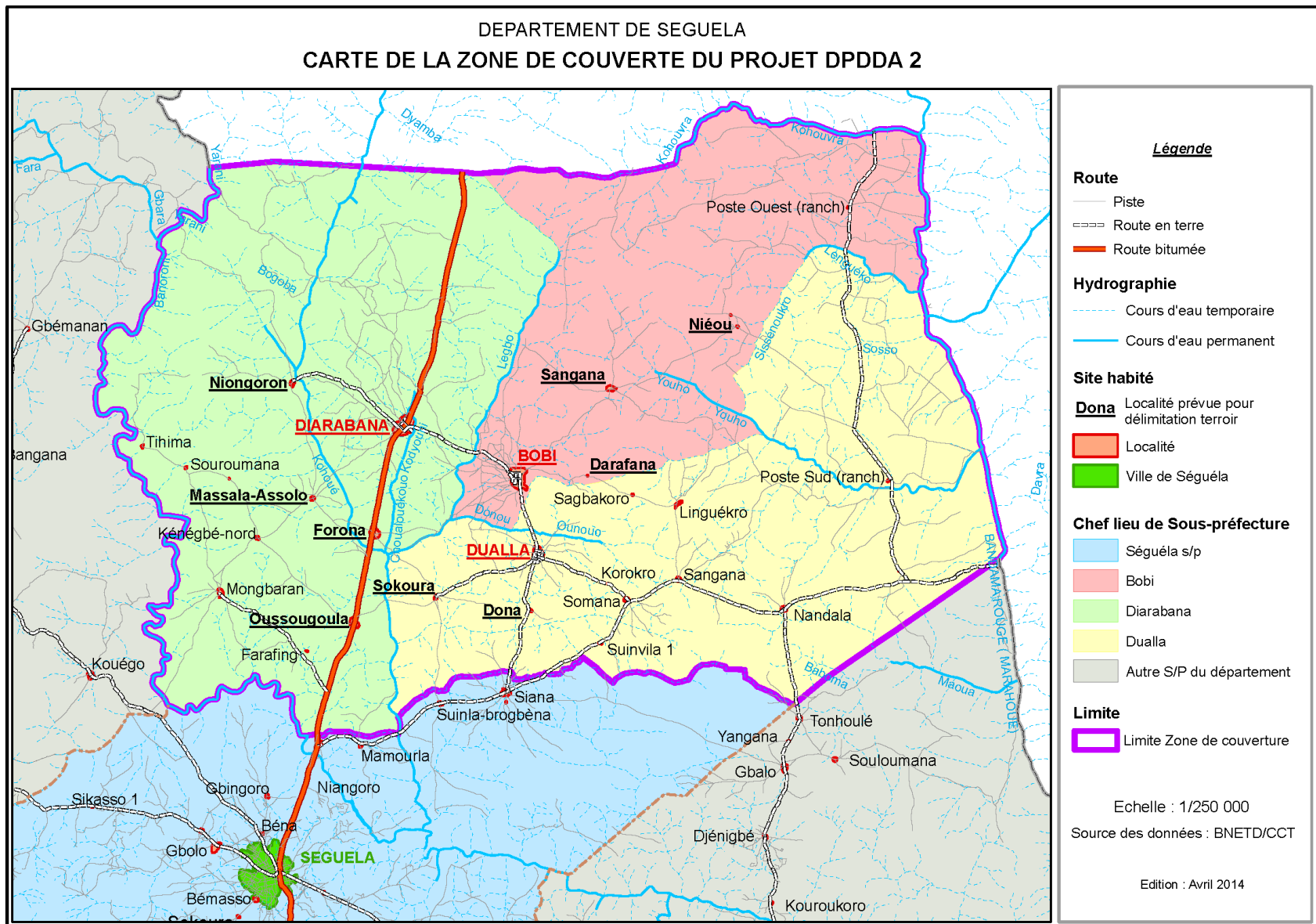
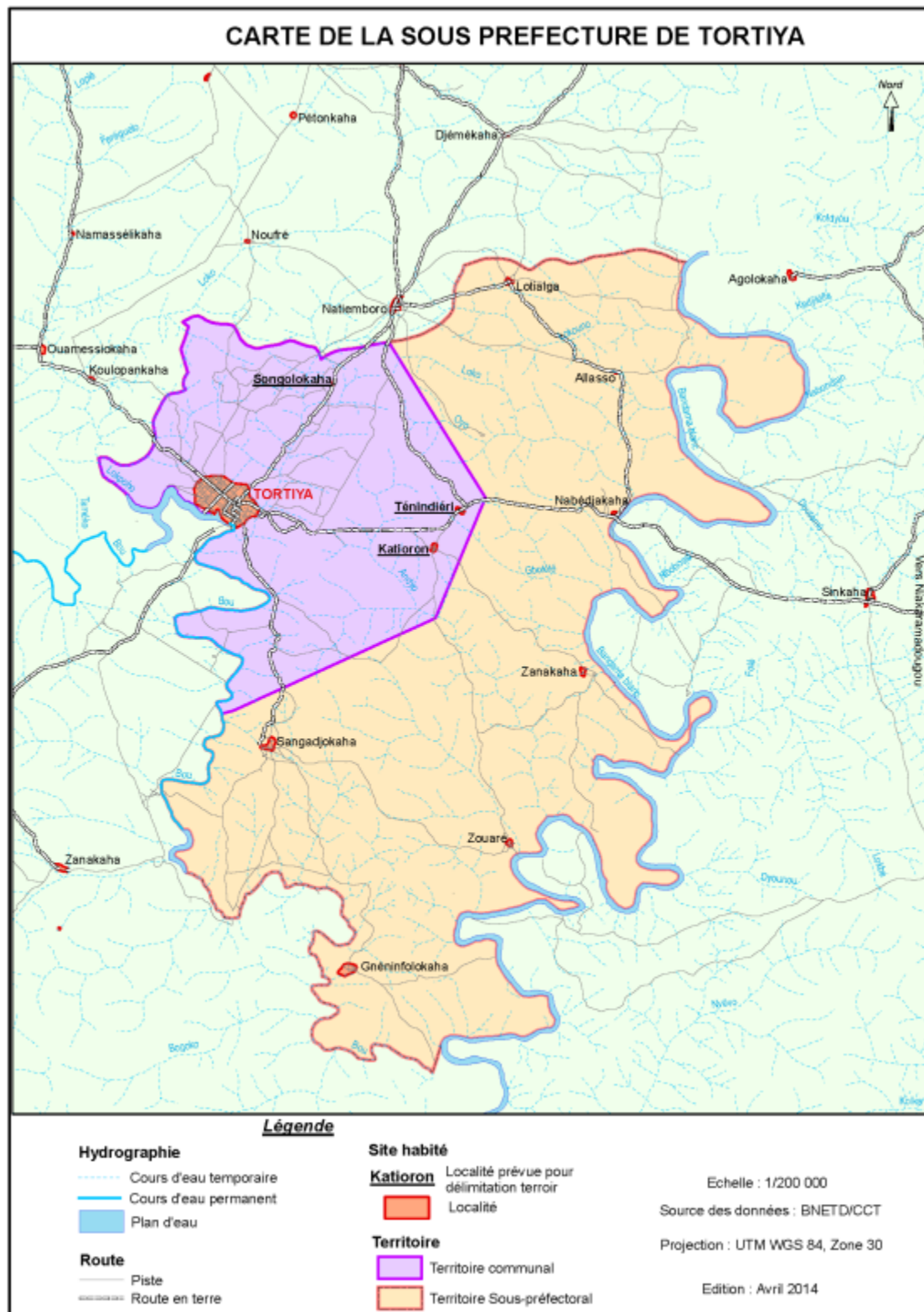


FIGURE 4: MAP OF TORTIYA PROJECT SITES



3.0 CÔTE D'IVOIRE

3.1 ACTIVITY 1: CLARIFICATION OF LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

3.1.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTING 1998 LAND LAW THROUGH VILLAGE BOUNDARY DEMARCATION IN 15 COMMUNITIES

The key accomplishment this quarter with respect to village demarcation was the conclusion of the *Club Union Africaine* (CUA) subcontract negotiations, in combination with the validation of the PRADD II work plan. Thanks to this process, fundamental technical considerations were clarified and a clear pathway forward was identified. For example, as part of budget negotiations with CUA, participants for the initial trainings were identified and, in dialogue with the land tenure directorate, the proper sequence of activities was agreed upon.

The validation process was also needed to get the full government blessing on PRADD II's sensitive land programming. This was particularly delicate with respect to the national mining company SODEMI, which since last quarter has expressed opposition to land programming in its research-permit areas. This opposition stemmed from SODEMI historically being the de facto arbiter of land issues and a concern that delimitation will stir up conflict and harm its interests. Since all of the proposed 12 villages to delimit in Séguéla lie in the SODEMI permit areas, buy-in was essential. As part of the work-planning validation process, PRADD II deliberately made sure that representatives of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Agriculture spoke in SODEMI's presence about why village delimitation was something called for under the law of the land and something for which SODEMI did not have the right to opt out.

Parallel to this strategy, the country director engaged SODEMI directly, including in a five-hour conciliatory session with senior management, which helped alleviate fears and make clear what PRADD II sought to support. As part of this engagement, PRADD II committed to making sure that SODEMI was closely involved in all parts of messaging to communities about the 1998 land law. Indeed, SODEMI is concerned that villagers may misunderstand the rural land-tenure law as replacing the SODEMI mining permit, which could undermine SODEMI's authority and interests. PRADD II anticipates that the relationship with SODEMI will continue to be delicate on this point, but this quarter made crucial progress in clearing the air and a pathway forward.

By the end of the quarter, *Club Union Africaine* was preparing for the training of sub-prefects and regional authorities on the 1998 land law, which is the first major field activity. In addition, the Minister of Agriculture reportedly shared with the Minister of Interior the draft decree naming the 15 villages to be delimited, which is the legal way to begin the process. Finally, the land and conflict diagnostic, which PRADD II will share with its donors in conjunction with this quarterly report, revealed which villages are most likely to have boundary conflicts, as well as the basic settlement histories according to customary leaders. This should help both CUA and the Ministry of Agriculture have background information necessary to carry out their work in a sensitive manner.

3.1.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO LAND-USE PLANNING IN SÉGUÉLA AND TORTIYA

As with the 1998 land law support, this quarter PRADD II made progress in identifying and obtaining buy-in for its approach and initial actions to support land-use planning. With respect to the situation in Tortiya, the land and conflict diagnostic confirmed and shed new light on complexities. Indeed, a vacuum

of formal land administration and weak/divided customary institutions have led to a zone that is severely economically depressed and replete with latent and active conflicts between resource users.

To start a land-use planning process that will clarify land rights, PRADD II identified two initial steps. First, the project will support a study on the legal status of the former SAREMCI concession area, which engulfs the entire Tortiya sub-prefecture. Indeed, the 1998 land law only applies to the *domaine rurale*, (rural domain) and when SAREMCI closed in 1975, this land was reportedly classified as a mining zone, which could make the land part of the *domaine public de l'état*. If the land is the latter, the state can either reclassify into rural land or keep the land as state-owned and proceed to lease the land to individuals and communities. In order for the state to determine a legal pathway forward, its status must be clarified or updated. PRADD II will therefore commission a legal analysis to identify options.

Second, PRADD II will conduct a land-use change study using remote-sensing imagery and ground analysis to visually and objectively trace the spatial development of cash-crop agriculture, diamond mining, and migration from the 1970s through the present. As part of its strategic support to PRADD II, USGS agreed to provide the base images for this analysis and to support the project's geographic information systems (GIS) specialist in developing an appropriate methodology. This analysis will complement the legal study: The legal status will determine the options that decision makers *can* take and the spatial analysis will inform decision makers to determine what option they *should* make, based on objective evidence and a legitimate decision-making process.

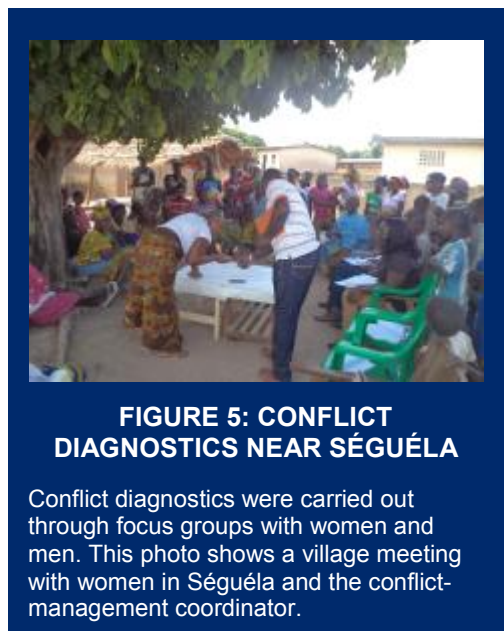
The land-use planning process in Tortiya will be long and complex, but this quarter PRADD II gained government buy-in to the overall approach, including the steps mentioned above. In Séguéla, the village-level land-use planning approach also gained government stakeholder buy-in. The land and conflict diagnostic offered a preview of land-use issues that will emerge in that process, notably pastoralist/agriculturalist relationships, but the focus in Séguéla will be initially on the village demarcation.

3.1.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A CONFLICT-MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The main activity this quarter was the finalization of the land and conflict diagnostic. PRADD II's deputy country director and conflict-management coordinator were the lead authors of the report, and the process of analysis and drafting helped the whole PRADD II team appreciate the rich tapestry of land issues in the project's intervention areas, including the varied modes of land management and the challenges ahead (see below for some key conclusions).

In terms of developing and implementing PRADD II's conflict management strategy, PRADD II has relative clarity on its structural strategy for conflict management—mainly, through its support of the 1998 land law and land-use planning process. While the benefits and smooth implementation of these interventions are not a given, chances are good that these processes will contribute to a long-term reduction of conflicts and address some underlying conflict drivers.

However, it is less clear to what extent PRADD II can and should support the practice of day-to-day/case-by-case conflict management, notably through the introduction of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques into customary and administrative land-management systems. The diagnostic shows these systems to be imperfect but ingrained, especially in



Séguéla, and PRADD II must find a sensitive way to introduce improvement as part of increasing the overall capacity of local institutions.

CENTRAL CONCLUSIONS FROM CONFLICT DIAGNOSTIC

The land and conflict diagnostic was conducted between March and April by an interdisciplinary team including PRADD II staff, *Club Union Africaine* staff, and field agents from the mining and agriculture ministries. A participatory qualitative methodology was adopted to achieve several research objectives, including:

1. Acquire settlement histories in Séguéla and Tortiya to better understand land-conflict dynamics and prepare for the village-boundary delimitation process;
2. Analyze inter- and intra-community dynamics in the context of land-management institutions;
3. Identify types of land-related conflicts and existing resolution mechanisms; and
4. Offer recommendations for PRADD II programming, including the need for additional in-depth studies.

In terms of settlement histories, the oldest villages trace their lineage to migrations of groups fleeing war associated with the decline of the Malian empire between the 13th and 17th centuries. Some village names recall this history, such as Oussougoula, which literally means “things heated up here.” Other village names reflect a typical village founding mode through the splitting off of one family group. Such was the case for Diarabana, which literally means “the lion is dead,” and is the site of where a famous hunter from nearby Forona ridded the area of a feline menace and where he was granted permission to create a new village. Some settlement histories are at odds with each other: Bobi’s version for its founding was that a warrior chose the site for its “bobi” grass, a species that grows on fertile land. According to Dualla, however, Bobi’s founding was due to a religious dispute: a zealous sect which disturbed everyone by praying too early in the morning was asked to move to a new site to found their community, and this became Bobi.

These settlement myths and patterns will create challenges for the delimitation process, since in the case of Diarabana and Bobi, for example, other villages consider them to still be part of their customary ambit. In reality, however, they are both now independent sub-prefectures and a delimitation process would in some ways mark full independence, which some may not be willing to grant. It remains to be seen how this process plays out, and the sensitivity of the Ministry of Agriculture investigating officer—who writes the official narrative based on interviews—will be essential.

In terms of intra- and inter-community dynamics, the diagnostic confirmed the general situation in Côte d’Ivoire: mainly, populations mixed with indigenous people (the so-called “first arrived” communities), other communities from within Côte d’Ivoire (*allochtones*), and recent migrations, often due to diamonds, of people from various other West African countries since in the 1960s (*allogènes*). Customary management systems are not uniform, but a strong principle is that land can never be ceded definitively by the original inhabitants. Instead, various arrangements are negotiated, some of which resemble sales, but all customary authorities retain their right to revoke any agreement at will. This puts certain populations that have lived in villages for generations in a situation of tenure insecurity.

In terms of conflicts and conflict management, four main types of conflicts were identified: those between agriculturalists and pastoralists over crop damage by cattle; those between miners and farmers when diamonds are discovered in a plantation; those between villages with respect to boundaries; and those between miners and their financiers with respect to poor prices or theft. Management systems include customary resolution through community hearings and solutions ranging from fines to animal sacrifices, while administrative systems include decisions by the sub-prefects, state prosecutors, or SODEMI.

Overall, the diagnostic uncovered key challenges for PRADD II, as well as recommendations for further steps. In terms of challenges, the following issues were emphasized:

- How to reconcile the fact that the 1998 land law reinforces customary institutions, but these customary institutions can perpetuate unequal treatment between communities based on their origin or, between individuals, based on their gender.
- How to reconcile the fact that the ultimate objective of the 1998 land law is to transition away from the customary system, while at the same time the customary system is not only strongly ingrained but has some positive characteristics.
- How to find intermediate solutions that can formalize existing arrangements and practices, such as intermediate documents recognizing certain customary cessions or sales.
- How to mitigate the risks of conflict as mining activity restarts.
- How to ethically and sensitively work toward changing customary principles that have existed for centuries, but that are contrary to the delimitation process.

While much work and uncertainty remains, this rapid diagnostic has helped the project lay the foundation for an approach that aims to be critical, sensitive, and strategic. As the first attempt to work directly on land-tenure issues in mining areas of Côte d'Ivoire, the lessons from this process should contribute in a modest way to addressing land tenure-issues critical to the long-term peace and stability of the country.

To this end, PRADD II reached out this quarter to the Tetra Tech land-conflict specialist Jennifer Graham to help the team identify a realistic and sensitive strategy. The specialist will review international and regional practices, review the land and conflict diagnostic, conduct a training for PRADD II and CUA staff on ADR in land conflict, and participate in an internal workshop on the PRADD II conflict-management strategy. In preparation for this session, PRADD II's conflict management coordinator completed a week-long mission to learn from other international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) about their approaches to land-conflict issues, especially in western Côte d'Ivoire. This combination of information-gathering, both internationally and locally, should help PRADD II come up with a sound approach in the coming quarter.

3.2 ACTIVITY 2: STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

3.2.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: POLICY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING

This quarter, PRADD II continued to take advantage of being in the right place at the right time to influence the policy environment in Côte d'Ivoire. First, the finalization of the mining code's application decree afforded the chance to shape the system that will be in place for years to come. PRADD II's analysis of the draft text, which resulted in significant changes to the final decree, focused on ensuring KPCS compliance (see next section), but also aimed at creating a positive environment for ASM through pragmatic solutions. For example, the analysis recommended that the application decree distinguish between large- and small-scale diamond collectors in a bid to formalize existing practices. The provision allows each collector, authorized by ministerial decree, to have a certain number of small collectors working for him or her under the overall license. Without such an accommodation, the majority of diamond collectors would have remained informal, since small collectors cannot realistically be expected to obtain a license from the mining minister.

On the issue of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM)/large-scale mining (LSM) cohabitation, however—and more specifically giving a robust legal basis to the SODEMI model—PRADD II once again was unable to convince the text’s authors to insert a provision authorizing an industrial actor to organize ASM in its permit areas. This means that going forward, any such arrangements—such as the SODEMI model—would have to be granted as semi-formalized arrangements authorized by ministerial decree but operating in a gray legal space. The resistance to this provision, as it was for the project’s attempt to encourage dialogue about its inclusion in the mining code, came from industry groups that fear that such a provision would be interpreted by miners as a license to encroach on their state-delivered permits. Indeed, PRADD II has not taken a firm position on this issue, but has rather sought to strengthen the SODEMI model and to encourage dialogue on if and how that model can be generalized in the regulatory framework.

This could have a positive effect on ASM gold, which has emerged at the forefront of policy concerns, and has resulted in a national strategy and the constitution of local committees in ASM gold areas. Indeed, the scale of ASM gold far exceeds ASM diamonds at present, and the social, environmental, and security problems are acute. In general, PRADD II has observed that the government is not learning enough from its history of dealing with ASM diamonds, especially the futility of a purely repressive approach. While there have been no repressive actions so far, and the government often talks about its intention to formalize the ASM gold miners, it also sometimes talks of that process as the last step before sending in the military to protect the interests of companies.

These are complex issues, and PRADD II hopes to play a role in the dialogue. This quarter, the project had one opportunity to do so through an invitation to present at a World Bank-sponsored mining forum on harnessing the economic potential of mining for West Africa. The country director participated on a panel discussion and highlighted three lessons learned:

1. The need to treat ASM as a legitimate livelihoods strategy in policies;
2. The need to promote mutually beneficial cohabitation between industrial and small-scale actors; and
3. The need for a regional approach to deal with ASM, especially in West Africa.

PRADD II will seek other opportunities to engage, such as at a conference announced by the Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa on ASM later this year.

TABLE 1: WDDF WORKING GROUPS

WDDF Working Groups and Policy Agenda	
Group 1 : ASM Regulation and Management	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower fees and increase accessibility of licenses • Enhance data collection and analysis 	
Group 2 : Legal and Regulatory Framework	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen property rights • Financial transparency and good governance • Harmonization of legal frameworks 	
Group 3 : Practices and Organization of ASM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower artisanal miners to engage with buyers and investors • Expand access to mining inputs • Working capital and organization 	
Group 4 : Working and Living Conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support complementary livelihoods in ASM communities • Mitigate environmental damage • Occupational health and worker safety 	

An additional strategy to positively shape overall ASM policy has been through the Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework (WDDF). This quarter, PRADD II finalized the methodology to implement the diagnostic for presentation of preliminary results at the KP Plenary through a contract with civil society organization *Groupe pour la Recherche et le Plaidoyer en Ressources Extractives* (GRPIE). GRPIE was chosen given its status as the only KP Civil Society Coalition member in Côte d'Ivoire and its history of engagement with the government on extractive industry issues. PRADD II spent two months negotiating and strategizing on how to adapt the WDDF to local realities and came up with an approach that divided the 11 policy areas into four working groups, as seen in Table 1 above.

The groups seek to assemble similar types of actors and will meet several times: first, to understand the self-evaluation questions and identify information needs; second, to provide preliminary responses to the evaluation questions; and third, to meet following a field visit to draft the definitive response. The overall diagnostic will then be adopted in a national tripartite workshop. In this way, Côte d'Ivoire stands to pilot this tool and thereby have a baseline of performance, identify policy-reform areas and priorities, and offer a demonstration effect for other countries with respect to implementing the tool.

3.2.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: POLICY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR KPCS COMPLIANCE

The draft application decree text reviewed by PRADD II would have made the country noncompliant, as it had fundamental omissions such as the definition of a diamond collector and the requirement of sales slips. Fortunately, Côte d'Ivoire had already spent the time necessary to conceive of its system through the KP procedural guide, adopted in May 2013. This therefore provided a legitimate basis for PRADD II to rapidly make recommendations that reflected a participatory process by Ivoirian policymakers.

It should be noted that Côte d'Ivoire still has a number of other policy reforms needed to fully implement its KPCS procedures. For example, the KP secretariat requires an independent budget and, to do so, an interministerial decree between Mines and Economy is needed. In addition, a ministerial decree is needed to spell out in a legal document the process of delivering a KPCS certificate. PRADD II will continue to follow and contribute as appropriate to the development of these texts.

PRADD II has also continued to support Côte d'Ivoire in the development of its post-embargo action plan. Indeed, UN Resolution 2153, which lifted the embargo, noted that Côte d'Ivoire must undergo a KP review visit by the end of January 2015. PRADD II helped the KP permanent secretary develop an action plan that takes into account the KP review mission final-report recommendations, the UN Group of Experts recommendations, the PRADD II work plan, and the regional approach action plan. This action plan was presented to the Working Group on Monitoring (WGM) at the KP intercessional in Shanghai, but has yet to be fully endorsed by the minister or transmitted to the WGM and UN Security Council. PRADD II has therefore supported, and will continue to support, the government in developing and implementing these actions.

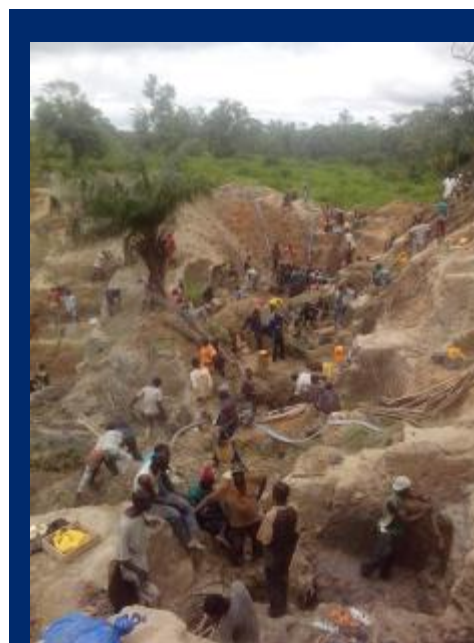


FIGURE 6: NEW ARTISANAL MINING SITE IN DIARABANA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

New but unauthorized mining site in Diarabana, near Séguéla, in June 2014. This site is not approved by SODEMI, nor has the Mining Ministry visited it. New artisanal sites may spring up due to lifting of the UN Embargo. Hence, there is an urgent need to reactivate internal controls.

Carlos Adou

3.2.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: POLICY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR 1998 LAND LAW IMPLEMENTATION

While PRADD II did not have any activities this quarter related to policy support for land tenure, the land and conflict diagnostic will be shared with other organizations working in the sector as appropriate. In addition, PRADD II began to engage other humanitarian organizations working in land issues, including the Norwegian Refugee Council and Search for Common Ground. This type of engagement is essential to foster experience-sharing, and PRADD II will continue to look for opportunities to foster collaboration and work towards concerted lobbying for certain policies.

3.2.4 SUB-ACTIVITY 4: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR STRENGTHENING KPCS COMPLIANCE SYSTEM

PRADD II did not complete major capacity-building activities this quarter, but did significantly advance in the planning for next quarter's activities, such as the valuation training conducted in coordination with the Gemological Institute of America (GIA). This quarter, PRADD II worked closely with the GIA to solidify planning for this training, and has also engaged with the Antwerp World Diamond Center to ensure coordination on its planned valuation support to Côte d'Ivoire.

The other key activity planned next quarter is developing communication tools for improved law enforcement. In preparation for this activity, PRADD II sent its communications coordinator and governance coordinator to Séguéla to meet with law-enforcement officials and begin conceiving of practical tools that could help law enforcement. These include a practical guide on KPCS procedures, compilations of laws and regulations, and other reference material. The UN natural resources expert has expressed support for such tools and the process of developing them might help clarify certain procedural gaps or loopholes. Importantly, even with the lifting of the UN embargo, enforcement in diamond zones of KPCS procedures is all but absent. Meanwhile, a number of new actors have come in to explore opportunities, but without any formal regulation, making this action quite urgent.

PRADD II's strategic support to the government should also be understood in the context of strengthening KPCS compliance. For example, PRADD II has participated in several strategy sessions with the mining minister on the buying house selection process, offering input such as requiring regional verifications. The mining minister convened the Group of Friends to approve the strategy, and as of the writing of this report, an open house for interested parties is planned for July 23.

In terms of internal controls in the field, the tables below summarize the latest information on miner registration and production tracking, as provided by the Mining Ministry's service charged with valuation and statistics, *Service d'Évaluation et d'Expertise des Pierres et Métaux Précieuses*.

TABLE 2: STATISTICS ON DIAMOND-MINING REGISTRATION

Quarter	Number of Licensed Artisanal Operators	Number of Registered Mining Workers	Number of Registered Collectors	Number of Registered Buying Houses
2013 Q4	9	2,483	198	0
2014 Q1	14	2,614	207	0
2014 Q2	17	2,655	215	0

TABLE 3: STATISTICS ON DIAMOND PRODUCTION

Month	Number of Diamonds	Weight (Carats)	Number of Transactions	Value (CFA franc)	Average Diamond Size (Carats)	Average Price Per Carat (USD) ¹
May 2013	16	15.21	2	722,500	0.95	\$95.00
June	174	162.89	47	18,585,300	0.94	\$228.19
July	192	151.78	51	8,107,500	0.79	\$106.83
August	124	99.11	32	5,776,000	0.80	\$116.56
September	57	51.14	23	1,866,500	0.90	\$73.00
October	70	49.83	20	1,499,500	0.71	\$60.18
November	8	6.44	4	96,000	0.81	\$29.81
December	51	50.65	25	2,494,000	0.99	\$98.48
January	96	75.40	33	2,473,000	0.79	\$65.60
February	30	15.62	9	540,000	0.52	\$69.14
March	77	58.72	30	5,266,500	0.76	\$179.38
April	73	62.83	27	3,423,500	0.86	\$108.98
May 2014	66	45.72	24	1,136,500	0.69	\$49.72
June	195	281.01	61	10,746,500	1.44	\$76.48
TOTAL / AVERAGE	1229	1126.35	388	62,733,300	0.82	\$ 102.87

What stands out from the above tables is the near-cessation of new mining work or collector cards. This can be explained simply: the mining administration has run out of new cards to deliver and has not yet applied a policy of charging miners for cards. Relaunching the registration system is important and PRADD II will continue to work with the Mining Ministry and interested parties to make this a priority. Table 3 on production data shows promising in that there is no marked drop-off, meaning that those cooperatives that are recording production are continuing to do so in spite of a lull in the Mining Ministry's engagement. In fact, there appears to be a surge in production in June, which is possibly due to a newly active site in Diarabana. Alternatively, production surges may happen just before the arrival of the intense rainy season. However, the overall production level for 14 months of data is still well below the likely actual production, which at its lowest estimates is 50,000 carats per year. Assuming that figure is roughly correct, about two percent of actual production is currently being recorded, which still shows to what extent work remains in expanding and enforcing the production-tracking controls.

¹ To simplify comparability over time, an exchange rate of 500 XOF per USD was used.

3.2.5 SUB-ACTIVITY 5: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR MINING CADASTER AND GEOLOGICAL DATA MANAGEMENT

PRADD II did not have activities in this programming area this quarter. However, as part of the work-plan validation process, PRADD II engaged with the government agencies involved with the mining cadaster and geological research. In addition, PRADD II invited the USGS to explain its methodology and begin the relationship-building needed to conduct field research in Côte d'Ivoire in the future. Hopefully, a mission by USGS Peter Chirico, Project Chief, Special Geologic Studies will occur in early August. Finally, PRADD II continued to reach out to the World Bank on their plans for cadaster modernization, but at present there seem to be no imminent programs.

3.3 ACTIVITY 3: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ASM COMMUNITIES

3.3.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: IMPROVEMENT OF PRODUCTION AND MARKETING TECHNIQUES

PRADD II did not have activities planned this quarter for production and marketing enhancement. As noted in the work plan, the project will have to take a cautious approach given the uncertainty regarding the trajectory of future production and the role of SODEMI. Indeed, as part of the work-plan validation process, PRADD II engaged extensively with SODEMI, which took the initial position that all assistance to miners in its permit areas must pass through it, since it is the only structure authorized by the state to organize miners. Behind this position is a concern over SODEMI's sphere of influence, but also a reticence about promoting semi-mechanized artisanal production, since SODEMI appears not to have ruled out applying for semi-industrial exploitation authorizations on certain medium-grade deposits. PRADD II and SODEMI agreed to continue this discussion as part of feasibility studies planned for the coming months, including exploratory missions on equipment rental pools, valuation training, geologic exploration, and direct marketing. PRADD II is confident that it will be able to find an appropriate role as the field situation, especially with respect to operators such as SODEMI, becomes clearer.

3.3.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: LIVELIHOODS DIVERSIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REHABILITATION

PRADD II aims to rapidly start visible and tangible livelihood-diversification programming as a way to maintain community goodwill during the time it takes to understand the more abstract land-tenure formalization processes and what miner support work is feasible. As such, this quarter PRADD II advanced strategically, though it has not been able to begin fieldwork due to delays in work-plan validation and the employment termination of the project's livelihoods coordinator. By the end of the quarter, the competitive bidding process for a subcontract on fish-farming feasibility was well-advanced, with applications received and undergoing evaluation. In addition, PRADD II obtained agreement from the *Office National du Développement du Riz* (National Agency for Rice Development) to offer several technicians to join the fish-farming feasibility study team. The PRADD II field team also began reaching out to and assessing local NGOs and community groups in anticipation of support. Finally, PRADD II continued dialogue with a potential international NGO partner to help develop the business plan competition idea. PRADD II expects to be significantly farther along in this activity area by the end of next quarter.

3.3.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: MINER-ORGANIZATION STRENGTHENING AND ALTERNATIVE FINANCING

This quarter, PRADD II has not conducted any activities in this area besides strategic planning and reflection. In the SODEMI areas, the project will have to continue negotiations with the company to

determine a precise role, if any, for the project in terms of building the capacity of cooperative enterprises. In addition, the project will continue to monitor developments outside of the SODEMI areas, including in Tortiya, to identify opportunities to help promote the establishment of cooperative enterprises.

A major area of reflection has been how to take advantage of the lifting of the diamond embargo to promote a more effective and fair diamond value chain. Just as the process leading up to the lifting of the diamond embargo afforded PRADD I and II a unique opportunity to help design the KPCS compliance system, the process just after the lifting of the embargo affords PRADD II a unique opportunity to influence the ways diamonds are bought and sold within that compliance framework. PRADD II has sought to stimulate dialogue on this issue, such as through an idea to set up a new hybrid buying house that combines alternative financing (funneled via cooperatives or specially trained collectors) with technical assistance (provided by PRADD II and SODEMI) and performance and sourcing standards. This three-pillar model could become the elusive “holy grail” of a transformed value chain that is fairer for miners and better for communities while being profitable for investors and offering an added value for consumers—in other words, a business model that powerfully fulfills the project’s two strategic objectives.

PRADD II originally planned on organizing an informal meeting with interested parties on the heels of the government’s information session for prospective buying houses currently scheduled for July 23, 2014. However, after informal exchanges with private-sector actors at the KP plenary, it became clear that to be effective, PRADD II should commission a scoping study to further develop these ideas, with an emphasis on their commercial viability. As such, PRADD II is in the process of working with its pre-approved subcontracting partner, Catalyst Resources, to conduct such a field study beginning next quarter. The results will then form a framework and springboard for a workshop to occur later in the year.

3.4 ACTIVITY 4: PUBLIC AWARENESS AND OUTREACH

3.4.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: NATIONAL COMMUNICATION

This quarter’s finalizing of the PRADD II work plan through a multi-stakeholder consultative process was an important action of national communication. The intensive process involved individual and group working sessions, in addition to the national validation workshop held in early May. The process afforded the project the necessary space to explain its intentions and goals and obtain full support and buy-in. The resulting work plan, which runs through December 2015 to correspond with the EU contract, has been and will continue to be an important communication product.

In addition, PRADD II initiated the process of producing its information bulletin, which will be published at the same time as the project’s official launch ceremony in late July. After much internal reflection involving the country director, governance coordinator, and communications coordinator, the team identified the features of the PRADD II Côte d’Ivoire quarterly newsletter, which is co-branded USAID/EU:

- Each newsletter will have a specific theme. Themes will be directly related to PRADD II programming and will be decided based on particular areas or issues that the project hopes to raise with its institutional partners.
- The newsletter will be brief, interesting, and insightful. The target audience will be PRADD II institutional partners, including government agencies at all levels, civil society organizations, and other projects or initiatives in Côte d’Ivoire.

- The objectives of the newsletter are to build awareness of the project and its activities, foster dialogue on key strategic issues, provide a voice for PRADD II beneficiaries that can be heard by institutional stakeholders, and provide a forum to foster intra-governmental and cross-sectorial collaboration.
- Each newsletter will have the following standard sections:
 - A journalistic feature article by a PRADD II technical expert;
 - A brief editorial by the country director integrating a proverb from the project's intervention areas;
 - Testimonies, opinions, or a profile from field-level actors on the featured theme;
 - An interview with a technical partner (government or civil society) on the issue's theme; and
 - A bullet-point summary of the project's accomplishments in a given quarter.

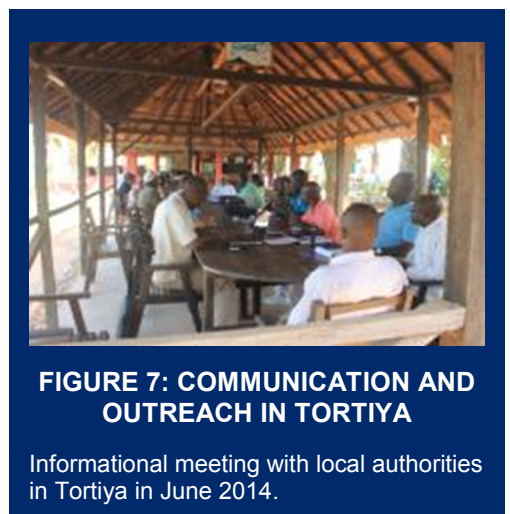
The theme of the first issue will be the lifting of the UN diamond embargo, emphasizing the actions that still need to be carried out. Subsequent themes will be the relationship between livelihoods diversification and KPCS compliance, why PRADD II is focusing on land-tenure clarification, best practices in ASM/LSM cohabitation, defining gender programming in the project's context, etc. PRADD II has found in the Central African Republic that these newsletters are invaluable advocacy, lobbying, and awareness-raising tools, and anticipates them having similar positive effects in Côte d'Ivoire.

3.4.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: LOCAL COMMUNICATION

This quarter, PRADD II began its proximity communication approach through regular outreach by its field agents in villages. In the course of these regular meetings, the project has realized that the first local sensitization campaign must be awareness-raising about the project, as misconceptions are common.

During PRADD II's quarterly work-planning retreat, the communications coordinator led a session where field agents discussed perceptions of the project and everyone brainstormed ways to confirm or counter these perceptions and misperceptions. For example, PRADD II is regularly mistaken for a new buying house, an industrial actor, a front for American espionage, and an infrastructure firm. Early next quarter, PRADD II intends to travel to villages with the KP permanent secretary and SODEMI to clearly explain the project, its initial activities, and the areas in which it does not intervene.

In addition, the communications coordinator advanced in developing a communications strategy. As part of this process, a simple knowledge/attitude/practices analytical framework was developed. Using this framework, PRADD II will identify—and regularly reassess—different knowledge gaps, attitudes or practices related to different priorities or obstacles. For example, the problem of miners without cards can be related to knowledge (miners do not *know* they need a card), attitudes (miners do not *think* they need a card), and practices (cooperatives and authorities do not *check* if miners have their cards). Based on this analysis, the project can identify appropriate messages and communication tools that complement and strengthen its programming. In this way, PRADD II seeks to develop a systematic approach to deciding how, why, and where it implements local strategic communication for behavioral change. This will help the project avoid generic or ill-suited approaches.



Sabine Jieka

3.5 CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

3.5.1 ADD-ONS AND COLLABORATION

As noted above, this quarter PRADD II solidified plans for USGS to come to Abidjan in early August to present on its geologic modeling methodology for government stakeholders, as well participate in a technical working session with SODEMI. In addition, USGS will assist PRADD II in refining its methodology for the land-use change study for the old SAREMCI mining zone. This meeting will be crucial to pave the institutional and technical path forward for USGS involvement in Côte d'Ivoire.

As also noted above, PRADD II hopes to work with Catalyst Resources on a high-quality scoping study that could lead the way for a workshop in Abidjan on how to develop new and better artisanal diamond business models. PRADD II will associate private-sector partners who have been involved in discussions on direct marketing in the past.

3.5.2 GENDER

PRADD II's main work on gender will begin in earnest next quarter, with the arrival of the PRADD II gender specialist to help build capacity and developing the project's gender strategy. This quarter, the project devoted time to refining the logistics and scope of work for this important activity. In addition, PRADD II developed a scope of work for a legal consultant who will conduct a study on women's access to land. Indeed, the initial land and conflict diagnostic revealed the extent to which identifying viable gender programming will be a challenge, given that women do not have much of a voice under strongly ingrained customary systems that the 1998 law strengthens. The Ivoirian consultant will help overcome this challenge through visiting and studying other efforts in Côte d'Ivoire to advance women's access to and decision-making about land. By the end of this quarter, the competitive recruitment process for this consultant was nearing completion.

3.5.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

With the arrival of the project's new monitoring and evaluation (M&E) coordinator, PRADD II has moved quickly in this area. The coordinator has nearly completed developing data-collection protocols for all project indicators that will be adapted for the electronic Program Observation Reporting and Tracking (ePORT) data collection system to be rolled out in July and August. In addition, the coordinator is working with government counterparts to ensure that PRADD II has all the necessary data, such as production statistics. By the end of next quarter, PRADD II expects to have put in place the bulk of its data-collection systems.

3.6 OPERATIONS

3.6.1 PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

PRADD II's planning and management systems were further solidified this quarter. First, in preparation for the national work-plan validation workshop with government stakeholders, the project organized an internal workshop for its technical coordinators. During this workshop, the team completed the work-plan matrix through December 2015. In addition, as part of this internal workshop, the finance director led a participatory budgeting process whereby all costs associated with each activity were estimated with as much accuracy and detail as possible. This information was also used to help inform the budget proposed as part of the USAID work plan, and helped flesh out technical issues as well, since spending assumptions can help reveal technical assumptions that need deliberation.

Following the adoption of the PRADD II work plan by all government stakeholders on May 6, 2014, PRADD II carried out its second quarterly work-planning retreat. The retreat took place over three days in nearby Grand Bassam, with an agenda that combined work-planning and capacity-building. Activities included:

1. A presentation and discussion by the conflict management coordinator on his experience managing community relations for a gold-mining company in Côte d'Ivoire with lessons for SODEMI;
2. A presentation by the country director on the principles of conflict mediation;
3. An ethics training by the country director, including a thorough review of the Tetra Tech corporate code of conduct and a review of performance-evaluation criteria;
4. An in-depth review of the PRADD II project procedural manual led by the director of administration;
5. A summary of a fire-safety training attended by the director of administration, including the theory and safe use of fire extinguishers;
6. Development of a week-by-week activity matrix through September 30, 2014; and
7. Update of the activity budget for the quarter.

The workshop was an important team-building and strategic-planning exercise for the whole PRADD II team, especially in light of the quarter's personnel challenges (see below). PRADD II intends to continue this practice of quarterly retreats, which are an essential tool for taking stock of the project's advances and ensuring coordinated and well-conceived actions for the next reporting period.

Another key activity with respect to planning and management involved *Club Union Africaine*. Besides officially signing and completing the negotiations for the 18-month subcontract, the project worked closely with the CUA team to clarify procedures related to accounting and inventory management. In addition, the project completed negotiations with the Tortiya office landlord whereby in exchange for reduced rent, PRADD II would complete some major renovations on the dilapidated building, which the director of administration supervised and completed. In addition, PRADD II completed the acquisition of all motorcycles for *Club Union Africaine* and completed temporary transfer agreements for all USAID property being used as part of the subcontract. The motorcycles, however, have not yet been transferred, as the project is finalizing its strategy to organize driving and safety courses for all field agents, including sponsoring the process of obtaining driving licenses for some agents.

On the personnel front, the deputy country director worked closely with CUA and the director of administration to complete recruitment of all five CUA field agents through a competitive process involving written tests and joint PRADD II/CUA interviews. By the end of the quarter, all CUA staff under the subcontract had been recruited. Finally, the country director and Tetra Tech home office worked together to request a budget realignment from the European Union to respond to changing field and regulatory realities on the CUA field-agent recruitment. In summary, the project made great advances in operationalizing an administratively complex partnership, but one which will bear fruits in the months to come.

3.6.2 CENTRAL OFFICE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS

The central Abidjan office remains fully functional. This quarter, Tetra Tech's local legal entity became fully registered with completion of formalities with the social-security administration, tax authorities, and labor inspector. The main unresolved challenge was related to delays in obtaining a value-added tax exemption for the project. This has led to the suspension of all field missions using project vehicles. If this problem persists, the expense of rental cars will become increasingly exorbitant in the coming months. The country director has continued to follow this issue closely with the local USAID

representative, U.S. Embassy and the ProJustice project, which should also be covered by the same exoneration.

3.6.3 FIELD OFFICES STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS

PRADD II now operates three field offices: two in Séguéla and one in Tortiya. This quarter, the Tortiya office became functional with the completion of renovation, the contracting of security services, and the transfer of office furniture from Abidjan. PRADD II has decided to base its Tortiya field coordinator at the Tortiya sub-office, though for the moment the coordinator remains based in Séguéla so as to become fully integrated into the team before deployment. The Séguéla field office, under the management of the deputy country director, has also been fully operational with no major issues to report.

3.7 STAFFING

Human-resource management has been challenging this quarter, reflecting the particularities of the Ivoirian labor market, USAID regulations regarding pay, ethical and performance problems, and other factors beyond the project's control. The following changes are of note:

- PRADD II completed recruitment for the replacement Tortiya field supervisor position. **Emile Kpan** was selected for his deep and multi-disciplinary experience in income-generating activities, land tenure, and post-conflict reconciliation in organizations including CARE and the International Rescue Committee. Mr. Kpan is currently based in Séguéla but, as noted above, will be transferred to Tortiya when activities begin to pick up pace.
- PRADD II fired its financial assistant in Séguéla after irrefutable evidence of him taking unauthorized leave for two days during an Abidjan mission, lying about his absence to his supervisors, falsifying attendance sheets, and inciting other staff to cover for him. The project delivered disciplinary action against two other staff members involved in this incident. PRADD II and Tetra Tech have no tolerance for such behavior. The new financial assistant, **Patrice Goli**, was recruited several weeks after the termination at the end of a rigorous recruitment process.
- PRADD II negotiated the departure of its administrative assistant in Séguéla after it surfaced that he had omitted key information from his CV and USAID Employee Biodata Sheet that would have revealed suspected procurement fraud at a previous USAID-funded project. The investigation took more than a month, and included consultations with the labor inspector, the project's labor lawyer, and legal counsel at Tetra Tech corporate headquarters. Tetra Tech takes such issues very seriously, although immediate termination was not possible due to local labor laws and a high risk of a lawsuit. However, PRADD II negotiated a voluntary and mutual end of contract, which the project was able to do without any severance pay or other payment beyond final salary and benefits payments. The replacement, **Anselme Batte**, joined PRADD II at the end of the quarter after an extensive vetting and interview process.
- After more than a month of deliberation, the deputy country director and country director decided to end the contract of the livelihoods coordinator before the end of his three-month trial period. The coordinator had been given many opportunities to improve his performance, but citing his low salary as an excuse, he did not produce quality written documents, did not respect deadlines, and was frequently absent during the work day without justification. PRADD II has not yet identified a replacement for this crucial position.
- At the end of the quarter, PRADD II's communications coordinator resigned after being offered a higher-paying job elsewhere. It is very common for employees in the development/humanitarian sector in Côte d'Ivoire to change jobs rapidly based on slight pay increases. PRADD II has not yet identified a replacement, but is beginning recruitment soon.

- At the end of the quarter, PRADD II's GIS coordinator indicated his intention to resign to focus on his private consultancy practice, which recently received several large contracts. During the staff retreat, the country director stressed to employees PRADD II's preference to have the opportunity to find solutions before an employee decides to resign. The GIS coordinator responded to this overture and, as a result, PRADD II was able to negotiate a leave of absence transitioning into a part-time consultancy arrangement. The project was relieved to have kept a high-value employee with a combination of technical skills and knowledge of land-tenure and land-use planning that is rare in this labor market.

The country director made every effort as part of dealing with these issues to involve his senior management team, consisting of the finance director, director of administration, and deputy country director. The team was involved in every decision and, in most cases, a consensus view was adopted. While PRADD II has been concerned about the morale effects of these changes, the project has found that certain actions—such as the staff retreat—have been able to offset some of the negative consequences.

Indeed, special attention was paid at the retreat to the code of conduct and the performance standards as a way of explaining the basis of the management's decisions. In addition, all supervisors prepared detailed performance evaluations, including one-on-one discussion sessions, at the end of each employee's trial period. While PRADD II expects some ongoing challenges in personnel recruitment and retention, the core team is solidifying and is well-poised to deal with the challenges and opportunities to come.

FIGURE 8: MAP OF DIAMOND MINING AREAS IN GUINEA

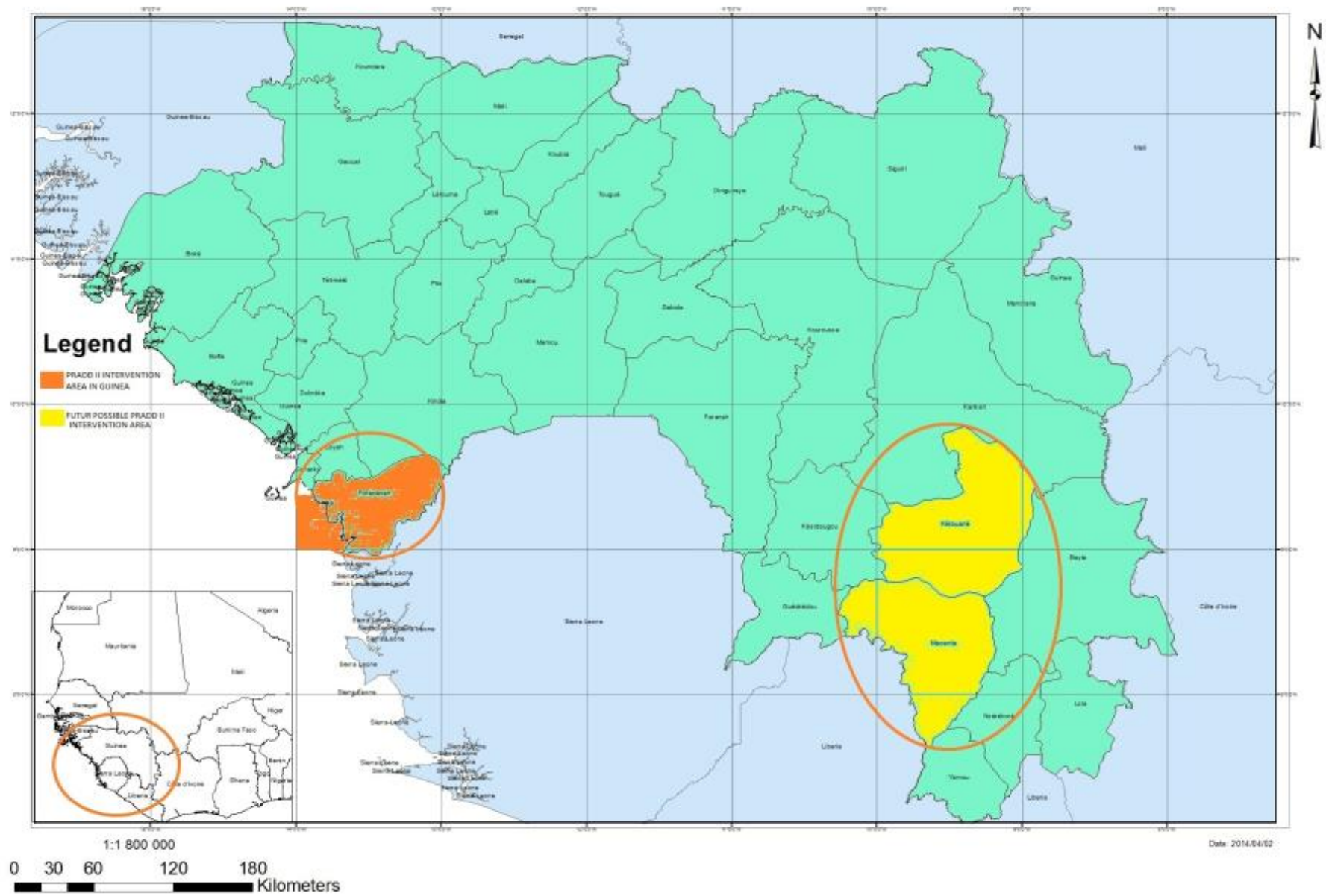
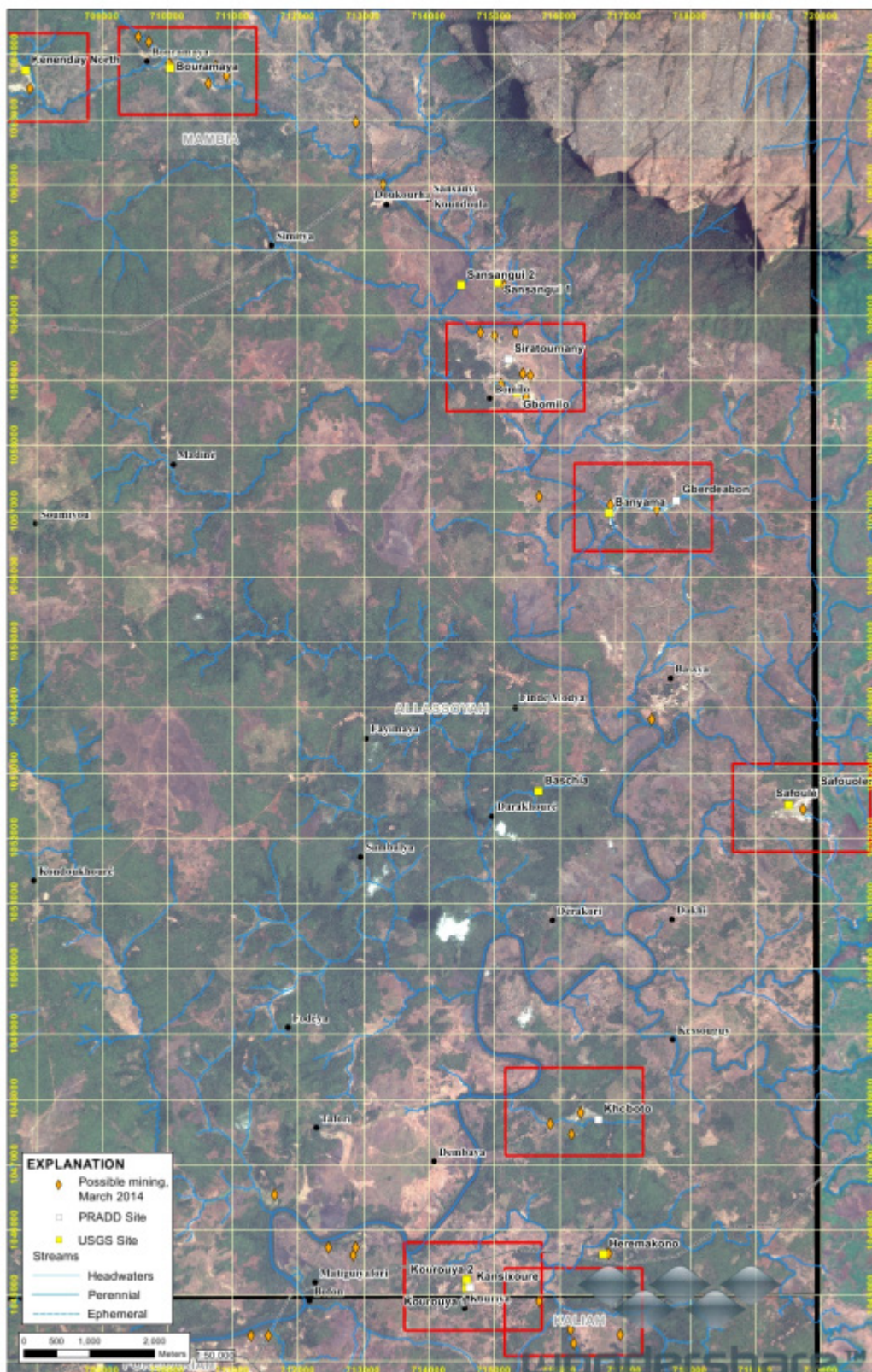


FIGURE 9: MAP OF FORÉCARIAH SITES



4.0 GUINEA

4.1 ACTIVITY 1: CLARIFICATION OF LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

Guinea promulgated a Land Code in 1992, but the implementing decrees for this code have yet to be completed (in particular, those relating to procedures for recognizing and formalizing customary rights in rural areas). Article 9 of the Land Code defines the process to formalize property rights—a process that is known to be complex, cumbersome, and expensive for rural communities. Recognizing that the Land Code is extremely technical and has a strong urban bias, the government issued a Land Policy Directive for Rural Areas in May 2001. This policy addresses realities of rural land tenure, but the policy has not yet been meaningfully applied. From 2001 to date, not much has been done by the government to design and implement simplified mechanisms that lead to clarifying and securing land and property rights, especially in the rural area.

The newly created *Service National des Ressources Foncières Rurales* (Rural Land Resources Service, RLRS) of the Ministry of Agriculture is mandated to improve the policy, legal, and regulatory framework for rural land tenure, especially with regard to constraints related to the implementation of the 1992 *Code Foncier et Domanial* (National Land Code). This service lacks necessary skills and resources to carry out its mandate. However, the service is committed to coordinate and engage other actors (Ministries of Mines, Environment, Decentralization, Justice, Finances, and Urban Planning) to launch and promote national dialogues on ways to improve rural land-tenure security. During this past quarter, PRADD II held a series of discussions with representatives of this national service, along with staff of the Ministry of Mines and Geology, to plan a series of activities to launch dialogues on how to formalize customary land tenure rights. Below is a summary of what was accomplished during this period.

4.1.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: CAPACITY-BUILDING ON LAND-TENURE AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

During the work-planning process, PRADD II and the RLRS staff agreed that a seminar on land tenure be sponsored by the PRADD II program as a starting point to strengthening the capacity of staff and other stakeholders. The PRADD II country team started exchanging with the PRADD II senior technical manager/advisor (STA/M) at the Tetra Tech home office during this past quarter, to conceptualize a course on land-tenure and property rights (LTPR) and to look for resource persons in Guinea who will support the PRADD II team in conducting the course and the field visits in Forécariah. PRADD II STA/M Mark Freudenberger will be the lead instructor for this seminar. The course is designed to support land-tenure stakeholders in Guinea in understanding key concepts related to land-tenure and property rights in order to engage in the pilot process of formalizing customary rights in Forécariah. A draft concept note of the course has been prepared and will be finalized during the next quarter. The course is scheduled to take place during the first two weeks of September. The PRADD II country director and the LTPR coordinator will be identifying resource persons at the start of the next quarter. Participants in the course are expected to be stakeholders involved in land-tenure and natural-resources management representing agriculture, mines, environment, decentralization, justice, finances, and urban planning.

4.1.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: FORMALIZING CUSTOMARY SURFACE RIGHTS

To build a roadmap for a platform of reflection on formalizing customary land rights, several meetings and exchanges were conducted with the RLRS of the Guinean Ministry of Agriculture to lay out the most appropriate approach to conducting this activity. Results from these discussions showed that there is

a need to reinvigorate the debate about the 2001 Rural Land Policy Directive to seek innovations and resources to foster the pilot process of formalizing rights in Forécariah.

To get this process started, PRADD II developed a scope of work for two consultants (national and international) to conduct legal and institutional analyses of the constraints related to implementing the rural land-policy declaration and the land code as they relate to formalizing customary tenure rights in Guinea. The review is to generate from a consultative approach propositions, or a roadmap, leading to the creation of legally recognized—but simplified and cost-effective—processes for the recognition of customary tenure as coded in the Land Code and the Land Policy Directive for rural areas. In addition, the government of Guinea (including the ministries intervening in the land, mining, and environment sector) is very much interested in developing a process to align the national laws in these sectors. Given that the government is currently completing the supporting regulations (*textes d'application*) of the new mining code, and more *textes d'application* are needed to support the land code, the review will also examine the law governing the mining sector and recommend prescriptions on how to create a more harmonized Land Code and Mining Code. The two consultants are expected to start working at the beginning of the second half of July 2014. This activity is expected to set the stage for a national platform intended to promote dialogue to design and implement a process to increase tenure security in the rural area.

4.1.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: IDENTIFYING RESOURCE-BASED CONFLICTS AND ALTERNATIVE MECHANISMS OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.2 ACTIVITY 2: STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

Strengthening governance and internal control is the major component of the PRADD II project in Guinea. The sections below summarize what was accomplished during this quarter by the project staff along with representatives of the MMG and our partner, the USGS team.

4.2.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: CONFIRMING THE SIX SELECTED SITES FOR PRADD II INTERVENTION IN FORÉCARIAH

Field Diagnostic in Woula: The PRADD II team and MMG staff completed a field assessment in Woula as one of the sites for year-one intervention in Forécariah. This diagnostic focused on land-tenure systems, socioeconomic activities, especially artisanal diamond activities, and their impacts on local livelihood and the environment. The assessment confirmed Woula as the sixth site of intervention for PRADD II in Forécariah due to the recent rush for artisanal-mining operations in this area. In addition, the National Directorate of Mines has decided to include parceling ASM diamond mining in Woula and to include the site in the broader ASM zone of Forécariah. Main findings from this rapid rural appraisal in Woula were the following:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON WOULA

- The maternal family of the prime minister of Guinea is from Woula. Therefore, the communities consult and rely heavily on the prime minister's support to protect their natural resources base.
- The Daffé family is the land owner in the village. Every season, this family transfers use rights to other resident families for agricultural purposes.
- Women have access to land and they must address the Daffé family either individually or collectively, and they can inherit land from their deceased parents. They cannot directly allocate land, but they can go through the family intermediary to facilitate access to land.
- Women and men are equally involved in the rice-farming activities, and the rice production is quite not sufficient to meet the community's food needs. Villagers have other complementary activities that bring in much more revenue than rice farming, such as charcoal production, artisanal diamond mining, extraction of palm oil, and vegetable gardening.
- Mainly, women are more involved in agricultural commercialization than men and gain their major revenues from marketing palm oil and gardening (beans, tomatoes, peanuts, and fonio).
- Land-tenure transactions are not written and customary rules have the power of law between the community members.
- Conflicts are few, but generally involve diamond stealing by diamond diggers. Conflicts around boundaries or between two pits are rare.
- Conflicts over croplands' boundaries are also infrequent, but if they occur, the elders solve them amicably. Villagers reported that they have never consulted an administrative authority to resolve a conflict.
- People have limited information about the diamonds produced in this area. They are often informed by masters who suddenly disappear from the village without providing any further information.
- Following the field diagnostic in Woula, the ASM division demarcated eight parcels of one hectare each. Some masters in Forécariah bought all the parcels right away. But before this parceling, the community was very resistant and was strongly protecting its lowland areas against parceling. With much negotiations and discussions with the community, the parcelization process unfolded in Woula.

Agreements with the Communities to Implement the Project: Five conventions of collaboration were developed by the PRADD II team and submitted to the communities for review and signature by their representatives. These conventions explain both PRADD II and the communities' commitments in accomplishing the objectives of the project. The communities' representatives of Bassia (for the Gberedabon and Safoulén sites), Kourouya (for the Kansikouré site), Khoboto (for the Khoboto site), Feindoumodia (for the Safoulén and Gbomilo sites), and Woula (for the Woula site) signed agreements with the PRADD II country director. A copy of each convention was prepared for the representatives of the communities. The main objective of these agreements is to ensure that each community understands the project and its objectives, and engages itself in achieving these objectives. The agreements can be amended upon an evaluation of the tasks of each party.

4.2.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: DEMARCATING RESERVED ZONES FOR ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE DIAMOND MINING

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.2.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: SUPPORTING USGS MAPPING, SURVEY, AND MODELING ACTIVITIES

The US Geological Survey worked with PRADD II during the last quarter to set up an applied research program to test a geological modeling process that may improve prospecting for alluvial mining. From the startup of the PRADD II project in Guinea, the Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG) emphasized its need to acquire spatial and geological ASM data to identify potential sites where diamond deposits are present. The geospatial data available at the Ministry is outdated. Two assessments of the mining cadaster simultaneously conducted by PRADD II (on the ASM cadaster) and the World Bank funded PAGSEM program (on the general cadaster of the Ministry) in the first quarter of 2014 confirmed the lack of up-to-date data that can be used to monitor the sector. This aerial mapping activity led by USGS constitutes the first step toward providing up-to-date and high quality data to the MMG. One feature of this program is to fly a quadcopter, or as called in Guinea, a “mini-helicopter.” The use of this mini-helicopter was based on a number of factors such as low cost, capability to fly at a lower altitude (100—200m), ability to cover up to 1 km of space from where the navigator of the remote control is standing, high resolution of images (2-5cm) regardless of cloud cover (better than satellite imagery system with 50cm of resolution), and it takes both video and photos. The high resolution of the imagery produced by this technology is very suitable for developing elevation models that will allow for predicative mapping of diamond bearing sites and potential boundary delimitation. Since even in the United States this new technology is controversial because of fears of invasion of personal or community privacy, PRADD II worked very hard to gain approvals for the use of this technology from government and local communities. Prior to USGS arrival in Guinea, PRADD II facilitated the issuance of the official authorization of the flyover by the Minister of Transport through the Minister of Mines and Geology. Copies of this authorization were shared with the military and civilian officials both in Conakry and in Forécariah (see Section 4.4.2 sub-activity 1 on local communication for more details about the sensitization program that was conducted by the project prior to and during the flyover).

From June 17 through June 29, the USGS team traveled to Guinea and worked with the PRADD II and MMG teams to carry out aerial photography at all of the six sites targeted by the project as intervention sites in Forécariah. Upon its arrival in country, the USGS team was introduced to the director of mines and his staff. At this meeting, the chief of mission Peter Chirico introduced the mini-helicopter and gave a brief presentation about the objectives of his field mission, what should be expected as the outcome of this mission, and what would be the role of the MMG to complete this process of

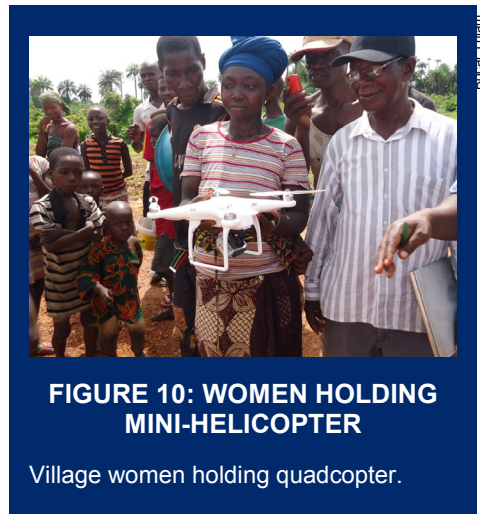


FIGURE 10: WOMEN HOLDING MINI-HELICOPTER

Village women holding quadcopter.



FIGURE 11: COMMUNITY SHOWING OF OVERFLY IMAGES

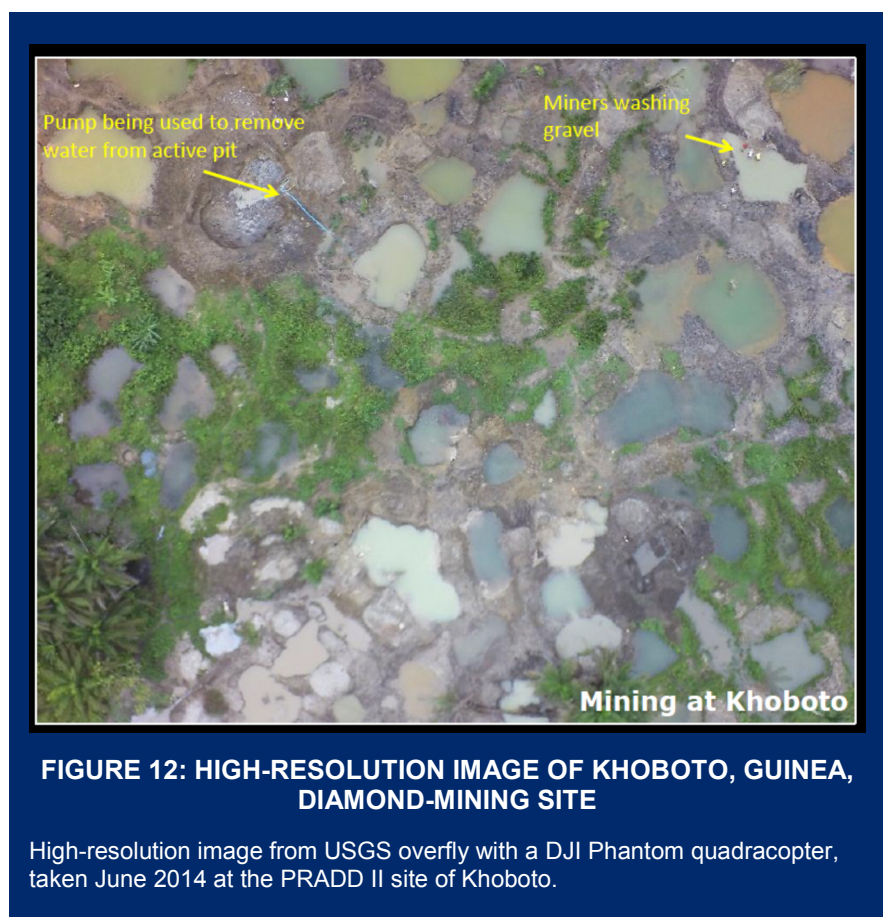
Community watching overfly images during USGS mission.

special database development for the ministry.

On June 15, Armel Nzinga (former PRADD CAR Deputy Chief of Party and a Humphrey Fellow at the University of California, Davis in the USA) arrived in country to support work with the USGS team in conducting the aerial photography and the geomorphological sampling of the mining sites. On June 19, Armel and the USGS team, along with the PRADD II and MMG staff, traveled to Forécariah to complete the flyover and geomorphological sampling at all of the six sites of the PRADD II project. The mini-helicopter generated excellent images clear enough to be used for community mapping of mining sites. Every time the flyover was completed at a site, the team showed to the communities the images captured by the mini-helicopter on a laptop computer. While in the field, the USGS team trained the PRADD II GIS specialist on how to fly the helicopter and how to convert preliminary images to into ArcGIS and to geo-reference them with the satellite images.

Finally, the country director, the USGS team, and the director of mines met with the minister to brief him on the field mission and lay out next steps. The mini-helicopter was also presented to the minister and a demonstration took place in the minister's conference room. The minister used his smartphone to take video footage of the flyover (see Figure 16). The minister was very pleased with the outcome of the mission and requested that the results of this exercise become available in a timely fashion for planning and implementation. Based on the outcome of this first exercise, as well as the timeliness and small cost associated with this technology compared to cumbersome and costly techniques used by mining companies, the minister expressed his considerable interest in expanding this type of technology to provide data on other mineral deposits in Guinea. USGS advised him to consult with the senior management team at the USGS International Program in Washington, DC.

Before leaving the country, a handover session of all of the equipment, including the mini-helicopter and accessories, took place between the country director and USGS. This equipment has been added to the PRADD II inventory list and will be used in the future to expand such mapping activities to other sites either in Forécariah or in another region. As mentioned above the PRADD II GIS Specialist has been trained in the use of this equipment; therefore, with some support and guidance from USGS, he will be able to conduct future flyovers.



4.2.4 SUB-ACTIVITY 4: ESTABLISHING A DATABASE FOR THE SIX SELECTED PRADD II SITES

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.2.5 SUB-ACTIVITY 5: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR MINISTRY OF MINES AND GEOLOGY TO ADMINISTER AND MONITOR DIAMOND PRODUCTION

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

However, during the last quarter, the PRADD II team noticed that since the parceling of more than 100 hectares took place in the fall of 2013, only six parcels had been purchased so far. The team organized a meeting with representatives of the two unions involved in diamond mining—*Union des Diamantaires et Orpailleurs* (UNADOR) and *Confédération Nationale des Diamantaires et Orpailleurs de Guinée* (National Confederation of Diamond Dealers and Alluvial Gold Miners of Guinea, CONADOG)—who are actively involved in ASM in Forécariah to better understand the reasons why parcels are not being purchased in Forécariah. The following was noted:

- **The lack of evidence that there is a diamond reserve:** Since mining started in Forécariah, miners have been relying only on traditional indicators of diamond presence, such as trees and stones believed to indicate diamonds at a particular site. According to the masters, this technique does not always work! In general, it is only when artisanal miners rush to a site that the MMG then arrives to parcel a site. No geological research is conducted beforehand.
- **The non-cooperation of customary landowners:** It was noted that even if someone has a mining license and is complying with the law, landowners always ask miners for compensation. What the informants did not confirm was whether or not landowners are actually compensated by the government for the use of their land. We suspect that no compensation is ever paid by government. In the next quarter, PRADD II will be conducting a legal and institutional analysis of constraints related to the implementation of the Rural Land Policy Directive. One of the activities of this analysis will consist of meeting customary tenure owners at the project sites to discuss their views on formalizing the customary systems. The project will verify this information during that field meeting.
- **Financial crisis in the region:** Due to the lack of positive return from all of the investments that miners make in trying to locate diamonds, many of ASM operators have gone bankrupt. Diamond prospecting and digging is a risky gamble. There are no other means of alternative financing.
- **Lack of interest for diggers to work in parceled sites:** Masters indicated that artisanal mining diggers usually like to operate on sites free of parcelization because they can more easily steal diamonds from their master. In parceled sites, masters control diamond extraction more carefully because they have invested in the site.

Despite the parceling operation conducted in 2013, customary landowners continue to allocate the 16 square meters of plot to miners for 50,000 Guinean Francs. This is an illustration of the failure of the parceling operation in Forécariah. The Ministry has yet to acknowledge this failure and accept exploring other options. PRADD II has been brainstorming alternatives to help the MMG to address this issue. The project is planning in the next quarter to organize roundtable discussions with MMG to propose some suggestions for the situation in Forécariah.

4.2.6 SUB-ACTIVITY 6: IMPROVE ASM INFORMATION MANAGEMENT WITH THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

The report by consultant Noel Taylor on the mining cadaster system was translated by the home office. Copies were printed and shared with the MMG. PRADD II is waiting for the Ministry to approve the implementation recommendations, but in the meantime, PRADD II has identified a potential contractor specialized in archiving. In the next quarter, we will launch the process of improving the archive system at the offices of the ASM division.

4.2.7 SUB-ACTIVITY 7: SUPPORT THE RE-INVIGORATION OF THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS SECRETARIAT

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter. Discussions with the KP focal point are frequent around a number of issues, but this agenda was put off because of the focal point's preoccupation with the KP review visit of March 2014 and preparations for the KP intercessional in China.

4.3 ACTIVITY 3: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ASM COMMUNITIES

The project was unable to identify and hire a strong candidate for the position of economic development coordinator this past quarter because our preferred candidate declined the offer. By June, another strong candidate was identified, and, as of the writing of this report, this person's employment dossier has been submitted to the home office for review and eventual submission to USAID for approval.

4.3.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN MINING COMMUNITIES

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.3.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 2: PROMOTING IMPROVED MINING TECHNIQUES AND LAND REHABILITATION

On June 17, Mr. Nganzi gave a presentation on SMARTER (Sustainable Mining by Artisanal Miners) mining and environmental rehabilitation at the PRADD II office for 12 representatives of the Directorate of Mines and the PRADD II team. This presentation was received with much enthusiasm around the illustration of PRADD experiences in Central African Republic and Liberia on environmental restoration of mined-out sites. The ASM division at the Ministry has expressed a great interest in providing training to its young employees to promote these techniques. PRADD II will provide the necessary training of these new employees during the coming dry season.

Given that Mr. Nganzi has been offered a position in the Democratic Republic of Congo on another USAID project, he recommended that PRADD II Guinea consider hiring Mr. Hervé Ponou, former PRADD coordinator of the mining component in the Central African Republic, to provide in-depth training in Guinea to the PRADD II and MMG team in order to launch improved mining techniques and land rehabilitation as scheduled in the annual work plan. PRADD II will work with the home office in the next quarter to explore this option.

Following his presentation on SMARTER mining, Mr. Nganzi had a one-on-one discussion with the regional coordinator of the Banankoro MMG office on how MMG is monitoring production and collecting production data. The iTablet and eForm prototype were shown during this meeting.

4.3.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: SUPPORTING TRAINING IN DIAMOND VALUATION

A series of conference calls was held with the GIA team (Brad Brooks-Rubin and Crystall Nel), the two PRADD II country directors, and the STA/M this past quarter to discuss planning for diamond-valuation training in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. Dates tentatively planned for GIA training are September 15 to 19, 2014, in Côte d'Ivoire, and September 22 to 26, 2014, in Guinea. In each country, discussions are under way with the KP focal points and other national authorities on the content, location, and preparations for these courses. In addition, GIA has drafted a letter to each of the ministers of mines of the two countries stating the objectives of the training, suggesting dates, and making some requests from the governments of the host countries to import the equipment and deliver the course. The letters are being translated before submittal to the two ministers. Finally, plans have been made for Crystall Nel to travel to Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea around mid-August, prior to the training period, to meet with the national teams and ensure that all of the logistics are in place. The country director has had a first meeting with the KP focal point and the managing director of the *Bureau National d'Expertise* (National Evaluation Bureau, BNE) to talk about participants and logistics. More meetings will take place in the coming quarter.

4.3.4 SUB-ACTIVITY 4: EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.4 ACTIVITY 4: PUBLIC AWARENESS AND OUTREACH

After joining the team at the beginning of this past quarter, the communication coordinator focused more on preparing public outreach tools to inform the communities and local authorities about USGS' aerial-mapping activities. Below is the summary of what was accomplished under this component.

4.4.1 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH STRATEGY

As part of the implementation of its communications and outreach program, the project will recruit a consultant to assist in conducting an assessment and field study to develop its communication strategy. The communication strategy will be based on the information gathered during field missions in Forécariah and through discussions with different stakeholders and partners. To this end, the scope of work for the recruitment of an external consultant was developed and submitted to the country director for finalization. The process will be completed in the next quarter.

4.4.2 SUB-ACTIVITY 1: LOCAL COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

During this past quarter, the PRADD II project designed and carried out activities to raise awareness about the project mission and planned interventions. The focus was to support the mini helicopter flyover mission by USGS. This included: 1) holding informational meetings with partners from the National Directorate of Mines in preparation for the flyover mission; 2) developing, validating, and implementing tools and channels of communication through the media and non-media; 3) designing and airing a message on three



radio stations about the flyover mission; and 4) organizing awareness campaigns in the communities and holding meetings with stakeholders in the artisanal mining sector at different levels.

These activities were carried out in all of the villages where aerial photography was conducted by USGS in Forécariah from June 19 to 26, 2014. All of the messages and tools used for public awareness were discussed and validated by the staff of the Ministry of Mines and Geology prior to field implementation. Working together on this communication and outreach solidified respectful working relations with the ministry.

Radios that aired the messages included Espace FM, Familia FM, and the national radio (RTG). The messages were aired during five days in French, Soussou, and Foulani, which are the main dialects spoken by the communities at the intervention area. These radios were selected based on their coverage area.

Non-media channels used to pass the message included awareness meetings with members of the two powerful unions (UNADOR and CONADOG), traditional leaders, and authorities at the prefecture and sub-prefecture. These actors provided valuable support to the PRADD II project in conveying the message to the communities. Finally, parallel to the flyover at each site, the communication coordinator, along with members of the unions, drove around each village (Bassia, Fendoumodia, Safoule, Kouria, Gbomilo, and Khoboto) on the top of a truck with sound systems to inform the communities. This system was a very effective tool for public awareness.

4.4.3 SUB-ACTIVITY 3: NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ON ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING SECTOR

This activity is scheduled to start during the next quarter.

4.5 CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

4.5.1 ADD-ONS AND COLLABORATION

Collaboration with the MMG: PRADD II signed a formal agreement with Elhadj Mahmoudou Sano to serve as representative of the Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG) on the project. Mr. Sano has more than 20 years of experience in the ASM sector in Guinea. He also worked on the PRADD I project as the national technical advisor representing the ministry. His knowledge of the ASM sector and past experience with the PRADD project will be valuable to us. He will advise the country director, participate in the implementation of all of the activities, and mentor the young professionals of the ministry to be deployed to Forécariah. Mr. Sano remains on the government payroll while the project will cover his daily transportation in Conakry and per diem while in the field on project assignments. He has been provided an office space and desk at the project office and has been required to read and sign the Tetra Tech Code of Conduct.

Over this past quarter, PRADD II has been successful in engaging the staff of the Ministry of Mines and Geology in all of our activities. The division of ASM has been very cooperative in working with the project to implement field activities, including the signing of the protocol agreements with the communities, field diagnostics in Woula, and awareness campaigns in all of the six sites where USGS aerial mapping occurred.

Collaboration with the RLRS/Ministry of Agriculture: Several meetings and discussions took place between PRADD II and staff of the Rural Land Resources Service of the Ministry of Agriculture to operationalize the sub-activities planned in the annual work plan. Agreement was reached on the nature of the platform to foster dialogue on the interface between surface rights and sub-surface rights; on hiring

two consultants to conduct policy and institutional review to set the stage for this dialogue and policy reform; and on the objectives of the land-tenure course for capacity building.

USGS: Collaboration with USGS resulted in the aerial mapping of all six sites of the PRADD II project in Forécariah. Details about the aerial photography are presented in Section 4.2.3. Six thousand photos and video footages were taken by the mini-helicopter. PRADD II will continue liaising with the USGS team while they are processing the data.

GIA: As mentioned above, GIS and PRADD II have agreed to hold diamond-valuation training for 10 people in Conakry in the next quarter. Planning of this training was started this past quarter.

4.5.2 GENDER

Madame Hadji Diakité, the regional gender specialist, is now fully on board. She is tasked to mainstream gender into the planning and implementation of field activities. She is scheduled to make her first trip to Cote d'Ivoire in September and then continue on to Guinea in early October 2014 to train the project staff, review the Guinea national policy on gender, develop a gender strategy for the project, and conduct a needs assessment to support gender-based organizations in Forécariah.

4.5.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

During this past quarter, the following activities were completed as part of the M&E plan of the project.

- **Collaboration with ERC:** A list of questions sent by the ERC team on the PRADD II annual work plan was received and addressed by the national team.

In addition, the country director spent two days in Vermont with other PRADD II team members and Cloudburst impact evaluation specialist Heather Huntington to coordinate the activities on the PRADD II work plan and the ERC impact evaluation (IE). The two projects agreed on selecting part of the control sites for the IE in Forécariah (outside of the PRADD II intervention areas) and in Kindia. Agreement was also made about the timeline of the activities and on the roles and responsibilities of each project during the implementation of both the impact evaluation and the PRADD II project activities. Finally, prior to the deployment of the Cloudburst team in the field, it was agreed that ERC work with StatView and PRADD II to visit, select, and raise awareness in the control sites on the impact evaluation. This exchange allowed better coordination of activities and timeframe between the impact evaluation and PRADD II activities.

During the month of April, ERC consultant Dr. Mike McGovern of the University of Michigan traveled to Guinea to gain firsthand realities of the artisanal mining sector in order to support ERC in developing the qualitative component of the impact evaluation instrument. He spent three days in Forécariah, accompanied by the PRADD II land tenure coordinator, talking to the communities, conducting transect walks, and visiting farms and mining sites. In his field report, Dr. Govern came to the same conclusions as the PRADD II field diagnostic in Forécariah regarding the hot land tenure issues of the moment, the lack of government presence in the ASM sector, and the lack of incentives for environmental rehabilitation.

- **Work Session with BNE on Marketing Data from Forécariah:** To better understand the data-collection system at the BNE, the M&E specialist had a work session with the BNE staff. It was learned in this work session that the origin of the diamond is not taken into consideration by BNE during the diamond valuation. The BNE does not disaggregate diamonds by mining zones. Therefore, this makes it difficult to provide clear information tracing diamond production to diamond export per region or prefecture, especially in relation with PRADD II indicators about the volume of diamonds coming from the project intervention area. Following this remark, the PRADD M&E coordinator

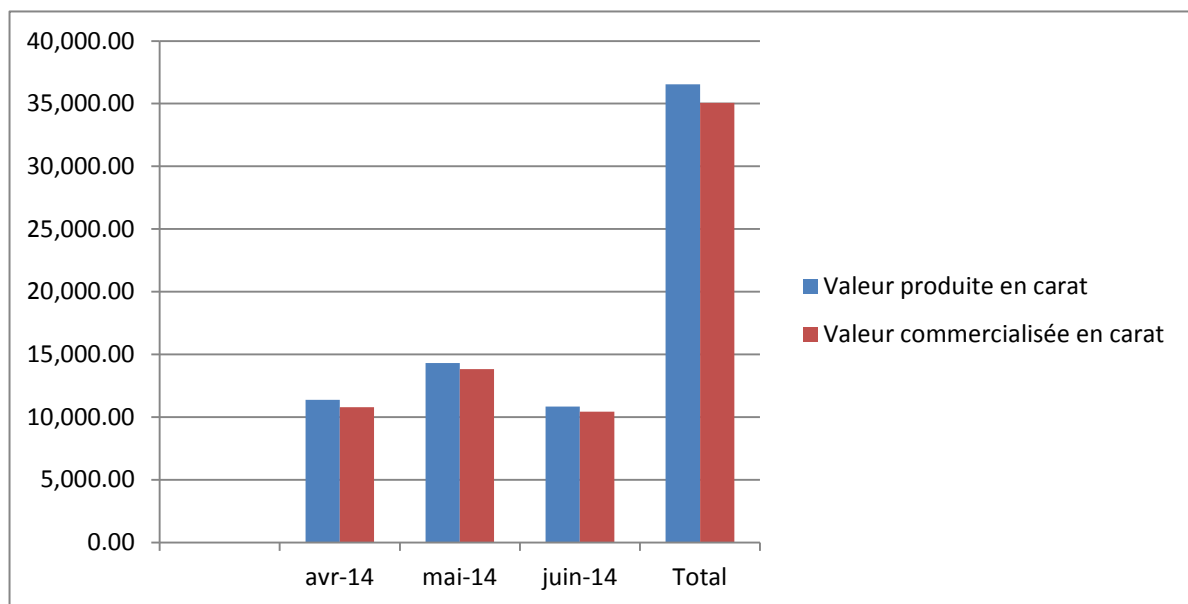
requested further discussions to address the issue with BNE. This series of discussions will start during the next quarter.

- **Exchange with Regional M&E Specialist About the e-Port Training in Abidjan:** The Guinea M&E coordinator will be traveling to Côte d'Ivoire at the end of July to participate in the e-Port training facilitated by the regional M&E expert. The training will include both classroom training in Abidjan and practical demonstration in Séguéla. Following this practical training, the M&E coordinator will travel back to Guinea to provide training to the PRADD II staff.
- **Production and Export Data:** The M&E coordinator visited both the BNE and the ASM division to gather statistics for April through June. Below is the summary table of this data set.

TABLE 4: STATISTICS ON DIAMOND PRODUCTION IN GUINEA

Month	Production			Export	
	Kankan, Kérouané	N'zérékoré, Macenta	Kindia, Forécariah	Total	Total
	Weight Carat	Weight Carat	Weight Carat		
April 2014	9 998.07	639.99	742.73	11 380.79	10 788.53
May 2014	11 199.97	2 100.10	1 024.34	14 324.41	13 830.99
June 2014	7 990.98	1 939.47	916.03	10 846.48	10 446.81
Total	29 189.02	4 679.56	2 683.10	36 551.68	35 066.33

FIGURE 14: GRAPH OF DIAMOND PRODUCTION TRENDS IN GUINEA



4.6 OPERATIONS

4.6.1 PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Work-Planning Process: The first annual work plan was completed and submitted to USAID along with the Gantt chart and the associated budget. In addition, the PRADD II team spent two days at a retreat to develop a detailed quarterly work plan from May through September 2014. This work plan is segmented by week and includes all of the activities, sub-activities, and steps requested to complete each activity for the quarter. The reason for covering the May to September period only is that the impact evaluation scheduled from mid-September to mid-October will contribute to a certain halt in field activities. Most of our field activities will not start before October once the ERC baseline surveys are completed. This will minimize dangers of contamination of survey results.

4.6.2 CENTRAL OFFICE

The office in Conakry is now fully equipped and functioning. The lease for the next six months is paid. Anti-virus programs are installed on all computers. Each staff member has signed up for automatic backup of computer files through Carbonite. Internet service also has been paid for the next six months.

4.6.3 FIELD OFFICE

Office Space: During this past quarter, PRADD II worked hard to identify an office space in Forécariah town. Potential buildings were identified and owners contacted in order to get a sense of rental rates. Most buildings turned out to be more expensive than what the project had budgeted. This unexpectedly high rental cost is due to a general increase in demand for housing following the entry of mining companies into the area. A second option consisted of officially requesting the support of the MMG to identify a government building in need of rehabilitation and which could be used as a project office. The MMG sent a request to the minister of territorial administration and decentralization requesting a vacant building owned by the local administration in Forécariah suitable for rehabilitation by PRADD II for a new office. As of the writing of this report, the letter had been written by MMG, sent and received by the minister, and copies sent to the prefecture in Forécariah for action. However, this was on hold until the prefect returns from a long trip. In the next quarter, the project is expecting to be provided with a building for renovation.

4.7 STAFFING

The project has successfully selected two coordinators: one for economic development and the other for the Forécariah field site. All of their background information has been requested and received. At the writing of this report, the package is being prepared to be sent to the home office for review before submittal to USAID for approval. We are expecting both coordinators to be board during the last days of July. Even though the Forécariah field office will not be available and ready in July, we are planning to have the field site coordinator start working from the Conakry office to allow for orientation and immersion with the national team.

At the writing of this report, the PRADD II technical staff was conducting the first round of interviews of a whittled-down list of more than 100 applicants for the three field agent positions. Interviews and final selection will be completed during July and field staff will be on board no later than the beginning of August.

5.0 GENERAL AND REGIONAL SUPPORT TO KPCS

5.1 TESTING AND REFINEMENT OF WASHINGTON DECLARATION DIAGNOSTIC FRAMEWORK

5.1.1 PARTICIPATION IN WDDF FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS

The PRADD II project participated in the June 2014 Kimberley Process intercessional in Shanghai, China. The PRADD country director from Côte d'Ivoire, Terah DeJong, represented the project and participated actively in discussions within the U.S. delegation. The country director facilitated many informal discussions between the U.S. delegation and member states about possible PRADD II support for testing the WDDF in third-party countries. Discussions are still underway at the time of this report.

5.1.2 SUPPORT TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE AND GUINEA WDDF

PRADD II in Côte d'Ivoire negotiated a scope of work and firm fixed price contract with the *Groupe de Recherche et de Plaidoyer sur les Industries Extractives* (GRPIE) to carry out a three-month consultative process using the WDDF diagnostic framework. Four working groups representing the Kimberley Process tripartite of government, civil society, and the diamond industry will carry out the diagnostic, write a report, hold a validation workshop, and submit the report to the KPCS focal point in Côte d'Ivoire. It is hoped that this illustrative process will serve as a model for activating the WDDF in other KPCS countries and that the process will be completed by the KP plenary in November.

5.2 MANO RIVER UNION AND WEST AFRICAN HARMONIZATION INITIATIVES

5.2.1 CONTRIBUTIONS TO MRU REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOLLOW-UP

The PRADD II country director in Côte d'Ivoire and the STA/M set up with USAID a monthly conference call with the technical team to help advance the Mano River Union Action Plan and to coordinate other activities between the European Union and the U.S. government. So far, agreement has not yet been reached regarding the scope and contributions of PRADD II to the Mano River Union Action Plan. A memorandum of understanding has been drafted to structure the relationship between the technical team responsible for guiding the advancement of the action plan and the PRADD II project. Hopefully, an agreement will be signed during the next quarter.

5.2.2 LIAISON TO MRU TECHNICAL TEAM FOR ACTION PLAN FOLLOW-UP

PRADD II offers the Côte d'Ivoire country director as the liaison person to the Mano River Union. PRADD II is prepared to offer technical and financial assistance to help advance the action plan, but final decisions await the green light from the technical team.

5.2.3 REGULAR REPORTING ON MRU REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOLLOW-UP

No reporting system has yet been set up, although PRADD II is prepared to set up a quarterly newsletter to highlight activities carried out in the member countries under the action plan. This proposition has not yet been accepted.

5.3 CONTRIBUTIONS TO KIMBERLEY PROCESS MEETINGS

5.3.1 PARTICIPATION IN KP INTERCESSIONAL AND PLENARY IN CHINA

Country director Terah DeJong attended the Kimberley Process intercessional meetings in Shanghai, China. He arrived a day early for preparatory meetings regarding the Mano River Union, but then attended all sessions as a member of the U.S. Delegation.

5.3.2 ENGAGEMENT IN MRU PLENARY/INTERCESSIONAL AND SIDE-EVENTS ON REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

The U.S. Delegation and the country director organized several formal and informal sessions to discuss the possibilities of setting up a side event to monitor the advancement of the Mano River Union Action Plan. After intensive discussions with the technical team, it was decided that PRADD II would prepare a protocol agreement for the technical team that would set out the parameters for PRADD II's contributions. This draft protocol was completed by the end of the quarter for USAID's formal transmission to the technical team.

5.3.3 PARTICIPATION IN PREPARATORY DIALOGUES FOR KP MEETINGS

The country director and the STA/M actively participated in setting up an agenda for PRADD's contributions to the KP intercessional in Shanghai.

5.4 SELECTION OF THIRD PRADD II COUNTRY

5.4.1 INVOLVEMENT IN DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE PRADD II THIRD COUNTRY

Discussions continued about a possible third country for PRADD II at the KP intercessional in China. No definitive decisions have been made at this time. Country director Terah DeJong and ex-intern Armel Nganzi are preparing a debriefing on the troubled extractive industries situation in the Central African Republic.

6.0 CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

6.1 PARTNERSHIPS

6.1.1 UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The partnership expanded significantly with the fielding of a three-person team to Guinea from June 15 to 28, 2014, to carry out information-gathering needed to test a new process of modeling the likely location of diamond deposits. The Project Chief, Special Geologic Studies Peter Chirico led the team and was accompanied by PRADD II consultant Armel Nganzi. The PRADD II team worked very closely with the USGS to obtain government approvals to fly the instrument, and it launched a massive communication campaign to inform residents of the flyovers. These two large investments of time and resources led to an uneventful and successful flyover of all six diamond-mining areas at the PRADD II project's intervention sites, and to the collection of much excellent geological information. Six thousand images were taken for the six sites of the PRADD II project and an additional site called Momoyire. On average, 700-800 imagers were taken on each of the sites. A draft USGS report is due by the end of next quarter.

The PRADD II team set up a debriefing with the Minister of Mines and Geology, at which a demonstration was held of the flying capacities of the mini-helicopter (Figure 16). The minister enthusiastically supports this initiative and hopes that the new geological mapping approach and technology can be used not only for diamonds, but other mineral exploration purposes.

6.1.2 GEMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

Discussions were carried out throughout the quarter on opportunities for developing a new partnership with the GIA in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. Plans are now unfolding for the GIA to offer a certified "Rough Diamond Valuation" course in Côte d'Ivoire from September 15 to 19, 2014, and in Guinea from September 22 to 26, 2014. Mr. Brad Brooks-Rubin, the new Global Director, Development and Beneficiation is coordinating the week-long trainings offered to 25 hand-picked personnel from government diamond offices, customs, the KP secretariat, and others.

6.1.3 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS WITH RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DIAMOND BUYERS

The PRADD II project did not advance much in setting up public-private partnerships with retail and wholesale diamond buyers. The commercial structure in Côte d'Ivoire will not be fully established until later in the next quarter. Discussions were held within Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire about reforms in the diamond-export sector, but advancements are not yet sufficient to merit invitation of our partners.



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6.1.4 INTERNSHIPS

The PRADD II project successfully hosted the Hubert Humphrey Fellow, Armel Nganzi, from May 5 to 30 at the Tetra Tech ARD home office in Burlington, Vermont. Led by the STA/M, the internship consisted of a tightly planned introduction to the Land Tenure and Property Rights sector, two-week training in ePort, intensive discussions with in-house staff on artisanal mining and monitoring of production, and a section on environmental rehabilitation. The intern wrote a concise topical memo of issues covered during the week. The home-office phase was followed by a two-week internship with the United States Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia, under the supervision of Peter Chirico. From June 2 to 13, Mr. Nganzi picked up new skills in flying the “mini-helicopter” for use in Guinea under the technical-assistance mission reported above in Section 6.1.1.

The demand for internships both in the United States and in our programs overseas continues to grow, but Tetra Tech, as a publically traded company, requires interns to receive stipends plus air transport if a posting is overseas for fear of liabilities. This constrains access to future interns, but is an issue that should be raised in broader STARR IQC discussions—does USAID wish to support paid interns on its projects?

6.2 GENDER STRATEGY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

The gender specialist, a key personnel position, began her work in earnest with PRADD II. Hadji Diakité drafted a conceptual framework for the gender-sensitivity training program, which we anticipate offering later this year in Côte d’Ivoire and Guinea. She visited the Tetra Tech ARD offices in May to meet up with the home-office staff, the intern Armel Nganzi, and other staff within the office. This short day-and-a-half visit led to the preparation of a detailed draft scope of work for the upcoming work-plan year.

6.3 MONITORING PRADD II PERFORMANCE

6.3.1 SUPERVISION OF M&E SPECIALIST TASKS

The M&E specialist Ramy Razafindralambo traveled to the home office from April 12 to 24 for an intensive two week program design and set-up of the ePort system, as well as training in the use of eTablets for eForm questionnaires. The training was led by Tetra Tech’s M&E coordinator Robynne Locke. The sessions were also attended by the intern Armel Nganzi.

6.3.2 PREPARATION AND COORDINATION OF WEEKLY UPDATES

The home-office team continued to coordinate the compilation of the weekly updates. These are currently sent out each Friday afternoon to 20 interested parties in the European Union, State Department, USAID, and the PRADD II project itself. The weekly update is read with interest by all parties. Questions are often raised by USAID and the EU requiring further clarifications or additional information. This very useful instrument keeps all parties constructively engaged in the complex events unfolding at this time in both countries and at the regional level.

6.3.3 PREPARATION AND COORDINATION OF PRADD II REPORTING

STA/M Mark Freudenberger coordinates the preparation of all reports and documentation submitted to the European Union and USAID. He focused most of his attention this quarter on ushering through the first-year work plan and budget. The PRADD II work plan is now fully approved. The STA/M similarly compiles, reviews, and edits the quarterly reports for USAID and the six-month report for the European Union. Key technical reports were also reviewed and edited.

The STA/M organized a writer's workshop in Côte d'Ivoire from April 16 to 18, 2014, to facilitate the planning and write-up of PRADD II's first-annual work plan. This intensive writing session with the country directors from Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea showed the benefits of all sitting in the same room to finalize decisions on programmatic orientations. Ideally, this event should occur each year.

6.4 IMPACT EVALUATION

The impact-evaluation process for PRADD II Guinea is led by Heather Huntington of the USAID Evaluation, Research, and Communication (ERC) project. A two-day workshop (May 19 to 20) was held in Burlington, Vermont, with the PRADD II country director, the monitoring and evaluation specialist, the ERC coordinator for impact evaluations, and the STA/M. The strategy and detailed calendar of activities for the upcoming impact-evaluation baseline was mapped out. Control and treatment communities were identified. A conference call with USAID was organized at the end of the workshop to present the final conclusions. The ERC project has submitted a final report of the workshop.

The PRADD II Guinea project hosted the ERC consultant, anthropologist Dr. Michael McGovern, and assisted him in carrying out a short exploratory baseline study in Forécariah in late May and early June. PRADD's land-tenure specialist, Djomba Mara, accompanied Dr. McGovern on the week-long participatory assessment. The assessment complemented and reaffirmed the central findings of PRADD II's land tenure diagnostic.

The impact evaluation schedule is listed in Table 5 below.

TABLE 5: ERC IMPACT EVALUATION SCHEDULE FOR PRADD II GUINEA

M&E or Impact Evaluation Activity Date	PRADD II	ERC
2014		
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review survey instruments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start to develop survey instruments and IE design
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide input for Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) survey related to knowledge of improved mining techniques, valuation techniques, and KP process and laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize IE design document by June 6 and approval by USAID Listing of control sites by STATVIEW by the end of June Continue developing survey instruments—draft delivered by June 20th
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review survey instruments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize the survey instruments
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide list of villages within districts and estimates of population in treatment areas Provide needed descriptive statistics, including performance indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop sampling protocol Institutional review board by Cloudburst Translation of survey instruments and survey programming on phones
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform communities about the survey objectives and introduce STATVIEW to communities in treatment areas Support with some logistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cloudburst impact evaluation specialist Heather Huntington goes to Guinea second week to train STATVIEW for two weeks (September 11–12). September 25: piloting survey.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRADD team starts field activities in mid-October after the survey team completed first sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early October: soft pilot testing; then launching full survey. Heather departs October 6.
November		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field survey ongoing
December		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean collected data and draft data analysis report
2015		
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review survey report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize survey report
February-March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of summarized survey results to ministry of mines, local communities, and other stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist PRADD II team in producing summarized information from survey results
October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate survey results to ministry of mines, local communities, and other stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midline survey Results and reports ready by early 2017
May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate survey results to ministry of mines, local communities, and other stakeholders PRADD II ends by September 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endline survey in May

7.0 PROJECT-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

TABLE 6: PROJECT-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

Indicator/Year	2013 Q 4	2014 Q 1	2014 Q 2	Total 2014
Proportion of carats entered legally into the chain of custody from the PRADD production areas against national legal exports	0	0	0	0
Percentage of mine workers possessing valid card in areas of PRADD implementation	0	0	0	0
Percentage of mine financiers or masters possessing valid license in areas of PRADD implementation	0	0	0	0
Percentage of artisanal mining sites mapped, publicly validated, and recognized by local customary and administrative authorities	0	0	0	0
Number of households that have obtained documented property rights as a result of US Government (USG) assistance	0	0	0	0
Number of previously existing land- and natural-resource-based conflicts resolved in areas receiving USG assistance for land conflict mitigation	0	0	0	0
Percentage of households with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural-resource management as a result of USG assistance	0	0	0	0
Percentage of household income derived from ASM	0	0	0	0
Number of hectares of mined-out sites rehabilitated and/or converted to other economic uses	0	0	0	0
Number of villages that have formalized collective land rights in the mining sites	0	0	0	0
Number of village land-management committees with capacity in conflict mediation and management of land-rights formalization requests	0	0	0	0
Number of improvements in laws and regulations affecting property rights of the urban and rural poor enacted with USG assistance	0	0	0	0
Number of national and regional ASM databases improved and updated	0	0	0	0
Percentage of households adopting complementary livelihoods with USG assistance	0	0	0	0
Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income, or employment)	0	0	0	0

Indicator/Year		2013 Q 4	2014 Q 1	2014 Q 2	Total 2014
Percentage of trained artisanal miners practicing basic knowledge of diamond-valuation techniques		0	0	0	0
Percentage of artisanal miners adopting improved mining techniques		0	0	0	0
Number of equipment rental pools that are operational and financially sustainable		0	0	0	0
Percentage of artisanal miners in project area demonstrating knowledge of the KP provisions and associated national mining law		0	0	0	0
Person hours of training completed by government officials, traditional authority, or individuals related to land tenure and property rights supported by USG assistance		0	372	0	372
Côte d'Ivoire		0	12	0	12
	<i>Men</i>	0	12	0	12
	<i>Women</i>	0	0	0	0
Guinea		0	360	0	360
	<i>Men</i>	0	264	0	264
	<i>Women</i>	0	96	0	96
Number of people attending USG-assisted, facilitated events that are geared toward strengthening understanding and awareness of property rights and resource governance-related issues		6	214	0	214
Côte d'Ivoire		0	58	0	58
	<i>Men</i>	0	48	0	48
	<i>Women</i>	0	10	0	10
Guinea		6	156	0	156
	<i>Men</i>	5	130	0	130
	<i>Women</i>	1	26	0	26

ANNEX A: PROGRAM BRIEF UPDATE



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



European Commission

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments

PROGRAM BRIEF

Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development (PRADD) II

Supporting the Kimberley Process in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea

OVERVIEW

The Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development Project (PRADD II) supports governments to implement mining best practices in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea, and promotes good governance of the mining sector at the international level through the Kimberley Process (KP), the international mechanism that prevents rough diamonds from fueling conflict. The program—a \$19 million five-year joint USAID/European Union initiative—is a follow-on project to PRADD, USAID's former flagship mining project that was implemented from 2007–2013 across Central African Republic, Guinea, and Liberia. The European Union provides joint support to PRADD II activities in Côte d'Ivoire.

The objective of PRADD II is to increase the number of alluvial diamonds entering the formal chain of custody, while improving the benefits accruing to diamond mining communities. Artisanal miners labor under archaic and difficult working conditions and live in extreme poverty, often receiving less than 9% of the retail price of the stones they extract. Poverty prevents miners from acquiring the licenses required to operate within the law, the equipment necessary to increase their gains, and the assets needed to diversify their livelihoods. Not surprisingly, miners often become incentivized to mine quickly, sell fast, and quickly move on to new sites. These practices have devastating economic and environmental consequences, negatively impact export revenues, and prevent compliance with the Kimberley Process.

THE PRADD APPROACH

Drawing upon the fields of property rights, economic development, governance, and behavioral change, PRADD II bases its approach on the premise that secure property rights create positive incentives for miners to be good stewards of the land. When an artisanal miner's rights to prospect and dig for diamonds are formal and secure, they are more likely to sell through legal channels, enabling the government to track the origin of diamonds and prevent them from fueling conflict. In addition, the formalization of extracting perimeters stimulates the land market, which appeals to prospective investors.

PRADD further strengthens the diamond value chain by designing alternative systems of financing, equipment, and marketing, which benefits diggers, miners, intermediaries, and exporters. The project introduces complementary livelihoods, including the conversion of exhausted mining sites into agricultural



Active artisanal diamond mining Bobi, Côte d'Ivoire in June, 2014 after lifting of the UN Security Council Embargo.

PRADD II, SABINE JIEKAK

units, and specifically targets women to uptake these livelihoods in an effort to mitigate the environmental damages of artisanal mining while providing diversified income and food security.

At the policy level, PRADD II supports governments to improve diamond mining legislation and regulations. In 2013, the project produced the Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework, which helps diamond-producing states translate international best mining practices into action. The Framework was endorsed by the Kimberley Process in November 2013. Finally, PRADD II combines local, national, and international communication tools to mobilize civil society groups and change the behavior of artisanal miners and decision makers regarding the trade of rough diamonds. PRADD's goal is to use behavior change communication approaches to alter the way miners view diamond trade and production: from a source of conflict to a powerful tool for development that will contribute positively to national economies, miners, and their communities.

PRADD IN COTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire emerged from a decade-long civil war in early 2011, but its diamonds—which played a role in sustaining the conflict—remained on the world's blacklists. The UN Security Council Embargo on diamond exports was lifted in April, 2014. Now the challenge is to activate the mechanism for tracking diamond production and exports while strengthening other internal controls. Even though the systems put in place are now regarded as some of the most advanced in the world, the government of Côte d'Ivoire needs to move rapidly to re-start the monitoring systems so that diamond diggers, middlemen, and exporters can start to receive earnings through legal exports. PRADD II provides technical assistance to government to help relaunch the export system and internal controls.

The Ivorian land governance framework demonstrates advanced land tenure legislation, which acknowledges and seeks to formalize customary land rights. PRADD II, which has reviewed the practical implementation of that law throughout the country, will assist artisanal mining communities in delineating their village limits, bringing them closer to achieving state-recognized surface rights. The PRADD II program has set up field offices in the diamond mining areas of Séguéla and Tortiya to facilitate field activities. The project recently carried out a conflict diagnostic that identified a wide range of complex conflicts over surface and sub-surface rights around land and other natural resources. Over the next months, PRADD II will carry out an in-depth assessment on ways to introduce ethical diamond production and exports and launch its program of environmental rehabilitation around mined-out diamond pits.

PRADD IN GUINEA

In 2009, a coup d'état forced the closure of the PRADD project. Since that time, new mineral deposits and alluvial diamonds have been discovered across the country, and the mining sector is now one of the country's biggest revenue sources. The country has since resumed a democratic course. The PRADD II project has been working with the US Geological Survey to launch geological modeling of potential diamond mining sites. An assessment of ways to improve the artisanal diamond mining cadastre has been carried out to serve as a road map for future policy and administrative reforms. PRADD II carried out with the government and civil society partners a tenure and artisanal mining diagnostic in March 2014 that sets the stage for project interventions in the pilot district of Forécariah.

PRADD AND THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS

Since 2008, PRADD has been providing technical support to the annual Kimberley Process, advancing the notion that development of artisanal mining communities will lead to greater compliance, traceability, and legal exports of alluvial diamonds. PRADD II supported the March 2014 Regional Harmonization and Enforcement workshop under the auspices of the KP and the Mano River Union. Negotiations continue to support the Mano River Union Action Plan – a regional initiative to tackle policy harmonization around diamond exports and reduction in cross-border diamond smuggling.

PRADD played a central role in developing the Washington Declaration Diagnostic Framework (WDDF), an official KP assessment tool that measures progress in artisanal diamond mining governance. The WDDF will be test in the coming months in Côte d'Ivoire by the tripartite coalition of government, civil society, and the diamond industry.

ANNEX B: SNAPSHOT



SNAPSHOT

Mapping Diamond Sites in Forécariah for Better Governance of the Artisanal Mining Sector in Guinea

USAID and the Government of Guinea agreed to implement PRADD II in Guinea to improve the governance of the ASM sector

Photo: Souleymane Diallo



A woman holding the mini-helicopter in Kourouya

Photo: Mini-helicopter



Aerial photo of mining site, Gberedabon

Telling Our Story

U.S. Agency for International Development
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Artisanal diamond mining in Forécariah, Guinea, dates to 1993, when a war broke out in neighboring Sierra Leon. Refugees fled the war and migrated to Forécariah, where they started to explore for diamonds. Alluvial diamond deposits were located not through sophisticated geological surveys, but through traditional techniques which consist primarily of detecting the presence of diamonds through the presence of indicator stones of a thin gravel layer. In this district, neither the government nor industry has ever conducted geological research.

In 2010, an unexpected surge in the percentage of diamond exports from Guinea occurred. As a result, the Kimberley Process authorities commissioned a team of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the World Diamond Council to conduct an assessment of diamond production potential in Guinea. Field visits were carried out throughout the country. In the end, the USGS decided to pilot an in-depth geological survey in Forécariah to test out new geological survey methodologies.

In the meantime, the Directorate of Mines carried out a process of parceling out more than 100 mining plots in Forécariah as a way to organize, control, and monitor artisanal diamond mining, which was until then managed by customary landowners. The parceling operation was aimed at expanding the state's presence in the artisanal diamond sector, and ensuring that the sector be monitored and controlled by the government. Parceling is the legal procedure for the Ministry of Mines to formalize and regulate artisanal mining in order to obtain compliance with the Kimberley Process. This process, though intended to allow the government to clarify and secure access to sub-surface rights, has not been linked to geological data showing the probable presence of alluvial diamonds. Miners have been reluctant to purchase parcels in Forécariah because they see no relation between the location of the parcel and the propensity to find diamonds. Since demarcation was launched in 2013, only five out of 100 parcels have been purchased. Clearly, the process is not working.

During the design of the PRADD II program in Guinea in early 2014, the Ministry of Mines and Energy emphasized the need to map out the location of diamond-bearing artisanal mining sites. The USGS agreed to test out new methods to map diamondiferous sites through high-

resolution aerial mapping linked and modeling of geological parameters. The results of this study will help the ministry link licensed plots to the propensity to extract diamonds in alluvial deposits. This in turn should help diamond miners increase their return on investments and eventually reduce environmental damage through rehabilitation of mined-out sites. The USGS hopes to present initial survey results by December 2014 and, if the methodology is successful, scale it up throughout the country.

The USGS team brought into Guinea a small DJI Phantom quadcopter to conduct the aerial photography of all of the six artisanal diamond-mining sites in Forécariah. The mini-helicopter took 6000 low-altitude but high-resolution photos and sampled sites for the geological modeling. The vignettes below provide a glimpse of the reactions of local communities. Interest in new technologies in Africa starts at the grassroots!

Elhadj Mamadouba Bangoura, Imam of the village of Bassia, Guinea, recounted to a PRADD II team member, “Yesterday [Saturday, June 21, 2014], some members of our community informed me that they heard a message on the radio saying that an aircraft will be flying over our area to map out the diamond-mining sites. I think that this is an excellent thing if it can help identify diamond-bearing sites.”

Momo Bangoura, resident of nearby Woula, joined the conversation. “As far as the flyover mission is concerned, our authorities have informed us, and we were waiting for it because it will help the government to improve its parceling operation [mining claim registration]. Personally, I am not happy with the way the parceling has been conducted so far, because the sites on which it was conducted are our farmlands. However, if the helicopter can help identify the sites where diamonds are, this will keep masters from purchasing parcels that do not bear diamonds and leave those for agriculture.”

Mabinty Bangoura, a female miner in Safoulen, added, “I am conducting this diamond mining to only be able to feed my kids. My family is in Sierra Leone and I am here for work. If the flyover of this helicopter can help us to know where to work and have diamonds, I ensure you that this is a good thing. In this case, everyone (the village, miners, and the government) will gain something.”

A woman in Kourouya held the mini-quadcopter in her hands, saying, “Nobody is going to tell me about it later. I heard of it before, I am here, and now I have seen it and I am holding it.”

Following the USGS team’s presentation of its preliminary field results at a debriefing for the Minister of Mines and Geology in Conakry, Minister Kerfalla Yansané asked a broader question of how the USGS might use this technology for mapping other minerals in Guinea given the lack of up-to-date geospatial information at the Ministry. He noted the long process it usually takes for mining companies to provide such data. He expressed his interest in formally requesting assistance from US government agencies to scale up this approach to cover other minerals.

Telling Our Story

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