

Chamber of Mines OF NAMIBIA

The quarterly newsletter of the Namibian mining industry

NEWSLETTER

NAMDEB

DE BEERS PARTNERSHIP

WELCOME
TO THE EXPO
DIAMOND HUB



We live our core values everyday

Our Vision Statement

A progressive gold mining company that unlocks and delivers superior value through innovation and strong partnerships with stakeholders.

Our Mission Statement

We acquire, structure and finance, explore, develop and operate our mining and processing assets. Our commitment is to deliver excellence in sustainability and to create value for all our stakeholders

Our Core Values



Safety

The health and safety of our employees and local communities are paramount and enable us to be in business. Safety can never be compromised.



Dignity and Respect

We care about people—their well-being, their careers and development, and their day-to-day work experience. We treat all colleagues fairly, listen to their input and work with them to create solutions that respect both individual needs and corporate interests.



Environmental Responsibility

We are leaders in promoting sustainable growth and environmental responsibility. We go beyond legislative compliance to promote pragmatic environmental solutions and practices in all of our operations.



Community Investment

We care about the quality of the communities in which we operate. Our legacy will be to ensure we have helped residents make the community a better place than before we arrived on the scene. We have a strong corporate and social responsibility to the communities in which we invest.



Continuous Improvement

We are passionate about continuous improvement. We seek out and execute operational practices that drive innovation, speed to market, cost efficiency, technical and professional excellence.



Transparency

We set and uphold the highest ethical standards and business practices. Our dealings with employees, governments, stakeholders and communities are open, honest and transparent. We do what we say we will do and fulfill our commitments. We hold each other accountable for delivering results.

Chamber of Mines OF NAMIBIA NEWSLETTER



CHAMBER OF MINES

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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: J. COETZEE
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: H. MBAKO

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ON THE COVER



SECOND EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

The 6th Mining Expo & Conference held in April 2017 was another yet another success, which was propelled with the launch of the new Diamond Hub. This was indeed the main crowd puller and highlight of the event, encompassing key role players in the Namibian diamond sub-sector. The hub provided visitors as well as other exhibitors an exclusive opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and insight into the entire diamond pipe from processes of land and marine diamond mining to sorting, grading and valuation by NDTC and further downstream value addition through cutting, polishing and jewelry manufacturing.

The Chamber of Mines team noted that organization processes leading up to the event as well as the coordination of tasks and activities during the event ran smoothly, despite a few minor unforeseen challenges, to which the team responded with decisive action.

Unfortunately, the 2017 Mining Expo & Conference saw a drop in the number of exhibitors and visitors respectively from 2016 which was largely attributed to local economic challenges. Service providers, uranium mines and exploration companies have been the most negatively impacted by these headwinds. Readers will find a full review of the event in later pages of this edition.

I am most pleased to announce that North River Resources obtained a mining licence for its Namib Lead & Zinc mine, which was communicated through an official press release on 9 June 2017. The company stated that it will proceed with immediacy to update the project profile after which it will finalise and source investment for project development.

This development is indicative of dedicated action by the Ministry of Mines and Energy to clear the backlog of mining and exploration licence applications and renewals. We hope to receive more of the same action in 2017 to allow other projects to proceed with development and for potential exploration ventures to materialise in lieu of an improved commodity market environment, especially for base metals, the outlook for which remains positive.

Lastly, the new mv SS Nujoma was officially commissioned for operations on 15 June 2017 at the Walvis Bay Port, the first of its kind in Namibian waters. The vessel's core function is for exploration and sampling of marine diamonds, with unique technologies, allowing larger samples to be taken at an improved rate. The Chamber welcomes this positive development, which will ensure the sustainability of diamond operations for decades to come.

I trust you will enjoy reading the second edition of our newly produced in-house publication.

Veston Malango
CEO
CHAMBER OF MINES



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*An exclusive opportunity
to gain valuable knowledge*



INSPIRING DREAMS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP? IT IS A SIMPLE QUESTION, BUT TO ANSWER IT, A CHILD MUST DARE TO DREAM.

Yet, purchasing school shoes or a new school uniform is a financial stretch for a child's family and such dreams are tempered by a harsh reality. For the past three years, Christal Kejarukua-Lebusa, Senior Metallurgist at Bannerman Mining Resources Namibia has posed this question to hundreds of school children as she's handed out new school shoes and school uniforms to learners at some of the most remote schools in the Erongo Region.

Christal is part of Bannerman's Early Learner Assistance Scheme, one of the company's employee driven corporate social responsibility projects. Since the Early Learner Assistance Scheme was launched in 2011, Bannerman employees have traveled over ten thousand kilometres, visiting dozens of schools in the Erongo Region and providing support to over 2,000 learners.

As a Namibian who graduated from the University of Pretoria with a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Chemical Engineering and also holds qualifications from the University of Stellenbosch

Business School, Christal wants to open the children's minds to the importance of education.

"I know that these shoes take away the worry. They allow the students to focus on their school work and not their bare feet," says Christal, adding that "When I talk to them, one on one, my questions remind them that their goal should be to get a good education and to use their education to become something."

Bannerman Mining Resources Namibia, along with our partners, the One Economy Foundation, believes that education is a fundamental right for all of Namibia's children.

When education is enhanced by an active involvement in a child's academic and social life, learners should leave school with a solid education and a strong sense of self.



When Christal leans closer to listen to the children share their aspirations to be a policeman, a teacher or an engineer, they are giving a voice not only to their personal dreams but also to our country's collective future.

At Bannerman Mining Resources Namibia, we believe that Namibia is a country where we should all dare to dream.

Debmarine Namibia Engineer-In-Training Carmen Reiff giving information to the visitor during the Chamber of Mines Mining Expo.



BEST EXHIBITION

AWARD FOR DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

**DEBMARINE
NAMIBIA TOOK
PART IN THE 2017
MINING EXPO AND
CONFERENCE AS
AN EXHIBITOR
PART OF THE
NEWLY LAUNCHED
DIAMOND HUB,
SWOOPING THE
OVERALL BEST
EXHIBITION STAND
AWARD IN THE
MINING CATEGORY.**

The cube inspired stand complete with show style lighting created quite a stir as the exhibition concept served as a one stop shop for information and imagery of the Debmarine Namibia operations. The Expo was held under the theme 'Reaping the benefits of mining investments,' with guest speakers delivering presentations on various mining related topics during the mining conference – a concurrent feature at the annual mining expo event.

The expo was officiated by the Minister of Mines and Energy, Obeth Kandjoze who applauded the mining industry for contributing N\$25 billion to export earnings in 2016 and encouraged the mining industry to continue supporting national efforts to improve the standard of education in Namibia. The conglomerate of Namibian diamond companies introduced the Expo's new feature, the 'Diamond Hub,' which drew a mass of visitors frequenting exhibitions from the diamond mining as well as diamond cutting and polishing sectors. Visitors were afforded the opportunity to handle real Namibian rough diamonds while gaining valuable insight and knowledge on diamond mining, cutting and polishing processes.

The Debmarine Namibia team manning the stand were hard at work; providing information about the Company; ranging from the history of marine diamond mining in Namibia to technology, safety, environment and the Company's commitment to social responsibility. The Gamming Vessel and electronic challenge lured a large number of onlookers to the stand. The aim was to introduce a fun element to the Expo whilst generating interest in the Debmarine Namibia brand.



SPECIAL FOCUS

WOMEN IN MARINE DIAMOND MINING

MEET DEBMARINE NAMIBIA HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYOR

Vulikeni Kashikuka is one of the few female Debmarmine Namibia Hydrographic Surveyors, who successfully juggles between her work career and being an outstanding single mother to her two children. Vuly as she is affectionately known by her peers, was born and raised in Iikokola village in Omusati region.

She matriculated in 2003 at Gabriel Taapopi High School and obtained her National Diploma in Land Surveying from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and a Certificate of Competence in Advanced Mineral Resource Management and Introduction to Mining Engineering both from University of Witwatersrand.

WHO/WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO STUDY LAND SURVEYING?

I was fascinated by engineering and I was really good in geography. I made a conscious decision to look for a career that gives guidance to engineers and architects alike, in terms of performing a variety of vital tasks such as boundary surveys, topographic mapping and construction staking. I was a bit worried about finding a job after my studies but I took a leap of faith and went with the saying “do what you like and the money will follow”.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT JOB AT DEBMARINE NAMIBIA?

I am a Hydrographic Surveyor. I provide assurance that mining is taking place in the correct spatial position and ensure that all hazards are mapped and vessels notified of hazards in their operational area.

I am also responsible for validating survey information from the vessel for accuracy by independent checks and compute depletions for mined-out area. I ensure the integrity of the production database, while adhering and promoting Company policies and procedures relating to health, safety, security and environmental issues.

HOW DO YOU FEEL WORKING IN A MALE DOMINATED ENVIRONMENT?

The perception is always that women cannot do men’s jobs and this sometimes makes taking on such forms of employment challenging for women. I believe such negative attitudes directed your way should be seen as motivation to accomplish greater heights. I always strive to do my best, regardless of such attitudes. Although I am working in a male dominated field, I am given a fair chance to prove myself in my job and that motivates me to do better.

HOW DID THE COMPANY GROW YOU?

I have been working for Debmarmine Namibia for the past nine years and it has been smooth sailing. I attended various trainings and the Company funded my Mineral Resource Management Certificate at the University of Witwatersrand; and I will always be grateful for that.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU AND WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO NAMIBIAN YOUTH?

I am not really inspired by anyone. I channel the strength within and set my goals. My advice to the Namibian youth is to always give the best in everything you do. Bringing passion to your goals is a guaranteed way to make sure that you give it your best shot. So you can select only those things you are passionate about – or you can become passionate about anything you want to be the best at. Either way works.

ANY FAMILY OF YOUR OWN?

I have two children - Fitz (15) and Ndapewa (6), and they are the centre of my universe. I always strive to provide them with the best, an upbringing which I was not afforded.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY DURING YOUR LEISURE TIME?

I enjoy keeping abreast of current affairs as well as reading.



The 2016 Inter-Mine Safety Award for Debmarine Namibia

DEB MARINE NAMIBIA EARNS TOP SAFETY AWARD

Namibia was presented with the 2016 Inter-Mine Safety Award at the annual Mining Expo and Conference and was recognised for its outstanding safety record amongst its mining peers in the Inter-Mine Safety Competition Category – Division A. The Company achieved this milestone with a reportable All Injuries Frequency Rate (AIFR) of 11.13, achieving the lowest score as compared to other mining companies in this category.

This was attributed to the company’s vision on safety that all accidents and incidents are preventable, therefore committed to “Zero Harm.” This is measured and tracked using the the AIFR. This honour was presented to Debmarine Namibia by the Chamber of Mines CEO, Veston Malango, who applauded the Company for striving towards Zero Harm.

Debmarine Namibia CEO Otto Shikongo was pleased to receive the Inter-Mine Safety trophy on behalf of all employees. “Winning this prestigious recognition attests to the efforts of Debmarine Namibia employees to continually improve work processes and safety performance.

Well done to the entire Debmarine Namibia team on this safety recognition, there is still a lot left to accomplish and this award will certainly provide the motivation and encouragement to our team to continue our journey of Zero Harm,” he said.

The Chamber of Mines actively recognises safety efforts and achievements by the mining sector through the Inter-Mine Safety competition and encourages the adoption of best practices across the mining industry. Each year, this award honours mining operations for their safety accomplishment.

FOR HARAMBEE... Dr. John Steytler poses for a picture with Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb Vice President and Managing Director, Zebra Kasete the company's Exco Team during his recent visit to the site.



DUNDEE EMBRACES THE HARAMBEE PROSPERITY PLAN

THE ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, DR. JOHN STEYTLER PAID TRIBUTE TO DUNDEE PRECIOUS METALS TSUMEB ON TUESDAY, 02 MAY 2017 TO OBTAIN A FIRSTHAND UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT OPERATIONS AT THE SMELTER INVOLVED.

During his visit Dr. Steytler acknowledged Dundee's progressive stance where the Harambee Prosperity Plan was concerned and the important impact Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb has on the town and country. "President Geingob has always said, the mining sector is a key player in the economy through employment creation, a key strategy to reducing poverty" he said.

According to Steytler, the private sector is the main driver of growth responsible for creating wealth and implementing government policies. He pointed out that governments do not create jobs and the Namibian government was no exception. "If the private sector does not fully participate in the Harambee Prosperity Plan, then we will miss key components" he added.

"Government alone cannot create jobs, we need the support of the private sector. We want to understand what bottlenecks the private sector faces in executing what we would like to see them doing" stated Steytler. The advisor to the President cautioned public office bearers against the dangers of confining themselves to offices, stating that government officials could not afford to plan in isolation. "In government we cannot afford to plan in a vacuum, we have to understand what the real conditions on the ground are. When we

confine ourselves to offices, we do what is referred to as planning in a vacuum and it is for that reason I encourage other public office bearers to go out and visit operations such as Dundee" Steytler said.

"I was delighted to see the number of people the company employs and the impact Dundee has in the Tsumeb community. The Company contributes to housing, educational initiatives, sponsors vocational training institutions and adds to social progression, all of which are key sub pillars of the Harambee Prosperity Plan" he said.

Dundee has a strong corporate and social responsibility to the communities in which they invest and their legacy is to ensure that they have helped residents make the community a better place than it was prior to their involvement.

This was the President's Economic Advisor's second visit to the site and he congratulated Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb for having transformed the business for the better. "This is the true spirit of Harambee that we would like to see, people are excited to be here. Dundee has completely transformed," noting that the Sulphuric Acid plant had not yet been constructed during his first visit.

MINING EXPO & CONFERENCE 2017

REAPING THE BENEFITS OF MINING INVESTMENT

BY NATHAN BURNS



THE SHOWCASE OF THE MINING INDUSTRY, THE ANNUAL MINING EXPO AND CONFERENCE, TOOK PLACE AT THE WINDHOEK SHOW GROUNDS AT THE END OF APRIL 2017. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THE EXPO INTRODUCED A DIAMOND HUB TO PROVIDE A FASCINATING BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT THE GLAMOROUS WORLD OF THESE PRECIOUS STONES. THE NEW CONCEPT OF THE DIAMOND HUB MADE IT'S DEBUT AT THE 2017 MINING EXPO AND OPENED UP THE OFTEN MYSTERIOUS AND GLITTERING WORLD OF DIAMONDS FOR THE PUBLIC TO EXPERIENCE.

The Hub placed all players in the diamond value chain under one roof and provided adequate and up-to-date information to visitors about who performs what functions in the global and local diamond value chain, from the prospecting and mining to the cutting and polishing of the precious stones. Overall, the 2017 Mining Expo and Conference has received rave reviews from both visitors and exhibitors for being a well-organised affair and for attracting a wide range of participants from across all corners of the industry.

“In creating a one-stop-shop, you are without doubt demonstrating the fact that there are collaborative

ways and means as well as profound goodwill among the players in the sector. Let us, therefore, continue to work towards creating standards which are amongst the best in the world to earn our rightful place not just as a diamond producing country but one stellar of note,” said Mines and Energy Minister, Obeth Kandjoze when he launched the Diamond Hub. Kandjoze also said he was convinced that long-term benefits of a diamond hub are that it will contribute towards drawing attention to new investments from diamond technology companies, global cutting and polishing companies, and drawing investment from diamond-buyers and services to support them.

Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy, Obeth Kandjoze, officiating the 2017 Mining Expo and Conference with Chamber of Mines President, Johan Coetsee.



Many of the exhibitors at the Expo said it was encouraging to see new players who would not necessarily participate such as Namdia, as a result of the inaugural Diamond Hub. Another visitor commented that the Hub could be an opportunity for other sight-holders to take part in showcasing Namibian diamonds.

Overall, exhibitors truly valued networking opportunities with various industry role players and many felt this interaction went a long way in bridging the gap between suppliers and companies, especially small and medium enterprises. An integral aspect of the Expo is the Mining Conference, covering topics of national and global interest in the mining sector. The topics covered and subsequent discussions raised some pertinent points for Namibia's mining policy environments and areas of improvement were recommended so as not to miss out on the next commodities up swing.

According to the Events Coordinator at Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb, Elizabeth Mutota, the

Diamond Hub was one of the attractions that stood out for her this year. She also appreciated the smooth registration process which took place for exhibitors prior to arrival at the Expo. However, Mutota and several other exhibitors were concerned about the number of visitors to this year's show, which they say could have been higher.

It was reported through feedback evaluation that the decline in visitors was a reflection of current local economic challenges and also a result of the Mining Expo & Conference coinciding with public and school holidays as well as other major events which took place around the country.

Despite the reduced flow of visitors, one exhibitor reinforced the success and smooth running of the event, stating that "The entire Mining Expo was very well organised and managed and we really appreciated the visibility, engagement, and availability of organisers, which was very encouraging."



LANGER HEINRICH URANIUM LTD (LHU)

APPOINTS MICHAEL INTRONA AS MANAGING DIRECTOR

MICHAEL INTRONA WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED AS LANGER HEINRICH URANIUM'S MANAGING DIRECTOR FOLLOWING THE RETIREMENT OF SIMON SOLOMONS IN MARCH 2017.

A REGISTERED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (IN AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH AFRICA), MICHAEL HAS WORKED INTERNATIONALLY WITHIN THE MINING INDUSTRY FOR THE PAST 22 YEARS.

HE SERVED AS THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO) AT LANGER HEINRICH URANIUM LTD OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS, A POSITION IN WHICH HE SUCCEEDED BY REDUCING INPUT COSTS THROUGH A VARIETY OF MECHANISMS.

Michael Introna held positions as General Manager for Finance at Paladin Energy Ltd; Chief Financial Officer at Lithic Metals and Energy Ltd; Group Financial Controller at GBS Gold Ltd & Perilya Ltd; Financial Manager at GoldFields Australia (St Ives and Agnew gold mines); Group Accountant for base and other metals including copper, lead, zinc, coal and platinum at Gold Fields South Africa (GFSA Ltd) and Auditor at KPMG. His expertise, across numerous commodities, include: financial and cost accounting; cost savings project management; corporate governance; systems setup; ERP implementations; due diligence assurance and commercial management.

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His qualifications include a B. Acc.Sc. (Hons) & B. Acc.Sc., Post-Graduate and a Diploma in Auditing from UNISA as well as Post-Graduate Diploma in Corporate Governance from the Australian Institute of Chartered Secretaries. Langer Heinrich Uranium also appointed Mike Hoey as Chief Operating Officer.

LANGER HEINRICH CONTINUES TO INVEST IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Despite the current depressed uranium price, Langer Heinrich Uranium continues to provide Work Integrated Learning (WIL) to students. Recently, 28 Namibia Institute of Mining and Technology (NIMT) students commenced with their WIL at the mine.

According to Bernadette Bock, Corporate and Community Relations Superintendent, the students join through Langer Heinrich Uranium's Apprenticeship Programme, which provides students with opportunities to gain the practical experience required to complete their studies.

"We provide various education and skills development Programmes to Namibians in an effort to create a sustainable pipeline in scarcely skilled areas. We have provided over 200 apprenticeship opportunities over the past two years with the belief that our efforts will not only benefit us as an employer, but also Namibia as a developing country", she says.

Langer Heinrich Uranium has been offering apprenticeship opportunities since 2009. In 2015, the mine introduced a 12 month Artisan Internship Programme, on which Bernadette also commented saying: "The Programme is very unique to the mine, and different from the Apprenticeship Programme. We are currently in an advanced stage of completing the 2017 placings."

She added that employment is not guaranteed after the Programme, however, the graduates are considered when there is a vacancy. Sixteen of the 24 students that joined over the past two years have acquired permanent employment with the mine.



IS NAMIBIA READY FOR THE NEXT POTENTIAL EXPLORATION BOOM?

BY MARTHA NANGOLO
AND LAUREN DAVIDSON



THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE BODES WELL FOR MOST MINERS, IN AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE PRICES OF BASE METALS HAVE RECOVERED AND THE MARKET FUNDAMENTALS THERETO APPEAR TO BE PROMISING IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WHICH ALSO TRANSLATES INTO A POTENTIAL UP-SWING IN THE SUBDUED EXPLORATION TRENDS OF RECENT YEARS.

At the recently held 2017 Mining Expo and Conference, the mining sector highlighted valid concerns as to whether Namibia is positioned to maximize on a potential improvement in exploration activities and what could be improved on to harness maximum benefits when such trends reverse.

According to Bannerman Resources CEO, Brandon Munro, who delivered a presentation at the Mining Conference on global exploration trends and how Namibia could benefit from these, the nature of exploration companies plays a significant role in how such investment decisions are made. Junior companies currently account for the largest share of global exploration expenditure, who are significantly smaller than multi-national mining conglomerates and are thus exposed to a larger degree of risk. Such companies' investment decisions are influenced by a range of factors, including the mineral attractiveness of a jurisdiction and the level of policy certainty in the relevant country.

Focusing specifically on how investment into exploration ventures are made, Munro highlighted that investors track global commodity trends scouting for the next "Hot Swing"; a commodity with a favourable price and promising fundamentals. In as far as the destination is concerned, investors consider political and economic factors of the area they are looking to invest; whether policy and political decisions may soften or worsen potential losses incurred from such investments. Many exploration companies also rely on credit ratings agencies for a more comprehensive outlook, who consider similar factors in their country analyses.

Investors also account for how much support is provided to existing mining players by government in a particular country. Policy certainty, the timeframe required for mining licence applications to be processed as well as renewals could deter or encourage investment decisions. A clear example of this lies in the results of the 2016 Fraser Institute Survey of Mining companies. In 2014 Namibia was rated the most attractive African jurisdiction for investment into exploration and mining, but has since slid to

ninth place in 2016. The report cited uncertainty surrounding the new Empowerment policy and legislation (NEEEF/B) and Additional Conditions to licences as the main factors leading to a drop in rankings and pronounced negative investor sentiment regarding Namibia's mining sector.

Munro explained how the unlocking of a country's potential is crucial in determining investor hospitality, which is determined by a comprehensive geological database, policy certainty and licence application convenience to name a few. Industry players have revealed that only a small portion of Namibia's prospecting areas are covered by active exploration licences and data from the Ministry of Mines and Energy show that many existing exploration licences are dormant. Namibians own a large number of these licences, in the hope of selling to foreign investors through international stock exchanges. Anecdotal evidence further suggests that investment decisions by foreign investors are stalled due to policy uncertainty.

Although Namibia is still a significantly more attractive destination for investment into mining and exploration than most of its African counterparts, the case presented suggests substantial room for improvement to unlock the country's exploration potential. Munro advocated for active promotion of the mining industry by encouraging junior companies to undertake exploration through efficient licence application, processing and issuing procedures as well as the speedy processing of joint ventures.

Exploration is the first stage in the mining lifecycle, underpins the longevity and sustainability of the sector, and should thus not be compromised by uncertainty in investor sentiment, lest the numerous socio-economic benefits of mining be foregone. Namibia is well placed to benefit from the next expected upturn in global exploration trends, however, areas of improvement are prominent. With the guided action and commitment to rectify these, the country stands to further maximize on its exploration potential and expand the local mining sector.



Living Our Values

Four CSR focal areas

www.b2gold.com



Health



Education



Environmental Conservation



Livelihoods

B2Gold's Corporate Social Responsibility Programme aims to promote responsible mining in a sustainable manner. The gold deposit at Otjikoto Mine belongs to the Namibian people and is a finite resource so we aim to invest in projects which have a long term, lasting impact. Our CSR strategy is based on an ongoing assessment of the socio-economic environment in which the mine operates and through regular meetings with stakeholders at local, regional and national level, we are able to understand and focus our support in the most effective manner. The CSR strategic objectives are in line with the Namibian government's development plans and Vision 2030.

We support projects which aim to lead to long-term impacts that:

- contribute to economic upliftment and poverty reduction through skills training and livelihood development;
- promote educational opportunities, capacity building, innovation and technical excellence;
- promote health and well-being by complementing and supplementing government's efforts;
- empower communities, groups and entrepreneurs to help themselves;
- contribute to the sustainable utilisation of Namibia's renewable natural resources (energy, flora & fauna);
- improve environmental management and biodiversity conservation of indigenous ecosystems and endangered species.



EMPLOYEE PARENTING SKILLS
Over 90 B2Gold employees have attended parenting classes for their zero to six-year-old children with the BrainBoosters Programme.



SAVE THE RHINO TRUST
B2Gold is contributing N\$3 million to Save the Rhino Trust to adequately compensate and equip SRT's rangers to reduce wildlife crime and to ensure the long-term security of desert adapted black rhino in Namibia.



KAYEC'S YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN OTJIWARONGO
B2Gold enables the Otjiwarongo KYD programme to provide after-school support to help 188 disadvantaged teens (of which 50% are girls) to stay in school and build their life skills.



BUILDING CLASSROOMS
Some of the pre-fabricated accommodation blocks in the B2Gold construction camp have been converted into 16 classrooms at three schools in Otavi.



SMEs COMPETE OFFICE IN OTJIWARONGO
SMEs Compete routinely provides advice, mentoring and training to improve the entrepreneurial, management, marketing, and IT skills of 80 SMEs in our focal towns of Otavi and Otjiwarongo.



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
With Lifeline/Childline, B2Gold is complementing government efforts to improve quality early childhood care in kindergartens in our focus towns of Otavi and Otjiwarongo.



THE NAMIBIAN CHAMBER OF ENVIRONMENT
The Namibian Chamber of Environment is the brainchild of B2Gold and has been handed over for democratic management to the environmental fraternity. B2Gold has provided seeding capital of N\$1 million to the NCE.



PHARMACCESS MOBILE "MISTER SISTER" CLINIC
This B2Gold sponsored mobile clinic delivers a full range of primary healthcare to patients in informal settlements around Windhoek. The clinic also teaches parents about the critical importance of a child's early development – the first 1,000 days of life (from conception to two years of age).

MANAGING OUR MINING FOOTPRINT

REHABILITATION AT NAMDEB

Rehabilitation of the biophysical environment is one of Namdeb's key Environmental management focus areas. Preparing land disturbed by mining for a new land-use post mining i.e. conservation and tourism in the Tsau //Khaeb (Sperrgebiet) National Park is the main objective of Namdeb's rehabilitation programme.

By its very nature extracting a non-renewable resource means that mines are not infinite operations. To ensure that no major environmental and social liabilities are created and that the land will be suitable for sustainable use after mining, planning for closure is essential. Namdeb's environmental rehabilitation plan covers the components pollution, infrastructure, landscape and biodiversity.

Detailed management actions for the different components adapted to site-specific conditions ensure that redundant infrastructure is demolished safely and in accordance with accepted waste management

procedures, polluted soil and water are treated, man-made landforms are stabilized and made visually acceptable, and vegetation is restored in areas of biodiversity importance.

Various rehabilitation trials, set up in different habitats throughout the Sperrgebiet's diverse environment, ensure that rehabilitation methods are appropriate, practical and cost-effective. Due to the variety and magnitude of tasks, Namdeb is setting "best practice" standards in the Namibian mining sector.





NAMDEB'S SOUTHERN COASTAL MINES ACQUIRES NEW DE-WATERING PUMPS

In a quest for a more efficient and safer approach to dewatering efforts within Southern Coastal Mine (SCM), which is key to the life of mine, Tuli Nafuka, Accretion and Dewatering Manager in SCM and Waldo Koen, Namdeb Project Manager recently undertook a trip to (Portland in Oregon State) in the USA to conduct performance investigations on the new range of pumps that SCM are planning to use.

The delegation visited (Cornell Pump Company) and conducted performance tests on the 12 NHTB - RP - F18DB Cornell pump, that has been proven to deliver 1,500 cubic meters per hour at the duty point of a total dynamic head of 45 meters with an efficiency rate of 84%. The new pumps offer the benefits of scale by being

capable of delivering approximately 2.5 times the flow and are more efficient in comparison to the current pumps. The new pumps come with self – priming capability, which reduces the operational man hours required. Finally, the new pumps also open up the playing field to remote operation of the pumps from a central control are, thereby reducing exposure to risk and introducing flexibility to the dewatering practice.

The trip was successful and the pumps are currently being prepared for transportation to Oranjemund. The first pumps will be commissioned in July and will immediately play a vital role as they are required to de-water critical mining sites between G100 and G60 for 2017 and 2018 production requirements.

RÖSSING MARATHON CHAMPIONS

TO TACKLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
WITH THE MINE'S SUPPORT AT THEIR FEET

ONLY A HANDFUL OF NAMIBIAN ATHLETES HAVE QUALIFIED FOR THE WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LONDON LATER THIS YEAR. TWO OF THESE ATHLETES ARE THE RÖSSING MARATHON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS OF 2017 – PAULUS IYAMBO (MEN'S OPEN) AND HELALIA JOHANNES (LADIES OPEN).

In August this year, London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park will light up for a spectacular feast of athletics. It will be one of the biggest global sporting events in 2017. Over ten magical days, the world's top athletes will bring the roar back to the track at the World Championships. A big contribution to the spectacle, from a local point of view, will no-doubt be the appearance by Rössing's very own marathon champions. Best of all, Paulus and Helalia will compete in London with running gear sponsored by Rössing Uranium.

Company Secretary, Glynis Labuschagne, recently handed over the Rössing Marathon Development Bonus, worth N\$40 000 in total, to this year's Rössing marathon winners in Windhoek. It is the seventh year that this bonus is awarded. Funding through the bonus supports the careers of the two national champions during their year of reign as Namibia's best long-distance athletes.

For Paulus, qualification for the World Championships came as recently as during the Gaborone Marathon in May, when he won the event. In April, Helalia - who already qualified for London - went to Europe where she was invited to compete in the Vienna City Marathon (Austria). She finished in a respectable 6th place overall in the women's race. Both athletes are back in Namibia to compete in some shorter distance events in preparation for the World Championships in August.

It's been a great year for the two star runners so far. If all goes well, Helalia will finish her year as Rössing Marathon Ladies Open National Champion by participating, as defending champion, in the Dublin Marathon on 29 October. Who knows what's going to happen in August – dare we dream of a Namibian world marathon champion?

"It's all about the health of my body," Helalia stressed with a

steely determination in her eyes during the Rössing Marathon development bonus handover. This marathon veteran of Namibia, who finished 12th in the 2012 London Olympics, starts training for a marathon at least four months before the time: "The first two months I focus only on endurance. Speed is added to endurance for the final two." Paulus is her running partner, and they both belong to the same sport club (NDF Sport Club).

In between all the running, the two runners, of course, also have their day jobs, like the rest of us. Or perhaps not. As members of the Namibia Defence Force they'll go to work every morning like the rest of us, but then the intense physical training starts – an element most of us barely manage to squeeze in more than once a week in the gym! Around 9.00 in the morning they report for their first training session. They train six days a week, resting only on Sundays.

"Our running programme prescribes a two-hour long run on Saturdays; running for as far as we can in this time, usually between 30 and 35 kilometres. This is followed by a one-hour 'easy run' on Mondays, speed work on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (continuous speed according to the coach's orders), another 35 km run on Thursdays and a one-hour jog on Fridays," explained Helalia

Speed work, in the case of Helalia and Paulus's training programmes, is either 400 metres or 1 500 metres around the athletics track. During the endurance sessions, they have a prescribed time to maintain (per kilometre) which is tracked by special sport watches and the ever-watchful eye of the coach. That's a lot of running! With training programmes this rigorous, the champions say they need new training shoes every two to three months, and competition shoes or 'runners' every other



event, else they risk serious injury by using shoes with inadequate support for their bodies. “Long-distance athletes like me need new runners to compete with every two to three marathons - to ensure we give our bodies enough support to help prevent injuries. A pair of good runners can easily cost up to N\$3 000. Rössing’s development bonus enables us to obtain the appropriate gear to help keep us injury free,” explained Paulus.

According to the experts, too much running or running with improper form or foot wear can turn what is a natural, healthy exercise into a big negative for your body. Sources indicate that as many as 40 to 50 per cent of runners experience an injury on an annual basis. Common complaints among runners are shin splints, knee pain and Achilles tendinitis. Many of these injuries can be prevented by wearing proper shoes that offer enough support and fit your stride.

Helalia added: “The Rössing Marathon” development bonus allows us to buy special exercise and competition gear that we would otherwise not be able to afford. Some clothing and gear is made to add support and make exercise and competition a bit more comfortable. For example - running tights and vests that allow your body to stay cool while you run, sports bras for the lady runners, and sports watches that help track our heart rates. I also appreciate that the Rössing sponsorship allows me to buy otherwise unaffordable supplements to replace lost nutrients - it’s very helpful for us to stay healthy and recover faster for the next event.”

Paulus, who also aims to win the Dr Sam Nujoma half marathon later this year, shared a little secret with us at the bonus handover

event in Windhoek. He said the plan in February in Swakopmund, was not to win the Rössing Marathon. Instead it was simply to use the event as endurance training and stop running after about 30 kilometres. However, when he realised that he was in front of the pack, the thought of scoring another development bonus (he’s won it twice before), knowing how beneficial it’s been for his career in the past, made him change his mind and go all out for the win! The rest is history with Paulus of course winning

comfortably in a very good time this year.

Ever wondered what it must physically feel like after finishing a marathon, approximately 42 kilometres? Paulus had a few words to share on this, saying “The first thing I try and get after a marathon is a good massage - that does wonders for your tired muscles. Then a rest period of about one week follows - no training!” Helalia added: “If you are fit and well prepared, you won’t

feel completely exhausted afterwards. It’s good to use some ice on the muscles. After that, the day continues as any other normal day.”

The key words here are “well prepared.” As far as preparation goes, the Rössing marathon development bonus certainly keeps on enabling champions to prepare to compete at their best - as is evident by their great performances beyond the Rössing event. All eyes on Paulus and Helalia as they keep on going for glory in 2017. With support from Rössing “at their feet,” in the form of the best gear made possible through the development bonus, helping them to compete at their best, the sky is the limit for these committed ambassadors of healthy lifestyles. •



Rössing Marathon winners; Paulus Iyambo and Helalia Johannes.



His Excellency President of the Republic of Namibia and first Lady Madame Monica Geingos, His Excellency President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita of the Republic of Mali, SU CEO Mr. Zheng Keping and other top Government Officials enjoying a performance by the SU Culture Group.

VALUES ALIGNED CULTURE THROUGH SINGING AND DANCING

Swakop Uranium prides itself of having introduced a vibrant inclusive organisational culture for the Company and its employees, and planned in 2014 the High Performance Culture programme.

In 2015, whilst the Company planned its High Performance Culture roll-out, Dina Namubes, an employee of Swakop Uranium and with the assistance of fellow colleague Gilbert Garoeb, created a group of volunteers, the Swakop Uranium Culture group. After work, they would practice song, dance and industrial theatre to roll-out the Company Vision, Mission and Values. Employees and visiting dignitaries could immediately understand the key messages, such as Safety First, Respect, Integrity and Teamwork that the Company wanted to bring across to raise awareness and support.

The key objective of the Swakop Uranium Culture group is to promote the High Performance Culture which is based upon the principle; “One Team + One Culture = Safety, Excellence and Quality”. The Swakop Uranium Culture group celebrates diversity of cultural backgrounds by show-casing traditional and modern dancing and entertainment during official Company

functions. Furthermore, the group is also working towards assimilating Namibian and Chinese cultures.

The Culture group has thus far performed at Husab Marathons over the past few years, presented the Christmas song in 2015, performed at High Performance Culture functions, memorial services of the colleagues, and official company functions such as the 100 million tons of rock removed celebrations as well as at Africa Day.

The group has entertained high profile visits to the Husab Mine such as the Presidential and Prime Minister’s visits. The right Honorable Prime Minister Mrs. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila summarized the performances of the Culture Group as displaying “high professional standards, with passionate and loyal internal ambassadors of the Company”.

Mr. Zheng KePing, CEO of Swakop Uranium said, “We are very proud of the Culture Group, as they play an integral role in communicating and publicizing key company values to employees and stakeholders at large, through the practice of song and dance while creating a culture awareness which embraces the diversity characterized by Swakop Uranium’s workforce.”



GECKO DRILLING AND BLASTING



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- * Geotechnical drilling
- * Grade control drilling
- * Water well drilling up to 254mm diameter
- * Grouting, gravel packing and cement seals
- * Auger drilling
- * Blast hole drilling (51mm to 165mm)

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- * Ingersoll Rand ECM 585, 660 Drills
- * Reed Drill 400C & SCH 5000's Drills
- * Bohrmeister RC & DC 6x6 & 8x8
- * Atlas Copco D60, DM30 & T45's
- * Board Longyear LF90DC
- * Bohrmeister RC & DC on tracks

BACKUP AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

- * Container-based camp facilities
- * 4x4, 6x6 and 8x8 support and supply trucks
- * A large fleet of water and flat trucks and trailers
- * Air boosters and compressors

SUPPORT INFRA-STRUCTURE

Gecko Drilling and Blasting owns and operates comprehensively equipped workshops and technical support networks. Field service technicians are available to maintain, repair, build and modify all equipment to ensure minimal operational downtime.

CLIENT REFERENCES

NAMIBIA

- * B2Gold
- * Kunene Resources
- * Langer Heinrich Uranium
- * Rössing Uranium
- * Husab Uranium
- * NAMDEB

SOUTH AFRICA

- * Glencore
- * Umkhondo
- * BHP Billiton Xstrata
- * Umcebo Mining
- * UMK (United Manganese Kalahari)
- * Jindal

BOTSWANA

- * BLC

Gecko Drilling and Blasting (Pty) Ltd. is a 100% Namibian owned company specializing in the provision of exploration drilling and drill & blast services to the mining, quarrying and civil construction industries. The Company's main office and workshop facilities are strategically located at Nonidas, Swakopmund. Services include efficient and cost-effective exploration, drill & blasting as well as mining and geological consultancy. Gecko has a wealth of knowledge and experience gained over many years of operation on numerous projects across the African sub-continent. With the Company's dedicated and experienced team at hand, we are committed to ensuring that client's requirements and objectives are met effectively.

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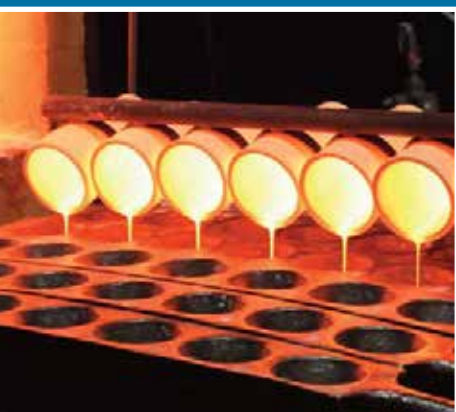
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