

LET'S GO AFRICA FOUNDATION

2nd Annual African Resources Sustainability and Social Investment Conference

Students in the Washington DC metropolitan area study about Social Investment and Sustainability of Mining and Oil Industry in Africa.

Washington, D.C., and January 23, 2009- In many African countries, mineral exploration constitutes a significant part of their economies and remains key to their future economic growth.

At a time when economic problems are facing mining companies in Africa, many Washington



Kwasi Bosompem, the Executive Director of Let's Go Africa Foundation lecturing students on NEWMONT MINING programs in Ghana



Kwasi Bosompem interacting with the students

DC metropolitan high and middle school students and their teachers learned about mining and extractive industries at the 2nd Annual African Resources Sustainability Educational Workshop.

The event was organized by the Let's Go Africa Foundation and hosted by the Embassy of Ghana.

The Foundation believes that an optimal exploitation of mineral resources can foster a sustainable growth and socio-economic development of Africa.

Jeffery Davidson of Rio Tinto Mining was the Guest Speaker at the event. He explained and highlighted the unique social investments in health, education and sustainability programs by Rio Tinto mining at the Murowa Diamond mine in Zimbabwe.

The students also learnt about the planned Rio Tinto's Simandou Iron ore project in Guinea and the Parabola Mining project in South Africa.

Of particular interests to the students were the planned mining activities near archaeological sites in South Africa.



Jeffery Davidson of Rio Tinto Mining



Dr Yaw Adade

Dr Yaw Adade of the Let's Go Africa Foundation made a presentation of sustainability programs by extractive companies in Africa. He stressed the importance of mining and oil industry to bring about economic development and poverty alleviation in Africa.

The former Ambassador of Ghana to the United States, His Excellency Dr Kwame Bawuah-

Edusei, lauded the efforts of Newmont Mining Corporation and Rio Rinto Mining in Ghana.

He noted the wonderful community and social investment



Dr. Kwame Bawuah-Edusei

programs by Newmont Mining in Ghana and the efforts being made by the some African Countries to strengthen their mining industries.

Newmont's African operations are in Ghana and the students learned about Newmont's

partnerships and community development intervention programs with local population. The most noted programs by Newmont Mining Corporation in Ghana include the Newmont Livelihood Enhancement and Empowerment Program, Ahafo Agribusiness Growth Initiative Ghana Responsible Mining Alliance and the Community Health and Bio Diversity Programs. Some of the schools expressed interest in Newmont's Community programs in Ghana as an area of study.

Halliburton also displayed their Sustainability programs in Nigeria and Angola at the event. Realizing its commitment to foster a culture that promotes economic and sustainable development, Halliburton's displayed their human resource and educational development program in Angola.

Sandvik, the a high-technology engineering group with operations in Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe also exhibited their Africa operations, sustainability programs and social investments



L to R - Dr. Yaw Adade, Dr. Bawuah Edusei, Jeffery Davidson & Dr. Kobina Atobrah



Students drumming to highlight sustainability of Africa resources



Kwasi Bosompem



Dr. Atobrah of Let's Go Africa Foundation presenting prizes to teachers



School Teachers, Let's Go Africa Foundation and Rio Tinto Staff

programs. Sandviks efforts in Human Resource and Education in Africa were highly noted.

Of particular interest to the students were the Etruscan Mining Company operations in Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Burkina Fasso, Namibia and Niger and South Africa. It was leant that Etruscan has been committed to making a positive contribution to the social, environmental and economic conditions for all its employees, their families and the communities in which they work. They have undertaken major health end educational programs in Niger, Mali, and South Africa. The company has embraced the spirit of Black Economic Empowerment in South Africa

Other Corporations that exhibit at the educational event included the Barrick Gold, Marathon Oil, Shell International, Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) and the American Chemistry Society.

The presentation of exhibits by companies and was undertaken by Kwasi Bosompem, the

Executive Director of Let's Go Africa Foundation. He called for the need for a balance between investments, sustainability of resources and social investment programs. He also lectured the students on the need of an increased investments in mining and oil prospecting in Africa and for much transparency in contracts and concessions and explorations. Mr. Bosompem called for African Governments to give mining companies a tax break during these economic crisis. He stated that The Let's Go

Africa Foundation has positioned itself to assist these extractive companies to understand the concerns of communities and work collaboratively in search of solutions to promote the good of the people as well as good business for investors. "The Let's Go Africa Foundation seeks an innovative model that promotes Community Development with good business in mining and extractive industries rather than unsubstantiated arguments against these companies,"...he concluded.

The students explored many of Africa's natural resources and learned about corporate social responsibility, sustainability and investments by mining and oil companies in Africa. The schools that participated in the even were presented with prizes with prizes. Dr Kobina Atobrah of the Let's Go Africa Foundation moderated the event.

Let's Go Africa Foundation
The Let's Go Africa Foundation is a non-profit organization created to improve the lives of disadvantaged populations in the inner cities of America and African Countries by promoting social and economic development and cultural exchange. For more information visit: <http://www.letsgoafrica.org>.



Rio Tinto Executive Staff and Kwasi Bosompem

THE 2ND ANNUAL AFRICAN RESOURCES SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE WAS SPONSORED BY: NEWMONT MINING, ETRUSCAN MINING, RIO TINTO MINING, SANVIK & HALLIBURTON.