

## PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

### Name of the Partnership/Initiative:

"MINERAL RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA"

**Expected date of initiation: Fall 2002**

**Expected date of completion:**

- Forum during fall 2004
- Activities on this subject will be ongoing, since progress will vary by country, partner, issues identified and availability of resources to address these issues.

**Partners Involved:** the promoters of the initiative will actively seek partners during fall 2002.

Governments: France (Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industry; Ministry of Research and New Technologies)

**to be invited:** Ministries of Mines from African and possibly ACP countries, Development Ministries and Agencies from other European Member States

Intergovernmental organizations to be invited: African Development Bank, European Commission, NEPAD, regional institutions (ECA, ECOWAS, CEMAC, OAU, SADC, ACP Secretariat, WAEMU,...), UNEP, World Bank ...

Major groups:

Other: SIM (the French Mineral Industry Society – as Leading Partner, jointly with BRGM), CIFEG (International Centre for Training and Exchanges in the Geosciences),

**to be invited:** Enterprises and associations representing the geosciences (EuroGeosurveys,...), the European and the international mining industry (EUROMINES, ICMM,...)

**Leading Partner:**

**BRGM** – The French Geological Survey

Hubert ZEEGERS

Address: BRGM - BP 6009 - F-45060-ORLEANS CEDEX 02 (France)

Phone: +33 1 38 64 30 76

Fax: +33 1 38 64 33 05

E-mail: [h.zeegers@brgm.fr](mailto:h.zeegers@brgm.fr)

**SIM** (The French Mineral Industry Society)

**Other contact point:**

Jean-Michel PREVOSTEAU

Address: Ministère des Affaires Etrangères - 20, rue Monsieur - F-75700-PARIS 07SP (France)

Phone: +33 1 53 69 31 46

Fax: +33 1 53 69 30 43

E-mail: [Jean-michel.prevosteau@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:Jean-michel.prevosteau@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

### **Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative**

Mineral resources are one of the essential components of the natural capital of numerous African countries, and one of the key components of their economies. The complex linkages existing between this economic sector and sustainable development still remain poorly understood and subject to numerous controversies. The sustainable development of this sector is a considerable stake, for the mineral producing countries as well as for the consumer countries, like those of the European Union, the largest minerals importer in the world. If the investments necessary to put these resources into production are to be made by the private sector, there is a need to reinforce the capacity of the sectoral institutions to better regulate and promote the sustainable development of the sector. The range of actions to be supported is wide, from training to infrastructure.

The objective of the partnership is to strengthen the contribution of geological and mining activities to sustainable development.

*To start with, it is proposed to organise a Forum with the concerned African countries to raise the awareness of the various actors concerned by the sustainable development of the mineral resources, on the issues and on the conditions to implement to improve the sector's promotion.*

### **Relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:**

Due to the fact that mineral resources are at the basis of many human activities and have complex impacts on sustainability, the initiative relates to many Chapters of Agenda 21, including i.a.:

2. [International cooperation to accelerate sustainable development in developing countries and related domestic policies](#)
3. [Combating poverty](#)
8. [Integrating environment and development in decision-making](#)
10. [Integrated approach to the planning and management of land resources](#)
34. [Transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building](#)
35. [Science for sustainable development](#)
40. [Information for decision-making](#)

### **Expected results:**

- A vision of the present and future position of the African continent in the global mineral resources (resources vs. needs);
- An increased awareness of geopolitical issues like the relationship between conflict zones and the presence of mineral resources;
- An update on Africa's mineral potential on the basis of recent scientific work;
- An improved understanding of the need for infrastructures in relation with the development of the mineral resources sector;
- An appreciation of the impacts (social, economic, environmental, infrastructure ...) on countries where mining is already well-developed;
- A better understanding by all partners, based on case studies (from small-scale mining up to large-scale industrial mines) of the linkages existing between the mineral resources industry and sustainable

<p>development;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommendations for a better integration of mineral resources in the development policies, increased transparency and regional/ international cooperation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:</b></p> <p>The following is a timeline for the completion of specific major targets for those partners joining the initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fall 2002 : confirmation of the international partnership;</li> <li>- 2003 and first semester 2004 : preparation of case studies documenting the linkages between mineral industry and sustainable development in several African and ACP countries, identification of issues;</li> <li>- Fall 2004 : “ Mineral Resources and Sustainable Development” Forum, in parallel with the organisation in Orleans (France) of the 20<sup>th</sup> Colloquium of African Geology.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Arrangements for funding</b></p> <p>The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will provide a financial support for the preparation and the organisation of the Forum.</p> <p>The CIFEG will be commissioned for the organisation of the Forum and will seek funding from different donors and sponsors.</p> <p>BRGM will supply its technical and scientific means.</p>
<p><b>Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level</b></p> <p>The initiative is in-line with the recommendations of the “Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development” report, the largest multi-stakeholder project related to the mining industry, completed in May 2002. Opportunities exist to establish a working coordination with other major sustainable development initiatives in the mineral resources sector.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring Arrangements</b></p> <p>Meetings of the working group of technical experts to be convened regularly (at least once yearly)</p> <p>In addition, Internet will provide space for continued exchanges between the partners supporting the initiative.</p>
<p><b><i>Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:</i></b></p> <p><i>Name: H. Zeegers</i>  <i>Position: Director, International</i>  <i>Address: BRGM</i>  <i>Phone: +33 2 38 64 33 57</i>  <i>Fax: + 33 2 38 64 33 05</i>  <i>E-mail: <a href="mailto:h.zeegers@brgm.fr">h.zeegers@brgm.fr</a></i></p>