

# ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY I – MARCH 31, 2021



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Photo: AMPR supported Validation Workshop in Bangui for the SCED NDELENGUE Pilot Artisanal Mining Zone (ZEA). Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

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# ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS TASK ORDER UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY I – MARCH 31, 2021

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ALS	<i>Antenne Locale de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at the commune level)
AFEMISCA	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 Coopératives Minières</i> (Support for the Professionalization of Mining Cooperatives)
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
BECDOR	<i>Bureau d'Évaluation et de Contrôle de Diamant et d'Or</i> (Bureau of Evaluation and Regulation of Diamonds and Gold)
CAR	Central African Republic
CLPR	<i>Comité Local de Paix et Réconciliation</i> (local peace-building committee)
CLS	<i>Comité Local de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at zone level)
CNS	<i>Comité National de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at national level)
COP	Chief of Party
CPC	Coalition of Patriots for Change
CRAFT	Code of Risk mitigation for ASM engaging in Formal Trade
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
DG	Director General
DPAM	<i>Droits de Propriété et Artisans Miniers</i> (Artisanal Mining and Property Rights)
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
ENABEL	<i>Agence Belge de Développement</i> (Belgian Development Agency)
ENC	<i>Elie Numerique Centrafrique</i>
EU	European Union
GODICA	Strengthening the governance of CAR's artisanal diamond and gold mining sectors (European Union)
GoCAR	Government of the Central African Republic
GTSM-RCA	<i>Groupe de Travail du Secteur Minier de la République Centrafricaine</i> (Mining Sector Working Group of the Central African Republic)
ICGLR	International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IPIS	International Peace Information Service
IR	Intermediate Result
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices
KP	Kimberley Process
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
KPPS	Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MHANR	Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation
MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology
MOU	Memorandum of understanding
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OF	Operational Framework
OU	Operating Unit
PRADD	Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development
PGRN	<i>Projet de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles</i> (Natural Resources Management Project)
SCED	<i>Société Centrafricaine d'Exploitation Diamantifère</i> (Central African Diamond Exploitation Society)
SMARTER	Sustainable Mining by Artisanal Miners
SODEMI	<i>Société pour le Développement Minier de la Côte d'Ivoire</i> (Society for the Mining Development of Côte d'Ivoire)
STARR II	Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights II
UNCMCA	<i>Union nationale des coopératives minières de Centrafrique</i> (National Union of Mining Cooperatives of Central Africa)
USAF	<i>Unité Spéciale Anti-Fraude</i> (Anti-Fraud Police Unit)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WB	World Bank
ZEA	<i>Zone d'Exploitation Artisanale</i> (Artisanal Mining Zone)

# I.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Artisanal Mining and Property Rights (AMPR) project supports the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) UN 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 Quarter I of 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 will support 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 will also launch livelihood support activities for women as part of a comprehensive Gender Action Plan to promote women's economic and social inclusion.

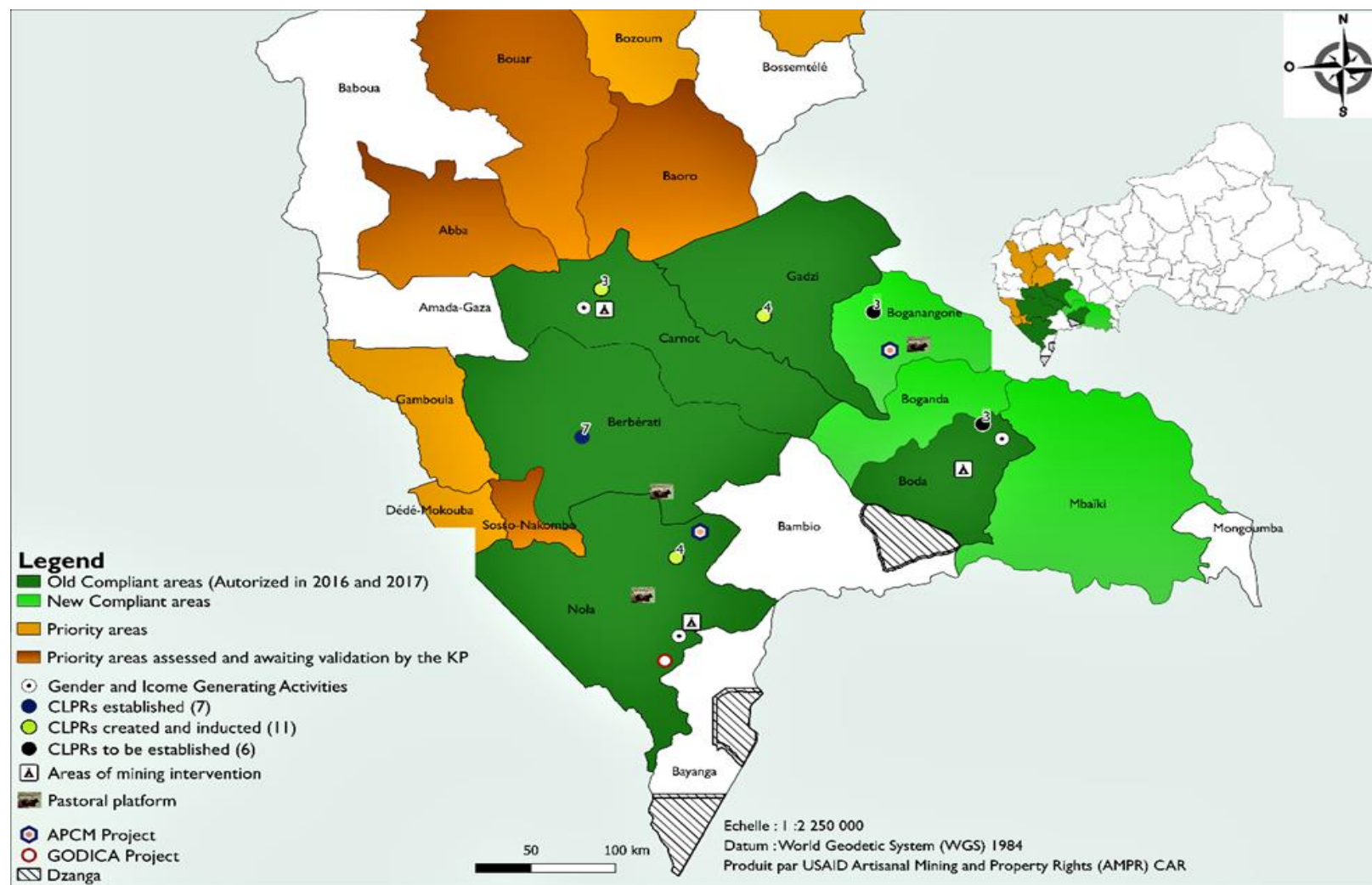
Objective 3 focuses on understanding the artisanal gold supply chain. AMPR, in partnership with the International Peace Information Service (IPIS) and RESOLVE, implemented a baseline assessment of gold and created an interactive online map of artisanal gold mining sites. AMPR organized a workshop to 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.



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



## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This quarterly performance report describes achievements realized under USAID's AMPR project in CAR between January 1 and March 31, 2021. Following the January 13 attack on the outskirts of the CAR's capital, Bangui, by the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC), an armed group opposed to the December 27, 2020 presidential and parliamentary elections, the implementation of program activities during this quarter was greatly reduced. On January 18, the Government of the Central African Republic (GoCAR) declared a 15-day state of emergency and curfew from 5 AM to 6 PM to aid in its crackdown on armed groups. Towards the end of January, the State of Emergency and curfew were extended to six months. Due to the precarious security situation in CAR's interior, AMPR's three field offices remained closed. The field-based staff has been assigned technical and administrative tasks to complete while in Bangui. The return to Bangui for the AMPR Chief of Party (COP) and the Finance and Administration Manager (FAM) was delayed until the end of January, when the security risk was deemed acceptable.

The AMPR Technical Deputy and COP held conference calls with the AMPR technical team in Bangui to review Year 3 Work Plan. The team identified field-based activities impacted by the insecurity in CAR's interior. The timelines to implement these activities were shifted to Q3, subject to improved security and the ability of AMPR's staff to safely return to the field. In the meantime, activities that can be implemented from Bangui were prioritized. Representatives from AMPR, EU Strengthening the governance of CAR's artisanal diamond and gold mining sectors (GODICA), and the WB participated in a technical coordination call in January convened by the AMPR Project Manager. Following deliberations on the CAR electoral process and security situation, they agreed to suspend field activities in light of the fragile security situation in CAR's interior until after the presidential inauguration on March 30. Throughout the quarter, AMPR's home office project management team has been in constant communication with the project's expatriate and local staff in CAR.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, AMPR's local public health specialist consultant reviewed and provided feedback on the International SOS-prepared "COVID-19 Research Report for the Central African Republic" and "AMPR Guidelines for Fieldwork/Events During COVID-19" to ensure compliance with directives from GoCAR and USAID.

AMPR's achievements for the quarter are summarized below:

### **Objective 1: Assist the Government of the CAR to Improve Compliance with KP Requirements to Promote Licit Economic Activities:**

- Participated in and provided technical orientation during the Kimberly Process Working Group on Artisanal and Alluvial Production (WGAAP) virtual meeting on activities related to a regional approach to tackle cross-border mineral smuggling.
- 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.
- In coordination with the Technical Committee in charge of the Revision of Legal and Regulatory Texts for the Mining and Petroleum Sectors in CAR (CTRTJR-RCA), AMPR is drafting a technical note analyzing good Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) practices that CAR includes in the new Mining Code.
- Coordinated with the Artisanal Mining Zone (ZEA) Technical Working Group to validate the legal documents for the *Société Centrafricaine d'Exploitation Diamantifère* (SCED)-Ndéléngué pilot ZEA in Nola subprefecture.

- Organized screenings and discussions of thematic videos (capsules) and documentary films related to KP and the mining supply chain in Bangui.
- Produced a KP poster entitled 'Traceability Supply Chain for Rough Diamond of the ASM Sector in CAR. The poster will be used for sensitization in the KP compliant zones.
- Organized a radio roundtable in Bangui on the key theme of women's role in the CAR mining sector. The debate was rebroadcasted twice on community radios to over 80,000 listeners.
- Provided technical and logistical support to a joint Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG), KPPS, KP *Comité National de Suivi* (CNS), and partners' mission to evaluate the impact of the military-political crisis on mining activities in Boda, Boganangone, Berberati, Carnot, Sosso-Nakombo, Baoro, and Bouar subprefectures, and facilitate the KP Local Monitoring Committees (CLS) quarterly meetings in the KP compliant zones.
- Provided technical and logistical support to digitize data from the 2019 MMG sales slips.
- Organized and co-chaired with EU GODICA the first virtual forum on considerations and implications of the political-military crisis on the ASM sector and various donor support programs in CAR.

**Objective 2: Strengthen Community Resilience, Social Cohesion, and Responses to Violent Conflict in the Central African Republic:**

- Held coordination meetings with the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation (MHANR) to review AMPR's Year 3 Work Plan and prioritize data collection, incident documentation, and community social dialogue activities.
- Provided technical and logistical support to the 18 CLPRs to monitor, document, and respond to security incidents in their respective zones following the political-military crisis.
- Conducted weekly calls with each CLPR to monitor and gather data from the conflict and activity registers.
- AMPR subcontractor Association of Women for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship (AFPE) has facilitated 21 livelihoods groups in Carnot, Nola, and Boda to identify 317 hectares of individual gardens to cultivate with seeds conserved from last season.

**Objective 3: Increase Awareness and Understanding of the Opportunities and Challenges of Establishing Responsible Gold Supply Chains in the CAR:**

- AMPR drafted a CAR gold sector engagement framework and facilitated several virtual consultative meetings with the WB PGRN, EU GODICA, and WB-funded Support for the Professionalization of Mining Cooperatives (APCM) projects to discuss coordinated inter-donor interventions.

**Objective 4: Improve USAID Programming through Increased Understanding of Linkages Between Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining and Key Development Issues:**

- Registered the AMPR COP to participate in the 14th Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains on April 27 and 28, 2021.
- Participated in a webinar on reimagining peaceful transhumance in Africa. The discussions included options for promoting peaceful transhumance in Sub-Saharan and Central Africa and steps that African governments, regional bodies, and development partners might play.

## 3.0 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

This quarterly report presents descriptions and results of each activity in AMPR's approved Annual Work Plan for the period of January-March 2021. These descriptions and results presented below are organized by objective, intermediate result, and activity.

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

#### 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 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:** AMPR participated in a virtual technical meeting with the KP WGAAP. The participants included USAID Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and AMPR. The Chair presented his WGAAP 2021 priorities, which include: Fighting illicit trade and financing by strengthening vigilance in the neighboring countries of Cameroon, DRC, Republic of Congo, and South Sudan; organizing law enforcement training sessions involving CAR law enforcement agencies; and developing information sharing and whistle-blowing networks. To improve data collection, WGAAP will assess production and trade data collection procedures in the ASM sector. The group will also develop guidelines for cooperatives based on best practices, encourage the establishment of Multistakeholder National Taskforces, raise KP awareness to ensure supply chain transparency, and assess ASM activities in African diamond-producing countries to produce a video clip on challenges and opportunities. AMPR presented an update on its support to the KP CNS/CLS national multi-stakeholder task forces monitoring and reporting compliance in the CAR KP compliant zones and support for mining cooperatives in the pilot ZEA in SCED-Ndéléngué in collaboration with the APCM project. The WGAAP Chair has requested that AMPR make a presentation at WGAAP during the June KP intersessional.

*Technical workshop in Cameroon:* The tense political and security tension in CAR has delayed preparations for the mission to Cameroon. The Cameroonian Minister of Mines, Industry and Technological Development had responded to his counterpart, the CAR Minister of Mines and Geology, agreeing to a high-level mission to Cameroon to present the results of the 2019 Fraud Diagnostic (*Rapport Diagnostique 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. The CAR Minister of Mines and Geology proposed the mission be postponed to Q2 2021. Should this activity be confirmed in 2021, AMPR will participate and partially fund Cameroon's mission in close coordination with the GODICA project, which also has funds to support regional coordination.

### 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:** AMPR is supporting the KPPS in CAR in setting up the new CAR KPPS administrative and operational structures. The team is comprised of appointed civil servants already on the government payroll, directors and managers under WB contractors, and contract staff paid under the KPPS budget. Faced with these complexities, the MMG requested AMPR support developing CAR KPPS internal regulations, job and salary scale classification, employment contracts, and registering contracts with the relevant government institutions. AMPR supported the KPPS and MMG in developing Terms of Reference for these tasks undertaken by a local firm through an open bidding process. The firm will complete the tasks next quarter.

### 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. At the time of this quarterly report, the WB efforts began with the hiring of an international consultant to review the mining code and the review conducted by the African Development Bank's Legal Support Facility. Meanwhile, the government has created a formal committee to review the code and the mining policy. AMPR intends to liaise closely with the MMG cabinet, WB, and others to determine appropriate avenues for participation. AMPR will be well-positioned to offer 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 Cote d'Ivoire SODEMI model for village-based revenue management (see Activity 1.2.3).

**Results:** AMPR met with the CTRTJR-RCA to discuss AMPR's participation and contribution to the revision of the CAR Mining Code of 2009. The Committee recommended that AMPR provide a technical note analyzing ASM best practices that CAR includes in the new code to improve the ASM sector. AMPR's Technical Deputy is drafting the proposed technical note to submit to the CTRTJR-RCA in the next quarter.

## 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 and identify any follow-up activities for AMPR. Consultant Sabine Jiekak carried out a study in August 2019 that assessed the impact, relevance/utility, and weaknesses of mining claims certificates issued by PRADD I. The study included focus group discussions with certificate holders and delved into the legal issues surrounding them (e.g., if they are valid proof of ownership in case of court disputes). The study combined background documentation and legal analysis of the land formalization context in mining areas with semi-structured interviews of 125 selected artisanal miners in eight villages, which included both certificate recipients (64 total, including seven women) and non-recipients as well as local mining authorities in Boda and Nola. The study recommended that mining claims certification processes initiated by PRADD I be integrated into a general approach to the management of mining claims and within the ZEAs. The physical, customary, and geographic information on the formalization document will lead to better administration of the ZEAs by



recognizing existing spaces with competitive claims and facilitating the monitoring of diamond production in the ZEAs compared with the Mining Administration's declared production.

**Results:** The activity was completed, and subsequent steps will be carried out 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 conducted under Activity 1.2.1 and initiate collective land formalization through pilot ASM ZEAs foreseen in the Mining Code. While ZEAs are typically used in other contexts—such as the 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. The project team will hold discussions during the Year 3 work-planning process to determine how to address these recommendations, especially the concept of putting in place ZEAs.

**Results:** AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the ZEA Technical Working Group to finalize the legal documents for the SCED-Ndélégué pilot ZEA in Nola subprefecture. AMPR's legal land consultant drafted the legal documents for the proposed ZEA organs, which he presented in a workshop chaired by the MMG Director-General (DG). The workshop, also attended by a ZEA Technical Working Group of 20 legal advisors, geologists, and MMG experts, reviewed and approved the documents. As the next step, the ZEA Technical Working Group, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Minister of Urbanism and Habitat, APCM, and AMPR held another workshop to finalize the ZEA strategic plan. They prepared a technical opinion on establishing the pilot ZEA, which was submitted officially to the DG MMG. In the next quarter, the DG will present for validation the technical opinion during one of the MMG cabinet meetings. Once validated by the Cabinet, the Minister will issue a decree creating the pilot SCED-Ndélégué ZEA.



Photo 1: Participants of the ZEA Technical validation workshop at the MMG Directorate. Photo by Brandon Akpekabou.

At the end of the quarter, AMPR received a formal correspondence from UNESCO World Heritage, raising concerns about establishing the SCED-Ndélégué pilot ZEA near the Dzanga-Sangha protected area, part of a complex of cross-border national parks and special reserves listed as a World Heritage site. Following discussions with USAID, AMPR prepared a technical note to transmit to UNESCO, including a detailed map for the Dzanga-Sangha special reserve and the proposed SCED pilot ZEA. The note also includes contributions by WWF, a technical report by the MMG ZEA Technical Working Group, and the community agreement with explicit commitments to promote conservation of the park and reserve. The US Ambassador to CAR was asked to transmit the response with the technical documents cited above to UNSECO by early next quarter; if not the US Embassy, USAID will do so.

### 3.1.2.3 Activity 1.2.3: Pilot System for Taxing Diamond Revenues for Community Development

**Description:** This activity follows from Activity 1.2.2 in implementing the ZEA approach in at least two pilot zones, notably with respect to the revenue management aspects of the SODEMI model in Côte d'Ivoire. Per the AMPR contract, the project is designed to focus in Year 1 on developing and building consensus around the model(s) to pilot. The question of revenue management is particularly tricky, as indicated in the consultancy report prepared by Sebastian Pennes. AMPR identified a strategy as outlined in the ZEA strategy document and additional community consultations in SCED-Ndélégué. However,

the exact details will be further refined in the organizational texts and the community decisions in each pilot ZEA.

**Results:** This activity was postponed to the next quarter due to the insecurity in the country's interior that led to the suspension of field activities. AMPR anticipates in the next quarter to advance with implementing the activity once the Minister of Mines and Geology issues a decree creating the pilot SCED-Ndéléngué ZEA.

### 3.1.3 INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1.3: INCREASE AWARENESS OF KIMBERLEY PROCESS REQUIREMENTS, INCLUSIVE OF ALL POINTS IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN SUCH AS GOVERNMENT ACTORS, BUYING HOUSES, COLLECTORS, PIT OWNERS, AND DIGGERS

#### 3.1.3.1 Activity 1.3.1: Conduct Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices 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:** The next KAP survey will be conducted in Q3 of Year 3 if the security situation permits.

#### 3.1.3.2 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 is drawing upon results from PRADD I and II, as well as from the project's first KAP survey to develop a comprehensive strategy. The project will implement this strategy starting in Year 2 to include translation and 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 scheduled to begin before the 2020 dry season and the period when most miners acquire their licenses (*patentes*).

**Results:** AMPR organized screenings and discussions of thematic videos (capsules) and documentary films related to KP and the mining supply chain. The screenings were organized for the CAR KPPS team, CNS KP, and senior MMG officials in Bangui. The participants provided feedback that enabled AMPR to produce discussion guides with questions and awareness-raising messages to be used by AMPR and KPPS field agents, CLPR, and CLS during the public screening in the regional centers and select mining communities KP compliant regions.



Photo 2: Screening and Discussions of the KP Documentary film with the CAR KPPS Team in Bangui. Photo by Brandon Akpekabou.

*Producing of KP Diamond Traceability Poster:* AMPR, in coordination with the KPPS, produced a poster entitled “Traceability Supply Chain for Rough Diamond of the ASM Sector.” It is the outcome of over

three months of technical review meetings/exchanges on the poster's content and animation. Tetra Tech's communication unit assisted with the format and design of the poster. AMPR worked with the KPPS to develop a discussion guide with additional information about the poster. In the next quarter, AMPR will print over 200 posters to aid with awareness raising efforts in the KP-compliant zones.

*Radio Roundtable on Women in the Mining Sector:* AMPR organized a roundtable in Bangui, hosted and broadcasted on Radio FM 105, *Réseau des Journalistes pour les Droits de l'Homme (RJDH)*. The one-hour debate focused on the role of women in the CAR mining sector. The script for the debate is based *Nagbata Magazine* radio series that AMPR produced last year. Callers from Bangui, Bambari, Mbaiki, and Boali asked about the challenges women face, opportunities, and what MMG and AMPR are doing to support women's participation in the mining sector. The MMG Gender Focal Point and a woman who owns a gold mine site in Damara shared their reflections and experience on the roles the different women play in the mining sector. The site manager shared her experience dealing with challenges in the mining sector, which enabled her to successfully evolve from being an artisanal miner to a mine site owner. RJDH radio, with over 80,000 listeners, rebroadcasted the recorded debate twice.



Photo 3: Roundtable debate on the role of women in the mining sector. Photo by Guy Sesengue.

### 3.1.3.3 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 I, AMPR conducted trainings on the use of hand drills 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 as part of the action plans for the pilot ZEAs in SCED-Ndéléngué, Nola subprefecture, and Sangouma/Sama II in Carnot subprefecture (see Activity 1.2.2).

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

### 3.1.4.1 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:** AMPR participated in a joint mission with the MMG, CNS KP, KPPS, and PGRN to evaluate the impact of the military-political crisis on the mining activities in Boda, Boganangone, Berberati, Carnot, Sosso-Nakombo, Baoro, and Bouar. The team also facilitated the CLS quarterly meeting using the agenda and reporting templates developed by AMPR. The sub-prefects, mayors, CLS members, police, and army commanders attended their respective subprefecture meetings.



The team noted a temporary halt of mining and trading activities due to insecurity. The diamond buying houses were unable to transfer stones from regional hubs to Bangui because regional mining officials were not on hand to authorize transfers between mid-December 2021 through the end of January 2021. The regional mining officers authorized at the beginning of February the transfer to Bangui of the backlog when they returned to their respective regions. Miners have by and large returned to their normal levels of activity as of the end of March. Additionally, national mining officials and other civil servants have returned to their posts in KP compliant zones, and diamond transfers and exports have resumed. The mission noted that the security along the routes and the sub-prefectures is reinforced by the deployed CAR National Army (FACA) and the allied Russian and Rwanda forces.

**Pilot MMG Data Digitization:** AMPR hired a team of five data assistants who worked with the MMG Director of Statistics and Commercialization to capture and digitize data from 234 sales slips for 2019. The AMPR Technical Deputy and the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) officer provided technical support to develop the software used to scan and capture data from 9,099 sheets of the 234 sales slips. The data was captured using the MMG geographic information system (GIS) room computers, which are maintained by AMPR. The data has been backed up on an external disk drive that AMPR handed over to the MMG. The MMG DG chaired a restitution meeting attended by AMPR and the relevant MMG department heads to analyze the captured data. The meeting highlighted the use of sales slips without serial numbers and false identification by non-licensed operators. MMG has shared part of the digitized data with AMPR to train the relevant government technicians on techniques for analyzing and compiling statistics to aid in fraud detection in the next quarter.



Photo 4: Members of the Carnot CLS who attended the Quarterly meeting. Photo by Regis Ndaket.



Photo 5: AMPR MEL Officer providing technical assistance to the Data Assistants. Photo by Brandon Akpekabou.

### 3.1.4.2 Activity 1.4.2: Reinvigorate the Group of 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, dubbed a "Group of Friends." The approach helped create synergies between diplomatic missions and technical partners, while also proving invaluable when sensitive political or institutional issues negatively affected project implementation. AMPR broached the idea with local diplomats in Bangui, who were interested in this concept.

**Results:** This activity has not been undertaken during this period due to a political-military crisis that hindered the new Mining Sector Working Group of the CAR (GTSM-RCA) from organizing technical-diplomatic coordination meetings.

### 3.1.4.3 Activity 1.4.3: Support the Ministry of Mines and Geology Donor Coordination Unit

**Description:** This activity aims to promote coordination and synergy among different donors working in the mining sector in CAR. During Year I work planning and project launch, the MMG reiterated its desire for coordination and for GoCAR to have a central role. AMPR will adapt to the MMG's directives and may provide some logistical support for such meetings, but it will also urge the Ministry to take the lead on convening and funding the meetings. These meetings, if convened, will be organized virtually during this period of restricted movement related to COVID-19.

**Results:** AMPR organized and co-chaired with the EU GODICA the initial virtual ASM forum on considerations and implications of the political-military crisis on the ASM sector and various donor support programs in CAR. The participants included the MMG team of the Chargé de Mission, KPPS, CNS KP, and Mining Cadaster head. Other participants included the National Union of Mining Cooperatives in Central Africa (UNCMCA), PGRN CAR, World Bank, UNDP, USAID Kinshasa, Concordis, War Child, and the State Department. The forum's key highlights included the improving security situation in the field and return of MMG regional officers to their posts (even in Boda, a place the rebels had previously occupied). Despite the insecurity, CCO, a Belgium exporter, is buying diamonds from secondary offices in the regions. The KPPS reported export figures for January and February of 1,310.13 carats (USD \$207,727.85) and 11,304.53 carats (USD \$1,482,470.44), respectively, mainly by CCO. The MMG appealed to partners to return to the field as GoCAR continues to oust armed groups from the interior. The partners agreed to wait until after the president's inauguration on March 30 to redeploy their field teams, subject to continued security. The next forum is scheduled for Q3.



Photo 6: Virtual ASM Forum participants.  
Photo by Linca Tuyisenge.

### 3.1.4.4 Activity 1.4.4: Support Targeted AMPR Interventions

**Description:** This activity aims to support capacity building and other in-kind contributions to the GoCAR to strengthen KPCS compliance following a gap analysis of other donors' contributions. The AMPR team is in constant communication with the EU GODICA and WB teams to avoid duplication and complement each other's efforts. The AMPR COP frequently meets with other project heads in Bangui to discuss advancements. The projects have also shared costs on various activities, such as support to BECDOR. AMPR will continue to be collaborative, proactive, and flexible in this activity.

**Results:** This quarter, AMPR has collaborated extensively with the WB PGRN and APCM projects on supporting cooperatives and ASM mining activities in CAR. During several virtual calls chaired by AMPR, the projects proposed to advance on the consultancy for the ASM equipment manufacturing for the gold and diamond economy based on lessons learned from AMPR and other options for CAR. The projects agreed on coordinated joint support to UNCMCA, contingent on its development of internal regulations, statute, and a strategic plan. The UNDP has been invited to these calls since the agency is designing a major project to support the artisanal mining sector.

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

### **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 will build continuity with PRADD II, under which six CLPRs were established in Berberati, albeit with limited available time 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. In particular, this evaluation will examine the committees' actions and how they are perceived in their communities. To improve linkages with the KP OF, the same diagnostic will include an examination of the CLS and *Antenne Locale de Suivi* (ALS) committees established in compliant zones at the sub-prefecture and commune levels. The results of the diagnostic will be presented at a national workshop, during which time the next steps will be determined.

**Results:** AMPR held a technical planning workshop with the MHANR in Bangui to review Year 3 Work Plan activities for Component IIA on social cohesion. The workshop revised the implementation schedule and selected priority activities to support the CLPRs to monitor and respond to security incidents following the political-military crisis. The team discussed and approved the Terms of Reference for the upcoming mission of two INDIGO consultants next quarter to support the MHANR with a training module on social dialogue facilitation techniques focusing on the theory and practice of participatory action research and the use of video capsules.

#### **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 is expected to expand CLPRs to cover all three sub-prefectures where the project works. In addition, AMPR will identify and train Focal Points in each CLPR who will record and monitor conflicts, as well as actions and activities led by the CLPRs to promote their resolution. AMPR will work with each CLPR, both new and old, to develop an action plan for the year, and will provide some logistical support to implement CLPR activities. AMPR will also look to maximize synergies between the CLPR and the ALS committees. Simultaneously, the project will work with the MHANR to identify other donors to support the established CLPRs' strengthening—not only in the diamond mining areas of the southwest but throughout the country.

**Results:** The activity to support the creation of six additional CLPRs in Boganangone and Boda sub-prefectures was postponed due to a political-military crisis. It will be carried out in the next quarter, subject to improved security in the region.

#### **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 provided logistical and programmatic support for the individual CLPR action plans (see Activity 2.1.2). Such activities include community service, community theater, and/or trainings on dispute resolution. AMPR is expected to film 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 Cote d'Ivoire).

AMPR Social Cohesion Advisor Dr. Zéphérin Mogba produced a concept note on the Local Pacts, originally developed under PRADD II for several communes, to document community decisions and positions on sensitive issues. Through this concept note, AMPR took stock of the initial pacts and developed a methodology to implement them more widely. This will avoid redundancy and create synergies with other activities, such as the ZEA management and zoning plans. Activity 3.1.3.2 describes advancements made in producing video clips on the CLPR for public awareness raising.

**Results:** AMPR drafted the MHANR strategy on data management and evaluation of CLPRs. The strategy describes 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 MHANR focal point in Bangui, and the use of performance indicators for the CLPRs. The strategy will operationalize the CLPRs' data collection and performance monitoring. The strategy document has been submitted to USAID for final review and approval.

*CLPR Monitoring and Responding to Security Incidents:* AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the CLPRs to monitor and respond to security incidents in their respective zones following the political-military crisis at the beginning of the quarter. Working out of the Bangui office, AMPR's Community Mobilizers and Rural Development Specialists were assigned to support the 18 CLPRs. Every week, AMPR's team called CLPR members to obtain updates, plan priority activities, and coordinate logistical support (mainly airtime and transport that enabled the CLPR to monitor, document, and respond to incidents). Throughout the quarter, AMPR compiled 25 reports on vital CLPR actions undertaken with the support of AMPR and in collaboration with different actors. Some of these actions are highlighted below.

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### **Vital CLPR Actions with support of AMPR and Other Actors**

*Carnot-Center CLPR registered households vandalized and individuals who lost their items during the CPC armed group's attacks. They helped some community members recover stolen items, including an AMPR staff member who had many of his belongings stolen.*

*Berberati CLPR carried out a radio awareness campaign on acceptance of returnees, LTB (Housing Land and Property), radio sensitization on false rumors, and discouraging youth from enlistment in armed groups.*

*Beya-Panzi CLPR in Nola successfully mediated a land conflict between an artisanal miner illegally exploiting a mine site belonging to the Bayaka Pygmy community. The artisanal miner compensated the Bayaka community and agreed to continue paying them to mine in their site.*

*CLPR Nandobo resolved a conflict between a herder and a farmer who stole and sold his ox. It sparked a confrontation that the CLPR resolved through negotiation, resulting in the farmer reimbursing the herder XAF 100,000 for the ox to resolve the matter.*

*(AMPR CLPR Weekly Reports, January-March 2021).*

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### 3.2.2 INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2.2: PROMOTE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT IN ASM COMMUNITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF BROAD-BASED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION

#### 3.2.2.1 Activity 2.2.1: Consolidate and Complement Learning

**Description:** This activity aims to use PRADD lessons 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. In this way, the project will build upon past activities and experiences.

**Results:** There were no activities scheduled in the Work Plan for this quarter. The field team continues to apply the principles and practices of the Gender Action Plan.

#### 3.2.2.2 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 a particular emphasis on land tenure dynamics and complementary livelihoods. The activity will be completed in Year 1, led jointly by an external consultant, the Component 2 Coordinator, and the Women's Livelihoods Activities Coordinator. The team will first conduct a gender integration training for AMPR staff as part of a broader capacity-building effort in participatory research methods. A series of participatory exercises in the field will complement the literature review, including focus group discussions and value chain analysis for existing women's livelihoods. The resulting plan will outline both the conceptual framework for AMPR and concrete livelihoods and awareness-raising activities to begin in the first Work Plan year.

**Results:** This activity was completed in Year 1, and USAID has approved the related deliverable. Activity 2.2.3 below provides information on this initiative's impacts.

#### 3.2.2.3 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 as detailed in the Year 1 Work Plan. By investing in a participatory and rigorous field and desk research, AMPR will be able to identify activities that cohere with an overall strategy and that have the maximum chance of sustainability and success.

**Results:** AMPR subcontractor AFPE continued to work with 21 livelihoods groups in Carnot, Nola, and Boda to identify 317 hectares for the cultivation of individual gardens. The groups are applying techniques they have learned from AMPR-funded sustainable farming training to prepare their gardens. At the beginning of the rainy season, the groups will cultivate their plots using the seeds they conserved from last year's harvest. Below is a summary breakdown of the number of hectares per subprefecture.

**Table 1. Indicative Table of Individual Gardens per Sub Prefecture**

Sub Prefecture	# Men	# Women	Total Hectares
Carnot	22	34	34.7
Nola	69	219	269.8
Boda	0	21	13.3
Total	91	271	317.8

*Pisciculture Activities:* Pisciculture activities were disrupted due to the political-military crisis that hindered AMPR field staff's return to the regional offices. Nonetheless, in Bangui AMPR participated in

coordination meetings with the GODICA project and AFPE, the local subcontractor implementing the two projects' livelihoods components. AMPR and GODICA recommended AFPE stop Carnot activities due to persistent insecurity and failure to find public land to construct the material banks. GODICA is taking the lead to resolve this impasse. In Nola, it was decided that AFPE could continue to finalize community engagements, work on land documents, and train their staff to implement the pisciculture activities at the three identified sites. The group resolved to hold monthly meetings to discuss progress and challenges. The pisciculture activities will hopefully resume next quarter subject to sufficient security.

#### **3.2.2.4 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 the first work plan year, the Gender Action Plan identified potential entrepreneurs (including women miners), value chains, and existing women's business groups. The plan will propose a series of steps and strategies, including business skills training and financing. The Gender Action Plan will determine if there are enough existing entrepreneurs or if the first year will focus on capacity building and planning, to take place concurrently with Activity 2.2.3, focusing on livelihood diversification activities with less-structured women's economic groups.

**Results:** There were no scheduled Work Plan activities for this quarter.

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

#### **3.2.3.1 Activity 2.3.1: Develop Inter-Ministerial Agreements to Promote Peace and Social Cohesion**

**Description:** This activity aims to build upon PRADD II efforts to foster collaboration and coordination between the MMG and the MHANR. At this stage, it is unclear if a renewed agreement will be necessary before being able to expand the CLPRs. Components 1, 2, and 3 Coordinators will confer closely with government stakeholders to determine whether 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:** The activity was not implemented this quarter due to disruptions of the ministries and partners' activities caused by the political-military crisis following the attempted attack on Bangui by the CPC armed group in January 2021.

#### **3.2.3.2 Activity 2.3.2: Improve Coordination of Approaches to Peace and Reconciliation in Diamond Mining Communities**

**Description:** This activity's intention is to avoid duplication of efforts among different non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other actors working to promote peace and reconciliation in the CAR. In Year 1, AMPR will focus on building coordination and synergies at the local level, notably through clarifying mandates and roles of the local KP (CLS/ALS) and CLPR committees, identifying and joining existing 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 among donors and other actors.

**Results:** The activity will be undertaken next quarter, subject to improved security in the country's interior or maybe held virtually if feasible.

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

#### **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 are to be presented and discussed at a national workshop. AMPR plans to design the workshop in such a way as to build linkages with other donors (notably the EU) and move toward a national action plan. The OECD/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. Combined with the study results, the workshop will then create the space for discussions for an action plan.

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

##### **3.3.1.2 Activity 3.1.2: Facilitate the Gold Sector Action Plan**

**Description:** This activity aims to foster technical discussions that build on the gold sector diagnostic and will lead to an action plan to be supported by other donors. AMPR anticipates working toward this action plan during Year 1, but the exact timing for completion will depend in part on other donors (notably the EU) and the level of buy-in from the government. 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 *Agence Belge de Développement* (ENABEL) to support the government and private sector in developing the action plan. AMPR will also identify any linkages with APCM-supported mining cooperatives, some of which may be involved in gold and could be good candidates for piloting responsible sourcing initiatives.

**Results:** AMPR's Technical Deputy drafted a CAR gold sector engagement framework and facilitated several consultative meetings with the WB PGRN, EU 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; strengthen the capacity of UNCMCA to promote the small-scale gold sector in CAR. AMPR has shared the action plan with USAID and will continue engaging USAID and the partners in the next quarter to agree on the role of each donor with regard to planned support to the CAR gold sector.

### 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 and to build on their 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. IPIS researchers collected data in gold mining areas, concurrently with KP Focal Points for diamond mining areas. AMPR also suggested the interactive map generated as a result of this research could be useful for the KP OF, should the MMG agree to integrate diamond data into the mapping interface. IPIS/AMPR held a workshop with the government in Year 2 on this topic.

**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

### 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. Should USAID request them, AMPR will prepare such documents during the work plan year.

**Results:** There were no activities undertaken this quarter.

#### 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 and where ASM is widely practiced.

**Results:** There were no activities undertaken this quarter.

#### 3.4.1.3 Activity 4.1.3: Provide On-Call Technical Assistance

**Description:** This activity aims to provide expertise and assistance to USAID OUs as needed. At the time of work plan preparation, there were several possible activities, but none had been confirmed. The Technical Deputy/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:** No on-call technical assistance was asked of AMPR during this past quarter.

### 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:** AMPR aims to participate in key international forums as a way to remain abreast of international trends and issues that will affect AMPR implementation, as well as contribute to international best practices.

**Results:** The COP has registered to participate in the 14th OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains, which will be held virtually on April 27 and 28, 2021. The forum will provide the



opportunity to review and discuss the implementation of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas and other related initiatives to enable responsible mineral production and sourcing.

#### 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 Operating Units 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:** AMPR's Project Manager and COP participated in a webinar co-convened by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution and Search for Common Ground on Thursday, March 18. Other participants included the U.S. Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria, United Nations Mission in South Sudan, United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, scholars, practitioners, and policymakers. The discussions focused on options for promoting peaceful transhumance in Sub-Saharan Africa and steps that African governments, regional bodies, and development partners might play. The participants shared reflections, tools for prevention, and response to pastoralism and conflict. The webinar highlighted lessons learned for policymakers, funding agencies, and civil society in Sub-Saharan and Central Africa. The webinar's recommendations are relevant to AMPR's transhumance reflections in the CAR ASM zones.

#### 3.4.2.3 Activity 4.2.3: Publish Research in Peer-Reviewed Publications and For Various Portals

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

**Results:** The AMPR team completed significant revisions of the Concordis International report "Pastoralism In Transition: Evolving Economic and Social Dynamics Between Livestock Herders, Farmers, and Miners In South-Western Central African Republic." A summary of key findings will be submitted next quarter as an Issue Brief for the USAID LandLinks site. The paper may then be submitted for publication in a professional journal.

The journal *Resources Policy* accepted for publication the paper by Terah DeJong entitled, "State-Owned Minerals, Village-Owned Land: How a Shared Property Rights Framework Helped Formalize Artisanal Diamond Miners in Côte d'Ivoire Between 1986 and 2016."

### 3.4.3 COVID-19 AND AMPR INTERVENTIONS

#### 3.4.3.1. COVID-19 Activities Implemented

AMPR engaged 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 were subsequently approved by the COR 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 on February 17. The AMPR team also created a pre-fieldwork COVID-19 checklist, which all staff must now fill out prior to undertaking field missions.

## 4.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

### 4.1 INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

On March 5, 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 debate that the Director of Cabinet-MMG officiated 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 7: Women's leadership in rural economies debate panelists. Photo by Guy Sesengue.

*International Women 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.



Photo 8: AMPR and APCM project staff attending a Gender Equality Session at AMPR Bangui office. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

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

*USAID CAR Partners Briefing:* AMPR's Project Manager and COP participated at a virtual USAID CAR Partners briefing convened by the USAID Regional Peace and Security Director on March 16. Other participants included the U.S. Ambassador to CAR, the new DRC Deputy Mission Director, and representatives from the five USAID-funded projects in CAR. The Deputy Mission Director addressed

the partners for the first time and pledged to continue the DRC Mission's support to projects implemented in CAR. The Ambassador highlighted U.S. support for a peace agreement to resolve CAR's current political and security crisis. AMPR's Project Manager and COP highlighted the need to strengthen local peace efforts to restore peace in communities, support further formalization of the artisanal gold mining sector using many of the same approaches used for the artisanal diamond sector, and coordinate inter-donor support on pastoralism ranging from the local negotiation of pacts and conventions governing resource use to cross-border negotiations.

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

*CAR Mining Technical Coordination Meeting:* AMPR and GODICA co-convened three virtual CAR mining technical coordination meetings in January, February, and March 2021. Other participants included USAID World Bank, PGRN, and the World Bank. The team discussed the impact of the security crisis on activity implementation and the implications for synergies between the different projects. The call highlighted the improved security in Western CAR, following reports of FACA and the allied forces pushing and continuing to pursue the CPC and Union for Peace in Central Africa (UPC) armed groups in Paoua and Bocaranga by the end of March 2021. All projects agreed to remain active and prioritizing activities implemented in Bangui, notably, the ASM gold sector support to improve gold valuation and best export practices and joint support for UNCMCA.

*Meeting with UN Panel of Experts:* AMPR's COP met with the UN expert on CAR in charge of natural resources. The expert is looking at illegal actors involved in the gold and diamond supply chains. He accessed the USAID-IPIS mine sites mapping data on gold and diamonds in the west of CAR and the AMPR smuggling study. The COP presented the action plan for reinforcing the legal supply chain of diamonds in CAR as a multifaceted response to deal with the fraud study's findings. The expert is very interested in receiving copies of the CLS KP quarterly reports since they reflect the prevailing mining conditions in the KP zones. It was the first time he had heard about the CLS reports. Moving forward, he requests that AMPR share relevant information with him, which he will treat with discretion.



Photo 9: AMPR's meeting the UN Panel of Expert on CAR. Photo by Benjamin

### 4.3 OFFICES

*Regional Offices in Nola, Carnot, & Boda:* AMPR's regional offices remained closed this quarter. This was necessary due to the ongoing political crisis in CAR, which caused great insecurity in the country's interior. Earlier in the quarter, Boda was under rebel control and Carnot experienced violence and looting. The security situation in AMPR's three implementations sites has slowly improved and the home office Project Management and Safety & Security teams believe the situation is now stable enough for AMPR's field staff to return to their posts. AMPR plans to redeploy field-based employees to their respective intervention areas by mid-April 2021, subject to continued stability in the region.

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 town was secure enough for day-to-day activities.

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



Photo 10: From left to right: AMPR's first and second field vehicles in Bangui office's parking lot. Photo by Linca Tuyisenge.

#### 4.4 STAFFING

The AMPR Project identified the best candidates for the open Component I Coordinator and Community Mobilizer roles and the selected Component I Coordinator candidate was approved by USAID as key personnel in March. They are both scheduled to onboard at the beginning of next quarter. The recruitment process of a third driver is ongoing. In the meantime, AMPR will use on-call drivers until the background and reference reviews are completed for the best driver candidate.

The AMPR Project Management Team took advantage of the occasion that all AMPR employees were working from the Bangui office this quarter to provide refresher trainings on the Tetra Tech Code of Conduct, finance and logistics procedures, asset management, Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT), 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. This capacity-building training will help the field-based staff to use more easily geo-referencing for mine sites and villages. The two Community Mobilizers shared the knowledge gained with other staff.

The rainy season in CAR started with much rain and heavy wind, 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.

At the end of the quarter, the Finance and Administration Manager, Linca Tuyisenge, took two weeks of personal leave in Rwanda. The COP will take leave early next quarter. The project has decided to institute leave for the Finance and Administrative Manager and the COP every four months to avoid burnout.

#### 4.5 SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

In December 2020, Central Africans elected their president and 140 members of parliament amid renewed violence between armed groups and national security forces. The post-electoral tensions heightened in mid-January 2021 when the 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, sat 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 are now set free, which ultimately has led to the re-opening of the principal transport route between the capital and eastern Cameroon for essential and commercial goods. The CAR Government has maintained a nationwide curfew from 5 AM to 8 PM and remains in a state of emergency.

*CAR President Declares National Consultations:* In March, CAR's president called for national consultations to obtain the views and recommendations of Central Africans on the national agenda for security and peace. He declared that the nationwide consultations would start in the coming days as part of a roadmap for an inclusive republican dialogue.

AMPR Project hired a public health specialist consultant to review and provide feedback on the International SOS-prepared "COVID-19 Research Report for the Central African Republic" and the "AMPR Guidelines for Fieldwork/Events During COVID-19" in order to better adapt them to the CAR context. Based on his feedback, AMPR revised the COVID-19 due diligence report and protocol accordingly. The AMPR Project also developed a pre-fieldwork checklist that is used before field trips outside of Bangui. The checklist includes all project precautions and ongoing efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The CAR Minister of Health and Population announced the preparation of a vaccination campaign against COVID-19 starting in April 2021. The governments of China, Russia, and France already announced that their countries would donate vaccination doses to support CAR's fight against COVID-19.



## 5.0 PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

**Comment on progress:** 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. He also organized training for the AMPR field team on the project indicators data requirements.

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

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% <sup>1</sup>	15%	12%	25%	11%	40%	24%	60%	Data updated from the MMG annual report of January to December 2020.
2	Percentage of major diamond-mining sub-prefectures in the Western part of the country authorized by the KP to export rough diamonds	31% <sup>2</sup>	50%	50%	50%	50%	75%	50%	100%	As above
3	Number of licensed (registered) artisanal miners	1,000 <sup>3</sup>	1,500	1,458	2,000	1,006 <sup>4</sup>	2,000	73	3,000	Artisanal miners in the KP compliant zones of Berberati (53), Boda (14), and Carnot (6).

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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%.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y 3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
4	Number of diamond buyers (collectors and buying houses) making purchases with official purchase slips	200 <sup>5</sup>	200	206	225	135 <sup>6</sup>	250		300	
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%		75%	
	<i>Men</i>	33%		33%						
	<i>Women</i>	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		5	
	<i>Number of total related to women's equal rights</i>									
	<i>Stage 1: Analyzed</i>									
	<i>Stage 2: Drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation</i>									
	<i>Stage 3: Reanalyzed/drafted based on the results of public/stakeholder consultation</i>									
	<i>Stage 4: Presented for legislation/decreed</i>									
	<i>Stage 5: Passed/approved</i>									
	<i>Stage 6: Passed for which implementation has begun</i>									
7	Number of adults who perceive their tenure rights to land or marine areas as secure as a result of USG assistance (Standard F Indicator EG.10.4-8)	1,800 <sup>7</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A		1920		2,040	

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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
8	Number of villages having formalized and strengthened their natural resource management capacity	0	0	0	5	1	5		20 <sup>8</sup>	
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 <sup>9</sup>	3		15	The security situation has slowed down advancements.
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		50	The security situation has slowed down advancements.
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		30	
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		20	
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		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		1,000	

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> 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.



N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y 3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	Type of Individual: Producer					52				
	Type of Individual: Government Agents									
	Type of Individual: Private Sector Firm									
	Type of Individual: Civil Society									
	Men					33				
	Women					19				
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		10	

# ANNEX I: SNAPSHOT



## SUCCESS STORY

### Peace and Security and the Role of CLPRs in the Political-Military Crisis in Central Africa



*Presentation of the four CLPRs in Nola to the CAR President during his official visit to Nola Subprefecture in 2020. Photo by Arnold Minang.*

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 Mbaiki. The CPC stole motorcycles and food supplies, which caused many to stop their normal activities. AMPR learned of at least one case where CPC commanders extorted miners near Boda, though this was not a general pattern. Carnot was attacked several times, although this focused on sabotaging election equipment and looting government buildings. In addition, as truckers and others sought to circumvent the closure of the main Cameroon-Bangui road by using the southern crossing at Kentzou/Gamboula, the 3R (Return, Reclamation, and Rehabilitation) armed group, reportedly charged over one million FCFA (\$2,000 USD) per truck for the right to pass through.

During this period, the local peace-building committees (CLPRs) established with the support of USAID AMPR played an important role in ensuring community tensions did not boil over into full-blown conflict. While there were no reports of direct negotiation with the armed groups, there were incidents that could have gotten out of hand without the CLPRs' involvement.

The Carnot CLPR, for example, worked with local authorities to avert a credible threat by Fulani herders to burn down and murder everyone in a village harboring someone who stole and butchered several horses. While the incident was not related to the electoral crisis, the heightened tensions during the electoral period made such situations more volatile than normal. The CLPRs in certain areas were also key players in communication and outreach efforts organized by the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) and the Government of the CAR discouraging youth from joining the CPC. In addition, observers noted that in areas without CLPRs – like Boda and Boganangone – tensions ran higher. The Mbaiki CLPR created by the government without AMPR support was also reportedly active in keeping people calm during the CPC occupation.

Despite these recent successes, the general observations presented in the AMPR-commissioned external evaluation of the CLPRs still hold true. For example, it can be difficult to separate the role of the CLPRs versus that of influential community leaders who happen to be members of the CLPR. In other words, the CLPRs have not yet necessarily gained institutional authority in their communities. An exception to this is in Berberati, where the CLPR has proactively built funding partnerships with MINUSCA, Search for Common Ground, and the Lutheran World Federation. The Berberati CLPR is almost always involved in government and NGO peacebuilding activities. However, at this point it is unclear how sustainable this will be.

As the AMPR evaluation found, the CLPRs require strengthening as institutions and supporting them should complement peace-building work outside the CLPR framework focusing on social dialogue and conflict mitigation measures at the community level. The latter is especially important because the CLPRs' emphasis on community leaders can make them function more as auxiliaries/local government partners. This is not necessarily negative as it helps resolve conflicts and maintain peace, but it also creates the risk of politicization and reliance on a top-down approach to peacebuilding.

## ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA

Local and national media covered the national debate on women's leadership in rural economies, including the mining sector, organized by AMPR this quarter. Below is a breakdown of the coverage:

Table 2: Sequence of Media Coverage of AMPR Activities

Media	Day for Broadcasting			
	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8
Radios				
Ndekeluka	✓	✓		
Centrafrique	✓		✓	
RJDH	✓	✓		
Eternel Sauve le Coeur de l'Afrique (ESCA)	✓			
Radio la Voix du Citoyen (RAVOCI)				✓
Television Centrafrique (TVCA)	✓		✓	
Newspapers				
Le Temoin				✓
DEMOCRATE				✓

## ANNEX 3: PROJECT STAFF

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
1. Maxie Muwonge	Chief of Party	Maxie.Muwonge@dpamcar.org
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## **ANNEX 4: GENERATED DATA**

There is no new data generated during this reporting period.

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