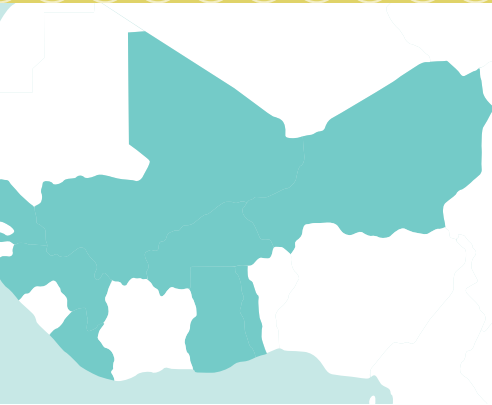


Australia's current assistance in mining for development: making a real difference



Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo



South Africa, Zambia

Australia assists developing countries through bilateral, regional and global initiatives that focus on mining for development. In 2010 and 2011 Australia delivered the following assistance.

Africa

Australia is supporting improved resource governance and sustainability in Africa, while strengthening technical capacity and promoting the use of public-private partnerships.

Access to expertise through partnerships with industry and civil society helps ensure mining developments align with national priorities and that sufficient community consultation takes place. AusAID supports the Australian-led mining industry body, AMIRA International, to build the geosciences research and training capacity of four West African universities. Training courses have been held on geochemistry, exploration and geology for participants from Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Togo and Zambia.

Three Australian study tours for senior government officials from 18 African countries took place in 2011, focusing on mining regulation and management issues. Onsite mine visits were hosted by Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton and Newcrest and discussion panels included Western Australian and Queensland natural resources and regulatory agencies. AusAID has also provided 71 Australia Awards scholarships focusing on mining policy and regulation, 44 awards for Masters Degrees in natural resource and environmental management, and 17 Australian Leadership Award Fellowships in mining governance.

Australia is also negotiating an agreement with the UN Economic Commission for Africa to support implementation of the African Mining Vision, adopted by the African Union Summit in February 2009. The vision is for the transparent, equitable and optimal extraction of mineral resources for broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development.



Papua New Guinea

Australian advisers provide Papua New Guinea's treasury and finance departments with advice on how mineral revenues (including from LNG) will have an impact on budgets and the economy.

Assistance is also being provided to Papua New Guinea in relation to the major LNG project being undertaken by ExxonMobil and project partners. This includes:

- Providing assistance through Australia's Treasury and Finance and Deregulation departments to help the Papua New Guinea Government establish a sovereign wealth fund for receiving and managing project revenues.
- Assisting the Papua New Guinea Government to model the project's economic impact, especially the capacity to utilise extra revenues.
- Funding and providing management support for the Papua New Guinea Government to recruit technical specialists where needed for the success of the construction phase.



Papua New Guinea

Philippines

The Philippine mining sector is facing a shortage of professional and skilled workers. Local demand for professionals is high and the industry is forecast to grow with investments of US\$10 billion over the five years to 2014.

To help the Philippine Government address the shortfall, AusAID supported the establishment of the Philippines-Australia Resources Education Excellence Program. This industry-funded scholarship program is currently sponsored by eight mining companies and the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines, and has provided 25 scholarships to date. These will improve professional expertise in the mining sector and address emerging local minerals and resources needs.

More information is available at: <http://www.pareep.org.ph>

Australian experts are also helping to improve mining curricula at Philippine universities, and promote sustainability in the sector. Through Australia's Public Sector Linkages Program, funds were allocated in 2009–10 to:

- integrate sustainable development into minerals education
- assist the Department of Energy and National Resources to better coordinate reforestation efforts
- develop teaching capacity, and curriculum, so that locally-trained graduates can work in the industry
- enhance community-based restoration and reforestation projects for post-mining landscapes.



Philippines