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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, 2020–September 30, 2021



Contract Number: 7200AAI8C00087
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Photo: Planning Meeting of the Ngoungourou Livelihoods Group in Nola.
Photo by Vincent Ferema.

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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, 2020–September 30, 2021

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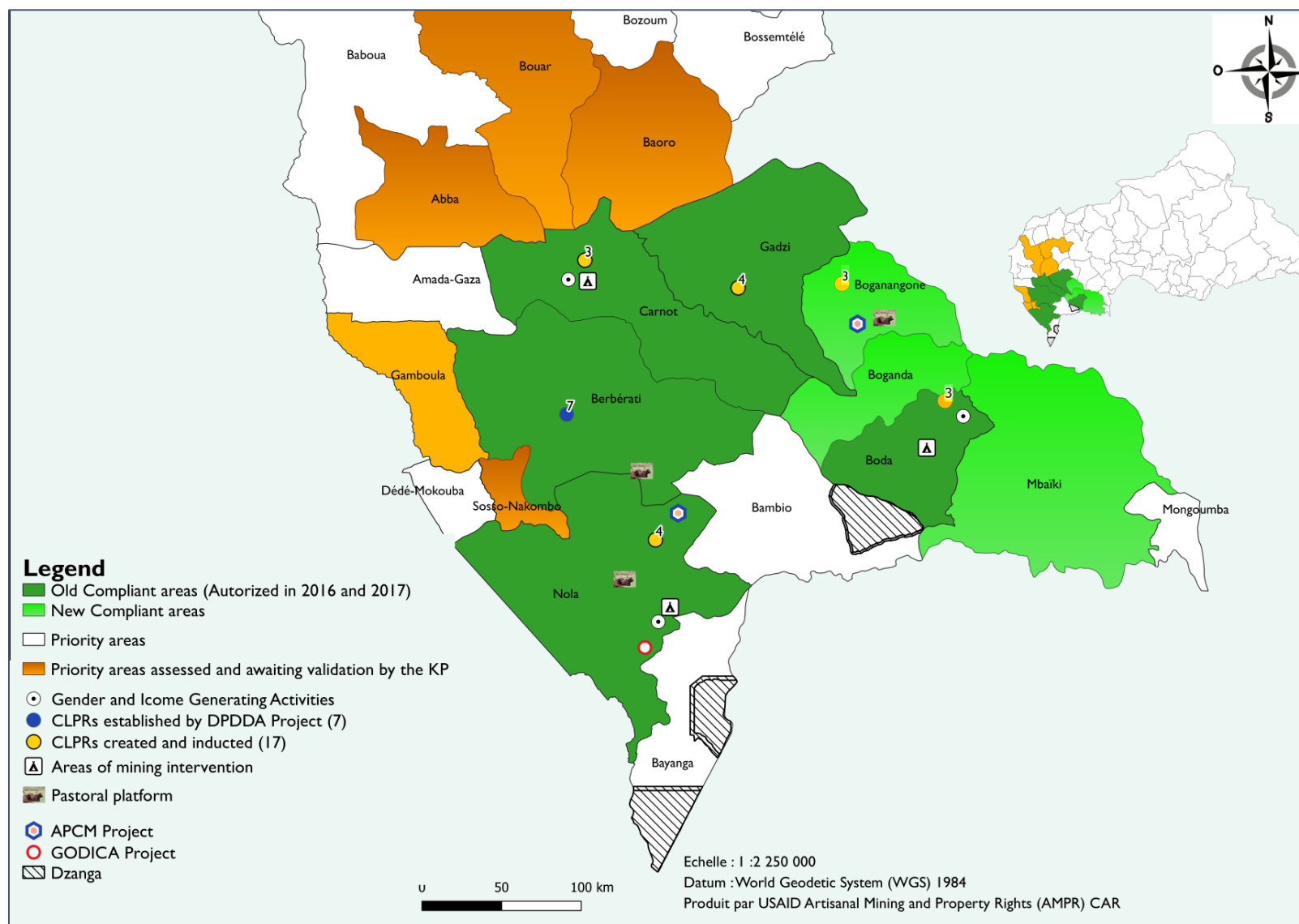
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
AFEMISCA	<i>Association des Femmes du Secteur Minier de Centrafrique</i> (Association of Women in the Central African Republic Mining Sector)
AFPE	<i>Association des Femmes pour la Promotion de l'Entreprenariat</i> (Association of Women for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship)
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	<i>Comité Technique, de Réflexion et d'Echange de la République Centrafricaine</i> (Technical Reflection and Exchange Committee for the CAR Extractive and Mining Sector)
CTRJCR-RCA	Technical Committee in charge of the Revision of Legal and Regulatory Texts for the Mining and Petroleum Sectors in the Central African Republic
DCi	Diamond Counsellor International
ERT	Emergency Response Team
EU	European Union
GEMINCA	<i>Gemmes et Minéraux de Centrafrique</i> (National Society of Gems and Minerals of the Central African Republic)
GODICA	Strengthening the governance of CAR's artisanal diamond and gold mining sectors
GoCAR	Government of the Central African Republic
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IGA	Income-Generating Activity
IMF	International Monetary Fund
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
MHASNR	Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and National Reconciliation
MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology
MPFFPE	Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Family and the Protection of Children
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>
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
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
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs)
WB	World Bank
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZEA	<i>Zone d'Exploitation Artisanale</i> (designated artisanal mining zone)

Figure I: Map of Southwestern Central African Republic and Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) Field Activities



I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project supports the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to improve land and resource governance and strengthen property rights for all members of society, especially women. It serves as USAID's vehicle for addressing complex land and resource issues around artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in the Central African Republic (CAR) using a multidisciplinary approach. The project focuses primarily on diamond—and to a lesser extent, gold—production as well as targeted technical assistance to other USAID Missions and Operating Units (OUs) in addressing land and resource governance issues within the ASM sector. AMPR 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, for an initial base period of three years with two option years, which were granted last year. The present report summarizes progress during AMPR's third year of project implementation.

Objective 1 aims to strengthen CAR's capacity for implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) requirements. To launch the initiative, the AMPR team conducted a gap analysis and identified recommendations to stem the tide of rapidly expanding rough diamond smuggling and to remove barriers to implementing the Kimberley Process (KP) Operational Framework (OF). AMPR supports miner education, awareness-raising, and implementing capacity-building measures such as logistical support for local KP Focal Points and the strengthening of local monitoring committees. AMPR is designing the conceptual framework for piloting decentralized artisanal mining zones (*Zones d'Exploitation Artisanale*, 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 is building upon lessons learned from PRADD II and expanding local structures and processes for fostering peace and reconciliation. AMPR is supporting the expansion of local peace and reconciliation committees (*Comités Locaux de Paix et Réconciliation* [CLPRs]), as well as their efforts to monitor and resolve conflicts and conduct peacebuilding activities. AMPR is continuing efforts to foster coordination between the government ministries responsible for mining and peacebuilding. AMPR also supports livelihoods activities for women as part of a comprehensive Gender Action Plan to promote women's economic and social inclusion.

Objective 3 focuses on understanding the artisanal gold supply chain. AMPR, in partnership with the International Peace Information Service (IPIS) and RESOLVE, implemented a baseline assessment of gold and created an interactive online map of artisanal gold mining sites. AMPR organized a workshop to present results from the study and facilitate training and discussion aimed at moving toward a national gold action plan.

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

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

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AMPR supports the USAID's Land and Resource Governance 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 3 include:

- *Work Plan Advancements in the Face of Crisis:* The AMPR team carried out the vast majority of work plan activities (88%) successfully by the end of the year despite the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, widespread insecurity following the December 2020 CAR presidential elections, treacherous road conditions, and day-to-day challenges such as the recurring lack of running water in the office. Details of project implementation successes are described below, as well as efforts to mitigate these challenges and minimize their impact on project implementation.
- *Strong Coordination with Government of CAR (GoCAR) Partners:* AMPR has continued strong coordination with the Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG) and other GoCAR partners. AMPR successfully coordinated with the MMG Director General to present technical documents to the Minister of Mines and Geology to issue a decree creating *Société Centrafricaine d'Exploitation Diamantifère* (SCED)-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA in Nola subprefecture. The project has also provided extensive support to the MMG's efforts to revise the Mining Code and supported the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and National Reconciliation (MHASNR) to establish and officially install six additional CLPRs in Boda and Boganangone sub-prefectures. Most recently, the project has collaborated with the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Family and the Protection of Children (MPFFPE) to develop its strategy for the rollout of the Gender Innovation Fund planned for Year 4.
- *Implementation of Livelihoods Activities with Women's and Mixed Gender Groups:* Local subcontractor Association of Women for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship (AFPE) completed its contract in September 2021, under which they trained 21 women's and mixed-gender livelihoods groups on agricultural production, artisanal soapmaking, village savings and loans, and basic literacy. As a result of their gardens and savings schemes, many groups were able to reinvest in their entrepreneurial activities and communities. For the local members, the generated savings and credit offerings is the only way to amass enough funds internally to offer a substantial loan to members through a tightly knit rotating saving and loan system independent of the formal—and in rural CAR, nonexistent—banking system.
- *Pastoralism and Conflict:* Building on the Concordis International field research last year, an Issue Brief summarizing the state of knowledge about pastoralism and conflict along with multiple programmatic recommendations was prepared and widely disseminated. This fed into the State Department Working Group on Pastoralism and then it led to a series of webinars with the US Embassy and coalitions of international non-governmental actors around integrated and multi-scale policies needed to address the root causes of pastoralism related conflicts.
- *CAR Mining Code Review:* AMPR prepared a detailed technical note with 50 key recommendations on CAR's Mining Code. The note that focuses on the organization of the ASM sector; best practices for supply chain transparency and good governance; and the promotion of social cohesion and local

development was presented to the Mining Code review committee during a full day's workshop. The committee integrated about 80% of the recommendations into the new Mining Code draft.

- *Green Economy and Critical Minerals:* AMPR's Technical Deputy and two consultants prepared an in-depth analytical paper on the impact in USAID-presence countries of critical minerals needed in the rapidly expanding new Green Economy, and especially in the battery sector needed for electric vehicles.

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 3

- Provided technical and logistical support to digitize data from the 2019 MMG sales slips and organized a training on statistical analysis for 25 MMG technical staff, CAR Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) members, and Mining Police (USAF).
- Engaged a local firm to support the KP Permanent Secretariat (KPPS) in CAR to set up the new CAR KPPS team's administrative and operational structures.
- Produced a technical note outlining best ASM practices and 50 key recommendations, of which 42 were included in the new draft CAR Mining Code.
- Provided technical and logistical support to the MMG by organizing two regional consultative meetings on the new CAR Mining Code. Over 120 regional actors from the MMG Regional Divisions of Berberati and Bouar proposed 45 recommendations for consideration in the new Code.
- Coordinated with the MMG Director General to present technical documents to the Minister of Mines and Geology to issue a decree establishing the SCED-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA in Nola subprefecture.
- Organized screenings and discussions of thematic videos (capsules) and documentary films on KP Certification System in CAR for over 1,000 mining and non-mining actors in the KP compliant zones of Berberati, Boda, Carnot, and Nola.
- Organized *Nagbata* Magazine radio series roundtables hosted by four radios in Bangui, Berberati, and Nola on the themes of KP Certification System in CAR, women's role in the CAR mining sector, and social cohesion. The debates were rebroadcasted twice on the radios to over 150,000 listeners.
- Produced and distributed 400 posters on the KP poster entitled "Traceability Supply Chain for Rough Diamond supply chain in CAR." The posters were used to sensitize over 1,200 artisanal miners in the KP compliant zones.
- Provided technical and logistical support to reconstitute the KP Local Monitoring Committees (CLS) in Gadzi and Boganagone. At the end of Year 3, the CLSs were reconstituted in all the eight KP compliant zones.
- Provided technical and logistical support to KP CLS quarterly meetings in the KP compliant zones of Boda, Boganda, Boganangone, Berberati, Carnot, Gadzi, Mbaiki, and Nola. The CLSs produced 19 reports on the implementation of the KP due diligence in their regions.
- Provided technical and logistical support to the MMG in the training, induction, installation, and deployment of the new CAR regional KP directors and chefs de services.
- Provided technical support to the virtual Friends of CAR meeting chaired by the U.S. Ambassador to CAR. The meeting was attended by representatives from the EU, WB, African Development Bank (ADB), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

- Provided technical and logistical support to organize three technical-diplomatic meetings of the Technical Reflection and Exchange Committee for the CAR Extractive and Mining Sector (CTRE-RCA) chaired by the Minister of Mines and Geology.
- Organized and co-chaired with the EU-funded Strengthening the governance of CAR's artisanal diamond and gold mining sectors (GODICA) project two virtual forums on considerations and implications of the political-military crisis on the ASM sector and donor support programs in CAR.
- Participated in regular meetings of in-country project managers from AMPR, GODICA, and WB in Bangui to discuss planned activities and joint interventions to avoid duplication.

Overview of Challenges in Year 3

- The political-military crisis hindered operations of the MMG and AMPR in Q1 and Q2. The AMPR field team only returned to the region in Q3, when the MMG regional offices reopened. AMPR field staff worked from the Bangui office in Q1 and Q2.
- COVID-19 had several impacts on project activities and the overall implementation context. AMPR had to limit the number of participants in its activities, purchase face masks, hand sanitizer, and encourage hand washing for partners and beneficiaries engaged in meetings or workshops.

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 builds upon efforts that began in 2016 to implement a strategy to combat diamond smuggling, especially for countries that border CAR. Government stakeholders have acknowledged that smuggling has reached unprecedented levels; however, they argue that the drivers and pathways to smuggling are related less to coordination issues with other countries and more to the reduced activities on the part of buying houses and lax airport controls. As such, AMPR will facilitate a rigorous and participatory consultative process, including visits to key border areas like the Kenzo-Gamboula crossing with Cameroon, to identify root causes for the uptick in smuggling and identify ways to improve the monitoring mechanisms required under the KP OF. AMPR will then organize a national workshop to debate conclusions and adopt recommendations that the project can support through activities and advocacy.

Results: In Year 2, the MMG validated the AMPR produced action plan for strengthening the diamond supply chain governance (*Plan d'action pour le renforcement de la chaîne légale du diamant centrafricain*). In Year 3, the action plan was used to coordinate the intervention of the MMG partners that target fraud and contraband in CAR, notably:

MMG Training on Statistical Analysis: AMPR conducted a training on statistical analysis and the identification of anomalies using the 2019 MMG sales slips for five KPPS and six MMG statistical officers. Some of the anomalies highlighted included collectors purchasing minerals but no records of selling them to the *bureaux d'achat* to be exported, and the continuation of transactions between collectors despite being prohibited in the CAR Mining Code. The training illustrated how to improve the collection, transfer, and analysis of MMG data to ensure the integrity of the legal diamond and gold chains of custody pending the establishment of a MMG data management system.

Workshop on MMG Statistical Data Management: AMPR organized a closed-door workshop with the MMG to review findings from the analysis of the MMG 2019 data. AMPR highlighted the anomalies in the data from the 2019 diamond sales slips, notably the inconsistency in the volume of rough diamonds purchased (29,424.5 carats) and the volume legally exported (25,281.3) in 2019 was 4,143.2 carats. The workshop highlighted the need to improve data processing by using a database that takes into account all actors in the production and marketing chain, including artisanal miners, collectors, jewelers, cutters, foundries, cooperatives, buying houses, and mining companies, and to create and make available to decentralized MMG services a single file that contains statistical information on diamond purchases.



Photo 1: Presentation of findings in data gathered from 2019 diamond sales slips. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

Crackdown on illegal mining activities: The new Minister of Mines and Geology instituted sanctions and tougher actions against illegal mining activities and actors. The Minister withdrew three Semi-Mechanized Artisanal Mining Permits (PEASM) for the Chinese-operated Sosso-Nakombo Mining Cooperative. The cooperative is established in a local chief's name, but in fact a Chinese company conducts all mining operations. The Minister's memo cites illegal exploitation, non-declaration of production to the relevant MMG officials, smuggling, destruction of the environment, and blocking of government inspections of the mining operations as reasons for the permit withdrawal. The memo instructs the Mining Police to confiscate all the Cooperative's materials. The MMG proposed controversial tougher action to eliminate independent collectors from the supply chain reportedly because of their involvement in fraud. GoCAR is determined to create a State Marketing and Exporting Company (GEMINCA) with monopoly rights on gems and gold production in order to combat illicit mineral exports. These measures are included in the new CAR Mining Code draft that will be presented to the CAR National Assembly in Year 4. AMPR joined other diplomatic and technical partners to provide an analysis of the impact of these new measures on the CAR artisanal mining sector (see Activity 1.1.3).

Technical mission to Cameroon: In Year 2, the Cameroon mission did not take place due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. In Year 3 Q1 and Q2, CAR experienced a political-military crisis that impacted the government's ability to coordinate the Cameroon mission. In Year 3 Q4, the CAR President nominated a new Minister of Mines and Geology. Given the importance of this mission, the new Minister nominated his *Chargé de Mission* to lead an organizing committee comprised of CAR National KP Monitoring Committee (CNS KP), KPPS, AMPR, and EU GODICA to plan for the Cameroon mission immediately. The Minister proposes an urgent engagement with Cameroon to discuss the role of criminal networks based in Cameroon involved in mineral smuggling and financing of armed groups in CAR. The Minister wants the possibility of the Cameroon mission to be discussed at the upcoming KP session in Year 4 Q1. The planning meeting will convene early in Year 4 Q1 to review the terms of reference (ToRs) earlier developed in Year 2 by AMPR with the MMG and set a schedule for the mission. The mission

objective is to present the results of the 2019 Fraud Diagnostic (*Rapport Diagnostic Sur La Contrebande des Diamants en RCA*) and to identify actions that both the CAR and Cameroon governments can take to tackle cross-border smuggling.

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. AMPR will seek to participate in policy and reform discussions and will contribute where appropriate, especially with respect to the KP and ASM. Moreover, the report on implementing the KP OF (see Activity 1.1.1) will consist of recommendations for specific reforms, such as those related to law enforcement, data collection, and management. AMPR will ensure such recommendations are integrated into a broader reform process.

Results: In Year 2, the CAR president signed a decree nominating the KP Permanent Secretary and directors for the new KP structure in CAR. This followed nine months of AMPR technical support to the MMG to design 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. In Year 3, The KPPS team is comprised of appointed civil servants on the government payroll, directors and managers contracted by the WB, and contract staff paid under the KPPS budget. Faced with these complexities, the MMG requested AMPR's support to develop CAR KPPS' internal regulations, job and salary scale classification, employment contracts, and registering contracts with the relevant government institutions. AMPR contracted a local firm to complete these tasks. AMPR organized a workshop where a joint team of the KPPS, MMG, and the Ministry of Labor endorsed the CAR KPPS administrative and operational documents drafted by the local firm.

Improved CAR Gold and Diamond Purchase Slips: In Year 2, AMPR presented a technical note to the MMG with orientations on improving both the gold and diamond slips. The AMPR and EU GODICA projects worked closely with the MMG to revise and improve the slips by integrating AMPR's proposals, including introducing unique features in the slips that counterfeit lights can only detect. In Year 3, Q1, the two projects organized a national validation workshop for key actors to validate the new gold and diamond slips. In Year 3 Q2, the Minister of Mines and Geology launched the new CAR gold and diamond purchase slips produced by Société LIJNCO in Belgium with GODICA's logistical support. The launch ceremony was attended by the EU and Belgian representatives in CAR, AMPR, GODICA, and senior MMG officials. GODICA presented to the Minister of Mines and Geology 3000 copies of the diamond purchase slips, 1000 copies of the gold slips, and counterfeit detecting lights. The Bureau of Evaluation and Regulation of Diamonds and Gold (BECDOR) started to roll out the new purchase slips this year.



Photo 2: Using counterfeit detecting lights with the new purchase slips. Photos by Maxie Muwonge.

3.1.1.3 ACTIVITY 1.1.3: INTEGRATE ASM CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE MINING CODE

Description: The purpose of this activity is to participate actively in the WB-led Mining Code revision process with respect to ASM policy. The WB efforts began with the hiring of an international consultant to review the mining code and the review conducted by the ADB's Legal Support Facility. Meanwhile, the government created a formal committee to review the code and the mining policy. AMPR liaised closely with the MMG cabinet, WB, and others to determine appropriate avenues for participation and offered specific suggestions for improving the legislative framework based on the diagnostic process and

workshops proposed in the Work Plan, including those related to smuggling (see Activity 1.1.1) and adapting the *Société pour le Développement Minier de la Côte d'Ivoire* (SODEMI) model for village-based revenue management (see Activity 1.2.3).

Results: In Y2, AMPR internal experts analyzed ADB's recommendations on the CAR Mining Code of 2009 and provided technical analysis and feedback to the MMG. In Year 3, the Minister of Mines and Geology signed a decree nominating a Technical Committee in charge of the Revision of Legal and Regulatory Texts for the Mining and Petroleum Sectors in CAR (CTRJCR-RCA). The Technical Committee was charged with coordinating the process for the review of the CAR Mining Code through a consultative process including MMG partners, relevant government sectors, and mining actors in Bangui and the six Mining Divisions across the country. Following several consultations meetings with the CTRJCR-RCA to discuss AMPR's participation and contribution to revising the CAR Mining Code of 2009. The Committee recommended that AMPR provide a technical note analyzing good ASM practices that CAR includes in the new code to improve the ASM sector.

AMPR Technical Note: AMPR prepared a detailed technical note with 50 key recommendations on CAR's Mining Code. In accordance with AMPR's mandate, the note focuses on the organization of the ASM sector; best practices for supply chain transparency and good governance; and the promotion of social cohesion and local development. The recommendations take into account the pilot activities and experiences from PRADD, particularly in terms of formalization procedures and securing land rights (such as through customary property rights certificates). AMPR submitted the note to the Committee reviewing the CAR Mining Code. AMPR presented 50 key recommendations to the committee during a full day's workshop, about 80% of which were integrated into the new Mining Code draft.

Regional and Sectorial Consultations on the CAR Mining Code: AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the Committee reviewing the CAR Mining Code in organizing two regional consultative meetings in the MMG Regional Divisions of Berberati and Bouar. The VBN National Resources Governance Project (PGRN) supported a third regional workshop in Bambari. The methodology consisted of dividing the 60 participants of each region into four working groups. Each group was assigned chapters in the new draft Mining Code, which they reviewed article by article. A committee member reviewing the Mining Code was assigned to each group as a facilitator to provide the correct interpretation of the respective articles. At the end of the two days of group discussions, each group documented the feedback they shared in the plenary. Copies of each group report were shared with the Committee for integration into the next draft of the CAR Mining Code.



Photo 3: Focus group discussion during the Berberati regional Mining Code review workshop. Photo by Regis Ndaket.

CAR Mining Code Alignment: AMPR participated in several virtual coordination meetings chaired by the VBN's Regional Coordinator for CAR on the Mining Code revision. Other participants included GODICA, APCM, and PGRN. The discussions highlighted the technical and financial partners' strategy to engage directly with CAR's leadership about the concerns around the Mining Code review. They opted not to include the projects in these meetings with GoCAR to protect them from possible retaliation. The partners urged the leaders to delay the National Validation Workshop to allow sufficient time to have expert consultation feedback. They proposed that the Validation Workshop be transformed into a National Consultation Workshop to capture more views surrounding the Code, notably, the lack of international mining legal support in the Committee reviewing the Mining Code and the approach taken to revise the Code before the Mining Policy. The Minister of Mines and Geology agreed to postpone the

national validation workshop for the CAR Mining Code to Year 4, Q1 to enable more consultations with various stakeholders.

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 a consultancy with land tenure specialist Sabine Jiekak, AMPR assessed the impact, relevance/utility, and weaknesses of these certificates and. The study included focus group discussions with certificate holders and delved into the legal issues surrounding them. AMPR will organized 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, and subsequent steps will be carried out in Year 4 under Activity 1.2.2.

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 Year 2, AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the MMG to facilitate community engagements around establishing pilot ZEAs in Nola and Carnot. Consequently, the local leaders and representatives of the different community groups signed the local pact for SCED-Ndéléngué for setting up a pilot ZEA. In Year 3 Q4, the Minister of Mines and Geology issued a decree creating the pilot SCED-Ndéléngué ZEA in Nola subprefecture. The signing of the ministerial decree followed years of AMPR's coordinated efforts with the ZEA Technical Working Group to develop and validate the legal documents (statute and internal regulations) for the SCED-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA. AMPR coordinated with the MMG Director-General to present technical SCED-Ndéléngué ZEA documents to the MMG Cabinet for validation and the eventual issuance of the related ministerial decree.



Photo 4: ZEA Technical Working Group workshop to review strategic documents. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

Coordination with Partners: AMPR coordinated with the WB-funded Assistance for the Professionalization of Mining Cooperatives (APCM) project to deploy its community mobilizers to the SCED-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA in Nola to start preparatory work with cooperatives. The designation of the pilot ZEA provides an opportunity for AMPR and partners in Year 4 to demonstrate the benefits that can result from the formalization of artisanal mining, strengthening of the legal chain of production and marketing, securing of property rights, and reduction of land conflicts. The ZEA will also enable local development

by generating funds at the community level and environmental protection through spatial planning and regulations. MMG and AMPR held consultations in the Carnot subprefecture on setting up similar pilot ZEAs in Year 4.

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: Following the issuance of a decree creating the pilot SCED-Ndélégué ZEA by the Minister of Mines and Geology in Year 3 Q4, this activity is being planned in conjunction with the fraud detection training in Year 4.

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

Description: This activity aims to periodically measure knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) among miners to assess the effectiveness of awareness-raising activities and to discern key trends. AMPR conducted the first KAP survey during the first months of the project with a representative sample of mine claim holders (e.g., artisanal miners or *chefs de chantier*) drawn from active mining sites in select compliant and priority zones. The questionnaire allowed for each respondent to be scored on their level of knowledge of the KP and Mining Code to form the baseline for the indicator measuring KP knowledge improvement. AMPR aimed to harmonize the questionnaire and data collection process with related activities, such as sampling active mine sites to estimate real production and developing an interactive online geographic information system for active gold and diamond mining sites.

Results: Due to CAR's political-military crisis during Q1 and Q2, the KAP survey originally planned for Year 3 was postponed to Year 4.

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 drew upon results from PRADD I and II, as well as the first KAP survey, to develop a comprehensive strategy. The project began implementing this strategy in Year 2, which included 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 Year 2, AMPR contracted *Elie Numérique Centrafrique* (ENC) to produce seven capsules and two documentaries on topics such as the KP OF, the role of women in the diamond/gold supply chain, the role of the CLPR, pastoralism, and fraud and illegal actors in the mining supply chain. In Year 3, emphasis was placed on screenings and discussions of thematic videos (capsules) and documentary films, and radio roundtables. AMPR also developed sensitization posters on key Mining Code themes. These approaches are part of the AMPR Communications and Outreach strategy developed in Year 1.

Screening of the KP Documentary: AMPR first organized screenings and discussions of thematic videos (capsules) and documentary films related to KP and the mining supply chain, the CAR KPPS team, CNS KP, and senior MMG officials in Bangui. The MMM provided feedback that enabled AMPR to produce discussion guides with questions and awareness-raising messages used during the public screening in the regional centers and select mining communities in KP compliant regions. AMPR collaborated with the newly deployed KP *Chefs de d'Antenne*, CLS, and CLPRs to organize screenings for over 1,000 mining and non-mining actors in the KP zones of Berberati, Boda, Carnot, and Nola. In each session, the actors were sensitized on the KP requirements that mining actors must respect to enable CAR diamonds to reach the international market. In Year 4, Q1, AMPR will produce a synthesis of feedback from the participants and reflect on the project's theory of change.

Producing and Distributing 400 KP Posters: AMPR produced and distributed 400 posters titled "Becoming an Artisanal Miner in Accordance with the Law." AMPR's Community Mobilizers displayed the posters at the Regional Mining Departments, town halls, markets, and mine sites in Boda, Carnot, Berberati, and Nola subprefectures. AMPR worked with the MMG Cabinet Director and the KPPS to develop a discussion guide with additional information about the poster. The guide was used to sensitize over 1,200 mining actors.

Radio Roundtable Discussions: In Year 2, AMPR produced 20 *Nagbata Magazine* radio series. In Year 3, AMPR developed radio debate scripts based on the radio series themes, which were used to organize four radio roundtables in Bangui, Berberati, and Nola. In Bangui Radio FM 105, *Réseau des Journalistes pour les Droits de l'Homme* (RJDH) hosted and broadcasted the roundtable on the role of women in the diamond and gold supply chains in CAR. A similar roundtable debate was hosted by the Kuli-Ndunga community radio in Nola. The project organized a roundtable radio discussion on social cohesion on radio Zoukpan in Berberati. In Bangui, Radio FM 100.9 Ndeke Luka hosted the KPPS on a roundtable on the Kimberley Process in CAR. All the radios rebroadcasted the recorded debate twice. The round tables reached over 150,000 listeners based on the estimates of the Ndeke Luka and RJDHs that have a wider national coverage.



Photo 5: KP focal points training mining actors in Berberati. Photo by Brandon Akpekabou.



Photo 6: Sensitization of artisanal miners in Boda using the KP Poster. Photo by Cedrick Andet.



Photo 7: Roundtable debate hosted by radio Kuli-Ndunga. Photo by Abdel Adoum.

The radio roundtables helped capture community perspectives relevant to national decision-makers, including those involved in mining policy and legal reforms.

Printing and Distributing the Glossary of Key ASM Terminology: In Year 2, AMPR produced a glossary of key terminology frequently used by artisanal miners in CAR's small-scale diamond and gold mining sectors. In Year 3, AMPR printed and distributed 200 copies of the glossary to CLS and Regional Mining Office members in the KP compliant zones, mining cooperatives, and artisanal miners. In Bangui, copies were provided to the technical officers and MMG senior leadership. The Tetra Tech home office communications unit assisted in the design. The glossary will enable ASM actors in CAR to become more familiar with terms used in the supply chains and their meanings.

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 intends to incentivize formalization and KPCS-compliant behavior through conditional technical assistance to miners, communities, and buyers. In Year 1, AMPR conducted trainings on the use of hand augers in select communities to help build trust among the population. In addition, AMPR will consider how to introduce conditionalities, such as having access to equipment rental pools for only those miners who obtain their worker cards as required by law. AMPR will also harmonize activities with the APCM project to support mining cooperatives. 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 KP.

Results: This activity will be implemented in Year 4 as part of the action plans for the pilot ZEAs in SCED-Ndélégué in Nola subprefecture, and Sangouma/Sama II in Carnot subprefecture (see Activity 1.2.2).

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 KIMBERLEY PROCESS PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

Description: This activity aims to support the KPPS in close collaboration with other donors. Building upon recommendations formulated under PRADD II, AMPR will support the KPPS in identifying sustainable avenues for the KPPS Focal Points, as well as respond to other technical assistance needs expressed by the KPPS and MMG.

Results: In Year 3, Q1, AMPR supported the MMG, CAR CNS, and KPPS to reconstitute the CLS in Gadzi and Boganangone. This enabled the KPPS structure in CAR to have an operational CLS in each of the eight KP compliant zones. Throughout Year 3, AMPR provided technical and logistical support to CLSs in the KP compliant zones of Boda, Boganda, Boganangone, Berberati, Carnot, Gadzi, Mbaiki, and Nola, which enabled them to successfully conduct quarterly information-sharing and coordination meetings under the auspices of the respective sub-prefects. The CLSs produced 19 reports on the implementation of the KP due diligence in their respective regions



Photo 8: Members of the CLS Gadzi KP compliant zone.
Photo by St-Cyr Ngana-Dora.

using the reporting templated developed by AMPR. The reports were shared with the key stakeholder, technical, and financial partners of the MMG, including the Ambassadors of KP member states resident in CAR. The CLS were engaged in several interventions to reinforce the implementation of the KP OF, notably:

Key CLS Interventions in the Respective KP Compliant Zones

Fraud and Smuggling: In September 2021, the CLS of Carnot in coordination with USAF successfully investigated a case of fraud for a 10-carat diamond. The artisanal miner conspired with a collector to under-declare the diamond as 7 carats valued at 4 million XAF. The other artisanal miners working in the site notified the CLS that the diamond was 10 carats, and that on top of the 4 million paid in cash, the collector gave their colleague, the artisanal miner, a new motorcycle and sacks of cement. USAF arrested the artisanal miner, who confirmed the incident, and led them to the collector that had bought the diamond. By the time USAF arrested the collector, the diamond had been legally and correctly declared and sold to a buying house. The collector and artisanal miner agreed to pay the difference in value to the other artisanal miners.

Declaration of production: In August, the CLS of Mbaïki coordinated with the Regional Director of the MMG to hold a meeting with all cooperatives operating in the region. The meeting, chaired by the sub-prefect, established that there were five cooperatives awarded permits in zone of Maboma but they are not declaring their production. The sub-prefect designated a joint mission of representatives of the CLS, MMG and USAF to visit the site, verify the production, and compile a list of artisanal miners. The concerned cooperatives argued that they faced logistical challenges before that hindered their activities. They committed to declare their diamond production moving forward.

(CLS Quarterly Reports, July-September 2021).

Training and Deployment of the New Regional CAR KP officers: In Year 2, the President of CAR signed a decree formalizing the new KPPS structure in CAR comprised of four Regional Directors, and 12 *Chefs d'Antennes*. In Year 3, the AMPR project provided technical and logistical support to train and onboard the new KPPS staff. The training covered new KPPS attributes; the KP OF for the resumption of exports of rough diamonds from CAR; a brief overview of the CAR Mining Code; tools for traceability and identification of actors in the diamond supply chain; and coordination between the KPPS, CNS, and technical and financial partners. The Minister of Mines and Geology presided over the new CAR KPPS structure's official presentation to technical and financial partners, diplomatic missions, and industry players. The KPPS team received equipment, including motorcycles, laptops, and GPS devices purchased by the WB-PGRN. 400 KP posters and copies of the KP videos produced by AMPR were distributed to the KP Regional Directors and *chefs d'Antennes* deployed in their respective KP compliant zones to facilitate sensitization on the KP OF.



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 broached the idea with local diplomats in Bangui, who were enthusiastic about the concept.

Results: The Group of Friends for CAR held virtual meetings to discuss priority MMG institutional support. AMPR contributed to the talking points for the virtual Friends of CAR meetings. The virtual meetings, chaired by the U.S. Ambassador to CAR, were attended by resident representatives of the EU, WB, ADB, and IMF. Other participants included U.S. Department of State, USAID, AMPR, APCM, GODICA, and PGRN. Key highlights included the latest contributions of the gold and diamond supply chains to CAR's economy, updates on the CAR KP, CAR government institutional developments, and the status of the Mining Code review. The meetings developed key messages for the three CTRE-RCA meetings hosted by the Minister of Mines and Geology.

Meeting with the CAR Prime Minister: In Year 3 Q4, members of the Group of Friends for CAR led by the U.S. Ambassador and the WB President to CAR met with the CAR Prime Minister. They presented concerns surrounding the revised CAR Mining Code draft, notably its potential to deter investments and suppress competition; non-alignment with IMF structural adjustment policies; and its limited measures to protect the environment. Following this meeting, the committee in charge of reviewing the Mining Code modified the draft to take into consideration the requests of the Group of Friends.

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 CAR mining sector. During AMPR's 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: In Year 2, AMPR provided technical support to the MMG to create the CTRE-RCA. In Year 3, AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the MMG to organize three CTRE-RCA meetings of Ambassadors, Heads of Mission, and international institutions resident in CAR. The meetings chaired by the Minister of Mines and Geology were attended by the Ambassadors of France, the U.S., Russia, Cameroon, and South Africa. Other participants included the heads of the EU Delegation, WB, ADB, IMF, AMPR, GODICA, and PGRN. The three meetings focused mainly on the process for reviewing the CAR Mining Code and GoCAR's plan for extending KP compliant zones. The partners shared with the Minister their feedback on the draft Mining Code, including the creation of GEMINCA with a monopoly rights on gems



Photo 10: Training of the new CAR KPSS team.
Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

and gold production, the appropriate integration of international best practices and standards, and the harmonization of the Mining Code with existing laws. The Ambassadors welcomed the CTRE-RCA initiative as an excellent technical think tank that has the potential to be a truly inclusive mechanism for coordination and collaboration between all of CAR's mining sector partners.

Virtual CAR ASM Mining Forum: AMPR organized and co-chaired with EU GODICA two virtual forums on considerations of the political-military crisis on the ASM sector and various donor support programs in CAR. MMG participants included the *Chargé de Mission*, KPPS, CNS KP, and Mining Cadaster. Other participants included the PGRN, GODICA, United Nations Development Program, USAID DRC, Concordis, War Child, U.S. Department of State, World Vision, War Child, and the National Union of Mining Cooperatives in Central Africa (UNCMCA). The meetings discussed the decentralization of the KP structures in the compliant and priority zones, MMG's plan to extend the compliant zones to Eastern CAR, GoCAR's preparations for the virtual KP intersessional, the improving security situation in the field, the return of MMG regional officers to their posts, and progress on reviewing the CAR Mining Code. World Vision and War Child presented their study on CAR's mineral supply chains mapping and labor market assessment. The meetings also discussed Diamond Counsellor International's (DCi) planned missions to CAR to train BECDOR with the support of GODICA. Thanks to improved security, more *bureaux d'achats* resumed exporting diamonds. The KPPS documented 71,482 carats exported from January to August 31, 2021, equivalent to 141% of the 50,443 carats exported in all of 2020.



Photo 11: Virtual ASM Forum participants.
Photo by Linca Tuyisenge.

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 VVB, 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 participated in technical coordination meetings with EU GODICA and the PGRN and developed a coordination strategy to support the MMG. In Year 3, AMPR continued to be part of the initiative started in Year 2 for in-country project managers in Bangui, meeting regularly to discuss planned activities and joint interventions to avoid duplication. AMPR participated in several meetings with the new Minister of Mines and Geology, during which the COP presented AMPR's progress, achievements, and challenges faced. The Minister supports AMPR's priorities of supporting the KP OF, formalizing ZEAs, implementing the fraud action plan, and the gold sector plan. GODICA and PGRN made similar presentations. The Minister agreed to organize regular meetings with Ambassadors residing in CAR to discuss strategic priorities, including the review of the CAR Mining Code. By the end of Year 3, the Minister demonstrated his commitment to enabling AMPR to realize its target by signing a Ministerial Decree creating the SCED-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA.

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year 3

- Supported MHASNR in establishing and officially installing six additional CLPRs in Boda and Boganangone sub-prefectures. The new CLPRs were trained on their roles in strengthening social cohesion.
- Provided technical and logistical support to the 21 CLPRs to hold consultative meetings with over 220 leaders on coordinating local peace initiatives in their respective zones.
- Developed a documentary on the roles of the CLPR in strengthening social cohesion for institutional communication and training purposes.
- Provided technical support to the MHASNR to develop a data management strategy and an evaluation of the performance indicators for the CLPRs.
- Organized training workshops in Bangui and Berberati for MHASNR officials and coordinators and secretaries from the 21 CLPRs on the strategies for collecting and transmitting data on CLPR activities and a guide on good social dialogue facilitation practices.
- Livelihoods subcontractor AFPE completed its contract with AMPR, during which it trained 21 women's and mixed-gender groups on agricultural production, artisanal soapmaking, village savings and loans, and basic literacy. The groups successfully set up group and individual gardens.
- AMPR and the MHASNR devised a roadmap with a schedule of activities, indicating what will be done and when. The roadmap was rolled out alongside a joint activity monitoring strategy.

Overview of Challenges in Year 3

- The heightened risks of COVID-19 at the beginning of the year disrupted the implementation of field activities and international travel. The mission for the two INDIGO consultants was postponed to Q3 when COVID-19 pandemic risks lessened, and the AMPR COVID-19 mitigation protocols were formalized.
- CLPR activity coordination continued through the MHASNR in Bangui, making it difficult to monitor and report on progress. The absence of MHASNR Regional Directors made the coordination of social cohesion activities difficult. The MHASNR indicated at the end of Year 3 that Regional Directors have been nominated and will be deployed during Y4.
- The establishment of women's pisciculture groups was not completed because EU GODICA put the subcontractor's contract on hold to carry out this joint activity with AMPR until an audit is conducted. AMPR will roll out the activity in Year 4 Q1 as part of the innovation fund strategy.

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: The strategies and recommendations in the *Evaluation of Peacebuilding Committees and Conflict Dynamics in Southwestern CAR* report produced by AMPR in Y2 were integrated into implementing the CLPR activities in Year 3. Following the recommendation of this evaluation report, in Year 3, AMPR Senior Technical Advisor on Social Cohesion worked closely with the MHASNR technical team to draft a data management strategy. The MHASNR strategy describes in detail the process for recording information on conflicts and social cohesion activities by the CLPRs, the compilation of this information by regional government officials representing the MHANR, the analysis of this information by a monitoring and evaluation focal point of the Ministry in Bangui, and the use of performance indicators for the CLPRs. The INDIGO consultants reviewed the strategy during the workshop with the experts of the MHASNR in Bangui. The consultant recommended that the strategy include CLPRs' experiences to adapt the document for their use; animate, illustrate, and translate the strategy into Sango to ease understanding and transfer knowledge to the intended beneficiaries and mining communities. The final MHASNR data management strategy that incorporates feedback from USAID, INDIGO, and the CLPR experiences will be shared with USAID in Y4 Q1.

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 within 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: In Y3, AMPR has supported the MHASNR to establish and officially install six additional CLPRs—Boda, Bossoui, and Ngotto in Boda sub-prefecture and Boganangone, Boguère, and Mbankoé in Boganangone sub-prefecture. The MHASNR, with technical and logistical support from AMPR, organized general assemblies to elect 42 members to the six new CLPRs. The new CLPRs members were sworn in before the sub-prefect, mayor, brigade commander, police commissioner, regional officers of the MMG, and traditional chiefs. The CLPR members were provided with the CAR Constitutions 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 six CLPRs are now officially undertaking social cohesion work with full recognition and support of the local authorities and MHASNR. At the end of Y3, 24 CLPRs have been created, representing 100% of the AMPR project target for the five years.



Photo 12: Elected members of the Boguère CLPR in Boganangone sub-prefecture. Photo by Junior Kogoro.

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 with the ZEA management and zoning plans.

Results: The INDIGO consultants conducted a two-day workshop in Bangui for senior officials of the MHASNR, leaders of the CLPRs in the eight divisions of Bangui, Bimbo, and Begoua. The training focused on strategies for collecting and transmitting data on CLPR activities and a guide on good social dialogue facilitation practices. The participants provided feedback to improve the MHASNR Data Management Strategy developed by AMPR. The CLPRs in Bangui acknowledged the training would enable them to facilitate better peace and security assemblies they are undertaking with the support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA). The INDIGO consultants also conducted a similar four-day workshop in Berberati for coordinators and secretaries of the 21 CLPRs established with the support of AMPR. Other participants included the AMPR Community Mobilizers, who facilitate the CLPRs' social cohesion activities. The CLPRs acknowledged that the training would enable them to facilitate better peace associations coordination meetings within their zones. The participants provided feedback to improve the MHASNR Data Management Strategy developed by AMPR.



Photo 13: Training of the CLPR representatives and AMPR Field Team in Berberati by INDIGO consultants. Photo by Arnold Minang.

CLPR Newsletter: AMPR's Technical Advisor on Social Cohesion supported the MHASNR in compiling their first CLPR newsletter entitled "ECHOS DE CLPR." This first edition of the newsletter covered the role and mandate of the CLPRs, CLPR activities in southwestern CAR, and AMPR's support for the CLPRs in partnership with the MHASNR. About 300 copies of the newsletter were produced and distributed to the MHASNR management in Bangui and all the CLPRs in the regions. The Minister, Virginie BAIKOUA, highlighted in an editorial in the newsletter that thanks to the support of AMPR, 24 CLPRs have been created in the KP compliant mining zones of Berberati, Carnot, Gadzi, Nola, Boda and Boganangone. These CLPRs are now local structures reinforcing a culture of non-violence in CAR.

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 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 3. 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 was completed in Year I and was led jointly by consultant Sabine Jiekak and the Component IIB Coordinator. The team conducted 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 complemented the literature review, including focus group discussions and value chain analysis for women's existing livelihoods. The resulting plan outlined AMPR's conceptual framework and identified concrete livelihoods and awareness-raising activities to begin in the first year of implementation.

Results: This activity was completed in Year I, and USAID approved the related deliverable. 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: In Y2, AMPR contracted a local non-governmental organization (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. Throughout Year 3, the 21 groups continued to carry out field activities, notably the second agricultural season, village savings and loan associations (VSLA), basic literacy, saponification, and fish farming. All 21 groups used the seeds from their first-year harvest to plant their gardens for the following year, which demonstrates a high level of autonomy. All groups undertook food farming as the primary subsistence and economic activity. Saponification and fish farming were carried out as secondary activities. The VSLA is a response to the lack of microfinance services in the intervention areas. The groups started the VSLAs to build up the internal capital fund needed to provide credit to their members based on strong internal trust and associated group rules facilitated by the AFPE team. Within three months, the 14 VSLAs supported by the project had built up savings through member contributions. The borrowing interest rate for members is 5%. While these sums may appear very small to outsiders, for the local



Photo 14: AMPR Community Mobilizer assisting the Bossui group to sort harvested corn. Photo by Junior Kogoro.



Photo 15: Refresher training on saponification with the Beya-Panzi livelihoods group. Photo by Vincent Ferema.

members, the generated savings and credit offerings is the only way to amass enough funds internally to offer a substantial loan to members

Artisanal soap making (Saponification): The soap-making activity is a success story of the self-sustainability of the livelihood groups. In Year 2, AMPR launched the saponification activity as a mitigation factor against the COVID-19 pandemic in the mining communities. At the end of Year 3, 194 community members, including 175 women and 19 men, benefited from theoretical and practical training support on saponification. The training was conducted by trainers of the Loppo livelihoods group supported by the PRADD I from 2007 to 2012. Given the profitability of the activity, some groups have continued saponification as an income generation activity. In Boda, the Bossoui group produced 3,954 pieces of artisanal soap, which were sold locally. This initiative enabled this group to mobilize 395,400 XAF to start a “tontine,” a widely used VSLA approach in West and Central Africa. The group set up a supply system for artisanal soap components (palm oil, caustic soda, etc.) without support from the AMPR project.

Pisciculture: In Year 2, AMPR and GODICA agreed upon a cost-sharing arrangement to support pisciculture in project intervention zones, taking into account the results and experiences from USAID PRADD I. GODICA subcontracted AFPE, the same partner for AMPR, to maximize impact for pisciculture. In Year 3, GODICA halted the pisciculture activities following the failure of the implementing partner to secure government land to construct pisciculture equipment banks and the fish multiplication centers due to logistical reasons related to COVID-19 travel and work restrictions. At the end of Year 3, GODICA hired a consultant to evaluate the progress of the pisciculture rollout activities and propose a new action plan that AFPE will implement in Year 4. Considering the operational challenges faced by GODICA, AMPR will roll out support for promising pisciculture groups as part of the Women’s Innovation Fund (see Activity 2.2.4).

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. Based on the results of AMPR’s assessment of the existing entrepreneurial activities carried out by women’s groups, this activity is slated for Year 4 instead of year 3 to allow AMPR more time to develop consensus among ministries and donor projects supporting women’s empowerment. The project team has brought together a coalition of ministry and the UN Women agency to help think through the most appropriate ways to set up the innovation fund, a concept and practice already used in CAR.

Results: At the end of Year 3, AMPR held consultative meetings with the MPFFPE and UN Women to gather information to help inform the development of AMPR’s Women’s Innovation Fund strategy, an activity anticipated for Year 4. The partners shared best practices for creating an entrepreneurial support program, including selecting groups versus individuals, the importance of organizational support for groups, and assessing the needs of the groups supported by AMPR during Years 2 and 3.

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 MHASNR. At this stage, it is unclear if a renewed agreement between the two ministries will be necessary in order to expand the CLPRs. The Social Cohesion Advisor 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: AMPR held consultative meetings with the MHANR to discuss modifications to their draft protocol for collaboration regarding project support for the CLPRs. It was agreed that instead of a generic protocol, AMPR and the MHANR develop a roadmap with a schedule of activities, indicating what will be done and when. The roadmap was rolled out alongside a joint monitoring strategy for the activities undertaken mainly in the regions. The MHASNR assigned technical staff to support the implementation of the roadmap. The roadmap will be reviewed annually to determine progress, best practices, and recommendations for the subsequent year.

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 CLS 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 Year 3, the effects of AMPR's support to the CLPRs became more visible in the communities through the CLPR local coordination framework to mobilize associations and social organizations. Over 220 leaders of local peace and social cohesion associations that took part in the consultative meetings organized by the 21 CLPRs committed to working together with the CLPRs on identified peace and social cohesion priorities in their respective zones. The capacity of the CLPR on social dialogue was reinforced by the INDIGO training on social dialogue facilitation and recording information on conflicts and social cohesion activities. The CLPR also improved their coordination capacities through engaging other development partners, notably, the International NGO Finn Church Aid that collaborated with the CLPRs in Carnot to train 27 local peace actors and community leaders on the peace and social cohesion mechanisms.

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 3

- AMPR drafted a CAR gold sector engagement framework and facilitated several virtuous consultative meetings with the WB PGRN, EU GODICA, and APCM projects to discuss coordinated inter-donor interventions.
- Supported the Minister of Mines and Geology in setting up an MMG Technical Committee on Gold to analyze the draft AMPR CAR gold sector engagement framework. The committee recommended that the framework is expanded to include mapping gold sites and the need for an international consultant to draft the legal traceability chain for gold in CAR.

Overview of Challenges in Year 3

- The MMG is cautiously accepting a national gold strategy because they fear that international due diligence mechanisms will create restrictions for CAR gold exports, as has been the case with diamonds. AMPR has agreed on a joint roadmap with the MMG to build consensus on the different steps of developing a gold action plan.

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 intends to gather and communicate basic information about ASM gold mining in CAR in order to enable discussions and analysis on how to align CAR's growing gold production with national and international laws and norms. AMPR subcontractor IPIS led a diagnostic study to assess the ASM gold economy and set up an interactive mapping system (see Activity 3.1.3). The diagnostic consisted of desk- and field-based research to understand the production and financing systems and the regulatory framework. Results were then presented and discussed at a national workshop in January 2020. The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and EU conducted a training on the new conflict minerals legislation, and AMPR's second subcontractor for Component 3, RESOLVE, shared experiences from the USAID Capacity Building for Responsible Minerals Trade Project in the DRC as part of a workshop in Bangui.

Results: This activity was completed in Year 2, and USAID approved the related deliverable.

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: In Year 3, AMPR drafted a CAR gold sector engagement framework and facilitated several virtual consultative meetings with the PGRN, GODICA, and APCM projects to discuss coordinated inter-donor interventions. The framework proposes joint efforts to build the capacity of the CAR government on gold export policies and practices; assist the CAR government; help mining cooperatives meet market expectations and opportunities for responsibly sourced gold through the Code of Risk mitigation for Artisanal and small-scale miners engaging in Formal Trade (CRAFT); build awareness and the capacity of CAR government and private sector actors to promote responsibly sourced gold supply chains; and strengthen the capacity of mining cooperatives to promote the small-scale gold sector in CAR. The plan was shared with the partners who agreed on who will do what as part of the inter-donor coordination surrounding planned support to the CAR gold sector in Year 4.

MMG Technical Committee on Gold: The MMG set up an Technical Committee on Gold to analyze the CAR gold sector engagement framework developed by AMPR. Following several meetings, AMPR and the MMG reviewed the sector plan developed by AMPR and proposed the following amendments:

- 1. Need for a comparative analysis by an international consultant to present the strengths and weakness of the existing due diligence mechanisms—like OECD, CRAFT, and International Conference on the Great Lakes Region—to enable the GoCAR to make an informed decision.*
- 2. The plan needs to integrate a marketing component into the process of evaluating the export system and identifying opportunities for adding value to gold.*
- 3. The plan should consider the MMG’s vision and key findings from the WB and IPIS gold sector studies.*
- 4. The MMG is interested in holding the International Gold Forum originally scheduled for November 2021.*
- 5. The MMG prefers to work with reliable cooperatives instead of UNCMCA, which lacks a clear strategic plan.*

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 1, 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.

Results: This activity was completed in Year 2, and USAID approved the related deliverable.

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

Overview of Successes and Accomplishments in Year 3

- AMPR completed a research task requested by USAID, writing an Issue Brief entitled “Mining and the Green Energy Transition: Review of International Development Challenges and Opportunities.”
- AMPR presented on the diamond supply chain disruptions in CAR as part of the WB virtual forum “Rethinking ASM Formalization: How COVID-19’s disruption can be catalyzed for development”.
- AMPR’s COP and Technical Deputy participated in the virtual 14th OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains on April 27 and 28, 2021. AMPR presented on COVID-19’s impact on the ASM sector.
- Completed CAR ASM country profile for the ASM DELVE database covering the country’s policies, regulations, production, and other information drawing from available resources.¹
- Participated in and provided technical orientation during the KP Working Group on Artisanal and Alluvial Production virtual meeting on activities related to a regional approach to tackle cross-border mineral smuggling.
- Shared information and field-based perspectives widely on transhumance in sub-Saharan and central africa through the State Department Pastoralism Working Group of development partners. Produced an issue brief entitled “Pastoralism in Contested Spaces of Southwest Central African Republic.”
- The journal *Resources Policy* published a paper on the SODEMI model of diamond co-management between the government and customary landowners in Côte d’Ivoire, co-authored by the Component IV Coordinator based on research conducted under PRADD II. USAID AMPR covered the fees to make the article open access. It is available here: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S030142072030951X>

Overview of Challenges in Year 3

- COVID-19 travel restrictions led to the transformation of the OECD Responsible Minerals Forum and the KP Intersessional into virtual events. This limited interactions and networking with participants on themes relevant to CAR.

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.

¹ 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: There were no activities undertaken this year.

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. The Technical Deputy/Component 4 Coordinator is to work with the AMPR Project Manager and USAID to respond to any requests through the organization of short-term technical assistance or other activities

Results: AMPR completed a USAID Washington research task for writing an Issue Brief entitled, “Mining and the Green Energy Transition: Review of International Development Challenges and Opportunities.” The Technical Deputy and two consultants compiled and in-depth review of the literature on critical mineral mining in USAID-presence countries. The 120-page report, a shorter policy summary paper, and a two-page briefer were completed in a timely fashion. The reports have circulated widely within USAID. During Year IV, outreach around this report is likely.

The senior advisor also prepared an issue brief on options for formalizing the artisanal mining sector based on experiences in West and Central Africa for the USAID Colombia Mission. Little follow-up from this thought piece.

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: AMPR’s Technical Deputy presented on diamond supply chain disruptions in CAR as part of the virtual forum “Rethinking ASM Formalization: How COVID-19’s disruption can be catalyzed for development” held in Year 3 Q1. The forum was organized by the WB-supported DELVE ASM database. The full forum is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOb9MHXiq64>.

The 2021 Virtual OECD Forum: AMPR’s COP and Technical Deputy participated in the virtual 2021 OECD forum on responsible mineral supply chains. The Technical Deputy participated virtually on a panel chaired by the WB to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the ASM sector. The Technical Deputy discussed changes wrought by the pandemic on supply chains and due diligence systems. He highlighted how companies, communities, and programs adapted during the crisis and how such responses may be relevant to increasing long-term supply chain resilience in the face of future disruptions. Other key themes from the forum included the needed paradigm shift of moving from risk elimination to risk mitigation; preparing for EU regulations; addressing corruption risks in mineral supply chains; and understanding the cost and value of responsible sourcing. The forum was attended by over 300 global representatives of governments, NGOs, civil society, researchers, and up-and downstream mineral supply chain actors.

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 serve USAID OUs with specific knowledge needs with respect to ASM. This could include organizing presentations or trainings on ASM for missions or implementing partners or conducting diagnoses on ASM dynamics in the context of land tenure, agriculture, conservation, or other projects.

Results: In Year 3, the AMPR team has been actively involved in sharing knowledge and information gained from field experience. The AMPR Project Manager and COP participate actively in various events around armed pastoralism ranging from a webinar to engagement with the U.S. Department of State's Working Group on Pastoralism. Technical Deputy shared his valuable experiences on cooperative management at the KP Interseasonal meetings. The team also coordinates monthly technical coordination meetings between the AMPR, APCM, and GODICA projects, facilitates the monthly USAID Monthly Donor Coordination calls, as well as hosts a bi-monthly ASM Mining Forum.

The CAR ASM Profile: AMPR's Technical Deputy completed the CAR ASM country profile for the ASM DELVE database. The profile covers the country's policies, regulations, production, and other information drawn from available resources. AMPR also updated the land tenure profile for CAR for the LandLinks website: <https://www.land-links.org/country-profile/central-african-republic/>

Transhumance in Sub-Saharan and Central Africa: AMPR participated and shared experience on transhumance during several virtual meetings organized by a Pastoralism Working Group of development partners. AMPR was engaged in the following calls:

Transhumance Briefing with the U.S. Embassy in CAR: AMPR's Project Manager and the COP participated in a virtual call organized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Invisible Children on August 19. Other participants included the U.S. Ambassador to CAR, the new Embassy team in Bangui, USAID DRC and Washington, African Parks, and U.S.-based transhumance research professors. AMPR's Project Manager presented general background on transhumance in CAR and proposals for U.S. government (USG) engagement. Other key discussion points included the preparedness of the GoCAR to secure transhumance routes in order to reduce farmer-herder conflicts; the need to strengthen local peace committees to facilitate a peaceful resolution of transhumance related conflicts; and proposals for CAR's collaboration with neighboring Chad and South Sudan that form part of the regional transhumance network. The briefing provided visibility to AMPR's study on the impacts of pastoralism on mining activities in southwestern CAR.

Webinar on Pastoralism in CAR: AMPR's Project Manager participated in a webinar hosted by Search for Common Ground, Concordis International, and Lost Child about pastoralism in CAR on July 1, for which the U.S. Ambassador to CAR made opening remarks. The webinar presented the opportunity to share with the U.S. Ambassador AMPR's Pastoralism Issue Brief, "Pastoralism in Transition: Evolving Economic and Social Dynamics Between Livestock Herders, Farmers, and Miners in South-Western Central African Republic," completed in Year 3. In the next quarter, AMPR will coordinate with the new Minister of Livestock to organize a workshop to share the Issue Brief translated in French.

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.

Results: In Year 2, AMPR 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 PhD student and submitted to the journal

Resources Policy for peer review. In Year 3, the journal *Resources Policy* published the article on the SODEMI model of diamond co-management between the government and customary landowners in Côte d'Ivoire. AMPR covered the fees to make the article open access. It is available here: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S030142072030951X>

3.4.3 COVID-19 AND AMPR INTERVENTIONS

3.4.3.1. COVID-19 Activities Implemented

AMPR engaged International SOS to prepare a due diligence report and COVID-19 protocols, which USAID reviewed. AMPR hired a local medical doctor and public health expert to review and provide feedback on the AMPR COVID-19 protocols and CAR due diligence report produced by the subcontractor International SOS. The AMPR project management team completed revisions to both documents following feedback from the local expert and USAID, which the COR subsequently approved on February 18. As per the COR's guidance, AMPR submitted the due diligence report and protocol document to the Contracting Officer for final concurrence. The project also produced a fieldwork checklist to ensure that staff understand and comply with AMPR COVID-19 protocols while on field missions. The checklist must now be filled out by all staff prior to undertaking field missions.

Tetra Tech ARD Global COVID-19 Response: AMPR's COP participated in a call with the President of Tetra Tech ARD and senior Home Office officials of the Tetra Tech COVID-19 Emergency Response Team (ERT). Other participants included Tetra Tech COPs in various African countries. The team discussed how to continue maintaining Tetra Tech's commitment to respecting COVID-19 mitigation best practices to prevent the spread of the disease. The COPs shared experiences and challenges in applying the COVID-19 measures. The ERT took note of the needs of the various offices to coordinate needed support. Following the call, the Tetra Tech home office organized a virtual call where a Tetra Tech epidemiologist responded to staff in various countries on fear, facts, and false information surrounding the COVID-19 vaccination. Eight AMPR staff participated on the call and had their questions answered.

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

4.1 INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

In Year 3, AMPR continued to emphasize the engagement of women in the mining communities, including other vulnerable groups, such as the pygmy minorities. In Q1, AMPR's Women's Economic and Social Empowerment Specialist/Component IIB Coordinator participated in joint missions with MMG and UNCMCA gender focal points to identify opportunities to strengthen women's various roles in mining areas. The team met with women, women's associations, and mixed-gender groups involved at various supply chain levels. They conducted interviews with over 200 women and 19 men, held meetings with international NGOs such as Catholic Relief Services, World Vision, and Plan International that support women groups in the subprefectures of Berberati, Carnot, and Nola. The team identified a lack of knowledge on the mining code's requirements for artisanal mining, evaluation of rough diamonds, and mining techniques as crosscutting issues faced by women in the mining sector. The mission enabled AMPR and the MMG to better understand women's roles in the mining sector, the challenges/obstacles to their full participation, and opportunities to strengthen their participation. The missions were covered and published in the CAR Newspaper *Le Confident*.



Photo 16: Consultations with women involved in the mining sector in Berberati. Photo by William Bouyama.

In Q2, AMPR, the MMG, and the Association of Women in the Central African Republic Mining Sector (AFEMISCA) organized a national debate on women's leadership in rural economies, including the mining sector. The MMG Cabinet Director officiated the event, which was attended by over 80 representatives from civil society, local women's NGOs, the MMG, UNCMCA, *Institut Pasteur*, and the Ministry of Tourism. The president of the Women's Association of *Institut Pasteur* discussed women's leadership during COVID-19. AFEMISCA and AMPR discussed women's roles and leadership in the mining sector. AMPR's presentation highlighted the challenges women face in the ASM sector and opportunities and strategies to improve women's access to means of production and revenue diversification in mining communities. The debate was covered by the CAR National Television, seven radio stations, and two print media outlets.



Photo 17: Women's leadership in rural economies debate panelists. Photo by Guy Sesengue.

International Women's Day: In commemoration of March 8, the AMPR and APCM projects organized a two-hour session to exchange and discuss gender equality and women's experiences in the workplace. AMPR's Finance and Administration Manager, two women community mobilizers, and the project's office cleaner presented issues women face in the workplace, such as under-representation at every level of the professional environment and sexual harassment. They also presented challenges women face at home that affect work productivity, such as the very short paternity leave duration of two days as per the local labor law and gender inequality regarding household tasks. The very animated discussion was an opportunity to increase awareness of women's issues that affect their performance at work and proposed solutions to reduce professional stressors that disproportionately affect women.

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

Monthly Coordination Calls and Weekly Updates: AMPR staff continued to actively participate in the USAID monthly coordination calls designed to share updates and improve coordination on the project's interventions. The project also received updates on the Belgian Development Agency and GODICA projects and the WB PGRN and APCM projects during the calls. AMPR compiles and shares notes on 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.

Technical Coordination on the CAR Mining Code Review: AMPR's Project Manager, COP, and Technical Deputy participated in several virtual technical coordination meetings organized by the WB's Regional Coordinator for CAR on the review of the CAR Mining Code. Other participants included GODICA and PGRN CAR Focal Point. The discussions highlighted the inclusive way in which the regional consultations were set up. The meetings discussed potential issues with the draft CAR Mining Code, which they proposed as key talking points to the Ambassadors to discuss with the Minister of Mines and Geology during the CTRE-RCA meetings (see Activity 1.4.3)

UN Foundation Call on CAR: On July 16, AMPR's COP and Deputy Project Manager participated in a zoom call organized by the UN Foundation. The other 48 participants included Humanitarian and UN Agency representatives in CAR and the U.S. under the CAR Working Group. Denise Brown, the Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for CAR highlighted CAR's urgent humanitarian needs, food insecurity, slow progress of the extension of state-guaranteed security in areas once occupied by armed groups, and gender-based violence. According to MINSUCA, the Khartoum Agreement remains the basis of peace and reconciliation processes recognized by donors and regional and international bodies. During the Q&A, a participant asked to what extent MINUSCA is involved in the review of the CAR Mining Code to ensure the inclusion of all concerned parties. The DSR responded that MINUSCA is not involved. AMPR's COP shared updates on the WB, AMPR, and CTRE-RCA support to the MMG in reviewing the Mining Code. The call was meant to mobilize resources to address urgent humanitarian needs.

CAR Technical Coordination Monthly Calls: AMPR's Project Manager and GODICA's Technical Advisor co-chaired monthly virtual CAR mining technical coordination meetings between AMPR, APCM, GODICA, and PGRN. The most recent discussion focused on advancements in support of the MMG's revision of the CAR mining code, including updates from the regional stakeholders' consultations held in Berberati, Bouar, and Bambari. The meeting also shared highlights from the virtual KP Intersessional on the extension of the KP compliant zones. GODICA updated the participants with highlights from the DCi consultant's mission to CAR to train BECDOR.

4.3 OFFICES

At the beginning of Year 3, the AMPR Bangui office was moved to a new location on Avenue Charles de Gaulle, opposite Bangui Plaza. AMPR occupies the lower floor of the building, where Mercy Corps' office is also located. After 36 consecutive weeks without electricity during business hours in its previous location, this change was much needed. The new office is also situated in the UN-designated "green zone." The AMPR team can now work comfortably and stay better



focused on the project work thanks to the permanent availability of power, functioning air conditioners, and kitchen.

AMPR also relocated its regional office in Nola to a new building opposite the local USAF office in the town center. Not only did AMPR's former landlord refuse to comply with local laws and pay the taxes related to the rental income (as per the leasing agreement), but the previous office space was located away from the city center and without proper fencing, which was a security risk for staff and project assets. The new building is in a more central location with better security to ensure the security of AMPR staff and equipment.

Temporary closure of AMPR Regional Offices:

AMPR's regional offices of Boda, Carnot and Nola were closed in Q2 of Year 3. This was necessary due to the ongoing political crisis in CAR, which caused great insecurity in the country's interior. Boda subprefecture was under rebel control, and Carnot experienced violence and looting in January 2021. After confirming that the security situation in AMPR's three implementation sites had improved enough for AMPR's field staff to return to their posts, the

AMPR project management team redeployed its field-based employees to their respective intervention areas in mid-April 2021. The field team collaborated closely with regional partners to accelerate project activities delayed due to the political-military crisis. During the first weeks of their re-deployment, the AMPR Bangui team remained in constant contact with the regional office teams and local leaders to monitor security.

Change of Working Time: In January 2021, the Project Management Team changed the working hours in Bangui in response to the national curfew of 5:00 PM to 6:00 AM through the last week of February. The government then eased the curfew in March, which enabled the AMPR CAR team to return to the regular work schedule of 08:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The Chief of Party and Finance and Administration Manager worked from Kenya and Rwanda, respectively, because of security concerns in CAR and returned to Bangui at the end of January 2021, after confirming that Bangui was secure enough for day-to-day activities.

New AMPR Field Vehicle: AMPR purchased a new vehicle to support field operations. After obtaining USAID approval and all required tax exonerations, the project ordered a Toyota Land Cruiser 4x4 from CFAO Motors Central Africa in November 2020. The vehicle was not delivered until four months later because CFAO's cargo was blocked at the Cameroonian border for three months due to security concerns. The transportation of goods between Cameroon and CAR resumed through the main supply route of Douala-Garoua-Boulai-Bouar-Bangui at the end of February 2021.



Photo 19: The new AMPR Office in Nola. Photo by Arsene Mangibe.

Power, Water, and Fuel Scarcity: Heavy storms knocked down several electricity grid towers in Q3, which resulted in complete power and water outages for two weeks, followed by several weeks of partial power outages. During this period, the AMPR Bangui office received electricity only from 3:00 PM to 9:00 AM, which forced the office to rely on the backup generator during most business hours until ENERCA, the national electricity supplier, repaired the grid towers in late May. The AMPR project then built a water tower to serve as an emergency water supply for its office during water cutoffs. Bangui and the rest of the country also witnessed a shortage of petrol and diesel fuel, essential to fuel motorcycles, generators, and vehicles. As a contingency plan, the AMPR management team decided always to keep an emergency fuel stock to deal with the shortage, which became recurrent in the last two quarters of Year 3.



Photo 20: Vehicles and motorbikes queuing to get fuel at Tradex fuel station in Bangui. Photo by Linca Tuyisenge.

4.4 STAFFING

As of the end of Year III, AMPR is nearly fully staffed. After a long recruitment process, AMPR hired a new Component I Coordinator, St-Cyr Ngana-Dora (to replace the deceased Prosper Yaka-Maïdé) in May 2021. Mr. Ngana-Dora brings 15 years of experience to the project. He specializes in mining administration and exploitation and spent 13 years managing CAR's northwest and southwest regions. Before joining the project, he obtained an official letter granting him an unpaid leave of absence from the MMG.

This year, AMPR also hired three new community mobilizers, Brandon Akpekabou, Vincent Ferema, and Abdel Adoum. The project also promoted Junior Kogoro, Boda Community Mobilizer, to the role of Senior Community Mobilizer based on his strong work performance. Other new staff include a new Administrative Officer, Sandra Koyandakpa, and a third driver, Gerald Doumalo.

The AMPR started the recruitment process of a ZEA Expansion/KP Compliance Specialist to replace Hervé Pounou, who left the project last year, and a new Component IV Coordinator/Technical Deputy to replace Terah DeJong, who left the project in September 2021 to serve as a COP on a USAID-funded project in Côte d'Ivoire. The two recruitments will be completed at the beginning of Year 4. AMPR has tightened its recruitment process in CAR due to the high prevalence of fake degrees and/or past employment documents.

In mid-December 2020, all field-based employees were temporarily relocated to Bangui during the tense pre-election period due to the high likelihood of unrest. Employees who had accrued paid leave took the opportunity to take time off with their families during the holiday season.

The AMPR Project Management Team took advantage of the occasion that all AMPR employees were working from the Bangui office in January 2021 to provide refresher trainings on the Tetra Tech Code of Conduct, finance and logistics procedures, asset management, Hostile Environment Awareness Training, and prevention and control of COVID-19. Two AMPR Community Mobilizers attended a six-day Tetra Tech-funded training focused on using GIS databases, analyzing data, using GPS and data collection applications, and processing and analyzing satellite imagery. The capacity-building training helped the field-based staff to use geo-referencing more easily for mine sites and villages. The two Community Mobilizers shared the knowledge gained with other staff by the time they completed the training.

The rainy season in CAR started with much rain and heavy wind this year, which damaged properties in Bangui, including the home of one of AMPR's Community Mobilizers. The roof of his residence was torn

off, which made the residence unlivable. The project allowed him to take a few days off to find another place to stay with his family.

The AMPR team learned that Mathias Denamse, an employee working for AFPE as a fisheries specialist on the GODICA project, died on May 13, 2021, from injuries resulting from a motorcycle accident. The Carnot-based AMPR and AFPE employees working on livelihood activities have been sharing offices since January 2020.

To avoid burnout, the Project Management Team has instituted regular leave for the AMPR COP and FAM. They took rotational leave every three months when the travel from and to CAR resumed in October 2020 after the modification of travel restrictions related to COVID-19.

4.5 SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

In December 2020, Central Africans elected their president and 140 members of the National Assembly amid renewed violence between armed groups and national security forces. The post-electoral tensions heightened in mid-January 2021 when the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC) armed group launched a military assault on Bangui. AMPR followed its internal security protocol and remained in constant communication with all local employees and the Home Office team, including the Security Focal Point, 24/7 through WhatsApp, satellite phone calls, and Garmin messages. The rebels were repelled by government forces supported by MINUSCA and allied forces of Rwanda and Russia. The situation gradually improved by the end of March. The towns seized by CPC rebels were set free, which ultimately led to re-opening the principal transport route between the capital and eastern Cameroon for essential and commercial goods. The CAR Government has maintained a nationwide curfew from 10 PM to 5 AM and remains in a state of emergency, declared in January 2021.

The CAR National Republican Consultations and Republican Dialogue: In March 2021, CAR's president called for national consultations to obtain the views and recommendations of Central Africans on the national agenda for security and peace. The national consultation ended in May and was followed by the republican dialogue. The CAR President met with 203 leaders from Bangui, Bimbo, Begoua, the sub-prefects, civil society, religious leaders, and political leaders, and consulted the technical and financial partners and former CAR presidents. They formulated recommendations and national priorities for dialogue and agreed on the format and facilitators for the republican dialogue. On 30 June, President Touadéra established an organizing committee for a republican dialogue, inaugurated on 1 September. The political opposition, armed groups, and civil society criticized the committee's composition owing to the large representation of public authorities and those affiliated with the ruling party. On 22 July, the President amended the committee's composition, increasing it from 24 to 29 members, including three women, with additional seats for political parties and civil society. The CPC-affiliated armed groups remained excluded from the organizing committee.

COVID-19 Situation in CAR: CAR has resumed most transportation (including airport operations and re-opening of borders) and business operations (including schools and restaurants). Project staff continue to wear masks, use hand sanitizer/wash hands frequently, and maintain a physical distance of at least two meters in the office. AMPR engaged International SOS, a health and security services firm, to prepare a COVID-19 due diligence report for CAR and guidelines for fieldwork/events. Additionally, the AMPR team identified a local public health specialist in CAR to review the same reports and provide additional insights into the COVID-19 situation in CAR based on his professional experience and observations as a medical doctor. Based on his feedback, AMPR revised the COVID-19 due diligence report and protocol accordingly. AMPR also developed a pre-fieldwork COVID-19 mitigation checklist that must be filled out by staff before field trips outside of Bangui.

COVID-19 Vaccination: The Central African Government, on May 20, 2021, launched the COVID-19 vaccination campaign with the support of partners, notably the World Health Organization, the UN

Children’s Fund, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The campaign began with the symbolic vaccination of members of the government and health workers. The Ministry of Health reported that 140,492 people have been vaccinated as of 15 September and recorded 11,342 COVID-19 cases, including 100 deaths. However, according to the UN Humanitarian Coordination Office, the number of confirmed cases should be interpreted with caution given the limited testing capacities and the government’s policy to limit tests to suspected cases and high-risk individuals. In April 2021, CAR was hit with a new COVID-19 wave, with five of AMPR’s 10 Bangui-based staff members testing positive for the virus. The office was immediately closed, and all staff were sent home to quarantine for at least 14 days in accordance with Tetra Tech policy. Staff were only allowed to return to the office after completing the mandatory quarantine and testing negative twice. AMPR Bangui management coordinated with the *Institut Pasteur* in Bangui to vaccinate staff members against COVID-19, and by the end of Year 3, 16 AMPR employees were vaccinated, including two international staff. AMPR continues to encourage staff to get vaccinated and brings regional-based employees rotationally to Bangui for vaccination.

Floods in CAR: This year witnessed heavy rains that worsened conditions on the roads connecting Bangui to the interior, rendering most of them impassable. AMPR teams traveling to the interior were constantly getting stuck, and as a result, travel times to the project’s regional operating zones doubled. AMPR management continued to carefully monitor the situation and purchased more equipment to tow the cars if needed or make small repairs while on the roads.



Photo 21: AMPR vehicle navigating through a flooded section of the Berberati road.
Photo by Arnold Minang.

Disruption of Orange Services in CAR: Orange Internet, calling, and mobile money services were disconnected country-wide for 21 days, following a fire at Orange Central Africa’s office in early June 2021, which destroyed technical equipment. Orange offers the widest coverage in the country; therefore, operations of businesses, companies, and organizations faced serious disruption during this period. The project set up a Telecel backup, which was unstable due to its overwhelming number of new subscribers. The calling services were restored at the end of Q3, and other Orange services were fully restored at the beginning of Q4.

New CAR Government: After the resignation of CAR’s former Prime Minister along with his entire cabinet, the CAR President nominated a new Prime Minister, Henri-Marie Dondra, who served in the previous government as the Minister of Finance and Budget. Following the new Prime Minister’s recommendations, the CAR President nominated new government members, including a new Minister of Mines and Geology, Rufin Benam Beltoungou. Virginie Baikoua continues her role as Minister of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidary and National Reconciliation (renamed to include “Solidarity”).

5. PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

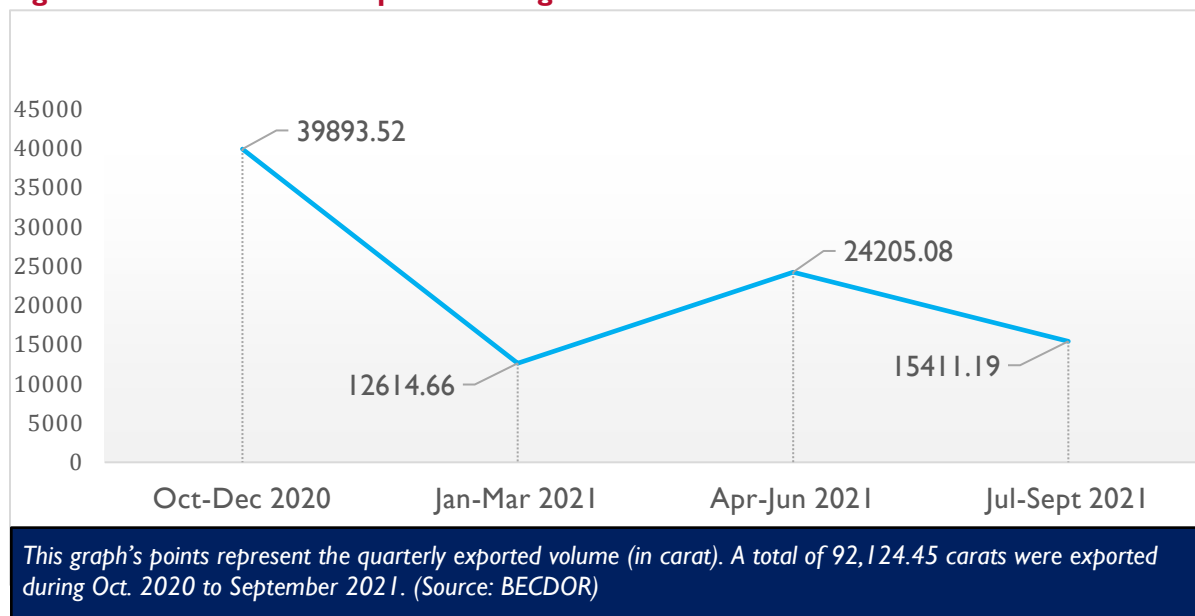
5.1 THE MONITORING LEARNING AND EVALUATION UNIT

AMPR Data Quality Assessment (DQA): Tetra Tech's HO MEL Specialist completed the AMPR Data Quality Assessment (DQA), which was shared with USAID. The assessment proposed best practices to strengthen AMPR's MEL practices. Overall, the evaluation found that the project has designed and maintained a strong MEL system. A detailed review was conducted for the three prioritized indicators 6, 7, and 11, plus a brief review of additional non-prioritized indicators 2, 5, 8, 10, 12, and 13. AMPR's MEL Officer continued to work with the Component Coordinators to collect and classify documentation for each activity per the Year 3 Work Plan.

5.2 COMMENTARY ON SPECIFIC INDICATORS

- Indicator 1:* According to BECDOR and KPPS, the start of 2021 was marked by low exports of rough diamonds from mining actors due to the security crisis of December 2020 and the post-election crisis. The security improvement towards the end of March 2021 made it possible to resume exports of rough diamonds from the KP compliant zones, including stockpiles from December 2020 to March 2021. In Q3, there was a drop in exports of 8,793.08 carats due to the rainy season. In total, 92,124 carats were exported in Year 3, almost double the annual exports of Year 2. The improved exports are due to the strengthening of the implementation of the KP operational mechanisms in compliant zones through the deployment of the regional KP agents and the role of the CLS KP, which has prompted more mining actors to declare their diamond productions. The chart below demonstrates the quarterly trend of the Year 3 CAR diamond exports.

Figure 2: CAR Diamond Exports During AMPR Year 3



- *Indicator 2:* GoCAR updated the evaluations for 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.
- *Indicator 5:* The numbers of artisanal miners in project intervention zones with basic knowledge of the KP and Mining Code were not compiled because the KAP survey originally planned in Year 3 will now take place in Year 4.
- *Indicator 13:* The Wapo, Bania, Balego, Nandobo, Carnot, Ngoungourou, and SCED-Ndélégué CLPRs have contributed to the resolution of different types of conflicts, including land use and ownership, and encroachment of agricultural plots by migratory transhumance. The actors involved in these conflicts are mainly farmers, village leaders, returnees, small and large livestock herders, mine site managers, and host community members.
- *Indicator 14:* In Year 2, livelihoods subcontractor AFPE trained 52 technical delegates of the 21 livelihoods groups as trainers. In Year 3, the 52 trainers supported 267 (201 women and 66 men) members of their respective groups to practice improved farming techniques in their individual gardens.

TABLE I. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The baseline values have been updated based on Year 3 activities. In addition, Year 3 and life-of-project (LOP) targets reflect those in the MEL Plan submitted for USAID approval as part of the Year 4 Work Plan. This approach harmonizes the results with the revised targets and thereby making comparisons easier in subsequent years.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
1	Percentage of estimated rough diamond production in KP-compliant zones that is legally exported from CAR	8% ²	15%	12%	25%	11%	40%	56%	60%	Data updated from the MMG annual report of January to December 2020 and data exportation of January to Sept 2021
2	Percentage of major diamond-mining sub-prefectures in the Western part of the country authorized by the KP to export rough diamonds	31% ³	50%	50%	50%	50%	75%	50% ⁴	100%	GoCAR continues to engage the KP on the validation of four additional zones in the West of CAR.
3	Number of licensed (registered) artisanal miners	1,000 ⁵	1,500	1,458	2,000	1,006 ⁶	2,000	689 ⁷	3,000	Artisanal miners in the KP compliant zones of Berberati (215), Boda (196), Carnot (41), Boganangone (17),

² 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.

³ 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%.

⁴ There is an ongoing international debate on the validation of additional zones, which is out of AMPR's manageable interest given the complex politics and geopolitics at play.

⁵ 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.

⁶ 484 artisanal miners of the 1,006 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.

⁷ The post-electoral conflict involving the CPC armed group slowed mining activities for about four months (Dec 2020-April 2021).

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
										Nola (144), Gadzi (18) and Boganda (14).
4	Number of diamond buyers (collectors and buying houses) making purchases with official purchase slips	200 ⁸	200	206	225	135 ⁹	250	217	300	195 collecteurs dont 120 sont ceux de Boda (16), Nola (22), Berberati (38), Gadzi (12), Carnot (31), Boganangone (01) et 22 bureaux d'achat
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	50%	N/A	75%	KAP study will be conducted in Year 4.
	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	1	2	5	Ministerial Decree for the pilot SCED-Ndelenguè ZEA ; Draft CAR Mining Code.
	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							1		Draft CAR Mining Code
	Stage 4: Presented for legislation/decreed									
	Stage 5: Passed/approved							1		ZEA Decree
	Stage 6: Passed for which implementation has begun									
7	Number of adults who perceive their tenure rights to land or marine areas as secure as a	1,800 ¹⁰	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1920	N/A	2,040	

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	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	5	0	20 ¹¹	Progress on this indicator was delayed due to MMG delay in issuing the ZEA decree
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	0	2	1 ¹²	3	17 ¹³	15	
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	0	10	2	15	4 ¹⁴	50	COVID 19 restrictions that affected the travel of consultants and the organizing of larger meetings.
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		5	13	30	Women representatives in the new six CLPRs of Boda and Boganangone.
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	5	2	20	Regional consultative workshops on the CAR Mining Code. Only critical meetings were held due to COVID19 restrictions.

¹¹ 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.

¹² Based on a systematic review of AMPR's project indicators at the end of Year 2, the project has determined that the trainings it conducted with CLPRs in Year 1 did not satisfy the requirements of this indicator. As such the Year 1 results have been revised down to zero for both Indicators 9 and 10. In Year 2, the priority was given to orienting the CLPRs on their roles and mandates as recommended by the expert CLPR evaluation conducted in Y2 Q2; however, the project will put a strong emphasis on training CLPRs in conflict resolution skills and consensus-building in the second half of Year 3.

¹³ In July 2021, 34 representatives of 17 CLPRs in Berberati, Carnot, Boda, and Nola were trained by INDIGO on social dialogue techniques.

¹⁴ INDIGO training in Bangui and Berberati ; MHASNR Training of the new six CLPRs of Boda and Boganangone on their roles and responsibilities.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
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	15	13	50	
	<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	250	267	1,000	
	<i>Type of Individual: Producer</i>					52		267		
	<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		66		
	<i>Women</i>					19		201		
15	Number of gold mining sites integrated into the interactive mapping system	0	0	0	300	322	0		300	
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	2	1	10	Study of the mining and the green energy transition.

ANNEX I: SNAPSHOT



SUCCESS STORY

The Role of CLPRs in Reinforcing Social Cohesion in Mining Communities in Centra Africa



Training of the new CLPR members on their roles in Boda. Photo by Junior Kogoro.

The politico-military crises in the Central African Republic (CAR) have undermined the ability of many communities to overcome decades of social and economic division. The recent political-military crisis related to the December 27, 2020, presidential and parliamentary electoral crisis resulted in an increase in violence, insecurity (which resulted in food shortages for many), and displacement (including a new wave of refugees and internally displaced people). The country's Kimberley Process (KP)-compliant zones felt these effects, especially during the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC) attacks in Boda, Carnot, Gadzi, and Mbaïki. The CPC stole motorcycles and food supplies, which caused many to stop their typical daily activities.

Over 168 men and women peace trainers across the 24 local peace-building committees (CLPRs) established with the support of USAID Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project regrouped, demonstrating their critical role in ensuring community tensions do not boil over into full-blown conflict. The 24 CLPRs established in partnership with CAR's Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and National Reconciliation (MHASNR) and the Ministry of Mines and Geology in the KP compliant zones of Boda, Boganangone, Berberati, Carnot, Gadzi, and Nola have created conditions favorable to the peaceful resolution of conflicts through community dialogue and negotiation between the conflicting parties.

The Government of CAR formally recognizes the 24 CLPRs as local peace actors reinforcing a culture of non-

violence, participatory and inclusive dialogue for reconciliation, and lasting peace in CAR. The CLPRs intervene to manage and prevent conflicts, facilitating the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees abroad and easing tensions likely to threaten peace, stability, reconciliation, and co-habitation. The evaluation of the roles of CLPRs in peacebuilding in CAR conducted by an AMPR international consultant in Year 2 highlighted that the established CLPRs were composed of dynamic individuals with a wide footprint in local leadership structures and associations who had demonstrated a great deal of devotion to their mission, not always waiting for material or financial support to organize activities in their villages. Some evaluation respondents cited the CLPR as fundamental to the peacebuilding process in their communities.

To enable the CLPRs to realize their mission, AMPR, in partnership with local and international peace and reconciliation experts, offered training on their coordination role and how to effectively facilitate community dialogue meetings. AMPR developed a training guide on how to facilitate community dialogue to strengthen the work of CLPRs and supported the MHASNR to develop an official strategy for reporting and performance monitoring of CLPRs. The strategy consists of training CLPRs on improving their "event books," where conflicts and other activities are recorded, as well as developing a simplified template for activity reports. This is in line with the principle of building upon the existing practices of CLPRs documented in the evaluation rather than reinventing the wheel with new reporting mechanisms such as an AMPR-specific "conflict registry." Thanks to the AMPR training of the CLPR on how to develop simple action plans, the CLPRs managed to get support from other partners like the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Central Africa and humanitarian non-governmental organizations.

As the AMPR evaluation found, the CLPRs require strengthening as institutions and supporting them should complement peacebuilding work outside the CLPR framework focusing on social dialogue and conflict mitigation measures at the community level. In Year 4, AMPR will continue to support the CLPRs to realize their tested vision of participatory and inclusive dialogue for reconciliation and lasting peace in the mining communities.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA

Local, national, and international media covered the following activities for AMPR during Year 3:

Media Type	Activities covered					
	Nagbata Magazine radio series	National Committee for Official Texts Meetings	CAR Mining Code Review	Launching og the new purchase slips	USAID visit to Bayanga	CTRE-RCA meetings
Radios						
Ndekeluka	✓	✓		✓		✓
Radio Centrafrique		✓	✓			✓
RJDH	✓	✓				
Eternel Sauve le Coeur de l'Afrique (ESCA)		✓				
Radio la Voix du Citoyen (RAVOCI)		✓				
Television Centrafrique (TVCA)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kuli-Ndunga	✓					
Zukpana Radio	✓		✓			
Siriri Radio			✓			
Maigaro Radio			✓			
Ndjoku Radio					✓	

ANNEX 3: PROJECT STAFF

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
1. Maxie Muwonge	Chief of Party	Maxie.Muwonge@dpamcar.org
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25. Roxana Blanco	Contract Specialist	Roxana.Blanco@tetrattech.com

ANNEX 4: GENERATED DATA

AMPR generated new data from the various activities conducted this year. The table below summarizes data collected per component.

Component	Type of Activity	Female	Male	Category of Participants
I	Workshop to validate the CAR KPPS internal regulations.	1	9	MMG, KPPS, AMPR, Ministry of Works.
I	Workshop for the Review of the CAR Mining Code in Bangui to present AMPR recommendations.	2	18	CTRJCR-RCA, AMPR
I	Regional consultative workshops in Berberati and Bouar on the review of the CAR Mining Code	16	108	MMG, WB-PGRN, AMPR, GODICA, Civil Society, USAF, KPPS, CNS, Local authorities, representatives Youth, Press, and Social Affairs, cooperatives, collectors, artisanal miners, and AMPR
I	CLS KP Quarterly meetings in the compliant zones of Nola, Carnot, Berberati, Gadi, Boganda, Boganangone, Boda, and Mbaiki.	26	129	Members of the respective CLS-KP, KPPS Regional Officers, AMPR, Sub-Prefects.
I	Meeting to re-organize the CLS KP for Gadzi and Boganangone.	3	40	Same as above.
I	Sensitization of Mining actors in the zones of Boda, Carnot, and Berberati using the AMPR KP video.	33	257	Members of the respective CLS-KP, KPPS Regional Officers, AMPR, Sub-Prefects, cooperatives.
I	Restricted workshop to validate the strategic document for the ZEA implementation.	3	18	General Directorate of Mines, Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), MMG, Ministry of Water and Forest, APCM
I	Workshop of the ZEA Working Group to draft the Ministerial Decree for the SCED-NDELENGUE pilot ZEA	3	19	WWF, MMG, Ministry of Urbanism, Ministry of Water and Forests, AMPR, University of Bangui.
I	Training on statistical analysis of MMG data.	2	9	General Directorate of Mines, AMPR, KPPS.
I	Presentation of the statistical analysis report based on the 2019 MMG data.	6	33	General Directorate of Mines, AMPR, KPPS.

Component	Type of Activity	Female	Male	Category of Participants
2A	INDIGO training on social dialogues techniques for the MHASNR and CLPR in Bangui	9	18	MHASNR, CLPRs in Bangui, AMPR.
2A	INDIGO training on social dialogues techniques for the MHASNR and representatives of 17 CLPRs of Berberati, Carnot, Gadzi, Nola, and Boda.	8	27	MHASNR, CLPRs, AMPR, MMG.
2A	Coordination meetings with local associations working on peace in the Sub-Prefectures of Gadzi, Berberati, Carnot and Nola.	59	236	CLPRs, AMPR Community Mobilizers, and leaders of local peace associations.
2A	General Assemblies to vote members of the three CLPRs (Ngotto, Bossui, and Boda) in Boda.	29	65	CLPR, Religious Platform, Ministry of the Environment, customary chiefs, USAF, Social Affairs, police, artisanal miners, local authorities, MMG, MAHRN, and AMPR.
2A	Induction of Boda CLPRs and Training on their roles and responsibilities	34	59	Same as above.
2A	General Assemblies to vote members of the three CLPRs (Boguera, Boganangone, and Mbankoe) in Boganangone.	76	162	CLPR, Religious Platform, Ministry of the Environment, Customary Chiefs, USAF, Social Affairs, police, artisanal miners, local authorities, MMG, MAHRN, and AMPR
2A	Master Class training on data collection by the CLPR.	9	12	CLPR, AMPR
2B	National Workshop on the role of women in the CAR Mining Sector	63	17	AFESMICA, <i>Institut Pasteur</i> , UNCMCA, MMG, DGM, women NGO leaders, KPPS, USAF, <i>Télévision nationale centrafricaine</i> , Press, DGPM, Mine
2B	Soapmaking training for livelihoods groups of Nola and Carnot	175	19	Livelihoods groups members
2B	Theoretical training on pisciculture for representatives of five livelihoods groups in Nola and Carnot.	21	12	Livelihoods groups members

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