



### *ITSCI support halts illegal taxation and conflict from mine*

Since the implementation of ITSCI at the Kalay Boeing mine site in the Walikale Territory, of the North Kivu Province, DRC, miners were able to sell to the international market, becoming a critical livelihood provider for the local community.

However, in January 2017, members of the non-state armed group Mai-Mai Simba, led by the self-proclaimed “General” Mando, arrived at the mine site, presumably to take control of activities and collect illegal taxes. As an immediate measure, ITSCI suspended tagging at the site, preventing miners from working.

Walikale’s customary leaders decided that diplomacy with Mando was their best option for maintaining peace and restoring mining activities. They successfully advocated for the Mai-Mai leader to participate in a local multistakeholder committee (CLS) meeting. The meeting, chaired by the administrator of Walikale, took place in February 2017. The group’s stakeholders talked to Mando about due diligence, the issue of conflict minerals and ITSCI’s standards and importance. The meeting successfully convinced Mando to openly commit to not return to Kalay Boeing or collect taxes.

“This is a great success story,” says Meshe Mukulumanya, head of SAEMAPE office. “We as stakeholders and the local community successfully convinced a rebel leader to withdraw from the mine site. In the past, even some NGOs or FARDC did not manage to achieve this.”



Local Stakeholder meeting in Kalay Boeing

[Photo: Pact]



Open pit mining at Kalay Boeing site

[Photo: Pact]

*“The suspension of tagging came at a time when mining activities were very profitable for the local population, we had to stop working and were very frustrated.”*

*-Kalupala Zihindula, a miner and head of site at Kalay Boeing*

Over the following months, the security situation continued to be monitored by the Congolese army, police and national intelligence service, as well as other stakeholders, including ITSCI. After a positive reassessment of the security situation by a Walikale CLS commission, as well as by ITSCI, and confirmation by the ITSCI Governance Committee, ITSCI resumed tagging at Kalay Boeing in April 2017 after a three-month suspension. This allowed miners to continue mining and accessing the international mineral market.

Approximately 400 people including miners, mineral transporters and washers are working in Kalay Boeing and benefiting from the ITSCI system. About 250 additional people, such as small-scale merchants of drinks and necessities, are indirectly making their livelihoods because of activities at the mine site.

### ITSCI Programme *Supporting responsible mineral production*

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*ITSCI was developed and is managed by the global not-for-profit tin and tantalum industry associations ITA and T.I.C. as an inclusive, sustainable, multi-stakeholder programme. We assist all actors in implementing OECD recommended due diligence to create responsible 3T mineral supply chains and benefit from trade, even from high risk areas. ITSCI has a track record of global co-operation and achievement contributing to capacity building, better governance, human rights and stability through monitoring more than 1,500 mine sites in Burundi, DRC, Rwanda and Uganda, and protecting the livelihood of tens of thousands of miners plus their communities.*

*See more news and information on <http://itsci.org>*

*The field activities of ITSCI are implemented through Pact Inc. The programme is funded sustainably by upstream operator benefiting from the initiative.*