

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Increasing transparency and accountability through joint tag management in Numbi, South Kivu

In Numbi sector of South Kivu's Kalehe territory, ITSCI made important strides toward improved transparency by implementing joint tag management procedures using metal lockboxes with separate padlocks that must all be opened at once to retrieve stored tags and logbooks.

In Numbi, management of ITSCI tags was a point of tension and suspicion. The concession owner SAKIMA, the mining company AMUR and the local cooperative COPAMIHANUBU were on one side, and state technical services SAEMAPE and Divimines were on the other. The presence of various mine sites, some with off-take agreements such as with SAKIMA and AMUR, and others without, created recurrent issues among mining stakeholders and state services, the former

“ The lockboxes help us a lot. We now know how tags are used because SAEMAPE cannot open the lockbox without the presence of a representative from our partner, SAKIMA ”

Shukuru Bazungu, AMUR's representative in Numbi



Stakeholders in Numbi after the training by ITSCI on joint tag management procedures

ITSCI Programme Supporting responsible mineral production

MARCH 2020

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 due diligence to create responsible 3T mineral supply chains and benefit from trade, even from high risk areas and our standards are 100% aligned with the OECD guidance. 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 2000 mine sites in Burundi, DRC, Rwanda and Uganda, and protecting the livelihood of tens of thousands of miners plus their communities.

The field activities of ITSCI are implemented through Pact Inc. See more news and information on <http://itsci.org>

regularly accusing the latter of a lack of transparency in handling ITSCI materials.

To reestablish confidence between stakeholders and implementing partners, ITSCI spearheaded joint tag management using lockboxes, building off the system's successful implementation in neighboring North Kivu province. Despite long-lasting rejections, ITSCI did not give up, instead sensitizing the state agents on the advantages and positive impacts elsewhere. These efforts paid off. In November 2019, SAEMAPE, Divimines, and SAKIMA signed an agreement and began using the procedures after ITSCI trained 24 relevant stakeholders. ITSCI materials have since

been stored in two metal lockboxes with three padlocks each, located in SAEMAPE and Divimines' local offices, covering a total of 10 mine sites.

In South Kivu, ITSCI has seen significant reductions in incidents related to tag management. Each implementing partner is empowered by the lockbox system to take charge of ensuring tags are not sold or misused.

While room remains for improvements, the joint tag management procedures will continue to build cooperation and accountability between ITSCI implementing partners in Numbi and beyond.

