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ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020



Contract Number: 7200AAI8C00087
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Photo: CLS meeting in Berbarati. Photo by: Régis Ndaket.

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ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS (AMPR) TASK ORDER UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	I
LIST OF ACRONYMS.....	II
1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND.....	I
2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	2
3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES.....	3
3.1 OBJECTIVE I: ASSIST GOCAR TO IMPROVE COMPLIANCE WITH KIMBERLEY PROCESS REQUIREMENTS TO PROMOTE LICIT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES.....	3
3.1.1 Intermediate Result 1.1: Improve legal, policy, and institutional framework for conflict-free diamond production at domestic and regional levels.....	4
3.1.2 Intermediate Result 1.2: Expand formalization of land and resource rights in artisanal diamond mining communities.....	8
3.1.3 Intermediate Result 1.4: Strengthen capacity of GOCAR to manage and expand KP-compliant zones effectively.....	12
3.2 OBJECTIVE II: STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, SOCIAL COHESION, AND RESPONSE TO VIOLENT CONFLICT IN CAR.....	14
3.2.1 Intermediate Result 2.1: Support inclusive community dialogue especially between different religious and ethnic groups to resolve conflict over land and natural resources	15
3.2.2 Intermediate result 2.3: Strengthen cooperation between GoCAR ministries and agencies and other stakeholders on social cohesion and Kimberley Process compliance.....	19
3.3 OBJECTIVE III: INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBLE GOLD SUPPLY CHAINS IN CAR.....	20
3.3.1 Intermediate Result 3.1: Research and Communicate Recommendations for Policy, Legal, And Institutional Reforms at the National And Regional Levels to Key Stakeholders.....	21
3.4 OBJECTIVE IV: IMPROVE USAID PROGRAMMING THROUGH INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF LINKAGES BETWEEN ASM AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS.....	23
3.4.1 INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4.1: ASSIST RELEVANT USAID OPERATING UNITS TO ASSESS THE LINK BETWEEN ASM AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.....	24
3.4.2 INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4.2: STRENGTHEN KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND UNDERSTANDING OF USAID OPERATING UNITS AND PARTNERS ON THE LINK BETWEEN ASM AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.....	25
4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT.....	28
4.1 INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.....	28
4.2 COORDINATION, COLLABORATION, AND INFORMATION SHARING WITH USAID MISSIONS AND OTHER USAID PARTNERS.....	28
4.3 OFFICES	29
4.4 STAFFING.....	31
4.5 SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT.....	31
5. PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.....	33
5.1 THE MONITORING LEARNING AND EVALUATION UNIT.....	33
5.2 COMMENTARY ON SPECIFIC INDICATORS.....	33
ANNEX 1: SNAPSHOT.....	38
ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA.....	39
ANNEX 4: GENERATED DATA.....	40

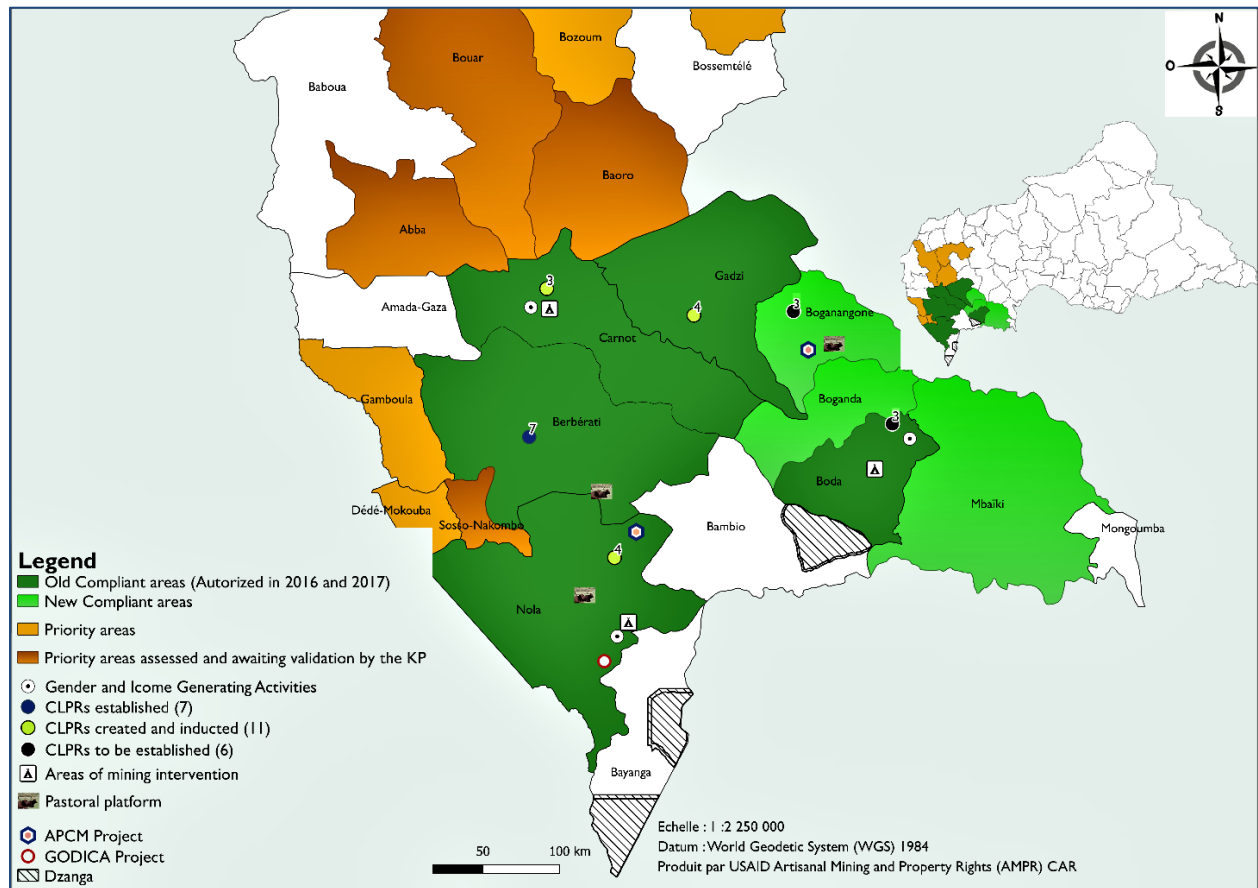
LIST OF ACRONYMS

3R	Return, Reclamation, Rehabilitation
ADB	African Development Bank
AFPE	<i>Association des Femmes pour la Promotion de l'Entreprenariat</i> (Association of Women for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship)
ALS	<i>Antenne Locale de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at commune level)
AMPR	Artisanal Mining and Property Rights
APCM	<i>Appui à la Professionnalisation des Cooperatives Minières de la République Centrafricaine</i> (Support for the Professionalization of Mining Cooperatives in the Central African Republic)
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
BECDOR	<i>Bureau d'Évaluation et de Contrôle de Diamant et d'Or</i> (Office of Evaluation and Regulation of Diamonds and Gold)
CLPR	<i>Comité Local de Paix et Réconciliation</i> (local peacebuilding committee)
CLS	<i>Comité Local de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at zone level)
CNS PK	Central African Republic Kimberley Process National Monitoring Committee
COP	Chief of Party
CRAFT	Code of Risk Mitigation for Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners Engaging in Formal Trade
CTRE-RCA	Technical Reflection and Exchange Committee for the CAR Extractive and Mining Sector
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
ENABEL	<i>Agence Belge de Développement</i> (Belgian Development Agency)
EU	European Union
FACA	<i>Forces armées centrafricaines</i> (Central African armed forces)
FAM	Finance and Administration Manager
GoCAR	Government of the Central African Republic
HEAT	Hostile Environment Awareness Training
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IGA	Income-Generating Activity
IPIS	International Peace Information Service
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices

KP	Kimberley Process
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
KPPS	Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat
LOP	Life of Project
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MHANR	Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation
MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology
MOV	Means of Verification
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OF	Kimberley Process Operational Framework for CAR
OU	Operating Unit
PGRN	Natural Resources Governance Project
PRADD	Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development
RJDH	<i>Réseau des Journalistes pour les Droits de l'Homme</i> (Network of Journalists for Human Rights)
SCED	<i>Société Centrafricaine d'Exploitation Diamantifère</i>
SEMICA	Central African Republic International Mining, Quarries and Petroleum Conference & Exhibition
SFP	Security Focal Point
SMARTER	Sustainable Mining by Artisanal Miners
SODEMI	<i>Société pour le Développement Minier en Côte d'Ivoire</i> (Society for Mining Development in the Ivory Coast)
STARR II	Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights II
ToR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
USAF	<i>Unité Spéciale Anti-Fraude</i> (Central African anti-fraud police)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WB	World Bank

WGAAP	KP Working Group on Artisanal and Alluvial Production
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZEA	<i>Zone d'Exploitation Artisanale</i> (designated artisanal mining zone)

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



I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project supports the USAID Land and Urban Office in improving land and resource governance and strengthening property rights for all members of society, especially women. It is USAID's vehicle for addressing complex land and resource issues around artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in a multidisciplinary fashion with a focus on diamonds and, to a lesser extent, gold production in the Central African Republic (CAR). It also serves to provide targeted technical assistance to other USAID missions and operating units (OUs) in addressing land and resource governance issues within the ASM sector. The project builds upon activities and lessons from the Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development (PRADD I and II) projects. The AMPR contract was signed on September 28, 2018 and will run for five years (the two option years were awarded in 2020). Most project activities will be carried out in the CAR.

Objective 1 builds capacity for implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) requirements. To launch the initiative, AMPR conducted a gap analysis and put forward recommendations to stem rapidly expanding rough diamond smuggling and remove barriers to implementing the Kimberley Process (KP) Operational Framework (OF). AMPR supports miner education and awareness-raising and implements capacity-building measures such as logistical support for local KP Focal Points and the strengthening of Local Monitoring Committees. In Year 2, AMPR designed a conceptual framework for piloting decentralized artisanal mining zones (ZEAs) with innovations for local revenue management, while also examining lessons learned and opportunities for miner parcel certification.

Objective 2 strengthens social cohesion and economic development in diamond mining communities. AMPR builds upon lessons learned from PRADD II and expands local structures and processes for fostering peace and reconciliation. AMPR supports the expansion of local Peace and Reconciliation Committees (*Comités Locales de Paix et de la Réconciliation*, or CLPRs) through the provision of logistical assistance in monitoring and resolving conflicts and conducting peacebuilding activities. AMPR continues PRADD II efforts to foster coordination between the government ministries responsible for mining and peacebuilding. In Year 2, AMPR launched livelihood support activities for women as part of a comprehensive Gender Action Plan aimed at promoting their economic and social inclusion.

Objective 3 focuses on understanding the artisanal gold supply chain. Along with its two subcontractors International Peace Information Service (IPIS) and RESOLVE, AMPR implemented a baseline assessment of gold and launched an interactive online map of artisanal gold mining sites. In Year 2, AMPR hosted a workshop to present results from the study and facilitate training and discussion aimed at devising a national gold action plan.

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

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

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The AMPR team successfully implemented the second year of the project. AMPR supports the USAID Land and Urban Office and the USAID DRC Mission Central Africa Program in improving land and resource governance and strengthening property rights for all members of society, especially women. It serves as USAID's vehicle for addressing complex land and resource issues around ASM in a multidisciplinary fashion with a focus on diamonds and, to a lesser extent, gold production in the CAR. The project also provides targeted technical assistance to other USAID missions and OUs in addressing land and resource governance issues within the ASM sector. The project builds upon activities and lessons from the PRADD I and II projects. The AMPR contract was signed on September 28, 2018 and will run for five years (the two option years were approved in 2020).

Some highlights from Year 2 include:

- *Year I Work Plan Advancements:* The AMPR team carried out a vast majority of work plan activities successfully by the end of the year despite the widespread impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project implementation process is now well-established thanks to strong teamwork between the project field and home offices and impressive support from government partners. Details of project implementation successes are described below. All component activities are being implemented on schedule, and “scope creep” has been minimal—a recurrent issue for project implementation during the initial phases of work plan implementation where new needs emerge, but at a time when contractual obligations need to be scrupulously respected.
- *New Hires:* Despite the death of the Component I Coordinator, the departure of the Component II Livelihood Coordinator, and the resignation of some Community Mobilizers, the project recruited and trained new staff successfully. To ensure knowledge and information continuity, the new staff were granted access to the online backup of the project documents and resources of their predecessors.
- *Strengthened Relations with Host-Country Partners:* Thanks to the concerted push by the project to involve all AMPR stakeholders in the preparation and monitoring of the annual work plan, collaboration throughout the year was excellent. Teamwork between government partners and the project led to innovative responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the dissemination of posters and radio programs describing precautions to be taken at the local level and promotion of local soap-making by women's groups and handwashing.
- *MMG-AMPR COVID-19 Innovations:* AMPR actively participated in the CAR Ministry of Mines and Geology's (MMG) COVID-19 Task Force meetings, enabling partners to prioritize activities reinforcing the Government of CAR's (GoCAR) COVID-19 prevention measures in mining communities. AMPR set up a bi-weekly call with other donor-funded projects in the ASM domain to share information about how COVID-19 was impacting international and national market dynamics, internal production, security, and coordination among projects. This led to the support by the WB for the Delve platform to carry out field research on COVID-19 impacts. To mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, the project developed and printed 1,200 copies of MMG COVID-19 brochures and posters on coronavirus risks in the mining sector, which were distributed to key actors, notably, private sector, trading houses, civil society in Bangui and the KP compliant zones; supported the airing of community radio debates on the COVID-19 risks in mining communities, reaching more than 20,000 listeners; trained mining communities on techniques for making water filters using local materials; and soapmaking Training of Trainers course for 21 women's groups in southwest CAR.

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year I

- Provided technical support for producing an action plan for strengthening diamond supply chain governance, including regulatory and institutional changes. The MMG validated the action plan submitted to the Ministry of Planning and Economy for integration into the CAR National Strategic Plan for 2020–2021.
- Provided technical and logistical support to designing legal texts for the CAR Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat (KPPS), which the CAR president signed into a decree in Q4.
- Supported joint missions with the revived CAR KP National Monitoring Committee (CNS PK), resulting in the reconstitution of the Kimberley Process Local Monitoring Committees (*Comités Locaux de Suivi*, or CLS) in six of the eight KP compliant zones.
- A local pact signed by the *Société Centrafricaine d'Exploitation Diamantifère* (SCED)-Ndélégué mining community to serve as a pilot ZEA in the Nola subprefecture. The team rolled out the pilot ZEA following AMPR's strategic implementation plan that encompassed revenue generation, management, technical assistance, and land tenure clarification.
- Trained the six CLSs on the use of the AMPR-developed meeting agendas and reporting tools and supported them in the preparation of 22 quarterly reports documenting KP compliance data for their respective zones.
- Analyzed the CAR Mining Code's technical reviews conducted by the African Development Bank (ADB) and provided technical analysis and feedback to the MMG.
- Completed and printed 200 copies of a French-Sango lexicon of artisanal mining terms used by artisanal miners and stakeholders in the supply chain.
- Video subcontractor *Elie Numerique Centrafrique* filmed training videos on the KP for CLS, CLPRs, and pastoralism. *Elie Numerique Centrafrique* also translated and dubbed into Sango training videos on valuation and Sustainable Mining by Artisanal Miners (SMARTER) mining techniques.
- Communications subcontractor *Réseau des Journalistes pour les Droits de l'Homme* (RJDH) produced 20 radio programs (each about 30 minutes long) on the KP and ASM for local and national dissemination.
- Provided technical input for the reporting template for evaluating KP priority zones and participated in the evaluation mission for the Abba, Bouar, Baoro, and Sosso-Nakombo KP priority zones.
- Provided technical and logistical support to the MMG in establishing a Technical Reflection and Exchange Committee for the CAR Extractive and Mining Sector (CTRE-RCA) and prepared for the first meeting, to which heads of diplomatic missions in CAR have been invited.
- Participated in the inter-donor coordination structure to enhance complementary programming between USAID, WB, and EU projects providing support to the MMG.
- Participated in the CAR International Mines, Quarries, and Petroleum Exhibition (SEMICA).

Overview of Challenges in Year I

- The untimely death of the former Component I Coordinator created a technical vacuum in supporting field activities. The Chief of Party (COP) and Technical Deputy stepped in to provide technical guidance to the field team. Considering that this is a senior position, the recruitment process for a new coordinator has taken time. As of the end of this quarter, the project is completing the recruitment process with the preferred candidate expected to start early in Year 3.
- COVID-19 had a number of impacts on project activities and the overall context. The cessation of air connections to Bangui led to the suspension of all diamond exports. As a result, legal diamond exports are unlikely to improve dramatically in 2020 compared to last year in spite of the revision of the KP Operational Framework in November 2019 aimed at making exports easier. The pandemic has led to an amplification of existing trends: the movement of labor from diamonds to gold mines, the drying up of financing and the decline of ASM diamond production. Indeed, the diamond supply chain appears to be more negatively affected than the gold one due in part to international price declines for diamonds and record price increases for gold. A July 2020 survey sponsored by the World Bank found the 93% of CAR's diamond miners reported selling less diamonds than before COVID-19 as opposed to 49% of gold miners. These trends affected AMPR's ability to meet some targets, such as the percentage of legal diamond exports, and also led to the need to cancel or postpone a number of activities due to an inability to travel internationally and domestically. However, by the end of the year CAR's government eased restrictions in the face of economic necessity and what the government itself considered to be the pandemic's apparent slow spread compared to other parts of the world.

USAID and Tetra Tech disagreed with this assessment of the situation. USAID financed a study of the available data on COVID-19 transmission. This study concluded, "No scientifically proven information outside of the incomplete statistical data reported from the Ministry of Health can claim to justify current COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data in CAR. Whether this data is fictitious or not is not clear. Reported data may simply be linked to very limited testing conducted in some urban and rural areas."¹ As a result of this assessment, the AMPR team assumes COVID-19 is highly prevalent and implements the most stringent mitigation protocols and comprehensive guidelines possible in conformance not only with World Health Organization recommendations, but also those prepared with the USAID ILRG project and applied as well to the Central African Republic (e.g.: mask wearing at all times, social distancing, hand washing, no public gatherings, spacing in vehicles...).²

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

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

Description: This activity aims to build upon efforts that began in 2016 to implement a strategy to combat diamond smuggling, notably across CAR's land borders. Government stakeholders have

¹ International SOS Report. February 4, 2021. "COVID-19 Research: The Central African Republic."

² Tetra Tech. February 11, 2021. "AMPR Guidelines for Fieldwork/Events During COVID-19."

acknowledged that smuggling has reached unprecedented levels; however, they attribute high smuggling levels less to coordination issues with other countries and more to reduced activities of buying houses and relaxed airport controls. As such, during the Year I Work Plan AMPR carried out a rigorous and participatory assessment, which included visits to key borders like the Kenzo-Gamboula crossing with Cameroon, to identify root causes for the uptick in smuggling and generally identify ways to improve the enhanced monitoring mechanisms required under the OF. AMPR then organized a national workshop to debate conclusions and adopt recommendations that the project can then support through advocacy and activities.

Results: AMPR produced an action plan for strengthening the diamond supply chain governance (*Plan d'action pour le renforcement de la chaîne légale du diamant centrafricain*). The team shared the draft with USAID, the WB, and the EU. During a working retreat in Boali, the MMG and National Committee for Official Texts reviewed the plan line-by-line, reworked the language, and revised the format to match official documents. The MMG validated the action plan and instructed the KPPS to submit a copy to the Ministry of Planning and Economy to integrate it into the CAR National Strategic Plan 2020–2021. By validating the proposed regulatory and institutional changes, the MMG demonstrated a commitment to leading reforms on internal controls and anti-smuggling measures in the diamond industry in the CAR.

In terms of impact, the action is enabling the MMG to coordinate efforts among the various projects in support of strengthening diamond supply chain governance, harmonizing the actions of GoCAR and its technical and financial partners, and designing a communication and monitoring tool at the political and diplomatic level to meet the challenges of improving the effectiveness of the OF. The key strategies presented in the action plan are summarized below:

KEY LEGAL AND REGULATORY REFORMS PROPOSED IN THE ACTION PLAN

I) Institutional and Regulatory framework

- Formalization of the KPPS
- Functional review of the MMG
- Budget support to the Focal Points of the Permanent Secretariat of the KP in the CAR
- Establishing a functional CNS-PK
- Technical and financial support for the CNS-PK activities
- Technical and financial support for the CLS activities
- Extension of priority and compliant zones
- Quarterly CLS coordination and information sharing meetings
- Review of the National Mining Policy and preparation of the Mining Sector Development Strategy Document
- Organization of basic consultations on the proofreading of regulatory documents
- Review of the 2009 Mining Code

II) Organization of production

- Organizational strengthening of artisanal miners
- Audit of existing mining cooperatives
- Review of the legal framework for mining cooperatives
- Technical support to artisanal miners
- Support for the semi-mechanization responsible for processing minerals
- Implement zoning and co-management pilot projects with mining villages

III) Marketing organization

- Mining tax review
- Review of legal actors
- Organization of basic consultations with stakeholders to address their concerns
- Organization of foreign exchange missions to strengthen specialized services in the promotion of investment and exports
- Promote the local valuation of Central African diamonds

IV) Organization of exports

- Capacity building of diamond experts and appraisers
- Improvement of export control procedures
- Provision of a referential price list
- Provision of assessment equipment
- Development and implementation of training and popularization materials
- Adoption of responsible due diligence standards for exporters
- Update and capacity building for the “footprint” (statistical profile) of Central African diamonds
- Training on the use of satellite images in production monitoring

V) Data collection and management

- Improvement of the production data monitoring system
- Digitization and management of statistical data
- Review of stakeholder traceability and identification documents
- Analysis and communication of statistical data
- Quarterly analysis of statistical data to detect anomalies

VI) Internal controls

- Reform and strengthening of the mining police
- Establishment of a complaint management mechanism in the Kimberley Process compliant zones
- Strengthening the mining administration
- Awareness and involvement of mining communities
- Framework for collaboration and information exchange

VII) Fight against smuggling and organized crime

- Establishment of an informal platform for coordination and information sharing between the various internal security and anti-fraud services
- Development of a red list and a blacklist to identify actors involved in fraud and smuggling
- Development of a mining offenses database
- General public awareness and involvement campaign
- Regional and international coordination
- Improved controls at Bangui Airport
- Reinforcement of the bonus system for denunciation and seizure of diamonds

Technical workshop in Cameroon: A lengthy consultative process between AMPR and the MMG technical team resulted in the achievement of key milestones for realizing the cross-border mission with Cameroon. These milestones included technical support for preparing the terms of reference (ToRs) for a field visit and technical workshop in Cameroon to present the results of the smuggling diagnostic on diamonds in CAR and identification of opportunities for cross-border coordination and experience sharing. Cameroon's Ministry of Mines, Industry, and Technological Development approved the request and set a date for the mission at the beginning of Q3. Due to COVID-19-related travel restrictions, the mission was rescheduled to Year 3. The EU GODICA project agreed to fund GoCAR officials' participation.

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

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

Results: In Q4, the CAR president signed a decree nominating the KP Permanent Secretary and the other 12 directors and *chefs de services* for the new KP structure in CAR. This followed nine months of AMPR technical support to the MMG in designing the legal texts for the presidential decree for the formal nomination and the ToRs detailing their different roles and lines of supervision based on the new CAR KP structure. The project organized a technical retreat with MMG experts and the CAR National Committee of Presidential Decrees, which reviewed the text and proposed revisions, including eliminating the Vice Permanent Secretary position (deemed to be duplicative of the Permanent Secretary). The MMG presented the presidential decree to the Council of Ministers for endorsement before presenting it to the president for signature. For the first time since the inception of the KP in CAR in June 2003, the CAR KPPS structure had been formalized, thanks in part to the technical advocacy and orientations of AMPR and other MMG partners in CAR.

The revival of the CNS PK: AMPR provided technical support to the MMG to revise the decree for the CNS PK. The project's technical team reviewed the text and proposed the inclusion of key stakeholders such as customs authorities and representatives of local administrations in the KP-compliant zones. The MMG also agreed to include representatives from technical and financial partners. The Minister of Mines and Geology signed the revised decree no. 073/MMG/DIRCAB/CMM at the end of Q1. The new committee is led by a National Coordinator from civil society, a professor from the University of Bangui who works with two nominated rapporteurs.

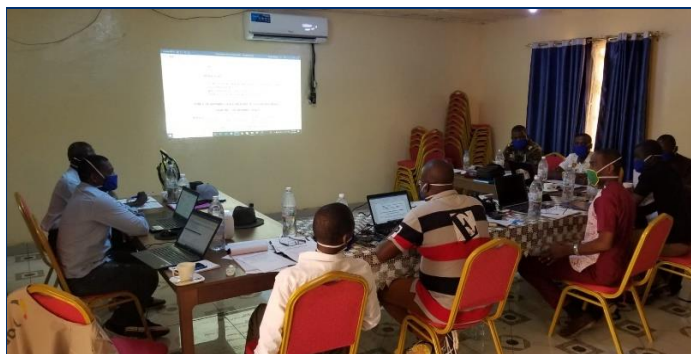


Photo 1: Retreat with MMG, GODICA, and the National Committee in Charge of Presidential Decrees, to review the KPPS Legal Texts. Photo by Marc Amougou.

The CNS PK's restructuring paved the way for AMPR to engage them in discussions about collaborations as per the AMPR Year 2 Work Plan. AMPR participated in joint missions with members of the CNS PK, KPPS, and senior MMG technical officials to reconstitute the CLS in the six KP

compliant zones of Boda, Carnot, Berberati, Nola, Mbaïki, and Boganda. The new CLS members were trained on the OF and the meeting agenda and reporting tools developed by AMPR. The mission activities in Boganangone and Gadzi were canceled in Q2 due to GoCAR COVID-19 directives.

3.1.1.3 ACTIVITY 1.1.3: INTEGRATE ASM CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE MINING CODE

Description: This purpose of this activity is to participate in the WB-led Mining Code revision process with respect to ASM policy. At the time of this report, the WB efforts have not yet begun, and there is still uncertainty as to if and how the 2009 Mining Code will be revised. As such, AMPR will liaise closely with the MMG cabinet, WB, and others to determine appropriate avenues to participate if and when the process starts. Thanks to diagnostics and workshops foreseen in the work plan, including those related to smuggling (see Activity 1.1.1) and adapting the Côte d'Ivoire *Société pour le Développement Minier en Côte d'Ivoire* (SODEMI) model for village-based revenue management (see Activity 1.2.3), AMPR will be well-positioned to offer specific suggestions for improving the legislative framework based on these processes. With respect to the study tour to Côte d'Ivoire foreseen under this activity, AMPR will wait and see if this will be necessary, as the work planning consultations showed widespread understanding and enthusiasm for the SODEMI model, thanks in part to the screening of documentary films produced by PRADD II, and a visit to Côte d'Ivoire by a regional mining director from Boda, who is now a key advisor at the MMG.

Results: In Q1, the MMG informed AMPR that the ADB supports the CAR Mining Code's technical reviews. ADB supported a mission of MMG experts to Kigali, Rwanda, who met with ADB representatives and discussed the Mining Code revision process. In Q2, the MMG shared results from technical reviews of the CAR Mining Code conducted by ADB. The reviews focused on the legal and regulatory framework in force, including: a) the Mining Code and Decree; b) the use of explosive and detonating substances; c) National Assembly authorization; and d) CAR's Mining Policy statement. The ADB reviewed the institutional structure, the role of the MMG structures, and current mining sector practices in CAR. The ADB recommended the actions listed in the following text box.

Actions Recommended by the ADB

1. *Modify the legislative and regulatory texts governing the mining sector*
 2. *Adapt the national mining policy and strategy to the situation in CAR*
 3. *Establish a decision-making process to clarify authorizations within the Office of the National Assembly for mineral resources contracts*
-

AMPR internal experts analyzed ADB's input and provided technical analysis and feedback to the MMG. The MMG intends to form a committee of its technical and financial partners to review the CAR Mining Code's ADB analysis.

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

3.1.2.1 ACTIVITY 1.2.1: ASSESS PRADD I ASM FORMALIZATION PROCESS

Description: This activity aims to take stock of the PRADD I certificates of customary land tenure delivered to nearly 3,000 miners between 2007 and 2012, as well as identify any follow-up activities. Through the upcoming consultancy for the next quarter with land tenure specialist Sabine Jiekak, AMPR will organize a study on the certificates which will assess their impact, relevance/utility, and weaknesses.

The study will include focus group discussions with certificate holders and will delve into the legal issues surrounding them, such as if they are valid proof of ownership in case of court disputes. Indeed, one challenge in PRADD I was the lack of a legal basis for rural land certification, and the study will determine if this is still the case or if the regulatory framework for rural land has evolved. AMPR will then organize a workshop to present and debate the conclusions of the study, including if and how AMPR should revive support to individual miners' land rights formalization in subsequent work plan years.

Results: The activity was completed in Y1, and subsequent steps in Y2 were carried out under Activity 1.2.2 below.

3.1.2.2 ACTIVITY 1.2.2: SUPPORT LAND FORMALIZATION IN ARTISANAL MINING COMMUNITIES

Description: This activity aims to implement recommendations from the study foreseen under Activity 1.2.1 and initiate collective land formalization through pilot ZEAs. While ZEAs are typically used in other contexts like the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) for reserving secondary deposits for ASM, they can also be used to formalize a partnership between communities and the government such as the SODEMI model in Côte d'Ivoire. Consultant Sebastian Pennes carried out the study as noted below in Activity 1.2.3. Discussions will be held during the Year 2 work planning process to determine how to take his recommendations into account, especially about the concept of putting in place ZEAs.

Results: In Q4, the local pact for SCED-Ndéléngué for setting up a pilot ZEA was signed by the local leaders and representatives of the different community groups. The signing was witnessed by the Nola sub-prefecture representative, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Director of the Dzanga-Sangha protected area, head of Nola's Water and Forestry Department, the MMG *Chef de services*, and customary leaders. During the pact presentation, MMG and WWF experts explained that a buffer zone must be maintained between the ZEA and the Dzanga-Sangha park, as required by the CAR mining and forestry laws. The community agreed to respect this requirement, which was the last hurdle to signing the local pact. The director of the WWF for the Dzanga-Sangha protected areas sees the implementation of the ZEA as an opportunity to relocate mining camps/activities in the protected areas to a formal ZEA created by the MMG.

The signing of the local pact followed three joint missions with a team of experts from the MMG, Ministry of Habitat and Urbanism, and spatial planners from the University of Bangui to gather additional buy-in from communities for the pilot ZEA in SCED-Ndéléngué. During these missions, the team held consultative meetings with administrative and local authorities, mining actors in the supply chain, target communities, WWF for Nature regional managers, and CAR's Ministry of Water, Forests, Hunting, and Fishing. The implementation strategy for the ZEA in SCED-Ndéléngué contains WB *Appui à la Professionalisation des Coopératives Minières (APCM)/AMPR* synergies and integration. The cooperatives in the area that APCM supports will likely be the same cooperatives that manage the ZEA. The ZEA's technical assistance conditionalities will be the same as for receiving APCM assistance. Follow-up meetings were held with both the MMG and APCM to discuss next steps in implementing the ZEA in SCED-Ndéléngué. The following chronology of activities is proposed to guide implementation in Year 3. The consultation process to set up the pilot ZEA in Carnot did not advance due to security concerns in Q2 and GoCAR COVID-19 restrictions. The activity for Carnot is now planned for Year 3.

CHRONOLOGY OF ZEA ACTIVITIES IN SCED-NDELENGUE

- National workshop to present the results for the implementation of the SCED-Ndéléngué ZEA
- Statute and internal regulations of the ZEA management bodies
- Constituent General Assembly of the ZEA management bodies
- Training of members of the various ZEA structures in organizational management, revenue management, report writing techniques, inventory management, filling out the production register, etc.)

- Identification and census of site managers
- Establishment of material banks
- Development of the awareness module on traceability
- Development of production data collection tools

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

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

Results: This activity is being planned in conjunction with the sales slip digitization and fraud detection training. AMPR is consulting with stakeholders on a SOW on what this pilot activity will entail. The training on fraud detection would only be undertaken after gathering initial data in this pilot sales slip digitization exercise integrated into Year 3 work plan.

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

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

Results: No activities were planned for this year. The next KAP survey will be conducted in Year 3.

3.1.2.5 ACTIVITY 1.3.2: DEVELOP A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Description: This activity is intended to develop and implement a grassroots communications strategy to increase knowledge and application of KP procedures by all actors across the supply chain. AMPR draws upon results from PRADD I and II, as well as the first KAP survey, to develop a comprehensive strategy. The project will implement this strategy starting in Year 2, which will include the translation/adaptation of videos from PRADD I and II, production of videos and interactive community theater scripts, and training of KP Focal Points and AMPR field agents. An intensive grassroots communications campaign will be timed for before the 2020 dry season and the period when most miners acquire their licenses (*patentes*).

Results: In Q1, AMPR contracted the nongovernmental organization (NGO) INDIGO, which had worked on the PRADD II project in Côte d'Ivoire to promote social dialogue in diamond mining communities in Séguéla and Tortiya. The INDIGO expert conducted a field mission and training on the

principles and practices of social dialogue facilitation with the CLPRs in Carnot Center and Toutoubou, AMPR Community Mobilizers, and Rural Development Specialists. The expert also trained AMPR local video subcontractor *Elie Numérique Centrafrique* on how to prepare “capsule” videos to promote social dialogue. The subcontractor worked with the INDIGO expert and documented the trainings as part of the content of six short videos that AMPR produced this year.

AMPR Video Capsules and Documentary: *Elie Numérique Centrafrique* filmed and produced six capsules and two documentaries applying best video production practices and the techniques employed by INDIGO on the following topics: (i) motivations and challenges around non-registered actors like *débrouillards* and *coxeurs*, including the relationship with the *Unité Spéciale Anti-Fraude* (USAF); (ii) the role of women in the diamond/gold supply chain; (iii) mining-related challenges including labor dynamics, exploration, mechanization, and working conditions; (iv) financing and the relationship between miners, buyers, and cooperatives; and (v) the relationship between communities and miners including semi-industrial mining companies, the OF, pastoralism, and the role of communities in managing their resources for development. The AMPR technical team reviewed the videos and provided feedback to enable the service provider to complete the videos, which will be used as training tools in Year 3.

In light of the arrival of COVID-19 in Q2, AMPR explored with RJDH ways to integrate vetted prevention messages from the World Health Organization and CAR health authorities into some of these community radio programs. In conjunction with RJDH, AMPR conducted 40 interviews with artisanal miners and local authorities in southwest CAR on questions and concerns on COVID-19. These were debated by the sub-prefects, Regional Director of the MMG, and Minister of Health. The debates were rebroadcast seven times on local radio stations, reaching more than 20,000 listeners.

AMPR Radio Programs: AMPR subcontracted RJDH in coordination with the MMG technical team to produce 20 30-minute radio programs on the KP and ASM for local and national broadcast. RJDH came highly recommended by Internews, a USAID implementing partner that worked with the group and built their capacity in radio production and programming. This initiative represented an excellent technical synergy between USAID-funded projects in CAR long sought for by all. In Q4, programs on various KP and ASM topics were aired 32 times in Bangui and the provinces as part of the popular Nagbata Magazine. The broadcasts were aired twice a week on each of the below radios, with a weekly target audience of around 10,000 listeners.

September 2020 Weekly Schedule for Broadcasting USAID AMPR Programs

RADIO	LOCATION	DAY	HOUR
Zoukpana	Berberati	Monday Wednesday	10h00 17h30
Kuli-Ndunga	Nola	Tuesday Thursday	9h00 9h00
Ndjoku	Bayanga	Wednesday Friday	19h00–19h30 19h00–19h30
Fréquence RJDH	Bangui	Monday Wednesday	16h05–16h35 16h05–16h35

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

Description: This activity aims to incentivize formalization and behaviors that are KP-compliant through conditional technical assistance to miners, communities, and buyers. In Year 1, AMPR planned to conduct trainings on the use of hand augers in select communities, as the demonstrations and trainings would help build trust with locals. In addition, AMPR will consider carefully as part of the ZEA pilot concept note how to introduce conditionalities, like having access to equipment rental pools for

only those miners who obtain their worker cards (as required by law). For example, technical and material assistance will be made contingent on the purchase of licenses, the issuance of mining worker cards, and reporting compliance required by the Mining Code and the KP. The project will also harmonize activities with the anticipated VWB project to support mining cooperatives.

Results: AMPR participated in the SEMICA conference held in Bangui in Q2. AMPR exhibited the SMARTER mining techniques, such as use of a hand auger in artisanal mining and several videos on KP certification. AMPR also conducted demonstrations of the interactive web map for the 322 productive artisanal gold mine sites conducted by IPIS in CAR's southwest. The exhibition showcased the CAR ASM sector's potential to over 250 delegates from eight African countries and representatives from 12 diplomatic missions. In Year 3, AMPR plans to implement this activity as part of the action plans for the pilot ZEAs in SCED-Ndéléngué, Nola subprefecture, and Sangouma/Sama II in Carnot subprefecture (see Activity 1.2.2).



Photo 2: AMPR staff demonstrating SMARTER mining techniques to the delegates. Photo by Maxie Muwonge.

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

3.1.3.1 ACTIVITY 1.4.1: STRENGTHEN KPPS

Description: This activity aims to support the KPPS in close collaboration with other donors. Building upon recommendations formulated under PRADD II, in the coming years AMPR will support the KPPS as well as work with other donors to agree on sustainable solutions to issues like the salaries of KP Focal Points. For the first work plan, AMPR intended to identify key needs and issues as part of the diagnostic and workshop on the OF (see Activity 1.1.1), as well as ongoing discussions with the VWB, who has agreed to support some costs related to KP Focal Points. Per discussions with the VWB Project Manager for support to the MMG, AMPR will cover the per diem costs for no more than 14 Focal Points in Year 1 of the project, as well as some motorcycle driver and rental costs until motorcycles are provided to the Focal Points through the World Bank-funded APCM project. AMPR will not pay the fuel costs of motorcycles. A memorandum of understanding spelling out the respective donor and KPPS support to the Focal Points will set forth these arrangements. In addition, this memorandum will spell out the other anticipated functions of the Focal Points and AMPR support related to data collection and management, such as trainings on data analysis.

Results: AMPR provided technical support to the CLS of Berberati, Boda, Boganda, Carnot, Nola, and M'Baiki that enabled them to successfully conduct quarterly information-sharing and coordination meetings under the auspices of the respective sub-prefects. AMPR and EU GODICA coordinated the committees' training on the use of the AMPR meeting agenda and reporting templates. The CLS drafted 22 quarterly reports on their zones' KP compliance and submitted them to the CNS PK for review. The reports were also shared with the key stakeholder, technical, and financial partners of the MMG. AMPR developed templates to improve the collection and reporting of standardized, quality information from the KP-compliant zones.

Evaluation of KP priority zones: AMPR provided technical support to the MMG and KPPS to develop a reporting template for evaluating the KP priority zones. AMPR participated in a joint mission with the CNS PK, MMG, KPPS, and GODICA to evaluate the KP priority zones of Abba, Bouar, Baoro, and Sosso-Nakombo. The team drafted detailed reports for the four zones compiled using a reporting

template developed with technical input of AMPR. The team reported great interest and support of the subprefectures, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA), civil society, and international NGOs that enabled a successful mission. The KPPS submitted a synthesis report and the four detailed reports for the evaluated zones, as well as an application for the zones to be declared compliant, to the KP Secretariat.

3.1.3.2 ACTIVITY 1.4.2: REINVIGORATE THE FRIENDS OF CAR

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

Results: The Group of Friends of CAR did not meet this year, mainly because of GoCAR COVID-19 restrictions. The U.S. ambassador remains very supportive of the Group of Friends and held meetings and online exchanges with AMPR COP and Technical Deputy on several KP and MMG technical issues throughout the year. AMPR will continue to work with the ambassador and other stakeholders in Year 3 to identify possible pathways forward on the multi-donor action plan for strengthening diamond supply chain governance, focusing on regulatory and institutional changes, armed pastoralism, and upcoming presidential elections in CAR.

CTRE-RCA: AMPR provided technical support to the MMG to create the CTRE-RCA. The committee has two structures: 1) a Steering Committee chaired by the minister that will quarterly convene ambassadors, MINUSCA, and technical and financial partners to discuss developments in the CAR mining sector; and 2) a Technical Secretariat to implement the Steering Committee's recommendations and propose action points for their validation. In Q4, AMPR coordinated with the MMG experts to prepare ToRs for the first Steering Committee meeting, to which the ambassadors are invited. The meeting will be held in Year 3 once the COVID-19 situation and guidelines permit.

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

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

Results: AMPR participated in technical coordination meetings with EU GODICA and the WB and developed coordination strategies to support the MMG. The in-country project managers in Bangui met regularly to discuss planned activities and joint interventions to avoid duplication. GODICA agreed to support the CNS PK, while AMPR supported the CLS PK to strengthen the OF right from the KP-compliant zones. The WB and GODICA participated in monthly USAID calls and were included on the meeting agenda to provide updates on their respective projects.

3.1.3.4 ACTIVITY 1.4.4 SUPPORT TARGETED AMPR INTERVENTIONS

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

Results: AMPR has participated in several technical coordination MMG COVID-19 Task Force meetings with the EU GODICA and the WB National Resources Governance Project (PGRN) to develop COVID-19 awareness-raising and outreach strategies to support the MMG and mining communities. The project managers in Bangui meet weekly to develop, discuss, plan, and implement joint COVID-19 interventions to avoid duplication of effort and expense. The joint Task Force accomplished the interventions presented in the following text box.



COVID-19 poster produced by AMPR

AMPR Interventions – MMG COVID-19 Task Force

- Organized a press conference for the CAR Minister of Mines and Geology to address mining sector actors on COVID-19.
- Designed, printed, and distributed 1,000 MMG brochures on COVID-19 risks in the mining sector and mining communities.
- Supported community radio debates on COVID-19 that were aired in mining communities in southwest CAR, reaching more than 20,000 listeners.
- Trained Carnot and Nola mining communities on techniques for making water filters using local materials.
- Organized a soap-making training of trainers' course for 21 AMPR-supported women's and mixed-gender groups in Boda, Carnot, and Nola.
- Assisted in designing an MMG COVID-19 poster on COVID-19 risky behaviors in the mining sector and communities.
- Co-convened 13 biweekly teleconference discussions on COVID-19 considerations and implications on ASM in CAR with AMPR implementing partners Concordis, Levin Sources, GODICA, and the WB.
- Published a blog on USAID's LandLinks on AMPR COVID-19 interventions entitled, "*Mobilizing to address COVID-19 in vulnerable diamond and gold mining communities*"³² (see <https://www.landlinks.org/2020/06/mobilizing-to-address-covid-19-in-vulnerable-diamond-and-gold-mining-communities/>).

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year 2

- Conducted a rigorous and participatory evaluation of the model of peacebuilding committees (CLPRs), including its impact, activities, successes, failures, legitimacy, lessons learned, and recommendations, which was accepted by the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation (MHANR).

- Held official installation ceremonies for the 11 CLPRs in the Carnot and Nola sub-prefectures. Nola's CLPRs were recognized for the role they play in strengthening social cohesion during the CAR president's official visit to the sub-prefecture in Q4.
- Provided technical support to MHANR to develop a protocol for collecting, analyzing, transmitting, and digitizing CLPR activity reports.
- Organized master classes in Berberati, Nola, and Bangui to identify key issues, knowledge gaps, and lessons learned on addressing violent conflicts related to pastoralism in the southwest of CAR.
- Concordis completed a study on pastoralism and transhumance, which identifies key issues, knowledge gaps, and lessons learned on addressing violent conflicts related to pastoralism in southwest CAR.
- Livelihoods subcontractor, Association of Women for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship (AFPE), trained 21 women's and mixed-gender livelihoods groups on agricultural production, working effectively as associations, village savings and loans, and basic literacy. The groups successfully set up nursery beds and demonstration gardens.
- Developed a short educational video on the roles and lessons learned by the CLPRs in dealing with social tensions around land, property, housing, and pastoralism for institutional communication and training purposes.

Overview of Challenges in Year 2

- The rigorous and participatory CLPR evaluation revealed that the CLPR play a key role in resolving conflicts at the local level. Unfortunately, the CLPRs' successes in resolving conflicts are not reported to the central government due to the weak administrative linkages between remote villages and Bangui. AMPR started working with the MHANR toward the end of Year 2 to develop strategies for collecting, transmitting, and sharing data on CLPR activities.
- The coordination of the CLPR activities continued through the ministry in Bangui, making it difficult to monitor and report on progress. The absence of MHANR Regional Directors made the coordination of social cohesion activities difficult. AMPR and MHANR agreed at the end of Year 2 to coordinate field activities with the Department of Social Welfare Regional Directors until the MHANR deploys its nominated Regional Directors.
- The AMPR Component IIB Coordinator for Gender and Income-Generating Activities (IGAs) resigned from her position in Q2 to serve as COP for a French-funded forestry project. This created a four-month technical vacuum until AMPR successfully recruited a replacement.
- The establishment of women's pisciculture groups failed to take off until Q4 because EU GODICA delayed contracting the implementing partner to carry out this joint activity with AMPR. The activity will be rolled out in Year 2 Q1.

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

3.2.1.1 ACTIVITY 2.1.1: EVALUATE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEES

Description: This activity aims to build continuity with PRADD II under which six CLPR were established in Berberati, though time was limited to support their work. To learn from the PRADD II experience and prepare for an expansion of committees and a strengthening of their capacity, the first activity of this component will be a joint MMG-MHANR evaluation of the committees, with a particular

focus on their actions and how they are perceived in their communities. To improve linkages with the OF, the same diagnostic will include an examination of the CLS and *Antenne Locale de Suivi* (ALS) established in compliant zones. The results of the diagnostic will be presented at a national workshop, at which time next steps will be determined.

Results: An AMPR international consultant completed a two-week evaluation of the roles of CLPRs in peacebuilding in the context of overall conflict dynamics, and to identify improvements and activities relevant to the CAR government and AMPR project. The resulting report, *Evaluation of Peacebuilding Committees and Conflict Dynamics in Southwestern CAR*, was submitted to USAID. The summarized French report was validated by senior officials of the MHANR during a workshop organized in Q3.

A follow-up planning workshop was held with MHANR in Q4 to discuss the implications for AMPR's support of the CLPRs and key priority interventions, notably, the CLPR local coordination framework to mobilize associations and social organizations, data collection, and reporting on CLPR activities, and field coordination and monitoring of Y3 social cohesion activities. The strategies are integrated in the Year 3 workplan.

3.2.1.2 ACTIVITY 2.1.2: EXPAND SUPPORT TO CLPRS

Description: This activity aims to increase the number of and support to CLPRs. AMPR intends to build upon the initial successes realized through PRADD II, which encouraged the formulation of Local Pacts to document community agreements. AMPR will likely expand the CLPRs to cover all three sub-prefectures where the project works. In addition, AMPR will identify and train Focal Points in each CLPR who will record and monitor conflicts, as well as actions and activities led by the CLPRs to promote their resolution. In addition, AMPR will work with each CLPR, both new and old, to identify an action plan for the year and provide some logistical support to implement their activities. AMPR will also look to maximize synergies between the CLPRs and commune-level KP monitoring committees (ALS). At the same time, the project will work with the MHANR to identify other donors to support the strengthening of the CLPRs, not only in the diamond mining areas of the southwest but throughout the country.

Results: AMPR supported the MHANR in organizing the official installation ceremonies for 11 peacebuilding committees in Carnot and Nola created in Year I by the MHANR. Forty-nine elected members of the seven CLPRs in Carnot, and 28 members of the four CLPRs in Nola were sworn in before the prefect, sub-prefect, and mayor brigade commander, police commissioner, regional directors of the MMG, and traditional chiefs. The CLPR members were provided with the CAR Constitution and supply kits to execute their roles. AMPR trained the CLPR members on roles and responsibilities, community dialogue facilitation techniques, and reporting on the various conflicts in their zones. The 11 CLPRs are now officially undertaking social cohesion work with full recognition and support of the local authorities and MHANR. The CLPRs were officially recognized for their role in strengthening social cohesion and peacebuilding during the CAR president's visit to Nola sub-prefecture in Q4.



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

Description: This activity's purpose is to design and implement social cohesion support, including activities involving the CLPRs. In Year 1, AMPR will provide logistical and programmatic support for the individual CLPR action plans (see Activity 2.1.2). This may include activities like community service or community theater, and/or trainings on dispute resolution. AMPR anticipates filming some of the community meetings leading to the establishment of CLPRs and then producing several short videos for use in social dialogue sessions (similar to the approach used by PRADD II subcontractor INDIGO in Côte d'Ivoire). AMPR will also develop a concept note on the Local Pacts, which were developed under PRADD II for several communes to document community decisions and positions on sensitive issues. AMPR will take stock of the initial pacts and then develop a methodology to implement them more widely. This will avoid redundancy and create synergies with other activities, such as the ZEA management and zoning plans.

Results: The communication and outreach activities are described above in section 3.1.2.5. Subcontractor *Elie Numérique Centrafrique* has provided very good footage and interviews useful for the promotion of social dialogue. AMPR partner Concordis completed a study on pastoralism and transhumance, *Pastoralism in Transition: Economic and Social Relations between Livestock Herders, Farmers, and Miners in Southwestern CAR*. The report presented findings on the evolution of herding patterns, livestock ownership and herders, transhumance routes, challenges faced by herders, social and economic relationships, competition for natural resources, cattle rustling, perceptions of herders' roles in diamond smuggling, conservation challenges, perceptions of security and conflict mechanisms, evolving relationships between herder and settled populations, and related recommendations. Since the report was so long, an Issue Brief will be prepared in English and French during the next work plan year summarizing key findings. A consultant compiled an extensive bibliographic compilation to complement the field study. During the preparations for the field study, Concordis and a consultant taught a well-received Master Class on pastoralism with key stakeholders in Berberati, Boda, and Bangui. A documentary "capsule" on pastoralism issues was drafted, though revisions are required for next year. AMPR participated actively in the State Department Working Group on Pastoralism where information collected during the field studies helped inform internal discussions on the causes and dynamics of armed pastoralism. After several iterations, AMPR completed a concept note on Local Pacts and distributed this widely within the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation. The concept of local pacts is being applied through the work of the CLPR but also through the new ZEA discussed above. Far from being a theoretical concept, the local pacts are integral foundations of community agreements and support for many of the AMPR field activities.

3.2.1.4 ACTIVITY 2.2.1: CONSOLIDATE AND COMPLEMENT LEARNING

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

Results: There were no activities foreseen in the Work Plan for Year 2. The field team continued to apply principles and practices outlined in the Gender Action Plan.

3.2.1.5 ACTIVITY 2.2.2: DEVELOP GENDER ACTION PLAN

Description: This activity aims to develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting women's economic and social inclusion, with an emphasis on land tenure dynamics and complementary livelihoods. The activity will be completed in Year I work plan led jointly by an external consultant, the Component IIB

Coordinator, and the women's livelihood activities coordinator. The team will first conduct a gender mainstreaming training for AMPR staff as part of a broader capacity-building effort in participatory research methods. A series of participatory exercises in the field will complement the literature review, including focus group discussions and value chain analysis for women's existing livelihoods. The resulting plan will outline both the conceptual framework for AMPR and concrete livelihoods and awareness-raising activities that will begin in the first year.

Results: This activity was completed in Year I and the related deliverable approved by USAID. Activity 2.2.3 below provides information on this initiative's impacts.

3.2.1.6 ACTIVITY 2.2.3: SUPPORT INCOME AND RURAL LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION

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

Results: AMPR contracted a local NGO AFPE for a two-year subcontract to implement livelihoods, agricultural, and organizational support to 21 women's and mixed-gender groups in Carnot, Nola, and Boda to increase the social and economic inclusion of women in mining areas. AFPE provided women's and mixed-gender groups training in sustainable agricultural techniques, basic marketing, and value-added strategies for their products, group savings and credit practices, and marketing. At the start of the rainy season, the groups prepared gardens ranging from two to five hectares using their acquired farming best practices. AMPR provided the groups with gardening tools, and AFPE coordinated with the Regional Directors of the Ministry of Agriculture and the United Nations (UN) Food and Agricultural Organization to secure seeds to plant groundnuts and maize. The groups planted their gardens, applying the learned techniques of garden site selection, garden preparation, sowing, crop protection techniques, harvesting, and conservation techniques.



Photo 4: Training of Trainers for the Livelihoods Group members in Nola by subcontractor AFPE. Photo by Crepin Dikisi.

Pisciculture: In Q1, AMPR provided logistical and coordination support to Agence Belge de Développement's (ENABEL) Pisciculture Expert to assess the situation of 413 fishponds in the AMPR operational zones of Nola, Carnot, and Boda. To the surprise of AMPR, many of these fishponds still produce fish despite the civil strife of the past years—a strong testament to the fish farmers' self-reliance. Because both AMPR and the EU-funded GODICA projects were interested in assessing fish-farming needs and opportunities in project intervention zones (taking into account the results and experiences from PRADD I), a cost-sharing arrangement was agreed upon. GODICA favors working with AFPE, the same partner for AMPR, to maximize impact, especially for common activities with AMPR, such as pisciculture. GODICA delayed contracting AFPE to implement that project's IGAs due to logistical reasons related to COVID-19 travel and work restrictions. The roll-out of joint pisciculture activities was completed in Q4.

3.2.1.7 ACTIVITY 2.2.4: ESTABLISH WOMEN'S INNOVATION FUND

Description: This activity aims to provide technical and material support to women entrepreneurs and cooperatives engaged in viable economic activities. Business skills training will be combined with in-kind support to boost productivity. In Year 1 of the AMPR project, the Gender Action Plan will identify potential entrepreneurs (including women miners), value chains, and existing women's business groups and propose strategies to support their activities. It is unclear if the innovation fund, which will consist of in-kind financing through material support, will be launched in the first year. The Gender Action Plan will determine if there are enough entrepreneurs that are ready, or if the first year will focus on capacity building and planning, which would take place concurrently with Activity 2.2.3, which is focused on livelihood diversification activities with less structured women's economic groups.

Results: There were no scheduled work plan activities for this year. In Year 3, the AMPR team will explore how to create an entrepreneurial support program as it continues to learn about the economic climate in the project zones of intervention in Carnot, Nola, and Boda.

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

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

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

Results: During Year 2, the AMPR project supported effective inter-ministerial coordination at the local level in the monitoring and evaluation of peace and security in the mining areas through the various joint missions involving the MMG, KPPS, MHANR, and AMPR, such as during the inductions of the 11 CLPRs in Carnot and Nola, community consultation on setting up pilot ZEAs in SCED-Ndélégué in Nola and Sama in Carnot, and the master class on pastoralism in Berberati and Nola. Joint multi-stakeholder participation was witnessed during the 22 CLS KP meetings (see Annex 4 on participants in key AMPR activities).

AMPR held two workshops with the MHANR to finalize a draft protocol for collaboration regarding project support for the CLPRs. The protocol reflects the inclusion of key recommendations stemming from the recent evaluation of the CLPRs. The MHANR proposed modifications that were reviewed by AMPR's technical and management teams. It is anticipated the protocol will be signed in Q1 of Year 3.

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

Description: This activity aims to avoid duplication of effort among the different actors working to promote peace and reconciliation in the CAR. In its first year, AMPR will focus on building coordination and synergies at the local level, notably through clarifying mandates and roles of the local KP (CLS/ALS) and CLPR committees, identifying and merging existing coordination mechanisms (like the security coordination meetings led by the sub-prefects), and liaising with other NGOs active in the project's

intervention areas. At the national level, AMPR will rely on its government partners to lead coordination amongst donors and other actors.

Results: In Q2, GoCAR signed the Truth, Justice, Reparations, and Reconciliation Commission into law. The MHANR approached AMPR to work jointly on the roles of the CLPRs in the commission. The meetings scheduled to develop the ToRs and strategies of the CLPR in implementing the mandate of the commission were canceled due to the GoCAR guidelines on COVID-19, which temporarily halted field missions from Bangui to the provinces.

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year 2

- Organized two national workshops for government, civil society, and private sector on: a) restitution of IPIS' gold mining diagnostic and b) training in RESOLVE's Code of Risk Mitigation for Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners Engaging in Formal Trade (CRAFT).
- Produced a gold sector Market Readiness Report, drawing on the gold diagnostic study's findings.
- IPIS finalized the interactive digital map based on data gathered from 322 mine sites employing approximately 62,000 artisanal miners. The map was presented to relevant CAR authorities during a restitution workshop in Bangui in January 2020.³
- AMPR subcontractor RESOLVE developed guidelines for GoCAR and other technical partners to support the development of a national artisanal gold mining action plan.

Overview of Challenges in Year 2

- The RESOLVE subcontract included sub-activities aimed at supporting the CAR government in its drafting of a national action plan. However, the government has not yet shown interest in drafting a plan focused on the gold sector. RESOLVE drafted a short roadmap for a potential gold action plan as part of their subcontract, but AMPR may consider reengaging RESOLVE if and when the government initiates policy reforms focused on gold.

³ The map can be found at: <https://ipisresearch.be/publication/mapping-artisanal-mining-sites-western-central-african-republic>

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

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

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

Results: IPIS led two workshops in Bangui in January 2020 to present results from its analysis of 322 mine sites and the gold supply chain in general. A small group of key government stakeholders first reviewed the report; key findings were then presented at a large workshop with over 60 attendees from the MMG, private sector, the Commission for Natural Resources of the CAR National Assembly, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) focal point in CAR, gold trading houses, and civil society. Flash drives containing the map, database, and associated open-source software were distributed to the attendees.



Photo 5: Restitution Workshop for the IPIS gold diagnostic study and RESOLVE's CRAFT training. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

In collaboration with RESOLVE, AMPR organized a training workshop on the principles and practices of responsible minerals due diligence, as well as the CRAFT Code, aimed at facilitating responsible market access for small gold producers. The training workshop garnered widespread interest and local media attention. The 60 participants validated the gold sector recommendations summarized in the final workshop report. RESOLVE also completed a market readiness assessment that drew upon those recommendations and observations from the workshop. The assessment includes a gap analysis for bringing CAR's mineral sector up to international market expectations (see below for more information).

3.3.1.2 ACTIVITY 3.1.2: FACILITATE GOLD SECTOR ACTION PLAN

Description: This activity aims to foster technical discussions that build on the gold sector diagnostic and lead to an action plan, to be supported by other donors. AMPR anticipates working towards this action plan during the first work plan year, but the exact timing for completion will depend in part on other donors, notably the EU, as well as the level of buy-in from the GoCAR. The workshop planned in

the latter part of 2019 to present the gold diagnostic results, ideally in association with an EU/OECD/RESOLVE training, will be key. RESOLVE will work alongside the EU project to support the government and private sector in developing the action plan. AMPR will also identify any linkages with the APCM project, which may be supporting some cooperatives involved in gold production and could be good candidates for piloting responsible sourcing initiatives.

Results: RESOLVE produced *Market Readiness Assessment: Opportunities for Responsible Trade for the Central African Republic Gold Sector*. The report shared information and recommendations to expand CAR's legitimate and formal gold sector; increase international market readiness, access, and revenues; and deliver more benefits from the gold trade to Central Africans. This assessment was prepared from the perspective of the international gold market and supply chains, comprising major refiners, manufacturers, and brands, which include some of the largest companies in the world from diverse sectors such as electronics, information technology, automotive, and aerospace. The desk study built on recent field research on the minerals sector in CAR, including reports sponsored in 2018 and 2019 by USAID and UN Development Programme-UN Children's Fund. Analyses were based on well-established and internationally accepted guiding documents and standards, which define international norms and expectations for due diligence and responsible sourcing.

AMPR considered with GoCAR next steps with respect to the gold sector, given that nearly all contract activities related to gold are nearly complete. There appears to be interest on the part of GoCAR for a gold action plan or technical support to the gold sector, especially related to implementing the ICGLR Regional Certification Mechanism. Given that both AMPR and other mining sector projects such as EU GODICA do not plan for major support to the burgeoning gold sector, the GoCAR may need to seek additional partners. However, within this activity's existing framework, AMPR is proposing some follow-up activities in Years 3 and 4 that will contribute to the process of preparing GoCAR for a gold supply chain that is in line with international standards for responsible sourcing. For example, AMPR plans to facilitate a training and discussion with the union of cooperatives (*Union nationale des coopératives minières de Centrafrique*) regarding a formal adoption of the CRAFT Code for its members.

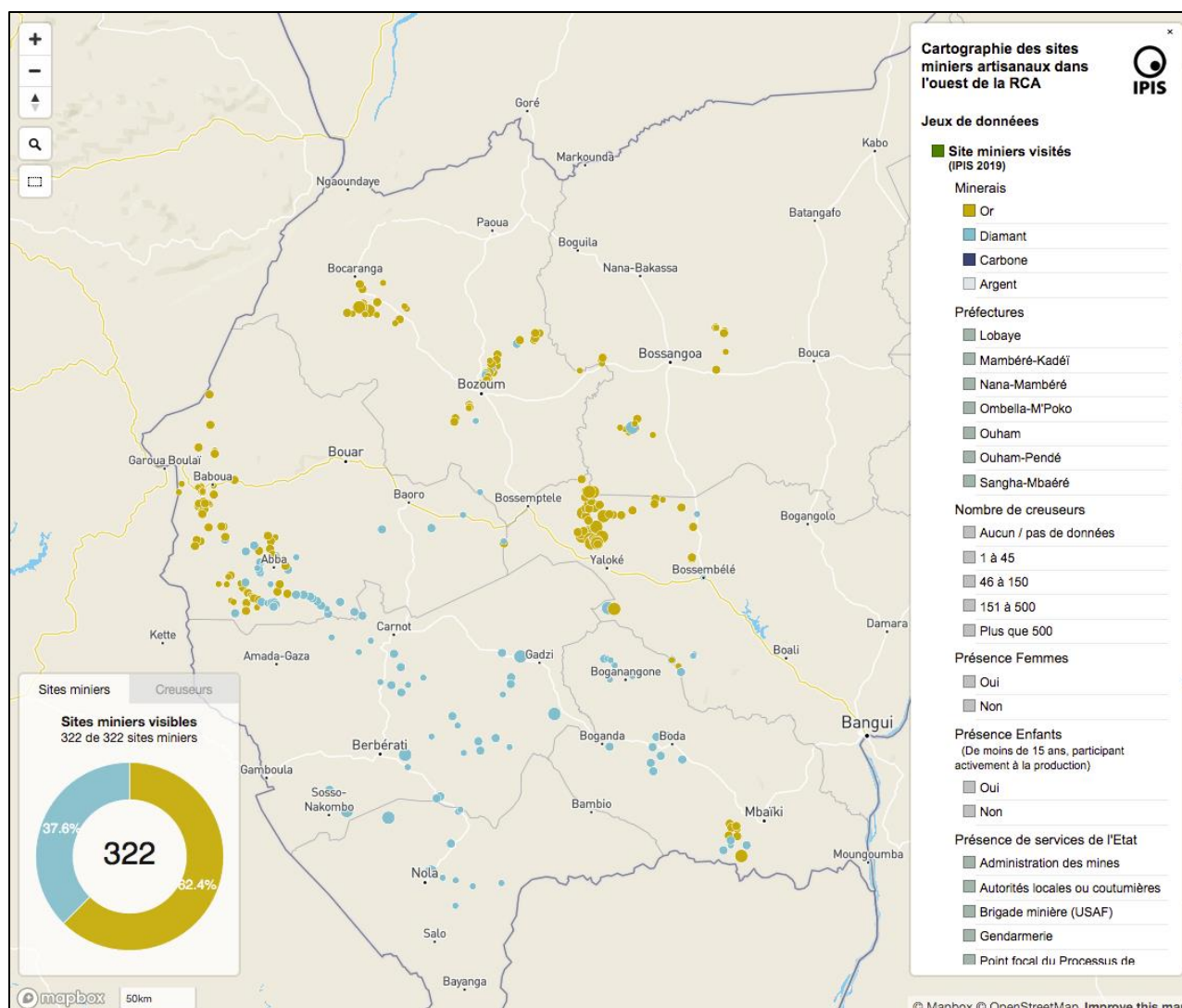
3.3.1.3 ACTIVITY 3.1.3: DEVELOP INTERACTIVE MAP OF DIAMOND AND GOLD SITE LOCATIONS

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

Results: IPIS completed the interactive web map of gold artisanal site locations in CAR and made it available for public viewing.⁴ An interactive menu allows the user to filter by site, prefecture, number of artisanal miners, presence of women, presence of children under 15, presence of government services, and awarded mining permits. Printed copies of the map were distributed to the 60 participants of the national gold workshop in Bangui in January 2020. The raw data was also transferred to the government for integration into their existing GIS products. AMPR is in discussion with the government as well as the World Bank on how to replicate this methodology as part of a broader data management reform process under the PGRN.

⁴ See <https://www.ipisresearch.be/mapping/webmapping/carmine/v1/>.

FIGURE: INTERACTIVE MAP OF ARTISANAL MINING SITES



The map was to be presented at the 2020 Land and Poverty Conference, but this was tabled due to the COVID-19 global health crisis. IPIS expressed interest in continuing to support mapping in CAR and estimated that only 12 percent of sites are currently mapped. AMPR urged the government to continue site-based monitoring and proposed a smaller repeat exercise led by the government to collect data from active mine sites.

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year 2

- Completed discussions with USAID and Levin Sources, Artisanal Pathways, and the Tetra Tech home office to finalize the technical scope and contract for the Responsible Artisanal Diamond Sourcing initiative. However, due to COVID-19 and administrative delays preventing signature of the contract and in consultation with USAID during annual work planning for Year 3, AMPR agreed to cancel this activity.

- The Component 4 Coordinator attended the KP Plenary held in November 2019 in New Delhi, India, leading to the successful adoption by the KP of limited changes to the OF. The most significant of those changes was switching to a “notification” system whereby GoCAR can authorize exports from compliant zones at will rather than first requesting pre-authorization from the CAR Monitoring Team. The Component 4 Coordinator also provided a general update on AMPR activities to the Working Group on Alluvial and Artisanal Production (WGAAP).
- The Component 4 Coordinator attended a two-day workshop organized by the OECD and EU in Brussels on minerals-related crimes. The coordinator organized and facilitated a panel on the situation in CAR in collaboration with the EU GODICA Technical Advisor, IPIS, and the UN Panel of Experts Coordinator.
- Prepared an ASM Issue Brief on best practices from USAID-supported projects worldwide.
- Responded to a request for technical assistance from USAID/Colombia related to their artisanal gold sector. Following a teleconference, AMPR drafted a scope of work for possible technical assistance to USAID/Colombia.
- Participated in periodic international teleconferences organized by the World Bank and the ASM Delve Database on the impact of COVID-19 on the ASM sector.⁵
- Finalized USAID’s Gender Issues in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Sector Issue Brief.
- The Component 4 Coordinator completed an academic article based on PRADD II experiences in Côte d’Ivoire, which was submitted for publication in the journal *Resources Policy*.
- Updated the CAR land tenure profile on the LandLinks website.

Overview of Challenges in Year 2

- COVID-19 travel restrictions led to the cancellation of the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum and the KP Intersessional. AMPR had been set to attend and possibly present at both international meetings.
- COVID-19 and an internal issue at Levin Sources prevented the signature of the contract for the Responsible Artisanal Diamond Sourcing initiative. The delay, as well as the changing context in CAR and the global diamond economy, led to the cancellation of this activity.

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

3.4.1.1 ACTIVITY 4.1.1: PREPARE OUTREACH DOCUMENTS

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

Results: There were no activities foreseen in the work plan this year under Activity 4.1.1.

⁵ Delve is a global platform for ASM data, implemented by Pact and the WB in collaboration with international partners, including USAID AMPR, which is contributing a CAR profile. See www.delvedatabase.org

3.4.1.2 ACTIVITY 4.1.2: CONDUCT DIAGNOSTIC OF ASM NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

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

Results: While no activities were foreseen in the work plan, USAID asked AMPR to prepare a global ASM Issue Brief drawing upon lessons learned and best practices in ASM-related U.S. Government (USG) programming throughout the world. Although relevant to this activity, these briefs are discussed under Activity 4.2.2.

3.4.1.3 ACTIVITY 4.1.3 PROVIDE ON-CALL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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

Results: AMPR worked with Levin Sources, Artisanal Pathways, the Tetra Tech home office, and USAID to finalize the technical scope of work for the Responsible Artisanal Diamond Sourcing initiative. A decision was made to focus only on CAR and exclude West Africa in the initial scoping. In addition, the refined Statement of Work emphasized the learning objectives of the activity through mandating transparency about pricing and other information that could be useful in assessing the viability of direct sourcing efforts. In April, AMPR informed USAID of the likely postponement of this activity to next year because the COVID-19 pandemic caused major perturbations in the international market for diamonds. As part of Year 3 work planning with USAID, a decision was reached to cancel this activity due to the changed circumstances in CAR and the disastrous global diamond market dynamics for luxury diamonds.

AMPR also responded to a request for technical assistance from USAID/Colombia related to their artisanal gold sector. AMPR participated in a teleconference and prepared an options paper, which is under consideration by the mission.

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

3.4.2.1 ACTIVITY 4.2.1: PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS ON ASM ISSUES

Description: The purpose of this activity is to participate in key international forums as a way to remain abreast of international trends and issues that will affect AMPR implementation, as well as contribute to international best practices.

Results: The Technical Deputy/Component 4 Coordinator attended the KP Plenary held in November 2019 in New Delhi, India. The Technical Deputy attended and contributed to discussions around the situation in CAR, which led to the successful adoption by the KP of limited changes to the OF. Of those changes, the most significant was switching to a “notification” system, whereby CAR can authorize exports from compliant zones at will rather than first requesting pre-authorization from the CAR Monitoring Team. This was one of the major issues identified in the smuggling diagnostic conducted in Year 1. The Component 4 Coordinator also presented a general update on AMPR activities to the WGAAP. Finally, the Component 4 Coordinator attended a two-day workshop organized by the OECD and the EU in Brussels, Belgium in December on minerals-related crimes. The Component 4

Coordinator organized and facilitated a panel on the situation in CAR in collaboration with the EU GODICA Technical Advisor, IPIS, and the UN Panel of Experts Coordinator.

AMPR did not participate in any in-person international forums planned for 2020 due to COVID-19. The in-person versions of the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum and the KP Intersessional were canceled. The Technical Deputy participated in periodic international teleconferences organized by the WB and the ASM Delve Database on the impact of COVID-19 on the ASM sector. The Technical Deputy briefed the team of international specialists on the situation in CAR and the activities undertaken by the project. In addition, the AMPR Project Manager convened biweekly web-based calls with stakeholders focused on CAR, co-facilitated with the Technical Advisor of the EU GODICA project. The Technical Deputy has also remained active in the ASM Delve Steering Committee, helping design the methodology for a global survey of artisanal miners currently underway in a dozen countries, including CAR.

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

Description: Similar to Activity 4.1.3, this activity aims to provide USAID OUs with specific knowledge with respect to ASM. This could include organizing presentations or trainings on ASM for missions or implementing partners, and/or conducting diagnoses on ASM dynamics in the context of land tenure, agricultural, conservation, or other projects.

Results: AMPR wrote an ASM Issue Brief for USAID, which summarized lessons learned, issues, and best practices from USAID-supported projects worldwide with a direct or indirect link to ASM. The issue brief profiled USAID ASM activities and approaches from the past ten years. In cooperation with USAID's Communications, Evidence, and Learning project, USAID launched the brief in an ASM webinar, which attracted over 100 participants from around the world. AMPR's Technical Deputy co-presented with USAID and the Oro Legal project. The ASM Issue Brief and webinar are posted on the USAID LandLinks website.⁶ AMPR also updated its Issue Brief on Gender Issues in ASM. Originally focused on Africa, the brief now integrates examples from Latin America and the Caribbean.

AMPR's Technical Deputy worked on a draft country profile for the ASM Delve Database, though finalization was delayed due to COVID-19 and a focus by the ASM Delve Database team on a global survey of artisanal miners. AMPR also updated the land tenure profile for CAR for the LandLinks website, which is currently under review by USAID.

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

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

Results: The Technical Deputy completed the academic paper on community-led resource management in Côte d'Ivoire, drawing upon PRADD II fieldwork presented at the 2018 Land and Poverty Conference. The paper was co-authored with a Ph.D. student and submitted to the journal *Resources Policy* for peer review.

⁶ See <https://land-links.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/USAID-ASM-Issue-Brief-Jan-2020.pdf> for the ASM Issue Brief. See <https://www.land-links.org/event/webinar-advancing-responsible-artisanal-mining/> for a recording of the webinar and presentations.

The Pastoralism Specialist completed a literature review and bibliography, as well as the roadmap for further pastoralism research (see Intermediate Result 2.2), including identifying topics for potential peer-reviewed publications.

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

4.1 INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

AMPR emphasized the inclusion of other vulnerable groups, such as the pygmy minorities, in setting up women's economic groups. In Year 1, the project set up two women's groups in SCED-Ndéléngué and Mona Sao to deal with the specific needs of the Baka pygmy women, who are frequently discriminated against in the mining communities. In Year 2, AFPE facilitated the groups to set up maize and groundnuts gardens. The harvest was shared between members, part of it sold and the rest preserved for seeds to plant in the next season. AMPR also supports a joint economic group of Muslim and Christian women in Carnot to facilitate social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between religious groups.

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

Nascent Group of Friends of CAR: While there was some interest from the U.S. ambassador and diplomats in Bangui on setting up an informal working group called “Group of Friends of CAR” in Year 1, the idea did not get traction in Year 2 due to other priorities, COVID-19 restrictions on the face-to-face meetings, limited staffing of diplomatic missions in CAR, and other factors. Nonetheless, in Year 2, the U.S. ambassador remained very supportive of the Group of Friends. The AMPR COP and Technical Deputy/Component 4 Coordinator worked with the ambassador and other stakeholders to identify possible pathways forward.

AMPR continues to pursue Group of Friends' underlying strategy to encourage information-sharing and coordination between diplomats and technical partners. Such coordination is necessary to deal with the challenges and political sensitivity of the mining sector. In that spirit, AMPR provided technical support to the MMG to set up the CTRE-RCA. Towards the end of Q4, AMPR supported the MMG in preparing the ToRs for the first CRTE-RCA meeting, which diplomats and heads of missions have been invited to attend once the COVID-19 situation and guidelines permit.

Monthly Coordination Call: AMPR staff continued to actively participate in the USAID monthly coordination calls designed to share updates and improve coordination on the project's interventions. During the calls, the project also received updates on the EU's ENABEL and GODICA projects and the WB PGRN and APCM projects. AMPR compiled and shares notes on each of the monthly calls. The monthly calls are complemented by AMPR Weekly Updates, an effective tool for informing a wide range of actors on project advancements, challenges, and plans for the coming week.

Enhancing Planning and Communication with Government Stakeholders: AMPR continued to share French versions of weekly reports with senior leadership. The reports provided progress updates on project-implemented activities and an opportunity to receive feedback from GoCAR. AMPR organized restitution meetings for studies conducted with the officials from the MMG and MHANR and other partners like GODICA and the WB. The project also shared ToRs with the senior leadership for joint missions involving government representatives. The respective ministries recommended participants for the



Photo 6: MMG COVID-19 Task Force meeting.
Photo by Delphin Junior.

various missions. AMPR is very grateful to the Minister of Mines and Geology, who issued *ordre de missions* that enabled project staff in Bangui to conduct field missions to its implementation sites.

MMG COVID-19 Task Force: AMPR participated in MMG-convened COVID-19 donor coordination meetings with the WB PGRN and EU GODICA projects. The task force developed an MMG COVID-19 Action Plan with communication and outreach strategies for the mining sector. MMG partners agreed on a cost-sharing approach to support the planned interventions. The achievements include:

- *Press Conference* : Organized a press conference for the CAR Minister of Mines and Geology (MMG) to address mining sector actors on the likely impact of COVID-19 on the mining sector and to work together in developing responses to mitigate the spread of the pandemic in the CAR mining zones. It was broadcasted nationally in French and Sango by television, radio, and written press.
- *MMG COVID-19 Brochures* : Designed and printed 1,200 MMG COVID-19 brochures on risk behaviors in the mining sector and communities, which were distributed to key mining sector actors, notably, private sector, trading houses, civil society in Bangui and the Kimberly Process compliant zones in southwest CAR.
- *Community Radio Debates*: Conducted interviews with artisanal miners and local authorities in Southwest CAR on questions and concerns on COVID-19, which were debated by the sub-prefects, Regional Director of the MMG, and Ministry of Health. The debates were rebroadcasted seven times on local radio stations reaching more than 20,000 listeners.
- *Artisanal water filters*: Trained mining communities in southwest CAR on techniques for making water filters using local materials and developed training posters on the documented techniques to facilitate training in other diamond and gold mining communities in CAR.
- *Local soap production*: Organized a soap-making Trainers of Trainers (TOTs) course for 21 AMPR-supported women's groups in southwest CAR. Filmed the training to produce video capsules on soap production to facilitate training in other communities.
- *COVID-19 Blog*: Wrote a blog summarizing USAID AMPR COVID-19 intervention entitled, "Mobilizing to address COVID-19 in vulnerable diamond and gold mining communities" published on LandLinks on the link; <https://www.land-links.org/2020/06/mobilizing-to-address-covid-19-in-vulnerable-diamond-and-gold-mining-communities/>.
- *ASM and COVID-19 in CAR*: The project co-convened 13 biweekly teleconference discussions on COVID-19 considerations and implications on ASM and pastoralism in CAR with AMPR implementing partners Concordis, Levin Sources, GODICA, and the WB. The virtual meetings discussed implications for ASM projects implemented in CAR, international marketing and commercialization, security in CAR, and GoCAR COVID-19 responses targeting mining communities.

4.3 OFFICES

At the beginning of Year 2, AMPR established regional offices in Nola, Carnot, and Boda, which are now fully functioning with all necessary furniture, information technology equipment, and supplies. A delegation led by the MMG Cabinet Director and the AMPR COP officially opened the offices. The Director-General and Regional Directors of the MMG, prefects and sub-prefects of the zones, local authorities, and representatives of beneficiaries and international NGOs attended the official opening ceremonies. The main operational challenge AMPR faced when opening the offices was the lack of publicly supplied electricity in the three zones. Project management decided to purchase generators for the three offices given that solar energy is unreliable, especially during the rainy season.

The zone where the AMPR Bangui office is located experienced a power blackout from the beginning of Q2 through the end of Q4. *Energie Centrafricaine*, the electricity provider, disconnects the power in the zone from 7 AM to 5 PM daily due to prevent overloading the transformers supplying power to the zone. During most of this period, the AMPR office depended on rechargeable batteries for backup; however, the batteries were not able to support the air conditioners, making it very challenging for staff to work in the office, especially during the dry season. The batteries were also not meant for daily use. Thus, their continuous use reduced their duration of use once charged. The AMPR management team decided to purchase a higher output generator intended for daily use as the main source of energy (approved by USAID in August 2020) and identified another office space in the green zone with more power stability during normal working hours as a long-term solution. AMPR plans to move into its new office space in November 2020.



Photo 7: USAID AMPR regional offices in Carnot, Boda, and Nola (clockwise from top left). Photos by Arnold Minang.

At the beginning of the first quarter and after a long process to obtain tax exoneration, the project team purchased two vehicles and six motorcycles for project implementation. Besides using the project field car, the AMPR project frequently hires 4X4 vehicles to transport staff to the field to implement activities. However, in recent months there has been a lack of available vehicles for hire due to the

upcoming presidential election. The CAR election commission has hired most of the 4x4 vehicles in good condition, making it difficult to find adequate 4X4 vehicles for hire, thus causing delays in the implementation of field activities. AMPR currently relies on its only field vehicle; because the car is being used continuously and in treacherous conditions, there is not enough time to have maintenance conducted between missions, putting it at risk of being worn out before the end of the project. The scarcity of hired vehicles is expected to continue until the end of Q2 (March 2021), when the second round of the presidential elections is scheduled. In order to save money, avoid delays in field missions due to the unavailability of rental cars, and allow the current field vehicle to receive the maintenance and repairs necessary to ensuring it is viable over the course of the remaining three project years, the project submitted a request for approval to USAID in October 2020 to purchase a second field vehicle.



Photo 8: The AMPR project vehicle stuck on the Bambio-Nola road. Photo by Lucila Mandazou.

The quality of Bangui office internet service became more unstable during the rainy season (May to September). The AMPR team had acquired Huawei-manufactured internet portable devices to help supplement the office internet, however, in Q4 a new USG regulation prohibited the use of equipment and services from several Chinese telecommunications companies, including Huawei. AMPR replaced the Huawei modems with portable internet devices manufactured by the Taiwanese company D-Link. In regional offices, the internet is still a challenge, especially in Nola and Boda, where reliable connectivity is only available late at night, which limits prompt email communication with field staff. As a solution, the AMPR team utilizes other means of communication like WhatsApp, SMS, regular calls, and Garmin devices.

4.4 STAFFING

Following the establishment of the AMPR regional offices in Nola, Boda, and Carnot at the end of Year 1, community mobilizers were deployed to the field at the beginning of Q1. Six community mobilizers and two rural development specialists are based in Nola, Boda, and Carnot. The project provided them with all items necessary to perform their tasks successfully, such as motorbikes, protective items (e.g., raincoats, boots, and life jackets), communication devices, and data collection tools (e.g., global positioning system tracking devices and smartphones).

There has been staff turnover during the year, due to normal resignations, terminations, and loss of life. Component 2B Coordinator/Women's Livelihoods Activities Coordinator Dr. Julie Betabalet announced her resignation as she had been offered a COP position with a French-funded forestry project. AMPR successfully recruited Guy Mesmin Sesengue, who previously worked with World Vision in CAR on similar themes across the country as the new Component 2B Coordinator. He brought a vast experience to support the AMPR livelihoods subcontractor, AFPE, the AMPR-supported women and mixed groups, regional office staff, and the MMG in implementing alternative IGAs and AMPR's Gender Action Plan.

In March 2020, Prosper Yaka Maïdé, the former AMPR Component 1 Coordinator, unexpectedly passed away at Bangui Community Hospital. Shortly thereafter, Tetra Tech canceled contracts for three community mobilizers after discovering that they had lied about their past employment. In August, Hervé Pounou, the ZEA Expansion/KP Compliance Specialist, resigned after being offered a professional opportunity overseas. At the beginning of September 2020, Junior Mamang, the AMPR Administration Officer, was assigned on a full-time basis to the World Bank APCM Project as the Project Operations Manager. AMPR has identified the best candidates for the Component 1 Coordinator, Administration Officer, and Community Mobilizer positions. The project also intends to recruit a new ZEA Expansion/KP Compliance Specialist at the beginning of Year 3 and a new driver in the event the project receives approval to purchase another vehicle.

Following the COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020, the COP and Finance and Administration Manager (FAM) could not travel outside CAR to take a short break or be with their families during the challenging times. All international travel has been on hold since the start of the pandemic, until August when few airlines resumed service to Bangui with a limited schedule of one flight per week. The COP and FAM plan to take personal leave in October and November 2020, respectively.

4.5 SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The CAR Ministry of Health confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on March 14, 2020. As of September 30, the country had 4,829 cumulative confirmed cases, which includes 1,914 recoveries and 62 deaths. As part of the project's COVID-19 Contingency and Response Plan, AMPR management purchased small 1.5KVA generators for national staff to support their work from home to enable social distancing within the AMPR offices. The project also purchased emergency "safe haven" kits for expatriate staff's residences in the case of an emergency that requires sheltering in place. The items include basic medical supplies, essential hygiene products, and non-perishable food.

The security situation in the CAR remained precarious and volatile. Bi Sidi Souleymane, also known as Sidiki Abass, the notorious leader of the militia group Return, Reclamation, Rehabilitation (3R) in CAR and a signatory to the Khartoum Peace Agreement, is understood to have returned to reorganize his 3R group to reassert themselves and show force. Security in northwestern CAR is of particular concern as Sidiki's 3R group continues to stage attacks on the population, positions, and convoys of CAR Armed Forces (FACA) and MINUSCA. FACA and MINUSCA launched joint military operations to counter 3R and restore peace in the affected regions. The U.S. imposed sanctions on Sidiki in August 2020. While AMPR does not have activities in the northwest, the potential for this to destabilize other regions and impact artisanal mining merits close monitoring of the situation.

The AMPR security plan was completed, translated into French, and shared with staff. The plan details strategies for the effective and efficient management of the security of project staff, offices, and assets in Bangui and the provinces. In addition to the staff WhatsApp group, an AMPR telephone tree was activated to enhance the quick sharing of security updates. Evacuation plans for each of the Bangui and regional offices were also developed. Security Focal Points (SFPs) were nominated in each of the three regional offices. These SFPs share security updates and coordinate security advisory with the AMPR SFP based in Bangui and the COP. Trainings were conducted for all staff on the various aspects of the project security plan.

AMPR's Bangui SFP and a Community Mobilizer participated in a three-day Hostile Environment Awareness training (HEAT) aimed at strengthening their capacities in personal security management in the field or during missions. The practical training was organized in Bangui by a London-based security firm composed of ex-French military officers specializing in risk and security management. The AMPR Deputy Project Manager and trained SFPs conducted a HEAT training for other staff in Bangui. This participatory training included modules on responses to security threats commonly faced in CAR, such as theft, assault, roadblocks, and civil disturbances. The training included a roadblock simulation in which staff practiced deescalating a tense confrontation with police.

Heavy rains hit Bangui town and CAR's interior, leading to serious damage to buildings, homes, and infrastructure, including bridges, rendering the roads in the interior of the country impassable. AMPR teams traveling to the project operating regions were constantly getting stuck, and as a result, travel times to the project's regional implementation zones doubled. The Garmin tracker devices assigned to field staff were helpful in remote areas without phone service to send text messages and share their locations where staff got stuck and provide security updates. AMPR management continued to monitor the situation and reduced missions to the Nola region, which was most affected.



Photo 9: Simulation during the HEAT training for staff. Photo by Linca Tuyisenge



Photo 10: Berberati-Nola road impassable during the rainy season. Photos by William Bouyama

5. PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

5.1 THE MONITORING LEARNING AND EVALUATION UNIT

The AMPR monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) unit maintained the various tracking tools set up in the first year, including ways to monitor implementation of the work plan with annual sub-tasks, contractual activities, and project deliverables per component. The MEL Officer prepared tools to facilitate routine data collection and quality control for AMPR livelihoods subcontractor, AFPE. For Year 2, the team updated the baseline values based on Year 1 activities, such as the KAP survey. In addition, Year 2 and life-of-project targets reflect those in the revised MEL Plan approved by USAID. This approach harmonized the results with the revised targets, thereby making comparisons easier in subsequent years. To ensure the quality of collected data, protocols (memoranda and cover page for each project indicator) were developed and validated after several exchanges between the AMPR MEL Officer, Technical Deputy, and the Tetra Tech's MEL Specialist in the home office.

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

5.2 COMMENTARY ON SPECIFIC INDICATORS

- For indicator 1, production estimates for Year 2 are based on the eight compliant zones. In the course of Year 1, three additional compliant zones of Boganangone, Bonganda, and Mbaiki were added to the previous five (Berberati, Carnot, Nola, Boda, and Gadzi).
- For indicator 2, GoCAR evaluated the Abba, Bouar, Baoro, and Soso-Nakombo priority zones. The evaluation reports and demand for authorization for the zones to export rough diamonds were submitted to KP Secretariat. The indicator will be updated once KP authorizes some or all the submitted priority zones.
- For indicators 1 and 3, the project was able to determine the percentage of licensed artisanal miners and estimated rough diamond production that is legally exported in the six KP zones where CLS KP have been installed and are collecting data. However, in Boganangone and Gadzi it was more difficult to obtain data because the CLS KP have not yet been installed by the MMG due to logistical and accessibility challenges. AMPR will work with the MMG in Year 3 to install the CLS in these zones to enable data collection from all the eight KP compliant zones.
- For indicator 5, the numbers of artisanal miners in project intervention zones with basic knowledge of the KP and Mining Code was not compiled because no KAP survey was planned for Year 2. In Year 3 the data will be updated upon completion of the planned KAP survey.

TABLE I. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The baseline values have been updated based on Year 2 activities. In addition, Year 2 and life-of-project (LOP) targets reflect those in the revised MEL Plan being submitted for USAID approval as part of the Year 3 Work Plan. This approach will harmonize the results with the revised targets and thereby make comparisons easier in subsequent years.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT TO DATE	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
1	Percentage of estimated rough diamond production in KP-compliant zones that is legally exported from CAR	8% ⁷	15%	12%	25%	11%	60%	Represents 7404.7 carats exported in October–December 2019 per the 2019 MMG official statistics and 10517.08 carats to January–August 2020.
2	Percentage of major diamond-mining sub-prefectures in the Western part of the country authorized by the KP to export rough diamonds	31% ⁸	50%	50%	50%	50%	100%	GoCAR evaluated four priority zones awaiting KP approval.
3	Number of licensed (registered) artisanal miners	1,000 ⁹	1,500	1,458	2,000	1,006 ¹⁰	3,000	Artisanal miners who paid their licenses at the Directorate of the MMG in Bangui between January–September 2020.

⁷ The baseline of 8% is derived by dividing the exports from 2018 (approximately 13,000 carats) over the estimated production from the 5 KP-compliant zones in 2017 (164,000 carats). The U.S. Geological Survey did not estimate production for 2018 at the time of writing, but there is no reason to believe that it decreased. On the contrary, PRADD II georeferencing in April and May 2018 showed mining at a constant intensity in all zones. The figure of 13,000 carats of exports does not include approximately 63,000 carats exported in early 2018 but which were held up from 2017 due to unanswered questions by the KP Monitoring Team.

⁸ AMPR estimates that 32 of the country's 72 sub-prefectures have diamond mining or potential diamond mining. Of these, 16 are considered by experts and by the GoCAR as concentrating the vast majority of the Western region's production and have been identified by the GoCAR as *priority zones* for which approval from the KP is actively being sought. At the beginning of the project, 5 of these 16 are deemed compliant by the KP; the baseline is therefore 31%.

⁹ This figure is an estimate based on available government data for the number of miners registered in 2018. Because this data is not fully centralized in Bangui, but remains in the provinces, an exact figure is not possible. In the first year, AMPR built relationships with relevant services who keep track of this data and is addressing data collection and management as part of its activities.

¹⁰ 484 artisanal miners of the 1006 paid for their license and mining documents in the areas of Carnot, Berberati, Nola, Boda, Boganda, and Mbaïki. The data is taken from the minutes of the quarterly meetings of the CLS.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT TO DATE	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
4	Number of diamond buyers (collectors and buying houses) making purchases with official purchase slips	200 ¹¹	200	206	225	135 ¹²	300	130 collectors and 5 buying houses.
5	Percentage of artisanal miners in project intervention zones with basic knowledge of KP and Mining Code	35%	N/A	35%	N/A	N/A	75%	No KAP survey was planned for Y2.
	Men	33%		33%				
	Women	2%		2%				
6	Number of specific pieces of land tenure and property rights legislation or implementing regulations proposed, adopted, and/or implemented positively affecting property rights of the urban and/or rural poor as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-1)	0	1	0	1	2	5	Presidential Decree creating the structure of the CAR KP; and the decree creating the CNS-PK.
	Number of total related to women's equal rights							
	Stage 1 : Analyzed							
	Stage 2: Drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation							
	Stage 3: Reanalyzed/drafted based on the results of public/stakeholder consultation							
	Stage 4: Presented for legislation/decreed							
	Stage 5 : Passed/approved							
	Stage 6: Passed for which implementation has begun							
7	Number of adults who perceive their tenure rights to land or marine areas as	1,800 ¹³	N/A	N/A	N/A		2,040	

¹¹ The baseline figure shows the approximate number of registered dealers (collectors and buying houses), not the number of *active and legal* dealers. At present, the government's data does not allow easy disaggregation of the number of actors versus the number of actors who are legally purchasing, a distinction that AMPR capacity building will make possible.

¹² The data for this indicator depends on the processing of the purchase slip, which is done at the end of the calendar year when the diamond buyers return the purchase slip books.

¹³ The KAP survey in the first year found that 75% of mine managers perceived their tenure rights as secure. Based on a population estimate of 2,400, the baseline is therefore 1,800 people. The end-of-project target assumes a 5% increase (120 people) in each of the two remaining KAP surveys.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT TO DATE	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	secure as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-8)							
8	Number of villages having formalized and strengthened their natural resource management capacity	0	0	0	5	1	20 ¹⁴	SCED-Ndelengue local pact signed for a pilot ZEA.
9	Number of groups trained in conflict mediation/resolution skills or consensus-building techniques with USG assistance (Standard F Indicator DR.3.1-2)	0	0	7	2	1 ¹⁵	15	Training on INDIGO methodology for the promotion of social dialogue.
10	Number of USG-supported events, trainings, or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict (Standard F Indicator PS.6.2-3)	0	0	7	10	2	50	Multi-stakeholder forums on Pastoralism organized in Berberati and Nola. Training of the CLPR on their roles and mandate.
11	Number of local women participating in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process supported with USG assistance (Standard F Indicator GNDR-10)	0	10	24	5		30	In YIII, AMPR in coordination with MHANR will complete the strategy for collecting and transmitting data on CLPR activities to enable women participation.
12	Number of consensus-building forums (multi-party, civil/security sector, and/or civil/political) held with USG assistance (Standard F Indicator DR.3.1-3)	0	2	2	3	2	20	Multi-stakeholder forums on Pastoralism in Berberati and Nola. National validation workshop for the new CAR purchase slips for gold and diamond.
13	Number of disputed land and property rights cases resolved by local authorities, contractors, mediators, or courts as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-3)	0	5	0	10	18	50	Land and property conflicts resolved by the CLPRs of Balego, Wapo, and Nassolé.

¹⁴ This figure is an estimate of the number of villages that could be part of the ZEA pilots or that sign formal land-use planning agreements related to natural resources.

¹⁵ Project did not train the CLPR in conflict resolutions skills. Priority was made for orienting CLPR roles and mandates as recommended by the expert CLPR evaluation conducted in Y2 Q2.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT TO DATE	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	<i>Disputes resolved by local authorities</i>							
	<i>Disputes resolved by contractors</i>							
	<i>Disputes resolved by mediators</i>							
	<i>Disputes resolved by courts</i>							
14	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (Standard F Indicator EG.3.2-1)	0	0	0	250	52	1,000	Technical Delegates that completed a TOT on improved farming techniques.
	<i>Type of Individual: Producer</i>					52		
	<i>Type of Individual: Government Agents</i>							
	<i>Type of Individual: Private Sector Firm</i>							
	<i>Type of Individual: Civil Society</i>							
	<i>Men</i>					33		
	<i>Women</i>					19		
15	Number of gold mining sites integrated into the interactive mapping system	0	0	0	300	322	300	IPIS interactive mapping of 121 diamond and 261 gold sites.
16	Number of activities benefitting USAID OUs aimed at improving the understanding of linkages between ASM and key development issues	0	2	3	2	3	10	ASM Issue Brief and Webinar; Issue Brief on Gender Issues in ASM.

ANNEX I: SNAPSHOT



SUCCESS STORY

AMPR Supporting Women's Groups in Mining Communities to Produce Soap Locally



Three TOTs training their colleagues from the AMPR-supported women's group in Camp-Ngoum, Boda. Photo by Junior Delphin.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to ravage the Central African Republic (CAR) and the broader world, the USAID-funded Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project has found a number of creative ways to integrate COVID-19 response activities into its existing programming. One of the most successful ways the project has done this is through supporting women's and mixed-gender groups in mining communities to produce soap, which contributes to a key AMPR objective: helping diversify the mining community economies by supporting increased engagement in income-generating activities, particularly among women. When AMPR conducted an initial assessment of the 21 women's and mixed gender supported by the project in early 2020, one of them was engaged in soap production, a product that is not widely available in southwestern CAR.

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in CAR, the AMPR team decided to expand this activity and train interested women's and mixed-gender groups in soap production by mobilizing groups previously trained in this area under the AMPR's predecessor project Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development.

In May-June 2020, AMPR conducted a mission to support the PRADD groups trained in soap-making to train AMPR-selected groups in the practice. They conducted refresher training for eight trainers of trainer sessions (TOTs) in Lopo, Nola, and three in Bossoui, Boda. The TOTs and the AMPR team jointly trained the group members of Lopo and Bossoui, respectively. AMPR's local video production subcontractor filmed training capsules on soap production to facilitate additional learning in other diamond and gold mining communities. In the weeks that followed, the TOTs trained eight additional AMPR-supported groups.

By using TOTs to conduct further trainings, AMPR was able to ensure that COVID-19 public health guidelines—such as not congregating in large groups and maintaining social distancing—were followed while also providing critical training. Soap production is not only economically beneficial for the groups selling it to the local community but also enables people in mining communities to follow proper hand-washing procedures, thus mitigating the spread of COVID-19 among CAR's vulnerable rural population. Since May, approximately 250 women across ten AMPR-supported groups in southwestern CAR have been trained in soap-making. The trained groups have been reinvesting earnings from their soap sales in their local communities. Some groups have been able to start or add to their savings schemes with profits earned from their sale of soap.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA

Local, national, and international media covered the following activities for AMPR during Year 2:

Carnot sub-prefecture: Ndeke Luka radio:

- Reported on the launch of the project region, with a sound bite from the speech of the MMG Cabinet Director thanking the American government for its support and pledging the MMG's continued support for the execution of AMPR activities in the southwest.
- Reported on the official installation of the seven CLPRs for Carnot sub-prefecture.
- Reported on the CLS KP reconstitution in Carnot and transmitted the names of the members.

Nola sub-prefecture: Local radio station Kuli Ndunga:

- Transmitted an interview with the Prefect of Sangha Mbaéré, who officiated the launch of AMPR's Nola Office.
- Transmitted the official installation of the four CLPRs in the Nola subprefecture.
- Transmitted the list of the new members of the reconstituted CLS KP of Nola.
- Broadcasted the debates of the subprefects and regional health and mining directors on the COVID-19 risks linked to the practices of mining practices seven times.

Berberati sub-prefecture: Local radio Zoukpana

- Broadcasted the debates of the subprefects and regional health and mining directors on the COVID-19 risks linked to the practices of mining practices seven times. The message reached more than 20,000 listeners in the three mining zones of Berberati, Carnot, and Nola.

Bangui Capital:

- 10 media outlets, including the Central African Radio and Television, RJDH, radio Ndeke Luka, and Guira FM reported on the AMPR gold workshop and CRAFT training. A national newspaper (*Le Confident*) and online paper (ACAP) also published several articles on AMPR activities.
- 11 media outlets, including the Central African Radio and Television, RJDH, radio Ndeke Luka, and Guira FM reported on the Minister of Mines and Geology's press conference on COVID-19 addressing actors in the mining sector.
- Eight media outlets, including the Central African Radio and Television, RJDH, and radio Ndeke Luka, reported on the national validation workshop for the new CAR purchase slips for diamond and gold.



Photo 11: Press Interviewing the MMG Cabinet Director during the national validation workshop for the gold and diamond purchase slips. Photos by Maxie Muwonge

Tetra Tech ARD Newsletter: The May 2020 Tetra Tech ARD newsletter featured AMPR's COVID-19 response, highlighting the project's trainings on water filtration using local materials in ASM communities, COVID-19 sensitization posters, and fostering of IGAs through training women groups on soap-making. These activities were recognized among the key global innovations made to projects, processes, and systems that keep Tetra Tech's work advancing in the COVID-19 environment.

ANNEX 3: GENERATED DATA

AMPR generated new data from the various activities conducted this year. The table below summarizes data collected per component, which provides new understanding about the current dynamics in the ASM sector in CAR.

Component	Type of Activity	Female	Male	Category of Participants
I	Review workshop for the draft Decree on the structure and functioning of the SPPK	0	10	MMG, National Committee for Official Texts, AMPR and GODICA
I	National validation workshop for new diamond and gold purchase slips	8	44	MMG Cabinet, MMG General Direction; Gold and diamond exporters, <i>Fonderies</i> , WB-PGRN, AMPR, GODICA, Civil Society, and media.
I	INDIGO training on social dialogue techniques	2	8	Community Mobilizers, Rural Development Specialists, and ENC Video subcontractor
I	Workshops for establishing CLS KP in Boda, Carnot, Berberati and Nola	7	83	USAF, KPPS, MMG, CNS-PK, NGO MARCA, Local authorities, representatives Youth, Press, and Social Affairs. Representatives of Cooperatives, <i>Collecuteurs</i> , and Artisans Miners, and AMPR
I	Workshop of drafting the decree for the CNS KP	1	16	KPPS, CM-Mines, DG-Mines, Civil Society, <i>Bureau d'Évaluation et de Contrôle de Diamant et d'Or</i> (BECDOR), CNS-PK, and AMPR
I	Restricted workshop to review the strategic document for the ZEA implementation	2	6	DGM, WWF, MMG, Ministry of Water and Forest.
I	Community meeting witnessing the signing of the Local Pact in SCED-NDELENGUE to set up a pilot ZEA	11	125	WWF, MMG, Ministry of Urbanism, Ministry of Water and Forests, AMPR, University of Bangui, Cultural leaders, local authorities and the community members.
2A	Seminar to identify key issues, gaps and lessons learned on managing violent conflicts linked to pastoralism in Berberati	2	35	Pastoralist, CLPR, Mayor, Social Affairs, Ministries (Water and Forests, Environment), Customary Chiefs, MMG, Gendarmerie, USAF, Artisan Miners, farmers, and AMPR
2A	Seminar to identify key issues, gaps and lessons learned on managing violent conflicts related to pastoralism in Nola	3	31	Same as above

Component	Type of Activity	Female	Male	Category of Participants
2A	Induction of Carnot CLPRs and Training on their roles and responsibilities	27	70	CLPR, Religious Platform, Ministry of the Environment, Customary Chiefs, USAF, Social Affairs, Police, artisanal miners, local authorities, MMG, MAHRN, and AMPR
2A	Induction of the Nola CLPRs and training on their roles and responsibilities	11	36	As above
2A	Workshop to present the preliminary results of the CLPR evaluation study	2	13	USAID CAR representative, MHANR, MMG, and AMPR
2B	Training of AMPR livelihoods groups in sustainable agricultural practices	53	26	Livelihoods groups members
2B	Soapmaking training for groups of the Boda, Nola and Carnot	134	13	Livelihoods groups members
3	Training on the CRAFT Code	10	39	Civil Society, University of Bangui, KPPS, Gendarmerie, University of Bangui, MMG, BECDOR, Cooperative, Jewelry, gold and diamond exporters (CIONGCA, THIEN-PAO Company), RESOLVE, PGRN, AMPR, APCM, and the press.
3	National workshop on responsible gold mining in the CAR	15	37	Same as above

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