



The Responsible Minerals Trade (RMT) Program

The Responsible Minerals Trade (RMT) Program received \$10 million in FY 2010 Section 1207 funds to coordinate and implement USG conflict minerals programming in the Great Lakes and Eastern DRC. USAID/DRC directly implements \$8 million of this to create a pilot conflict-free supply chain, promote civilian control of the sector through regulatory reform and to assure vulnerable populations are protected. Coordination efforts involve liaison with State Department in diplomacy and outreach; programming synchronization with Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) supply chain monitoring project in the field; and the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) for training and equipping “appropriate role for security” forces. Coordination is also provided with DoD Defense Institute of Legal Studies armed forces judicial training to promote rule of law and reduced impunity, and with the Government of the DRC (GDRC) and multiple donors. RMT is also supporting the development of a Global Development Alliance (GDA) among U.S. end-user companies and USG to mobilize funding for in-region sourcing and best practice collaboration and information dissemination.



The RMT program will focus on three critical components:

- **Infrastructure and Regulatory Reform**

The RMT program intends to enhance civilian control of the DRC’s mineral trade regulation through security, infrastructure and institutional reforms. The program will complete an administrative building and a trading center in South Kivu as well as the rehabilitation of an additional trading center and a road for the mineral trading centers, a pilot project led by UN Stabilization Mission (MONUSCO) and its Stabilization Support Unit (SSU). The RMT will also implement certification and traceability pilot systems in and around the *trading centers* and other pilot areas of South and North Kivu.

- **Protection of Artisan Mining Communities: Child-free certification**

This component of the RMT program will focus on reducing child mining through drop-in services and activities for minors in “children’s corners”; sports, theater, life skills, single-sex discussion groups, literacy, and numeracy activities; outreach to communities and awareness raising of local authorities and leaders to promote a conducive environment for children to leave the mines and to prevent other children from starting; meaningful alternatives for children who leave the mines by offering support to return to school for vocational skills training – matching both with an income generating activity. This program will also support the Government of DRC in developing a child-labor free certification process.

- **Civilian reform and artisanal mining capacity building**

The RMT program will also support the development of a GDRC strategy for the formalization and transition of artisan mining towards industrial development. Technical assistance and capacity building of pilot conflict-free minerals supply chain will be provided for the Ministry of Mines at the national, provincial and local levels as it relates to the conflict minerals supply chain; civil society human rights and development NGO’s; cooperatives; and *export* and *intermediary* groupings.