



ARTISANAL MINING AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY I – MARCH 31, 2023



Contract Number: 7200AAI8C00087
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Photo: Radical Listening Session conducted by AMPR with the Mining Community Mona Sao in Bayanga subprefecture to discuss the Implementation of the ZEA Strategy. Photo by Ava Passy

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

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	African Development Bank
ALS	<i>Antenne Locale de Suivi</i> (Kimberley Process monitoring committee at the commune level)
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
CRAFT	Code of Risk mitigation for ASM engaging in Formal Trade
CTRE-RCA	<i>Comité Technique de Réflexion et d'Echange de la République Centrafricaine</i> (Technical Reflection and Exchange Committee of the Central African Republic)
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
DAS	Deputy Assistant Secretary
DDRSC	Data, Regulation and Marketing Monitoring Department
DOAG	Development Objective Grant Agreement
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DSPA	Dzanga-Sangha Protected Area
ENABEL	<i>Agence Belge de Développement</i> (Belgian Development Agency)
ENC	<i>Elie Numerique Centrafrique</i>
ERT	Emergency Response Team
EU	European Union
FACA	<i>Forces armées centrafricaines</i> (Central African Armed Forces)
GODICA	Strengthening the governance of CAR's artisanal diamond and gold mining sectors

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)
HEAT	Hostile environment awareness training
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INGO	International non-governmental organization
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
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 the Central African Republic
MMG	Ministry of Mines and Geology
NGO	Nongovernmental 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
TVCA	CAR National Television
USAF	<i>Unité Spéciale Anti-Fraude</i> (Anti-Fraud Police Unit)

USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs)
WB	World Bank
WIF	Women's Innovation Fund
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
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) 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 quarter I of the fifth year of project implementation.

Objective 1 of the project aims to strengthen CAR's capacity to implement 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 also 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.

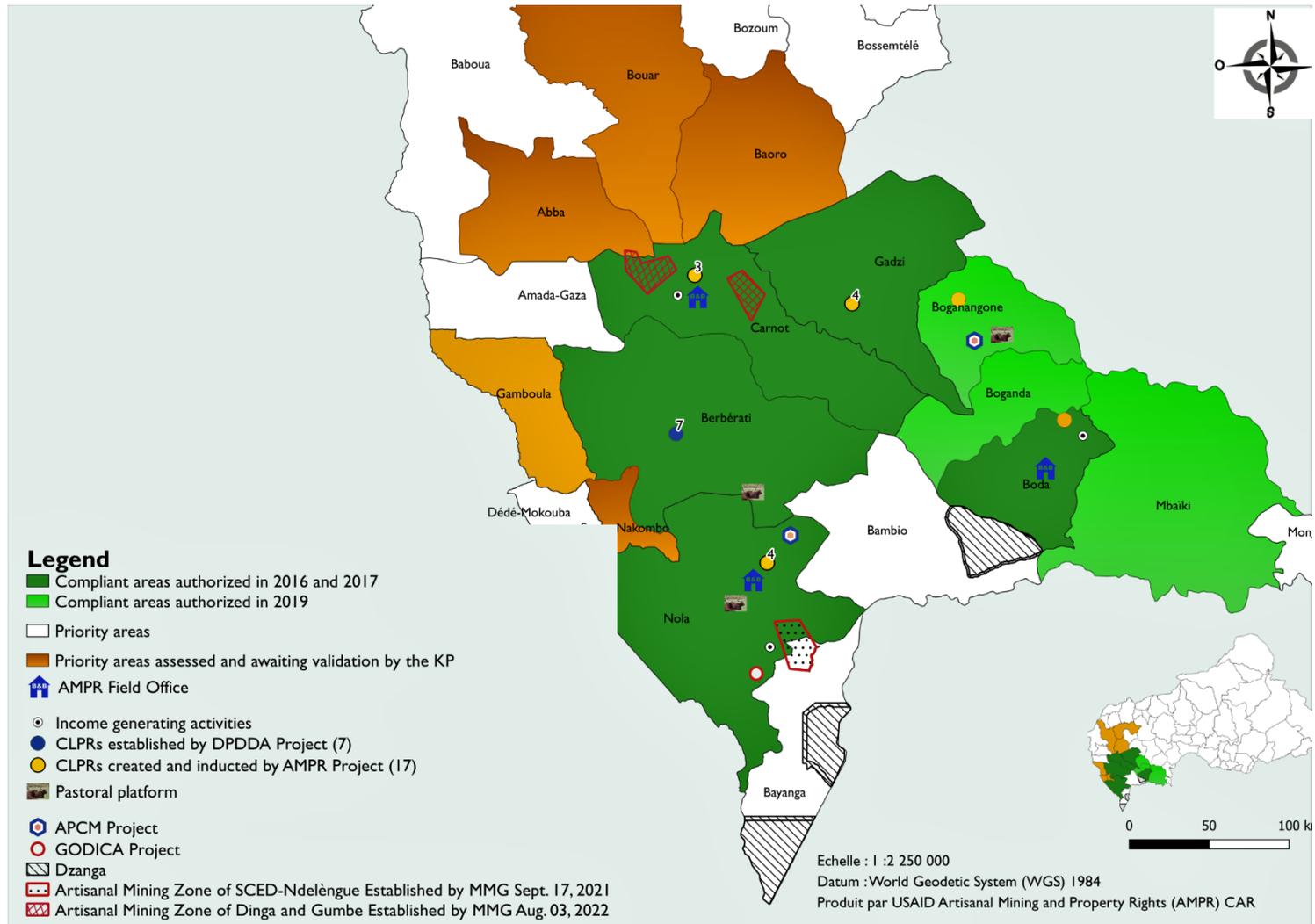
Objective 2 strengthens social cohesion and economic development in diamond mining communities. AMPR is building upon lessons learned from PRADD II and expanding local structures and processes for fostering peace and reconciliation. AMPR supports the expansion of local peace and reconciliation committees (*Comités Locaux de Paix et Réconciliation [CLPRs]*), as well as their efforts to monitor and resolve conflicts and conduct peacebuilding activities. The project is continuing efforts to foster coordination between the government ministries responsible for mining and peacebuilding. Finally, AMPR 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 the gold supply chain 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. In Y4, AMPR commissioned a study to generate recommendations for improving gold commercialization and export systems in CAR.

Objective 4 involves responding to USAID's requests for technical assistance with respect to understanding the linkages between ASM and development issues. One recent example is AMPR's evaluation of the PRADD II project in Côte d'Ivoire, which concluded in 2018.

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

Figure 1: Map of Southwestern Central African Republic and AMPR Field Activities



2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AMPR supports USAID's Land and Resource Governance Office and the USAID Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Mission's Central Africa Program 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 ASM in a multidisciplinary fashion, focusing 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). This quarterly performance report describes achievements realized under the AMPR between January 1 and March 31, 2023.

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:

- The CAR Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat (CAR KPPS), with the technical support of MMG partners, developed a new and improved CAR KP certificate with strengthened security features which came into use on January 25, 2023.
- The CAR KPPS has documented diamond exports of 21,162 carats from January to March 2023, equivalent to 18.3% of the 115,574 carats exported in 2022, thanks in part to the coordinated support between the MMG and CAR KPPS partners.
- AMPR organized a workshop for the validation of CAR's export documents translated into English by AMPR.
- AMPR provided technical and logistical support to a joint AMPR and MMG team that georeferenced 167 active sites mine in the Dinga and Guembé pilot ZEA in Carnot using the Open Data Kit questionnaire developed by the AMPR.
- AMPR supported the establishment of the management structures of the new pilot ZEA of Dinga and Guembé in the Carnot KP compliant zone.
- AMPR applied the Radical Listening tools of the Health in Harmony (HiH) firm to facilitate community discussion to establish a system to generate revenues in the pilot ZEAs of Carnot and Nola from mining operations to invest in community development.
- AMPR conducted a Master-Class on designing and conducting a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey for the CAR KPPS and MMG data management staff.
- AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the CAR KPPS to review the KP operational framework implementation in CAR since the 2019 fraud study jointly conducted by AMPR, KPPS and MMG.
- AMPR participated in the CAR Mining Sector Meeting for Heads of Missions meeting chaired by the World Bank Country Manager for CAR to discuss synergies between diplomatic missions and technical partners supporting the CAR mining sector.

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

- AMPR met with consultants contracted by USAID to assess the dynamics of the Local Peace Committees (CLPR) in CAR and shared details of the project's support for the CLPR in the KP compliant zones of the Southwestern CAR.

- AMPR supported the Ministry of Humanitarian Action Solidarity and National Reconciliation (MHASNR) to organize a multi-stakeholder roundtable in Berberati to discuss and debate key issues affecting social cohesion, including pastoralism.
- AMPR supported a joint mission with (MHASNR) to train 168 CLPR members and 161 local peace association representatives on using the image toolboxes developed by AMPR to facilitate sessions on social cohesion and peace building.
- AMPR provided technical and logistical support to the MHASNR to organize a biannual coordination and exchange meeting on the issues and challenges of re-establishing the legal diamond chain.
- AMPR provided technical and logistical support to boost the capacity of 10 women from Boda, Berberati, Carnot and Nola subprefectures in the advanced diamond evaluation under the Women's Innovation Fund (WIF) strategy.
- AMPR supported information sharing regarding the implementation of the Women's Innovation Fund through a Network of Women Entrepreneurs in Boda, Carnot and Nola subprefectures.
- AMPR supported the creation of a Regional CLPR Coordination team based in Berberati, which will act as the interface between the MHASNR and CLPRs on the technical and logistical needs to sustain the CLPR field activities.

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

- MMG included the findings of the AMPR evaluation of CAR gold marketing and export system and value-added opportunities in its presentation in a workshop conducted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in Bangui.
- CAR's gold exports from January to March 2023 totaled 568 kg, equivalent to 36.9% of the 1,536 kilograms exported in 2022. Such unprecedented levels of gold exports are partly due to improved security in CAR's gold-producing western and central regions.

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

- The PRADD II Cote d'Ivoire Performance Evaluation team completed and submitted a draft report in French to AMPR for review. The International Consultant is drafting the English version to be submitted to USAID in the next quarter.
- AMPR and the CAR World Wildlife Fund (WWF) staff participated in a Health in Harmony (HiH) facilitated training on radical listening tools.

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 1 - March 31, 2023. 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 activity builds upon efforts that began in 2016 to implement a strategy to combat diamond smuggling, particularly into 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 buying house activity and lax airport controls. As such, AMPR is facilitating a rigorous and participatory consultative process, including a visit to the MMG's counterpart in Cameroon last quarter, 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 this quarter, the CAR KPPS, with the technical support of MMG partners, developed a new and improved CAR KP certificate with strengthened security features. The KP certificate was redesigned to take into consideration the change of address and following the formalization of the CAR Permanent Secretariat of the KP as a Directorate under the MMG. The paper for printing the certificate has been personalized and has three levels of control for 15 security points. The levels of control include features visible to the naked eye; those visible only in UV light; UV ink springs bright yellow or blue; and those only visible with a magnifying glass and/or microscope. The CAR KPPS started to issue the new KP certificate on January 25, 2023. CAR KPPS shared a copy (specimen) of the certificate with the global KP Members. AMPR anticipates that the introduction of a new certificate with reinforced security features will eliminate duplication and falsification of credentials for the export of rough diamonds from CAR.

CAR 2023 Diamond Exports: The CAR Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat (KPPS) documented 21,162 carats of diamonds exported from January to March 2023, equivalent to 18.3% of the 115,574 carats exported in 2022. So far, 2023 diamond exports are valued at around USD 3.48 million. So far, CCO, VOGUROC and DUNTA are the major exporters in 2023. GoCAR anticipates the return of LAND SEA TRADE, a key exporter in the country, and the arrival of new exporters, AMERICAN EAGLE, VOGUERO, and CLASSE DIAMANT, will increase diamond exports in 2023. MMG is applying the new Mercurial pricing system for rough diamonds at exportation. The Mercurial price was increased by around 120% for all categories of exported diamonds, effective January 13, 2023. AMPR will continue to monitor the impact of this high mercurial pricing on diamond exports in 2023.

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 broader reform process.

Results: In this quarter, AMPR organized a technical validation workshop with the MMG and CAR KPPS to validate CAR's export documents translated into English by AMPR. The workshop was attended by the BECDOR Evaluators, KPPS, and MMG Department of Data and Commercialization. AMPR provided technical support to translate the CAR export exit pass (Laissez-passer) and export forms into English. The newly validated export documents are in both French and English. The MMG opted to include English to facilitate communication with exporters from English-speaking countries.

New Mercurial Pricing of Diamond: The Minister of Mines and Geology signed on January 13, 2023, a decree for a new Mercurial pricing system for brut diamonds at exportation. The Mercurial price was increased by 140% for all categories of exported diamonds. In 2020, MMG reduced the Mercurial price for diamonds following a decline in the global prices of diamonds due to the COVID-19 international travel restrictions. Whereas the global price of diamonds recovered and stabilized from 2021, GoCAR maintained the low Mercurial price set during the COVID-19 period. Against this background, in Q3 of 2022, MMG set up a committee to review the Mercurial price for diamonds based on the global diamond pricing levels in consultation with all sector actors. AMPR has been engaging the MMG to address the undervaluation of CAR diamonds and welcomes the revision of the mercurial pricing system. However, AMPR is concerned about a high Mercurial price increase of 140% and will continue to monitor the impact of this high mercurial pricing on diamond exports.

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 reporting, 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 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 *Société pour le Développement Minier de la Côte d'Ivoire* (SODEMI) model for village-based revenue management (see Activity 1.2.3).

Results: The World Bank (WB) confirmed that GoCAR had presented the draft Mining Code to the CAR National Assembly for review. The technical contribution of the MMG partners to the Code is limited at this stage.

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's MEL Expert and a legal land expert consultant participated in a joint mission with the MMG to establish the management structures of the new pilot ZEA of Dinga and Guembé in the Carnot KP compliant zone. The team facilitated community General Assemblies to elect members of the ZEA Steering Committee and the Community Development Committees of Dinga and Guembé. The legal land expert, Jacques Désiré, trained the 15 elected members of the ZEA Steering Committees of Dinga and Guembé in organizational management, report writing techniques, inventory management, filling out the production register, etc. In Dinga, the President of Artisanal Miners mobilized 40,000 XAF, which was handed over to the new ZEA Steering Committee. The artisanal miners promised to continue supporting the Steering Committee to enable it to implement community development initiatives.

Georeferencing Mine Sites in Carnot ZEA: AMPR and MMG completed a joint mission to georeference active mine sites in the Dinga and Guembé pilot ZEA in Carnot. Based on a participatory map of the active mining areas/villages within the ZEA developed with the community, the team georeferenced 167 active sites using the Open Data Kit questionnaire developed by the AMPR MEL Expert. The georeferenced data will be the basis for issuing mining site recognition certificates in the pilot ZEAs in Carnot. Prior to the mission, AMPR MEL Expert led a training for the team to improve their knowledge on data collection



Photo 1: Elected Members of the ZEA Steering Committee in Guembé, Carnot subprefecture. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.



Photo 2: Active Mine Site in Guembe georeferenced by the AMPR-MMG team in the Carnot pilot ZEA. Photo by Bienvenu Houltoupou, envenu.Houltoupou@dpamcar.org.

methodology, the testing, and the analysis of the questionnaire via the Open Data Kit (ODK) Collection tool.

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 on developing and building consensus around the model(s) to pilot in Year 1. 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: In Y5 Q1, AMPR documented the existing good practices for generating revenue at the Bagandou and Ndolobo mine sites. In this past quarter, AMPR's Component I Coordinator and MEL Specialist used Radical Listening tools (see section below for more details on the Radical Listening training session and field application in CAR) of the Health in Harmony (HiH) firm to facilitate community discussion on how the management mechanism of Bagandou and Ndolobo mine sites could be adapted to generate revenue for the operation of the Local Development Committee (LDC) of the pilot ZEA SCED-Ndélégué ZEA. The listening sessions also discussed issuing community recognition forms for formalizing customary land rights on mining plots in the pilot ZEA in Nola. The 167 community participants in the various sessions recommended that LDC members intensify the sensitization of artisanal miners and mine site owners to contribute to the community basket fund to raise enough funds for community development projects. LDC members are frustrated by the lack of commitment from the NGOs operating in their region, which they approached to support the implementation of the community development work plan developed with the support of AMPR.

The AMPR team held a debriefing meeting with ZEA Steering Committee (SC) members on the recommendation generated by the mining communities in the pilot SCED to generate revenue for their local development projects. The SC members, including the Mayor of Nola Town and regional officers of the MMG, Ministry of Water and Environment, KPPS, and regional commander for the Mining Police, acknowledged that without support from partners, it would be difficult for the Local Development Committee (LDC) to mobilize revenue to implement the planned ZEA community development activities. The SC recommended enhancing coordination between the MMG and the LDC to sensitize artisanal miners and mine site owners to contribute to the community basket fund to raise enough funds for community development projects. The SC members noted their availability to support the deliverance of recognition certificates for formalizing customary land rights of georeferenced mining plots in the ZEA to resolve the boundary concerns with Dzangha Sangha Protected Areas (APDS).

Training and Application of Radical Listening

Summary of topics covered during the training in Radical Listening by Health in Harmony. The training focused on techniques of witnessing and listening to a group as they enter into authentic conversation with one another. The training mainly covered how Radical Listening (RL) helps identify key fulcrums of change in a community, how it commits to



Photo 3: Radical Listening session in SCED, facilitated by AMPR. Photo: AMPR. Photo by Benjamin Ndongo.

the community's solutions, and how RL prioritizes the community's governance as the solutions are implemented.

The training proposed a framework that supports a group as they wrestle with their problems and work to reach consensus about the solutions based on priorities. The training thus presented RL as an alternative to the existing development and conservation paradigms, which tend to be top-down and exclude, or only partially include, local perspectives.

In detail, the following topics were covered during the training:

- **The Origin and Definition of Radical Listening.** The trainers noted that the origin of RL goes back to 2004 when Dr. Kinari Webb visited the Coast of Aceh in the Indonesian rainforest, which was hit by the 2004 tsunami. She noticed a lack of listening to the communities by aid agencies to provide support in line with communities' priorities. It was based on this experience that in 2005, Dr. Webb created Health in Harmony (HiH) in collaboration with one of her friends as an organization grounded in the practice of listening. HiH defines Radical Listening as "is a way of listening to a group of people that supports them as they wrestle with their problems, and eventually drop into agreement about the solutions. It begins a process that allows resources to flow into these communities from the world, so that the communities can implement their own solutions." HiH consider RL an alternative approach to solving complex problems: a community-based process that honors the expertise of those closest to the challenges, which uses the art of listening to the collective of local communities and finding transformative solutions. They see RL as effective in creating positive change with solutions optimized for the local context where people are ready to implement them; it facilitates action, ownership, and dignity.
- **Guiding Principles of Radical Listening.** RL emphasizes:
 - *Embracing inter-being:* All living beings are interconnected and interdependent.
 - *Resisting the colonial mentality:* We believe that local communities know the most transformative solutions.
 - *Honoring community intelligence:* We seek out the collective expertise that only emerges through a community.
 - *Practicing reciprocity:* We enter into a partnership of mutual giving for a prosperous future together.
- **RL differs from existing development practices** as it emphasizes on interconnection and interdependence, builds on community knowledge, allows communities to decide what to do and the NGOs provide support, and promotes a process of reciprocity.
- **RL is different from other listening methodologies** because it involves active listening to an individual or to a group, fosters facilitating methods through the process of letting go of the outcomes and trusting the community and the process, and uses participatory methods whereby "a group of community members design the solutions themselves and refine the work as it proceeds."
- **RL require having "Good Receiver Skills"** which, in turn, involve embracing inter-being, cultivating presence, building rapport, remembering and reflecting, and relating to emotion.
- **RL is a long-term cyclical process** including:
 - Preparing for the region where the listening will take place;
 - Conducting radical listening sessions during which collaborative solutions are identified;
 - Holding a follow-up meeting to finalize an agreement with the communities;
 - Signing the agreement and celebrating the event;

- Implementing the locally sourced solutions; and
- Carrying out Follow-up sessions.

Application of RL in the CAR context. In the CAR, the AMPR team, in collaboration with the Central African mining authorities when defining artisanal mining zones (ZEA)— while preserving critical biodiversity areas—noted the incursion of artisanal miners and local communities into the Dzanga-Sangha protected area. To address this issue, the AMPR team, in agreement with representatives of the CAR government and other partners operating in the field, planned to enter into an in-depth dialogue with artisanal miners and local communities operating within the perimeter of the protected area to reach consensus on their transfer to zones specifically reserved for artisanal mining outside the protected reserve. USAID, in agreement with the AMPR management team, proposed to introduce the RL methodology to the AMPR field team to initiate this dialogue.

HiH prepared and delivered a two-day theoretical training (approximately 4 hours each day) to the AMPR team (for both home and field office staff) on the RL methodology. Following this theoretical training, the field team went out into the field to apply it.

The RL sessions AMPR conducted with the communities of Monasao in Bayanga sub-prefecture failed to agree on priorities and community-driven solutions implementing the Development and Management Plan (2017-2021) of the Protected Areas Dzanga-Sangha (APDS) and the Dzanga-Sangha National Park. Some community members cooperated with WWF to relocate mining camps from inside the APDS and Park to the ZEA and other mining zones outside the protected areas. Other community members argued that the APDS and Park are within their native lands, and proposed that GoCAR declassify the areas of the APDS and Park they occupy to enable them to conduct traditional hunting and mining activities, which are the main traditional livelihoods for their survival and source of revenue for youth.

Elsewhere, after witnessing and listening to the mining communities in the pilot ZEA of SCED Ndéléngué in the Nola sub-prefecture, AMPR established that the RL methodology was useful in generating honest discussions about the formalization of customary land and mining rights. This approach enabled the various community members and groups to present their priorities for formalizing land rights as they perceived them. The listening tools enabled the participants to propose community-designed solutions to formalize their customary land and mining rights.

Based on the two examples above, AMPR noted a need for technical guidance while applying RL tools to enable the community groups to wrestle with their problems and eventually reach an agreement about practical and legally acceptable solutions by other stakeholders. Furthermore, AMPR noted a need to set certain realistic boundaries and help community groups determine the desired long-term outcomes.

Finally, listening has to be supported by negotiations so that the communities can suggest workable solutions.

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: In Y4, AMPR completed the second knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) survey in the KP-compliant zones, and the survey report was submitted to USAID. This quarter, AMPR's MEL Specialist and Component I Coordinator conducted a Master-Class on designing and conducting a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey for the CAR KPPS and MMG data management staff. The training aims to transfer competence to the MMG and KPPS data management staff to enable them to continue conducting KAP surveys in the future using the AMPR KAP survey model for the CAR Mining sector. Using the AMPR 2022 KAP survey, the AMPR team explained the best practices for designing a questionnaire and methodology for a KAP survey. AMPR also provided an overview of data processing and analysis. The AMPR team also illustrated the use of the Open Data Kit (ODK) tool for data collection and created a demonstration Kobo Data Collect account for the KPPS data team.

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: No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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 in the next quarter as part of the action plans for the pilot ZEAs in SCED-Ndélingué, Nola sub-prefecture and the pilot Dinga ZEA in Carnot (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 regional workshop organized by the KPPS in Berberati to review the KP operational framework implementation in CAR since the 2019 fraud study jointly conducted by AMPR and MMG. Other participants included Regional Officers of the MMG, KPPS, Mining Police, and representatives of *Bureaux d'Achats*, Collectors and Cooperatives from Berberati, Carnot, Nola, Gadzi, Gamboula and Sosso-Nakombo. The workshop noted considerable progress in implementing the KP requirements (criteria), evidenced by the increase in diamond production, the increase in the number of legal actors and the drastic reduction in the rate of fraud and smuggling. The workshop attributed this improvement to the MMG partners' support for the KP institutional framework, notably AMPR's support for the quarterly CLS KP coordination meetings in the KP compliant zones. Also, the World Bank's support enabled the decentralized structures of the KPPS, while GODICA supported the National KP Monitoring Committee (CNS-KP) activities. The workshop highlighted the challenges for logistical support to sustain the CNS KP and CLS KP activities following the closure of projects supporting the MMG. The workshop also noted the absence of MINUSCA in the meetings of the CNS-PK and CLS-PK, which hindered the KPPS from obtaining sufficient information, especially on the security situation in the KP complaint zones. The workshop formulated several recommendations for improvement of the Operational Framework based on lessons learned.

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 quarter, AMPR's COP participated in a mining sector meeting of Heads of Agencies and diplomatic missions chaired by the World Bank Country Manager for CAR at the WB Bangui offices. Other participants of this hybrid meeting included the US and EU Ambassadors, representatives of the African Development Bank, IMF, and WB mining experts from South Africa and the UK. The key highlights of the meeting include the following:

GoCAR indicated that most of the WB and IMF comments were integrated into the final draft of the Mining Code submitted to the National Assembly. The WB officially requested the latest draft Code to evaluate if it meets the recommended international standards.

- WB informed GoCAR that they have until the end of June 2023 to finalize the Code in order for the conditioned funds of about \$60m to be released to CAR.
- WB support for the CAR KPPS will end in December 2023, but the WB is open to supporting a follow-up PGRN type of project in the coming years.
- WB is engaging the MMG to explore means of supporting the CAR KPPS from the revenue of diamond exports. This strategy, however, is subject to CAR's capacity to increase the volumes of legal diamond exports.
- US Ambassador confirmed availability to support the WB's efforts to have a CAR Mining Code that meets international standards.
- EU reported that CAR Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is late in submitting its interim report and called on partners to support capacity building for CAR EITI.
- AMPR COP reported that the project had started close-out activities and is working with the relevant MMG units to ensure a soft closure.
- WB is very concerned about the possibility of no donor support for the CAR Mining Sector in 2024 for the first time since the WB, EU, and US joint support to the MMG started during PRADD I.

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: No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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: No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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 upon 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-MHASNR 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's COP and MEL Expert met with consultants contracted by USAID to assess the dynamics of the Local Peace Committees (CLPR) in CAR. AMPR discussed with the consultants the details of the project's support for the CLPR to implement activities on the restitution of property for the returnee Muslim diamond collectors, cohabitation of farmers, artisanal miners, and transhumant herders, combating fraud and smuggling schemes, and monitoring the movement of weapons in the mining zones in coordination with relevant GoCAR. AMPR shared with consultants the tools developed for the CLPR, notably the social dialogue image toolbox, CLPR performance evaluation criteria, conflict registers, and the CLPR newsletter. The consultants traveled to Bangassou, Alindao, and Obo to evaluate the performance of CLPRs put in place by UNDP and MINUSCA. The consultants did not travel to the Southwestern CAR to evaluate the CLPRs established by AMPR. Instead, AMPR shared the phone contacts of the leaders of the CLPRs to enable the consultants to have phone discussions with them, obtain their perspectives and document their local peace initiatives. AMPR avails itself to provide

follow-up feedback and orientation to enable the USAID consultants to consolidate their findings on local peacebuilding initiatives in CAR.

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 MHASNR to identify other donors to support the established CLPRs' strengthening—not only in the diamond mining areas of the southwest but throughout the country.



Photo 4: Meeting of AMPR with USAID Consultants evaluating the performance of the CLPRs in CAR. Photo by Linca Tuyisenge.

Results: This quarter, AMPR's Technical Advisor on Social Cohesion participated in capacity-building training for 168 CLPR members and 161 local peace associations in Berberati, Boda, Boganangone, Carnot, Gadzi and Nola on using the image toolboxes to facilitate community-based dialogue around the issues and challenges of peace, social cohesion, respect for property rights and compliance with the KP certification mechanism in the compliant zones. Copies of the toolbox and training guides developed by AMPR were given to the participants to enable them to conduct social dialogue activities in their communities. AMPR included the local associations in the training in order to establish a network of local peace actors that use harmonized social dialogue tools (image toolbox) and approaches in conflict prevention and management at the community level.



Photo 5: Training of CLPR and other Local Peace Actors on Using Social Dialogue Image Toolbox in Berberati. Photo by Abdel Adoum.

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 filmed some of the community meetings leading to the establishment of CLPRs to produce several short videos (capsules) for use in social dialogue sessions. AMPR Social Cohesion Advisor Dr. Zéphirin 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.

Results: AMPR, in coordination with the MHASNR, organized a multi-stakeholder roundtable in Berberati to discuss and debate key issues affecting social cohesion, including pastoralism. The roundtable was directly broadcasted on radio Zoukpana, enabling the representatives of the 24 CLPR established by AMPR to respond directly to questions and comments raised by the live audience — the community. The audience telephoned asking for details on how the CLPRs support the restitution of confiscated properties of exiled Muslim returnees, the role of the CLPRs in the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts related to transhumance, and how the CLPRs are involved in the fight against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). AMPR obtained a copy of the audio registration of the roundtable discussion, which will be broadcast on various local and national radios in the next quarter.



Photo 6: Multi-stakeholder participants at the CLPR roundtable discussion in Berberati. Photo by Arnold Minang.

CAR Reconciliation Commission Roundtable: CAR's Prime Minister launched the roundtable discussions of CAR's Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR). The roundtable discussions enable the Commission to obtain recommendations on the implementation of mechanisms for delivering justice, accountability, and compensation to the victims of the various political and security turbulences in CAR. The Prime Minister highlighted that the roundtable discussions would ensure the mobilization, coordination, and engagement of Technical and Financial Partners (TFP) in the implementation of the mandate and mission of the CVJRR. The Prime Minister emphasized that the CVJRR is a key element for the gradual return to peace in CAR and appealed to partners for technical and financial support to enable the Commission to realize this mission. AMPR's Senior Advisor on Social Cohesion was involved in consultations for drafting the CVJRR strategy in 2021. He proposed that GoCAR include the CLPRs as community-based peace structures for implementing the CVJRR strategy.

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.

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 were defined in the Gender Action Plan, including those implemented as part of the Year 1 Work Plan. By investing in a participatory and rigorous field and desk research, AMPR identified activities that meshed with its overall strategy and had the maximum chance of long-term sustainability and success.

Results: A woman beneficiary in Boda of AMPR's training on theoretical and practical techniques for food production through market gardening and agricultural diversification has expanded and sustained her livelihood activities. Following the training in 2022, the beneficiary started individual vegetable gardening. In Q1 of 2023, the beneficiary sold XAF 165,000 worth of vegetables. She reinvested part of the money to expand and sustain her garden and used some of the money to support her family. AMPR's Community Mobilizer monitors the beneficiary's activities and provides additional technical support on vegetable gardening and marketing.

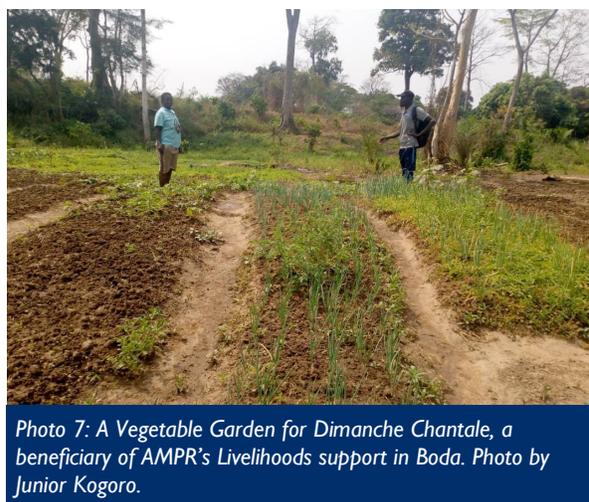


Photo 7: A Vegetable Garden for Dimanche Chantale, a beneficiary of AMPR's Livelihoods support in Boda. Photo by Junior Kogoro.

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: This quarter, AMPR provided technical and logistical support to boost women's entrepreneurship activities in Boda, Carnot and Nola subprefectures through advanced training in Diamond evaluation. Ten women from Boda, Carnot, Berberati, and Nola benefited from advanced training on diamond evaluation conducted by MMG BECDOR in Bangui. The advanced practical training focuses on how to use hand-held loupes to classify and evaluate rough diamonds using the criteria of the

4-C's (Cut, Carat, Color, and Clarity). The women also visited the *Bureau d'Achat SUD AZUR* to have comprehensive exposure to the diamond evaluation and trade process. The women met with the President of the CAR Women Association to discuss how they could be assisted to strengthen their local mining associations. The women beneficiaries of this advanced training will assist other women in their region in evaluating their diamonds before selling. By knowing the quality of rough diamonds in advance of sales, women are better prepared to bargain for a better price. It was the first time BECDOR conducted advanced training for women artisanal miners. The MMG applauded this initiative that is contributing to rapidly expanding the place of women in the artisanal diamond economy of southwestern CAR.



Photo 8: Beneficiaries of the WIF participating in Advanced Training on diamond evaluation AMPR's Bangui Office. Photo by Arnold Minang.

Network of Women Entrepreneurs: This quarter, AMPR regional offices in Boda, Carnot and Nola, in coordination with the MMG, met with women artisanal miners who have excelled in the training on the evaluation of diamond and SMARTER mining techniques offered under the investment funds

implementation. The meetings were also attended by women entrepreneurs as beneficiaries of AMPR's livelihoods support, who have become autonomous in expanding artisanal soapmaking activities and participation in village savings and loan associations (VSLA). The meetings discussed a plan of action to establish a women's network that constitutes a core technical resource for these women that have excelled in various domains. AMPR provided the women with copies of training modules and material support to train other women in their respective livelihoods and entrepreneurship. The networks developed action plans to share experiences with other women and build their local entrepreneurship capacity.



Photo 9: Women Beneficiaries of IF in Boda developing a work plan to share experiences with other women. Photo by Junior Kogoro.

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 MHASNR. At this stage, it is unclear whether 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: No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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 NGOs and other actors working to promote peace and reconciliation in the CAR. In Year 1, AMPR focused on building coordination and synergies at the local level, notably through clarifying mandates and roles of the local CLS/ALS and CLPRs, 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: AMPR, in coordination with the MHASNR, organized a constitutive assembly of representatives of CLPR to elect six members of the Regional CCLR Coordination Office in Berberati. The six elected members, which included one woman, were inducted by the Central Inspector of the MHASNR and the Sub-Prefect of Berberati. AMPR and MHASNR trained the elected members on their mandate. The regional CLPR office will act as the interface between the MHASNR and CLPRs on the technical and logistical needs to sustain the CLPR field activities. Also, the elected regional officers will coordinate with the MHASNR to engage other partners to support peacebuilding and social cohesion activities based on the CLPR activity plans developed with the support of AMPR. AMPR supports the strategy of a regional Coordination Office to reinforce the monitoring and coordination of CLPR activities in the KP Compliant Zones as the support of the AMPR Community Mobilizers is gradually phased out due to project closeout. The term of office of the elected regional coordinators is three years, renewable once.



Photo 10: The six elected members of the CLPR Regional Coordination Office in Berberati. Photo by Arnold Minang.

Economic Development and Social Cohesion: AMPR's Senior Advisor on Social Cohesion participated in a restitution workshop for research on economic development and social cohesion in CAR. The Institute for Research and Applications of Development Methods (IRAM) workshop was attended by senior officials of MHASNR, INGOs, University of Bangui and Technical and Financial Partners—World Bank and EU. The research conducted by IRAM in the Southwestern CAR between 2021-2022 highlighted efforts of local initiatives on the issues of pastoralism and transhumance, the post-conflict resilience of agricultural and pastoral communities, and the challenges related to the next local elections of the mayors of the communes. AMPR's Senior Advisor on Social Cohesion used the opportunity to detail the project's support for the CLPR to implement activities on the restitution of property for the returnee Muslim diamond collectors, cohabitation of farmers, artisanal miners, and transhumant herders, combating fraud and smuggling schemes, and monitoring the movement of weapons in the mining zones in coordination with relevant GoCAR. AMPR's feedback enabled IRAM to consolidate its findings on ongoing local peacebuilding initiatives supported by USAID in the Southwestern CAR.



Photo 11: Participants, including AMPR, at the Restitution Workshop organized by IRAM in Bangui. Photo by Dr Zéphirin MOGBA.

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 were then presented and discussed at a national workshop in January 2020. 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.

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, which will 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 is intended to work alongside 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. Next quarter more work will be done in collaboration with the WB APCM project to formalize pre-cooperatives and cooperatives operating in the SCED ZEA.

Results: AMPR submitted to USAID a report prepared by AMPR's International Consultant Armel Nganzi and two national experts on CAR gold marketing and export system and value-added opportunities. This quarter, AMPR participated in a two-day workshop organized by the MMG and International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in Bangui. The ICGLR delegation from Burundi presented the ICGLR strategy for the ASM gold traceability, which they proposed to CAR for adoption. The workshop chaired by the Minister —MMG recommended the establishment of a complaint management mechanism to collect information to be made available to the ICGLR, the involvement of sector ministries in the process of formalizing the gold sector, building the capacity building of actors on the formalization of the gold sector and the mobilization of the resources necessary for the formalization of the gold sector.



Photo 12: Participants, including AMPR of the ICGLR Workshop on the ASM Gold traceability in CAR. Photo by St-Cyr Ngana-Dora.

ICGLR secretariat promised to provide CAR with the required documentation for the development of the national strategy on gold. MMG included the AMPR gold marketing, export system and value-added opportunities assessment findings in its presentation on the status of the ASM gold sector in CAR during a workshop conducted by International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in Bangui.

CAR 2023 Gold Exports: BECDOR has documented export figures for January to March 2023 of 568 kg, equivalent to 36.9% of the 1,536 kilograms exported in 2022. So far, the exported gold in 2023 is valued at around USD 23 million. The remarkable gold exports of more than 150 kg a month in 2023 are expected to surpass CAR's 2022 record due to improved security in CAR (especially in the west and central regions), which enables exporters to access, purchase, and export more gold. Also, the arrival of new foundries America Eagle Business and AURELIA will significantly increase gold exports in 2023. Foundries SWISS GOLD, SIGMA Gold, SAWA-SAWA, and KOTTO MINES are the four major exporters in 2023 so far.

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: No activity was planned for this past 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: The performance evaluation team completed field work and the drafting of the first report on a retrospective performance evaluation of the PRADD II project in Côte d'Ivoire. The field research team submitted the French draft report to AMPR for review. As of the writing of this report, Dr. Huntington completed working on the English version of the report submitted to USAID.

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 activity was planned for 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 No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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: AMPR Home Office and CAR based staff participated in a virtual training on radical listening tools facilitated by Health in Harmony (HiH). Other participants included the CAR World Wildlife Fund (WWF) team. The training focused on techniques of witnessing and listening to a group as they enter into authentic conversation with one another. The training proposed a framework that supports a group as they wrestle with their problems and eventually agree about the solutions based on priorities. As such, the training presented Radical Listening as an alternative to the existing development and conservation paradigms, which are considered “colonial” and either exclude or only partially include local perspectives. Following the training, AMPR applied the tools to facilitate dialogues with Mona-Sao communities in the Bayanga sub-prefecture to reach a consensus to implement activities and respect the boundaries of the buffer zone of the pilot SCED-Ndélégué ZEA in the Nola subprefecture.



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: No activity was planned for this past quarter.

4.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

4.1 INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

No activity was planned for this past quarter.

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

USAID 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. AMPR and USAID also receive updates on the EU GODICA and World Bank —WB PGRN projects during the calls. The key themes of discussion during this quarter closeout plan for AMPR field activities to ensure a smooth handover to the MMG and MHASNR for continuity. USAID also recommended that AMPR experiments the Radical Listening tools to determine their applicability to facilitate community dialogue on the process of issuing the certificates for customary land rights on mining plots in the pilot SCED Ndéléngué ZEA in Nola subprefecture.

CAR Mining Technical Coordination Meeting: AMPR convened two virtual CAR mining technical coordination meetings in February and March 2023. Other participants included USAID, the WB and the PGRN. The team discussed highlights of the WB visit to CAR in March 2023, notably the decision to end support to the CAR KP Permanent Secretariate by the end of 2023. The WB offered to support the MMG in developing strategies to generate revenue from the diamond exports to cover the operational costs of the CAR KPPS. The WB engaged the MMG to accelerate the recruitment of a consultant to support the policy documents for the draft CAR Mining Code. The process has stalled due to disagreements over the role of the WB consultants. Some MMG experts propose the WB avails the funds to facilitate the Committee that drafted the Mining Code to work on these policy documents. AMPR presented key highlights from the Y5 closeout work plan, including closing all field offices by June 30, 2023. The WB is concerned that with the scheduled closure of both AMPR and PGRN in 2023, it is likely that in 2024 there will be no technical project supporting MMG and CAR KPPS.

CAR Working Group Meeting: AMPR's COP participated in a virtual call organized by Invisible Children on February 01, 2023. Other participants included the USAID DRC Mission Director and staff, USG Washington and representatives of INGOs engaged in humanitarian and development interventions in CAR. The team discussed the impact of the insecurity and political dynamics on humanitarian and development interventions in CAR, notably the CPC armed group attacks on the Béloko border, military operations in Northern and Eastern CAR and the planned referendum in CAR. The meeting discussed the increasing number of transhumance incidents along the transhumance corridors of movements of pastoralist groups from Chad, Cameroon, Sudan, and South Sudan. The USAID DRC Mission Director announced that the USG renewed its Development Objective Grants Agreement (DOGA) with CAR in 2022. Through the DOGA, USAID will continue to support stabilization activities to mitigate the drivers of conflict and improve the health sector and wildlife and forest conservation. AMPR presented its efforts to support local leaders and peace committees to facilitate peaceful resolutions of transhumance related conflicts.

US Embassy Briefing with AMPR: In January 2023, AMPR's COP met with the Political and Economic Officer of the US Embassy in CAR. The meeting discussed key updates of AMPR support to the MMG, especially on the compliance with the KP Operational Framework and institutional and policy reforms, including the implication of the new mercurial pricing system for rough diamonds at exportation. The meeting also discussed the significance of the historically unprecedented gold exports of 1,536 kg in

2022. AMPR expressed readiness to continue to offer technical support in the form of talking points and other appropriate materials on the mining sector for the meetings of the US officials with GoCAR.

4.3 OFFICES

Closure of AMPR's Carnot Field Office: On February 17, 2023, AMPR organized a closing ceremony for its Carnot field office. The Acting Prefect and the Mayor of Carnot Prefecture officiated the ceremony at the Carnot Town Hall. Other participants included the regional officers of the MMG, KPPS, Mining Police, CLS-KP, CLPRs, and Women Associations, beneficiaries of AMPR livelihoods and innovation fund support. The leaders appreciated AMPR's contribution to mining communities in Carnot and were disheartened that the project was ending. The project handed over the Carnot office furniture to the beneficiaries. The AMPR Carnot staff relocated to Bangui, where they completed the separation process on February 28, 2023, per the project closeout plan.



Photo 14: Participants at the Closing Ceremony of the AMPR's Field Office in Carnot Prefecture. Photo by: Arnold Minang.

GoCAR Strategy to Fix Fuel Crisis: CAR's Ministry of Energy Development issued a decree fixing new fuel prices effectively from January 3, 2023. The price of Petrol increased to 1,300 CFA per liter from 865 CFA, and diesel to 1,450 CFA per liter from 855 CFA. The price increase follows negotiations between GoCAR and fuel suppliers, mainly TRADEX and Total Energies, which were selling limited quantities of fuel due to the failure of GoCAR to reach a price agreement with these key fuel suppliers. GoCAR had resisted increasing the official fuel prices despite a global increase in 2022. The new GoCAR fixed price is higher than the fuel price on parallel markets. This led to increasing the demand for cheaper parallel black market fuel, which relieved the pressure on the availability of fuel a petrol stations. Whereas the project was able to access easier at the petrol stations, it still faces the same challenge of stocking fuel for field missions since the Ministry of Energy maintained the ban on selling fuel for stocking.

CAR Fiber-Optic Connection: The Central African Backbone development project, funded, by the African Development Bank and European Union, to install a 935 km fiberoptic cable between Congo Brazzaville and CAR, was inaugurated in February 2023. The EU and ADB officials handed over the fiber optic internet operation infrastructure to GoCAR. GoCAR announced that it had started the next phase of the commercialization of the Internet for individuals and institutions in CAR. GoCAR anticipates that the fiberoptic will improve internet connectivity to enhance business and communications in CAR. AMPR is monitoring the roll-out of the fiber optic internet commercialization to make a determination of its possible use at the AMPR offices.

Commissioning of a Solar Power Plant: On March 27, 2023, CAR's Minister of Energy commissioned the Sakai solar power plant, located in Bimbo, 10 kilometers from Bangui in the south of the country. The solar plant constructed by the Energy China Tianjin Electric Power Construction Co., Ltd produces 15 megawatts of electricity. CAR's electricity distribution capacity has increased to 72 megawatts, but still below the country's total need, estimated at 250 megawatts. AMPR anticipates that the additional power will reduce the electricity supply deficit in Bangui needed for better office operations.

4.4 STAFFING

Closeout Plan: The AMPR project management team officially notified four employees about their contracts' termination on June 30, 2023. The team collaborated with the project's lawyer and National Labor Inspection to discuss the conditions of the termination in accordance with the CAR laws. On

February 28, 2023, AMPR separated with four employees as part of a progressive project phase-out approach. AMPR updated the list of the non-expendable property and reconciled the asset inventory tracker regarding the condition, location, and any other aspect that would affect the status of the inventory items. This will help the project management team establish a property disposition plan for USAID approval soon.

Staff Meeting with Labor Inspectors: During this quarter, AMPR organized a meeting between the national staff and a team of government Labor Inspectors in collaboration with a local labor lawyer. The objective was to explain the reason for the collective layoff of the 15 AMPR employees that will gradually occur in June and September following the closure of the project. According to the CAR labor law, the National Labor Inspection must approve any collective layoff before dismissal. During the meeting, the Labor Inspectors explained the rights and obligations of both employer and employees in such a case and responded to the staff's questions. The National Labor Inspection provided written approval for the next collective layoff of the staff on June 30, 2023, and September 26, 2023, the project end date.

Departure of the AMPR DPM: AMPR's Deputy Project Manager, Daniel Myers, left Tetra Tech on January 13, 2023. He took up a new position managing Conservation International's Natural Climate Solutions Roadmap program. Tetra Tech appointed Ariana Frascatore, Interim AMPR DPM, until a new permanent DPM, Maggie Thompson was recruited. AMPR is grateful for Daniel's tremendous efforts on the project and wishes him all the best in his new career.

4.5 SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Temporary Closure of the CAR—Cameroon Béloko Border: Following an armed group attack on the CAR border town of Béloko on January 21, 2023, Cameroon closed its side of the border for three weeks. The attackers burnt down the CAR Customs office of Béloko, including trucks awaiting customs clearance to deliver merchandise to Bangui. The border closure disrupted cross-border transportation, which affected the delivery of basic necessities, including fuel, to Bangui. The Head of the Peacekeeping Force in CAR (MINUSCA) and the Chief of Staff of the CAR National Army (FACA) met with the local communities and business actors in Béloko to agree on a mechanism to reinforce the protection of civilians. MINUSCA and FACA committed to escorting cargo trucks and public transport vehicles along the transport corridor of Bangui-Cameroon. Following these measures, cargo trucks and bus owners resumed transportation services along the Bangui-Cameroon route.

Heighten Risk of Fire Outbreak in CAR: On Monday, February 13, 2023, another fire outbreak destroyed some of CAR's National Social Security Fund (CNSS) buildings. The number of fire incidents has increased in the last couple of months destroying infrastructure for diplomatic, government and private entities, notably the EU offices, the French Embassy, and the Ministry of Public Health, Ryan supermarket infrastructures in Bangui. AMPR installed fire extinguishers in the Bangui and Regional offices and trained staff and security guards on firefighting techniques in 2019 as part of the fire outbreak mitigation measures.

The killing of Chinese Mining Workers: On March 19, 2023, Chinese nationals working for the Gold Coast Mining Group were killed at the Chimbolo gold mining site in Bambari. GoCAR blamed the attack on the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC) armed group. However, the spokesperson of the CPC released a statement denying any CPC involvement and blamed the attack on the Wagner soldiers. According to the CPC, Wagner killed the Chinese nationals to instill fear and force them to abandon the Chimbolo mining site. China's Foreign Ministry released a statement calling upon GoCAR to find and severely punish the perpetrators in accordance with the law. The Chinese Embassy in CAR has urged its citizens to limit movements outside of Bangui until further measures are worked out with GoCAR to safeguard Chinese citizens and enterprises.

5.0 PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Comments on Key Indicators:

- Indicator 4:* In September 2022, the AMPR project provided the technical support and computer kits needed to implement a mechanism for entering and digitizing the purchase and sale slips of the collecting agents and buying offices in the eight zones that have been approved by the heads of the mining departments. The data from this mechanism should make it possible to identify the number of actors who make transactions with the diamond purchase and sale slips. After the launch of this mechanism by the Director of the DDRSC, it is noted that this mechanism is not yet functional. AMPR will continue to engage the DDRSC to coordinate with the MMG regional offices to use the mechanism to generate the target indicator data.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	Y4 TARGET	Y4 RESULT	Y5 TARGET	Y5 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
1	Percentage of estimated rough diamond production in KP-compliant zones that is legally exported from CAR	8% ¹	15%	12%	25%	11%	40%	56%	50%	76%	60%	39 %	60%	Data updated from the MMG data exportation of Jan to March 2023 (21162.9 carats)
2	Percentage of major diamond-mining sub-prefectures in the Western part of the country authorized by the KP to export rough diamonds	31% ²	50%	50%	50%	50%	75%	50% ³	100%	50%	100%	50%	100%	GoCAR continues to engage the KP to validate four additional zones in the West of CAR.

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- ¹ 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.
- ² 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%.
- ³ 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.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	Y4 TARGET	Y4 RESULT	Y5 TARGET	Y5 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
3	Number of licensed (registered) artisanal miners	1,000 ⁴	1,500	1,458	2,000	1,006 ⁵	2,000	689 ⁶	2,500	1948	3,000	704	3,000	Update of 291 Artisanal miners who paid their license from Jan to March 2023
4	Number of diamond buyers (collectors and buying houses) making purchases with official purchase slips	200 ⁷	200	206	225	135 ⁸	250	217	275	135	300	261	300	252 collector agents and nine (9) ⁹ buying houses in 2022.
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	N/A	49%	75%	N/A	75%	No KAP survey this year.
	<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	2	1	1	1	0	5	ZEA Decree of Dinga and Guembe in the sub-prefecture of Carnot
	<i>Number of total related to women's equal rights</i>													
	<i>Stage 1: Analyzed</i>													

⁴ 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.

⁵ 484 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.

⁶ The post-electoral conflict involving the CPC armed group slowed mining activities for about four months (Dec 2020-April 2021).

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ These nine buying houses are: CCO, BADICA, DUNTA, SOCADIAM, CLASSE DIAMANT, DIAMVILLE, SUD AZUR, VOGUEROC et BBB

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	Y4 TARGET	Y4 RESULT	Y5 TARGET	Y5 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	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													
	Stage 6: Passed for which implementation has begun							1		1				ZEA Decree of SCED and Dinga-Guembe
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 ¹⁰	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1920	N/A	N/A	1272	2,040	1272	2,040	No KAP survey this year.
8	Number of villages having formalized and strengthened their natural resource management capacity	0	0	0	5	1	5	0	5	0	5	5	20 ¹¹	These are the villages that have signed the pacts of commitment for the pilot ZEAs of Dinga and Guembe.
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	10	0	15	17	15	No conflict management training is scheduled this year.

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.

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.

N°	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BASE-LINE	Y1 TARGET	Y1 RESULT	Y2 TARGET	Y2 RESULT	Y3 TARGET	Y3 RESULT	Y4 TARGET	Y4 RESULT	Y5 TARGET	Y5 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
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	15	10	10	3	50	Technical capacity building of the 7 CLPR and associative groups on using the toolbox for social dialogue and discussions on the issues and challenges of CLPR activities.
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	5	0	5	0	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	2	5	4	5	0	20	Conflicts between farmers and breeders that are resolved by CLPR of Yamale and Beya-Panzi
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	10	19	10	2	50	Additional data could be collected during the last three quarters.
	<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	0	0	0	250	52	250	267	250	81	250	0	1,000	They are the beneficiaries of the Innovation Funds

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	Y4 TARGET	Y4 RESULT	Y5 TARGET	Y5 RESULT	LOP TARGET	COMMENTS ON PROGRESS
	agricultural sector productivity or food security training (Standard F Indicator EG.3.2-1)													
	<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		9				
	<i>Women</i>					19		201		72				
15	Number of gold mining sites integrated into the interactive mapping system	0	0	0	300	322	0		0	0	0	0	300	The target for this indicator was met since the second year.
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	2	0	2	0	10	In progress.

ANNEX I: SNAPSHOT

Advanced Training in Diamond Evaluation for Women Artisanal Miners

SUCCESS STORY



AMPR Women beneficiaries of the Advanced Training in Diamond Evaluation during a visit at the Sud Azur Bureau d'Achat in Bangui. Photo by Guy Sesengue.

Throughout Year 4, AMPR, in coordination with the Ministry of Mines and Geology (MMG), rolled out the implementation of the Women's Innovation Fund (WIF) strategy, including its theory of change. The WIF aims to provide technical and material support to women entrepreneurs and cooperatives engaged in viable economic activities. Business skills training is combined with in-kind support to boost productivity.

In Y5, Q1, provide technical and logistical support to women beneficiaries of the IF. AMPR and MMG's Bureau of Evaluation and Regulation of Diamonds and Gold (BECDOR) Diamond evaluators organized training on diamond evaluation for 62 artisanal miners, including women *chef de chantier* in Boda and Carnot subprefectures. The training focused on the principle and practices of diamond valuation, the type and use of equipment to evaluate rough diamonds, like the magnifying glass, and the classification of rough diamonds (Characteristics, Shape, Color and Clarity). The training enhanced the capacity of the artisanal miners to sort, classify and evaluate diamonds to bargain for a better price.

In Year 5, Q2 AMPR and MMG BECDOR Evaluators conducted advanced training on diamond evaluation for ten women artisanal miners, beneficiaries of the AMPR women's innovation fund. The ten women from Boda, Carnot, Berberati, and Nola excelled in diamond evaluation training conducted by BECDOR in their regions. The advanced practical training focused on how to use hand-held loupes to classify and evaluate rough diamonds using the criteria of the 4-C's (Cut, Carat, Color, and Clarity). The women beneficiaries of this advanced training will assist other women in their region in evaluating their diamonds before selling. By knowing the quality of rough diamonds in advance of sales, women are better prepared to bargain for a better price. It is the first time BECDOR conducted advanced training for women artisanal miners.

The women beneficiaries visited the MMG BECDOR evaluation center, where they met with the Director of BECDOR. The Director of BECDOR allowed the women to witness an evaluation by BECDOR experts of a package of diamonds for export at the MMG BECDOR evaluation center. The women also visited the *Bureau d'Achat SUD AZUR* to have comprehensive exposure to the diamond evaluation and trade process. The women also met with the President of the CAR Women Association to discuss how they could be assisted to strengthen their local mining associations.

MMG applauds this effort by AMPR to provide advanced practical training on the classification and evaluation of rough diamonds using the criteria of the 4 C's (Cut, Carat, Color, and Clarity). The MMG gave BECDOR certificates to the ten women who completed the advanced training. The women beneficiaries who received the certificate are assisting other women in their region evaluate their diamonds before selling.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEDIA

Local Radio Zoukpana directly broadcasted a multi-stakeholder roundtable organized by AMPR in Berberati to discuss and debate key issues affecting social cohesion, including pastoralism.

ANNEX 3: PROJECT STAFF

AME	TITLE
1. Maxie Muwonge	Chief of Party
2. Linca Tuyisenge	Director of Administration and Finance
3. St-Cyr Ngana-Dora	Component I Coordinator
4. Zéphirin Mogba	Technical Advisor on Social Cohesion
5. Sandra Koyandakpa	Administrative Officer
6. Benjamin Guy Ndongo Gafade	Component I Specialist and MEL Manager
7. Bienvenu Houltoupou	Specialist in Extension of Compliant Zones
8. Patricia Houte-Kasse	Finance Officer
9. Arnold Minang	Logistics, Procurement and Field Operations Officer
10. Ava Urcine Ndimabe Passy	Community Mobilizer
11. Junior Delphin Kogoro	Senior Community Mobilizer
12. Vincent de Paul Ferema	Senior Community Mobilizer
13. Abdel Adoum	Senior Community Mobilizer
14. William Bouyama	Driver
15. Marien Frajala	Driver
16. Gerald Doumalo	Driver
17. Dominique Makondji	Office Gardener
18. Félicité Agnès Yasselo	Office Cleaner
19. Bocar Thiam	Project Manager
20. Ariana Frascatore	Interim Deputy Project Manager
21. Roxana Blanco	Contracts Specialist

ANNEX 4: GENERATED DATA

No new data generated during this reporting period.

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