



International Delegates see benefits of ITSCI first-hand

ITSCI and the Rwanda Mines, Petroleum and Gas Board (RMB) took the opportunity in organising a mine site visit on 17 October 2018 for the 150 delegates attending the 59th Tantalum Niobium International Study Center (T.I.C.) in Kigali, Rwanda. This allowed for the General Assembly chance to see ITSCI traceability and due diligence up close and first-hand

H&B, a company that has been operating under ITSCI since 2011, hosted the delegates. H&B exploits two mine sites in Rwamagana district, producing cassiterite and mixed minerals. In small groups, delegates observed various parts of the mining processes: extraction of minerals at a tunnel, washing at cemented sluices, reprocessing of tailings at a new processing plant where a large percentage of minerals are recovered, and weighing and tagging.

“This visit is a good opportunity to show the origin of minerals produced in Rwanda, as most delegates are not acquainted with the mining context in the country,” said Jean Malic Kalima, chairman of the Rwanda Mining Association.



T.I.C. delegates visiting H&B mine
[Photo: Pact]



Mine owners explaining the history of the mine
[Photo: Pact]

“The site is much more organized than others I have seen in other countries and I feel that we now have a good understanding of the bagging and tagging process,”

-Candida Owen, Cronimet

Visitors interacted with miners and got to see exactly how ITSCI works. David Hakizimana, the RMB district mineral field officer, demonstrated ITSCI tagging. Explanations were also provided on due diligence requirements, including checks by ITSCI teams, tasks of RMB agents and requirements for companies.

For RMB’s inspection unit director, the visit was an opportunity to show downstream industries the government’s formalisation efforts. For H&B owner Jean Bosco Hakizimana, such visits are a chance to put miners in contact with investors who can support development of their mines. The visits are also crucial because “traceability proves the origin of minerals, thus allowing access to the international market,” he said.

The ITSCI programme is currently implemented at 342 companies in Rwanda and 950-plus mine sites, allowing access to the international market for more than 27,000 miners.

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.