

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

ITSCI's "25-minute chat" campaign provides miners with a better understanding of the Program

In DRC's South Kivu province, ITSCI and the Local Steering Committee members engage directly with miners to mitigate risks through regular mine site visits

When ITSCI expands to new areas, the team begins by establishing and training a local multi-stakeholder committee. In Bitale, ITSCI, accompanied by a delegation led by the Provincial Minister of Mines' Cabinet Director, trained 62 participants in April 2019. The training focused on traceability procedures, due diligence requirements, and the role of ITSCI in the region.

“ Now that miners are better informed, less disputes arise from misunderstandings between them and our cooperative. ”

Mr. Lwamungu Chihembe, the cooperative secretary



Miners at Kainga sub-sector during a 25-minute chat campaign

ITSCI holds monthly meetings with the Local Steering Committee to review mining activities, discusses risks, incidents and mitigation actions. During the first meetings, the ITSCI team quickly noticed the need for the committee members to discuss issues with miners themselves and get them more involved in the due diligence process.

Therefore, in July 2019, a '25-minute chat' campaign was launched at Kainga sub-sector.

Once a week, a delegation of state services SAEMAPE and Divimines, the cooperative, and ITSCI organise a meeting with all miners to discuss topics related to the ITSCI programme. Members of the Local Steering Committee also

discuss official taxations to ensure that miners could distinguish legal taxes from arbitrary bribes. The topics also include the new mining code, health and safety measures, and mineral smuggling.

The civil society president, Mr. Kahombo Lwalika, who represents the Local Steering Committee in the meetings, reports that miners "have now developed a better understanding of our role."

Because of the success of the '25-minute chat' campaign, stakeholders are now extending the initiative to the nearby Nganju mine site and other South Kivu territories.



The Bitale Divimines director facilitates the meeting at mine site in Nganju sub-sector