



Newsletter

#4

February

2013

Upcoming Events

Next Information Session:

Thurs 28 Feb 2013

Celtic Club,
West Perth

AAMIG at Indaba:

Dr Steven Phillips
from the Chatham

House IDRAM
Initiative will
present on

Emerging
Infectious
Diseases in the
Australia Lounge
at 3pm on

Wed 6 Feb 2013.

Making a real difference with African communities
and reducing investment and operating risk



Source of image: USAID/Extractive Industry Working Group: mitigateEPT@gmail.com

IDRAM Initiative

AAMIG participated in the Extractive Industry Infectious Disease Risk Assessment Management (IDRAM) initiative, held at the Chatham House Centre on Global Health Security in early November 2012 at Chatham House, London.

The objective of the initiative was to provide a platform for the extractive industries to interact with international development and finance institutions, national government policymakers and science leaders in a global policy-level dialogue to explore the risks and management of infectious disease outbreaks in tropical geographies of relevance.

The IDRAM initiative is part of the USAID Emerging Pandemic Threats Program, which aims to pre-empt or combat at its source, emerging infectious diseases of animal origin that pose a threat to human health. Approximately 75% of new human infectious diseases are believed to have emerged from animal reservoirs. As a consequence of its activities in resources development in tropical hotspots, the global extractive industry is centrally affected by and involved in global risk assessment and mitigation strategies.

An outcome of the initiative is a pilot study which will be initiated in the DRC Copperbelt with the support of several of the copper mining companies and the Provincial health authorities, with a view to develop appropriate risk mitigation measures. More details will be available at the Indaba Conference in Cape Town in February 2012.

AAMIG Executive meets Sydney Members

Members of the AAMIG executive held an information session for members in Sydney on 12 December 2012, at the offices of member-company, International SOS. The discussion included information on the AusAID Direct Aid Programs, the CSR Workshop at Western Australian School of Mines (WASM), review work on Host Country Investment Climates, the GAP Analysis Tool and the next step, information on seminars planned for 2013 and the IDRAM Initiative (Emerging Infectious Diseases).

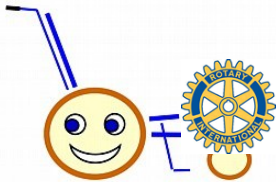
Direct Aid Program Report 2011/12

The Direct Aid Program (DAP) report outlining the 2011/2013 process can be viewed on the AAMIG web page. Individual project outcome reports will be posted shortly. The DAP is a small grant scheme funded through DFAT to assist organisations working at a community level in areas such as poverty alleviation, education and health.

The application process is competitive and funding cycles vary across countries.

For further information refer to the DFAT website: www.dfat.gov.au/direct_aid_program/ or discuss with Trish O'Reilly regarding further DAP opportunities.

Gryphon Minerals supporting Wheelchairs for Kids



WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS

In December 2012, Gryphon Minerals Ltd supported the shipment of 164 wheelchairs to Burkina Faso. Recipients of the wheelchairs will include disabled children in the local communities surrounding the Banfora Gold Project which is located in

the south west Cascade Region of Burkina Faso. In the next edition we hope to provide news of the delivery and distribution of this shipment.

Did you know?

During 2012, Wheelchairs for Kids made 3,099 wheelchairs of which 3,000 were donated to children in 25 countries around the World. AAMIG through its members was involved in two additional shipments of wheelchairs which went to Zambia (Airland Logistics) and Democratic Republic of Congo (MMG).

AAMIG Meeting with African Missions in Canberra

In December 2012, the AAMIG executive made a presentation to representatives of African Missions at the National Press Club in Canberra.

Represented countries included:

- Botswana - HE Mr Molosiwa Selepeng
- Mauritius - HE Mrs Marie Chauvin
- Morocco - HE Mr Mohamed Mael-Ainin
- South Africa - HE Ms Koloka Mqulwana
- Algeria - HE Mr Hadi Brouri
- Ghana - Mr Rasheed Inusah Minister
- Kenya - Mr Maurice Amisi Okoth Counsellor
- Tunisia - Mr Mohamed Nejib Gorgi
Deputy Chief of Mission
- Uganda - Mrs Nsereko Kawooya Counsellor

A presentation on AAMIG and its objectives was made and an updated version of the AAMIG presentation was handed out. In addressing the issues AAMIG emphasised that it could support African missions by providing a Perth based forum for visitors who might wish to meet interested AAMIG member companies. Missions were also invited to attend AAMIG's Celtic Club Seminars to meet members and others in the industry.

Guinea Briefing Paper

AAMIG has been approached by one of our service company members for assistance in bringing about host-country regulatory changes that would help service companies, that have a broad but thin spread of activities in the countries of West Africa, to meet their expatriate ratio requirements.

AAMIG meeting on Investment Climate Issues in Mozambique

AAMIG called a meeting on 28 November 2012 for members to discuss and document the investment climate concerns for Australian and Australian-based mining, exploration, service and supply companies working in Mozambique.

The aim is to provide AusAID and IM4DC with an industry briefing that will improve the understanding of issues affecting investors and enhance the Australian Government's capacity building efforts in Mozambique resulting in the country being able to attract a level of mining investment consistent with the country's resource endowment.

Mozambique has been chosen as one of four priority countries for capacity-building support under the Mining for Development Initiative launched by the Federal Government at CHOGM in October 2011.



AAMIG Strategy Meeting

AAMIG held a strategy session on 18 December 2012, the main purpose of which was to workshop the AAMIG Strategy with members. The results of the workshop will be used to further refine the AAMIG Strategy and to inform the Business Plan for the next 12 months. The workshop was facilitated by Craig Salt, Sustainable Change Agent and Director, Sustainable Consulting and held in the boardroom at Paladin Energy. The three-and-a-half-hour meeting was attended by 28 members.



Opportunities with Australian Volunteers International

Australian Volunteers International (AVI) has been at the forefront of international volunteering and people-centred development since 1951, working with Governments, Universities and Companies to ensure programs deliver real outcomes to the communities they are working with whilst still managing the risks associated with such work.



Photo: Courtesy Heidi-Marie Schooling

AVI has worked in partnership with the Golden Pride mine in Tanzania to support sustainable mining. From 1999 to 2004 AVI helped Resolute Mining develop and improve their community engagement in the region. AVI recruited, trained and managed professional skilled volunteers to work in the communities around the mining site.

“For me, it would be a pretty tall ask to go through a recruitment process in Australia and pick someone who is not going to fall apart on the first day. I knew AVI could find people who genuinely want to do the work and are committed to social issues, at the time” - Grant Pierce, Resolute Mining’s former Operations Manager in Tanzania.

In cooperation with the community of Nzega, AVI and Resolute provided school teachers for the Isanga Primary School, a doctor at the Isanga Hospital and an engineer who assisted with the maintenance of a water supply system installed by Resolute. AVI’s clearly defined roles are designed to support locally-identified needs, focusing on training and creating long-term change, ultimately making themselves redundant.

For more information contact Peter Britton, Executive Manager - International Services pbritton@australianvolunteers.com.

Mining and International Aid: Working Together for Development

December members of the AAMIG Executive attended a conference in Canberra hosted by Cardno. Cardno is an ASX200 professional infrastructure and environmental services company, with expertise in the development and improvement of physical and social infrastructure for communities internationally.

There is a growing awareness in aid circles that mining and extractive industries offer the best potential for poverty reduction and economic development. The conference brought together major stakeholders in mining, extractive industries, donor partners and development to work together towards building a global future without conflict and poverty. As a consequence of this conference AAMIG executive are currently exploring possible joint projects with

Indian Ocean Rim

In November 2012 Jeff Hart, on behalf of AAMIG, presented to the Senate (Reference) Committee on Foreign Affairs Trade and Defence inquiry on the Indian Ocean Rim.

The focus of the presentation was more around the growing relationship and increasing economic interests of Australian mining in Africa. Given this relationship it is important to look at regional issues as geopolitical changes throughout the Indian Ocean Region may have impacts on Australian interest.

The Indian Ocean rim is also increasingly looking to Australia for leadership and support on various issues. In order to respond effectively it is advantageous for the Australian Government to commit the resources necessary to support engagement and at the same time actively engage with the private sector.

During 2013, the AAMIG executive will endeavour to hold similar sessions in other Australian capital cities as opportunities arise.

In Brief

- AAMIG held a breakfast briefing session for Ms Joanna Adamson, the Australian High Commissioner Designate to Ghana, at the Hyatt on Wednesday 31 October, with 22 attendees. The meeting provided Ms Adamson with an opportunity to learn about the experiences and issues affecting companies with a presence, not only in Ghana, but also in other West African countries to which she will be accredited. Ms Adamson was impressed with the breadth of AAMIG membership and expressed a keen interest to assist members in the future. She will be arriving in Ghana to take up official duties in January 2013.
- Clayton Utz, on behalf of AAMIG hosted a round table lunch for John Richardson, High Commissioner Designate to Nigeria. This was attended by 17 local mining company representatives.
- AAMIG attended the launch of the Giving West 'Give 1' campaign at the Government House Ballroom. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness and recognise corporate giving in Western Australia, which represents a new movement in corporate volunteering.
- Trish O'Reilly had the opportunity to meet with the High Commissioner Designate to South Africa Graeme Wilson. Graeme will take up his new post in January.
- AAMIG Executives attended the function 'Going Global Africa', hosted by the State Department of Commerce. This function provided an opportunity to learn from the experiences of successful companies operating within the African market.

December 2012

Information Session

The final AAMIG Seminar for 2012 was held on 14 December saw an appreciative audience of over 70 people attend to listen to Conrad Marais, Principal at Hunt & Humphry; Mar Hube, Manager AGWEST Food Security Department of Agriculture and Food; Theo Nabben, Principal of Social Impact Consulting; and Craig Coleman, OAM, CSM, CEO of Professional Service Solutions.

Conrad presented on financing projects in Africa, focussing on the relationship between mining, infrastructure and development finance institutions (DFIs). Mar presented on corporate and social responsibility (CSR) and the role that agriculture can play in global biosecurity and trade opportunity generation. Theo spoke about participatory approaches used to add value to CSR projects in Africa; and Craig reported on a range of alternative risk management solutions he has successfully employed overseas.



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From the Chairman ...

During the Indaba Conference in Cape Town this February, AAMIG will hold a meeting in the Australia Lounge on Wednesday February 6, at 3:00pm, to update members and prospective members on the progress during the last 12 months, and the outlook for 2013.

AAMIG's regular seminars, held at the Celtic Club in Perth, will in future incorporate case studies of the experiences of members' and others in dealing with operational issues in Africa, from which there are expected to come some great lessons. This will enhance AAMIG's role as a networking node for important commercially relevant information, and source of support, for members.

In addition, AAMIG will instigate a series of 3-4 hour training seminars for members, which will draw on industry experience in areas of project financing, governance, social licence to operate, managing community expectations and developing an enduring competitive advantage. The speakers will be drawn from a wide range of industry experts.

And we will continue to reshape the focus of the organisation to meet the broad aims and expectations of our members.

Bill Turner