

Understanding ITSCI and RMB'S role in traceability

In order to ensure that all stakeholders within the mineral supply chain adhere to ITSCI traceability and due diligence procedures, ITSCI/Pact staff work in collaboration with Rwandan government staff, namely the Rwanda Mines, Petroleum & Gas Board (RMB) and their respective Mineral Field Officers (MFO).

In early 2018, RMB undertook redistribution and restructuring of staff so that MFO's were deployed to local district level in order to better track procedural irregularities amongst companies and processors/exporters. With the aim to harmonise and stay in accordance with OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals, a jointly organised training programme was organised in May/June 2018 to reinforce and strengthen the mutual knowledge and understanding of each organisation's roles and responsibilities.

The training took place in Muhanga district, where three training workshops for 84 MFOs and eight ITSCI staff was facilitated by ITSCI and four RMB mines inspectors, under the supervision of RMB Director of Inspection Unit, John Kanyangira.



RMB Mining Inspector Mr. Nathan Byayesu
[Photo: Pact]



Group picture of the training participants
[Photo: Pact]

“The training is very important because I feel that it will improve my skills in performing my day-to-day duties and positively affect the way joint visits are done with ITSCI. We are benefiting a lot from ITSCI staff and believe this training will bring more clarity to site visits.”

-Ms. Aimee Nakure, RMB Staff Member since 2011

Topics reviewed during the training included tag distribution and data collection; due diligence guidelines and field checks; mining standards and best practices in mining; health and safety in mining; and common errors generated in incident reports. Emphasis was also put on collaboration between RMB and ITSCI during joint field visits, especially with regards to assessing production plausibility of companies and taking important action to address risks or incidents such as reducing or retrieving tags and adding companies to the due diligence list. The importance of referring to laws and regulations, as well as international standards was highlighted.

Participants acknowledged the importance of the training and to sustain the positive outcomes created a shared communication group to facilitate information sharing and further strengthen the cooperation between ITSCI and RMB.

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.

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