

ABCG Mining & Biodiversity in DRC Workshop Report



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AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

December 19, 2013

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1.

Introduction—Purpose of the Workshop

The Democratic Republic of Congo is known worldwide for the wealth and diversity of its minerals. These include diamonds, gold, copper and cobalt, zinc, cassiterite, wolframite, coltan, tin and manganese. This sector is considered one of the principal development paths capable of moving the DRC out of its economic stagnancy.

A 2008 sector-based study conducted by the World Bank entitled “Good Governance in the Mining Sector as a Growth Factor” estimated that the mining sector could contribute \$5 billion to the gross national product (GNP) in DRC. This represents more than 50% of the current GNP, and potential fiscal revenues of \$730 million within the period 2013-2017.

A century of intensive mining activities throughout much of DRC has produced many negative impacts on its environment, most directly through the degradation and destruction of some of the world’s most diverse and irreplaceable natural habitats. Mining activities have also provoked the loss of biodiversity through associated over-hunting and poaching. This has diverse causes, including poverty and lack of food-security. The opening of prospecting activities (small-scale or industrial) in previously inaccessible regions attracts human populations, and local water, protein, or staple crops often cannot support these new residents. The construction of infrastructure in intact forested zones has ushered a rush of people who must eat and who have little time for labor-intensive hunting or agriculture, and yet they have few enforced environmental obligations.

Extraction methods similarly degrade ecosystem services, including pollution of watercourses from suspended silt and ground water from heavy metals. Long-term mining sites are also

Coltan and Eastern Lowland Gorillas

The clearest example in DRC’s recent history of mining’s deleterious impacts on biodiversity may be from coltan boom era from 2000-2002. The spike in coltan value was caused by a perceived global shortage of this precious metal which was highly sought after for its function in electrical capacitors. Some figures declared that 75% of the world’s coltan reserves were located within Kahuzi-Biega National Park. This figure is similar to the proportion of the KBNP’s eastern lowland gorilla population. During this war period, artisanal miners flooded into the park scooping up coltan by the bucket full (\$800/kg at its peak) and eating all of the local wildlife, including this threatened subspecies of gorilla. The final impact was measured in 75% reduction in eastern gorilla populations while elephants were all but wiped out. Fortunately, coltan’s price fell and effective conservation returned to PNKB.

infrequently rehabilitated, as in the case of some “moonscapes” now evident in Katanga province’s copper zone.

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) working in collaboration with other partners from the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) held a strategic and technical workshop designed to review and build responses to these and other threats to biodiversity and ecosystems services from poorly regulated mining and mineral extractions in DRC. The workshop entitled “Mitigating the Impacts from Mining in the DRC: Workshop on Strategy and Practice” was carried out in DRC’s capital, Kinshasa on June 13-14, 2013. The workshop was organized by ABCG’s Mining and Biodiversity in DRC working group which is comprised of the following ABCG partners:

“Mining and Biodiversity in DRC” working group
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
Conservation International (CI)
World Resources Institute (WRI)*

*WRI was not involved in the planning of this workshop.

WCS led planning for this workshop and was assisted by WWF and CI. A grant from the USAID Africa Bureau’s Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support (BATS) provided funding for this working group’s activities, including the design and deliver of this workshop.

The overall objective of the workshop was to identify and promote the adoption of best practices in DRC’s mining sector in order to mitigate negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem service values. The overall results and deliverables from the workshop include the following:

- Increased awareness of international standards for best practices in mining and biodiversity;
- A review of case studies of results from the application of the mitigation hierarchy in the mining sector; and
- Identification of opportunities to strengthen the mitigation of biodiversity impacts through social and environmental assessments mechanisms

The workshop was held under the high patronage of the Ministry of Mines and assembled participants from the following sectors:

- DRC government authorities from Mining and Environment ministries
- Industrial mining companies active in DRC
- Civil society groups focusing on mining and environmental issues

- Donors and technical advisors
- International nature conservation non-governmental organizations (NGO)

More than 70% of invited institutions responded positively to the invitation (see the participant list in the attached Annex).

2.

Workshop Content and Structure

This strategic and practical workshop was the first of its kind to address the negative impacts of mining on biodiversity in DRC. The workshop was carried out at *Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale* (CEPAS) in the conference hall *Père Boka* on June 13-14, 2012. The workshop included two full days of presentations, small group work, plenary sessions, and drafting of recommendations.



Figure 1. Workshop Participants.

The workshop featured 18 technical presentations, followed by facilitated discussion to formulate specific recommendations. The main themes of this workshop were technical in nature, and included the following key dialogues:

THE MINING SECTOR IN DRC

The Ministry of Mines introduced the justification for this workshop and its objectives. DRC's industrial mining sector is undergoing rapid development while dealing with the challenge of organizing and formalizing the largest artisanal mining sector of any country in the world. Major emphasis is placed upon increasing critical revenue from the local to national level, which in practice trumps the respect of environmental obligations. The constraints are numerous but the Ministry of Mines is committed to using procedures such as environmental impact assessments (EIA), environmental management plans, and other environmental

obligations in order to reinforce the conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services.

THREAT TO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

A UNESCO representative evaluated the risks to DRC's World Heritage Sites (WHS) due to armed conflict, poaching, and mining activities. Weak governance, insecurity and abject poverty all indirectly enable these threats. The DRC has five WHS and all are inscribed on the List in Peril, because their exceptional environmental values are at risk. UNESCO has adopted an irrevocable position in which exploration and exploitation activities are incompatible with WHS status. However, both mining and petroleum concessions have been ceded within WHS sites by the Congolese government. In order to address the weak application of laws, UNESCO continues to lobby the government. UNESCO has also engaged with private industry to institute self-regulation to ensure that enterprises conform to international best practices. Furthermore, key legislation (Mining, Hydrocarbon codes) is under review, and this could help to clarify the legality of some of the cited problems. Strong governance measures are required to ensure that these legal texts prevent negative impacts within protected areas and WHS in particular.

THE AFRICA BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION GROUP (ABCG)

The ABCG initiative was presented to provide participants with an understanding of its overall themes and the specific focus on "Mining and Biodiversity in DRC" activities. Many participants were introduced to ABCG for the very first time. The ABCG working group shared case-study reports and policy briefs, including a comprehensive review of mining, forest, and conservation legal texts. This workshop was the final activity of this ABCG working group and it provided an opportunity for participants to respond to some of the contradictions and problems previously encountered in the field.

THE REVISED DRC MINING CODE

The Ministry of Mines presented the legal obligations instituted by the Mining Code and Regulations that were adopted in 2002 and are currently under review. These obligations include monitoring and evaluation of environmental management plans, which are upheld by the Mining Directorate of Environmental Protection (DPEM). More specifically, DPEM must approve a Mitigation and Rehabilitation Plan prior to exploration; an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan prior to exploitation, and an Environmental Adjustment Plan for any modifications to these plans. The Ministry of Mines cited some constraints in the application of these obligations, in particular the establishment of objective

indicators suitable for efficiently monitoring and minimizing impacts. A new framework law for environmental protection has added responsibility for enforcing these obligations to the Ministry of the Environment. The Ministry of Mines promised to work closely together with the Ministry of the Environment toward sustainable development initiatives which pursue mining sector growth objectives while minimizing negative impacts and pursuing a greener economy, particularly through novel procedures such as payment for ecosystem services and forest-carbon marketing.

Recommendations from the Mining Code revision process could be brought before the Congress in an extraordinary session (Sept-Dec 2013). This process is tri-partite and it includes mining enterprises, government, and civil society. The civil society has made some specific recommendations to be included in this revision focusing on both social and environmental aspects of industrial mining activities. Citing problems and sometimes nonexistent or poorly applied and enforced social and environmental impact studies (DPEM), the civil society sees increased pollution as a very common consequence from projects. Furthermore, environmental protection obligations do not hold a titular responsible for damages to the environment unless the actor has not respected its approved environmental management plan. This loophole allows industrial actors a legal way out of obligations, and as noted previously, the quality and rigor of monitoring and evaluation of environmental plans is currently inadequate to effectively protect biodiversity. The content of environmental management plans should be made publicly available via the Internet as well as to local actors.

Furthermore, the civil society recommended the adoption of international best practices following the mitigation hierarchy and avoiding any exploration or exploitation activities in protected areas. As for social obligations, the civil society recommended that the Mining Code describe the content and modalities of “cahier des charges” or social service development contracts. In all stages of development, mining enterprises must strictly adhere to social inclusion and Free and Prior Informed Consent principles.

The artisanal sector is largely ignored by current environmental protection legislation despite this sector being more productive and destructive than industrial mining. These activities should be subject to pre-approved EIA and Environmental Management Plans. In order to enforce environmental obligations of artisanal actors, the capacity of SAESSCAM (Service for Assistance and Organization of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining) must be reinforced or be dissolved. At current, its main function is to collect taxes which are used to cover basic functioning (salaries).

THE MITIGATION HIERARCHY AND INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES FOR MINING

The mitigation hierarchy was defined for all participants in order to provide the context for a series of case studies demonstrating each component element of this mechanism. Furthermore, the International Finance Corporation’s (IFC) Performance Standard 6 (PS6) was cited as a

leading mechanism guiding industry towards actions that can help avoid, minimize, mitigate, offset or compensate any adverse impacts resulting from mine developments.

The Zanaga Iron Ore project in Congo-Brazzaville continues to advance its consideration of biodiversity offset options as part of its pre-feasibility studies. A large and long-term extraction project and transport corridor will be built in the middle of highly diverse forests which harbor endangered and protected wildlife species. The workshop participants reviews the proposed offset design options, monitoring indicators and the baseline data driving the offset design.

Two DRC case studies were also presented: MIBA (state-based) diamond mines in Kasai-Oriental province and the Tenke Fungurume (private enterprise) copper mines in Katanga province. MIBA's concession is located immediately outside of the provincial capital of Mbuji-Mayi which has a population of over 1 million people. Diamonds are recovered by separating ore into different size fragments and applying ferrosilicon (FeSi) which binds to diamonds and makes them heavier than all other materials. However the ferrosilicon is very fine so it remains in the ore waste that must be prevented from polluting ground water and waterways.

Tenke Fungurume copper mine project is characterized by rare and endemic copper-bearing flora. This project undertook an extensive project to relocate part of this unique ecosystem including ore, topsoil, and plants. Furthermore, it instituted in-situ conservation of some of this ecosystem and developed a seedling nursery to preserve seed stock. This project creates and maintains scientific knowledge about these floras through its procedures which included a baseline study, an impact assessment and a conservation project designed and implemented.

EVALUATION OF ARTISANAL MINING IMPACTS AND TOOLS FOR MITIGATION

Since the war ended in 2005, DRC's mining sector has received a steady stream of new investments in its industrial mining sector; however there is a historical element that causes certain challenges to investment in both industrial mining and conservation. In 1982, the DRC liberalized mining activities, effectively allowing any citizen to extract minerals from the soil. This was one way to offset the decline of state-based mining operations and all other institutions. Effectively, citizens scraped together a living while economic and physical infrastructure slowly eroded. This has continued up to now and DRC's artisanal mining sector is the largest of any country in the entire world.

The concurrence between mining activities and armed conflict has led some observers to typify the DRC's east region as suffering from a "resource curse" over so-called "conflict minerals". While it might fit these generalizations in part, this case study has certain nuances once it is examined in detail. For example, Ituri District of northeastern DRC was the theater of some of DRC's worst conflict particularly from 1998–2004, in which ethnic tension brought to head tribal militias who vied for control of valuable gold mines. However, since the end of this conflict, Ituri's artisanal gold mining sector has become much more "democratic" and ex-combatants have primarily transitioned to artisanal gold mining. Unfortunately, some state officials,

particularly security forces remain involved in corruption at these sources. Rather than fighting over their control, many actors have positioned themselves to divide the spoils.

The *Réseau Haki na Amani* (True Peace Network) undertook a district-wide inventory of artisanal mining sites, in order to count the actors and assess their productivity. This study also assessed attitudes of artisanal actors towards the advent of industrial exploration. Many of these actors fear that they will be chased away from these concessions; ex-combattants threaten to pick up arms if they lose their current livelihood. The artisanal gold mining sector in Ituri District is characterized by a multiplicity of actors, many of whom are immigrants, especially to mines located in remote areas. This dynamic causes increased pressure on the environment, including deforestation, increased hunting, and high levels of ethnic tension.

The South African mining giant AngloGold Ashanti's DRC affiliate, Anglo Goldfields Kilo, has begun industrial gold exploration and has obtained an exploitation license in Ituri District. AGK works amongst a slurry of artisanal and semi-industrial actors, who have occupied their concession both before and since exploration commenced. AGK has adopted a consensus approach to determine the best solutions for the future of their operations and those of the artisanal sector. They have formed a consultation group that will affect all stakeholders. Furthermore, AGK favors development actions that promote transitions to alternative livelihoods and also improvement of the local economy and security context. This focus has also identified the need to formalize existing artisanal mining actions such that they become actors who have legal rights and obligations. However, AGK noted that few successful examples of formalization exist especially in the context of industrial and small-scale mining "coexistence".

A relatively new initiative, Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining in Protected Areas and Critical Ecosystems (ASM-PACE), is addressing the challenges of this growing sector. All five UNESCO World Heritage Sites in DRC have listed artisanal mining as a principal threat to the efforts to maintain the long-term integrity of these sites. The ASM sector is considered illegal and problematic, but is rarely afforded legitimate strategic orientation by national governments, international donors and industrial actors. ASM-PACE has elaborated a "Global Solutions Study" which proposes eight management strategies for artisanal and small-scale mining in protected areas and critical ecosystems:

1. Eviction,
2. Negotiated access,
3. Introducing responsible mining techniques,
4. Market-based approaches such as certification,
5. Alternative livelihoods,
6. Selected de-gazettement,
7. Conversion to formal protected status, and
8. Mindful mining using multiple-use zoning.

ASM-PACE has completed a preliminary study in Itombwe Nature Reserve and concluded that a systematic evaluation of this protected area and mining activities which affect its integrity is required to create a vision of undertaking participatory multiple use zoning.

INTEGRATED LAND-USE PLANNING

Different uses of land and natural resources in DRC are typically managed through a procedure that determines the permitted human activities on a given portion of land. This can then be formulated into an explicit set of rules and regulations for a particular zone or land use unit. The integration of these different human activities into a comprehensive land-use plan is a process which involves multiple stakeholders from diverse sectors, whereas the most important element is the legal dominion or rights to manage a certain portion of the earth's surface.

In most of the DRC, common land is owned by the state. Private land ownership is reserved for enterprises. More recently, communities have sought legal rights through acquisition of their own concessions. Within the context of public estate management, there are two major systems; government and traditional land-use rights. These systems create multiple administration layers – as different levels of government and traditional authorities – are able to grant land use rights.

Given the high interest in land-use planning as a sustainable development mechanism, stakeholders from different sectors presented the considerations necessary for land-use planning to adequately integrate conservation and development needs.

The Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) initiated a regional land-use planning process in 2002, which focused its efforts within 12 conservation landscapes. These landscapes were selected based on expert knowledge in order to support, harmonize, and expand ongoing conservation fieldwork. Two examples from this partnership were presented: Ituri-Epulu-Aru and Maiko-Tayna-Kahuzi-Biega landscapes. In each of these examples there has been nominal success addressing threats from mining activities to the integrity of these landscapes' ecosystems. In order to mitigate these negative impacts, mining actors must be fully integrated into land-use planning efforts, which serve to promote multiple-objective sustainable development. Furthermore, both landscapes have challenges related to the artisanal mining sector and its unregulated nature and the interests carried forth by armed groups. As industrial mining is developed, there are new tensions and expectations on to which these and conservation actors must exercise their activities.

However, these landscape land-use planning procedures have made great progress with engaging local communities in improved management of natural resources through drafting land-use plans and appropriate resource use regulations.

The Congolese government's Directorate of Forest Management and Inventories (DIAF) has undertaken pilot projects to support zoning in forested landscapes. The major challenge

confronted by the DRC's government is the absence of an integrated land-use plan. This has many consequences, including the cession of resource rights for different purposes in the same piece of national territory. According to its Forestry Code, DRC law provides for three different types of macro-zones; classified forests, protected forests and permanent production forests. This has been a largely participative process in order to reduce misunderstanding and conflict and to adopt local policies based upon popular consensus and local needs. With over 10 years of experience and the assistance of several donors the DIAF has succeeded in creating a pilot national committee for forest zoning and thematic commissions that are improving the way in which decisions regarding land-use are made. These structures will hopefully permit the elaboration of an integrated land use plan for the entire national territory.

The Mining Cadastre (CAMI) is the unique technical service with the mandate to distribute mining titles. The CAMI is mandated by the Ministries of Mines and Finance, and its role is to receive and process applications, transform titles, and to conduct due-diligence to ensure that the applicant has appropriate funds and expertise for their proposed activities. In coordination with DPEM, CAMI gives technical instructions regarding environmental obligations to all applicants. However, for particular cases CAMI has recommended that DPEM make field verification visits, signifying that DPEM rarely verifies that environmental obligations are being upheld by site-based audits. In many ways, environmental obligations for the mining sector remain largely a formality in DRC.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Environmental impact assessments (EIA) are obligatory for all mine developments, and are evaluated by the DPEM. However, these studies are limited to the project scale, leaving larger dynamics such as regional cumulative impacts from mining to be poorly understood. International best practices frequently recommend that Strategic Environmental (and Social) Assessments (SEA/SESA) be conducted to assess the impact of governmental plans, programs and policies. SEAs are important because they have a much-wider scope than EIAs. The advantages of implementing the SEA mechanism are that it can facilitate an assessment of cumulative environmental impacts from mining sector development and to design workable mitigation strategies. Currently, SEA is not implemented in DRC as it has not yet been adopted as law in the Mining Code or associated regulations. However, the PROMINES project (Growth with Governance in the Mineral Sector) is conducting an SESA to assess impacts from investment in the mining sector.

The civil society is the amalgam of individuals and non-profit organizations that animate public life by defending the values and interests of its members based upon ethical, cultural, political, scientific, religious, and philanthropic considerations. The civil society has an important role to play as an intermediary between citizens and state, as well as serving the role as "inspector" of the state. The civil society should be associated with mining sector social and environmental

obligations as observers, experts and consultants. Their participation in EIAs is written into the *Reglement Minier*, however their capacity to address environmental and mining issues, as well as their inclusion in decision-making continues to be inadequate.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION

The workshop produced a range of important conclusions and recommendations for further actions that can enhance on-going efforts to improve land use planning, requirements for collaboration among stakeholders, and improved law and policy that strengthens biodiversity conservation.

The closing remarks from Kasanda Ngoy, Secretary General of the Ministry of Mines, noted the Ministry of Mines' view of the importance of environmental best practices for the mining sector:

"The mining sector has been the main driver of DR Congo's economic development for the last century and continues to be, but tomorrow and forever our children will require clean water, forests, and wildlife to undergird their pursuit of development. We at the Ministry of Mines remain engaged to work in consultation with the Ministry of Environment to afford conservation of biodiversity its warranted priority".

"This workshop's principal recommendation is the implementation of best practices in order to reduce negative impacts caused by mining activities. I assure the organizers of this workshop that my ministry will redouble its efforts to respect international best practices, in order to better orient the DRC towards sustainable development".



Figure 2. (l-r) Hon. François NZEKUYE - Nat'l Deputy; Mr. Kasanda NGOY - Secretary General, Ministry of Mines; Mr. Benoit KISUKI - Conservation International

An overview of the workshop's final recommendations include the following:

DRC GOVERNMENT:

- The Congolese government should consider placing the Environment sector at the same level of priority as the Mining sector by adopting the objective of "No Net loss of biodiversity" (NNL). In order to achieve a NNL result, all mining sector actors should be obliged to follow strictly defined mitigation hierarchy measures (avoid, minimize, rehabilitate, and offset or compensate).
- The Congolese government should evaluate the potential mineral resources and biodiversity on national territory which is not yet attributed for particular land use in order for these areas to be designated for artisanal mining, industrial mining and "no-go zones" (potential conservation areas) in order to avoid overlap.
- The Congolese government should respect the integrity of legal protected areas by cancelling all mining concessions ceded within them and also develop a strategy to negotiate evacuation of artisanal miners from these sites.
- The Congolese government should create a legal consultation framework between the Ministries of Mines and Environment and their relevant services in order to resolve existing issues (and to avoid new problems) related to the attribution of overlapping concessions and protected areas.
- The Congolese government should implicate the civil society in decision-making processes related to conservation and mining as observers, experts and consultants.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURE CONSERVATION AND TOURISM AND FOR THE MINISTRY OF MINES:

- Legal regulations regarding mineral exploitation should be reviewed in favor of biodiversity conservation, with harmonization of concepts and required expertise, adapted and translated into national languages.
- Public and private mining enterprises, artisanal miners, as well as the public administration must implicate local and resident communities in all steps in the elaboration of community development actions, adhering to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) standards.
- The Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism should elaborate a strategy for intervention and synergy with the Ministry of Mines, specifically with the Mining Directorate of Environmental Protection in order to more efficiently manage ecosystems threatened by mining activities.

MINISTRY OF MINES:

- The Ministry of Mines in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism should reinforce the capacity of actors (mine inspectors, civil society, public and private mining enterprises) implicated in the independent monitoring and evaluation of environmental obligations for the mining sector.

MINISTRY OF MINES SERVICE FOR ASSISTANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE:

- SAESSCAM should oblige these actors to affiliate within cooperatives, and reinforce their organizational capacity to respect environmental obligations for improved biodiversity conservation.

A final conclusion was to encourage the implementation of further workshops to expand and enhance the dialogue on these important issues. Future workshops can broaden the scope of participants and allow a deeper exploration of the methods that can be used to plan, design, and deliver site-based mitigation and offset projects, and explore opportunities for national scale standards that can facilitate conservation banking opportunities.

3.

Appendix

ANNEX 1 WORKSHOP AGENDA

Participants

Stakeholder Group	Thurs, June 13	Fri, June 14
National Assembly	3	4
Donors/Technical Advisors	10	4
Consulting Group	6	5
Researcher	2	2
Mining Enterprises	5	3
Gov't – Min of Environ.	7	9
Gov't – Min of Mines	7	7
Conservation NGOs	13	10
Development NGOs	4	2
Civil Society	8	12
Total	65	58

Participants included relevant technical experts from the:

Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation & Tourism (MECNT);

- Directorate of Forest Inventories and Management (DIAF);
- Institute for Nature Conservation, Department of Evaluation and Planning and (ICCN);
- Department of Sustainable Development (DDD)

Ministry of Mines

- Mining Cadastre (CaMi);
- Mining Directorate of Environmental Protection (DPEM);
- Technical Unit for Coordination and Planning (CTCPM);

- Service for Assistance and Organization of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (SAESSCAM);

The following individuals from the US government also participated in this workshop:

1. Diana Putman, USAID-DRC Mission Director; *delivered Introductory Remarks*
2. Jean-Solo Ratsisompatrarivo, US Forest Service Technical Coordinator to Directorate of Forest Inventories and Management (Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism); *moderated "Land-use planning" session*
3. Ken Creighton, USAID-CARPE Senior Global Climate Change Specialist / Regional Advisor; *participant*
4. Richard Robinson, USAID-DRC Extractive Industries Technical Advisor; *contributed to workshop themes and participant list*

ANNEX 2. MEDIA COVERAGE

The television channel RTG@ was hired to coordinate media coverage of this ABCG workshop. In DRC, media is a paid service with each channel commanding a predetermined cost. A media coverage budget was defined according to other priorities, but was sufficient to allow workshop coverage from before, during, and after the workshop. Prior to the workshop, a publicity spot was aired on RTG@. Furthermore, 6 different TV channels and 3 Radio stations covered the opening ceremony. Finally, RTG@ dedicated 45 minutes of its Sunday, June 16 show “*Coup d’Œil sur l’Environnement*” to workshop coverage and RTNC conducted interviews which were part of a longer emission dedicated to the workshop coverage.

All participants received engraved CDs containing all workshop presentations and key guideline documents on international best practices for the mining sector:

- Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme (BBOP). *Standard sur les offsets de biodiversité*, BBOP, Washington, D.C., 2012.
- ICMC (International Council on Mining and Metals): *Guide de Bonnes Pratiques: exploitation minière et biodiversité*; 2006.
- IFC (International Finance Corporation) Norme de performance 6 : *Conservation de la biodiversité et gestion durable des ressources naturelles vivantes*, Jan 2012.

ANNEX 3 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information on this and other efforts related to Mining and Biodiversity in the Congo Basin, please visit www.abcg.org.