



4th AFRICAN RESOURCES SUSTAINABILITY AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) NEWSLETTER

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RESOURCES AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Let's Go Africa Foundation and the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) Office of International Programs & Exchange (OIPE) conducted an Educational Workshop on the Sustainability of African Resources and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). January 21, 2011.

by Kwasi Bosompem

Students, teachers, social activists and stakeholders, learned about Sustainability of African Resources and Social Development during the 4th Annual **Lets Go Africa Foundation Sustainability Educational Conference** held at the University of the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C. The program was organized jointly with the **UDC Office of International Programs & Exchange (OIPE)**.

Sustainability, to the audience at the Conference, implies the potential for long term well being of people and responsible use of natural resources. Africa is a frontier for extractive business and companies with their technological expertise are working under economic and regulatory reforms to enhance their investments in these resources.

As an advocate to strengthen the private sector contribution to sustainable development in Africa, the Let's Go Africa Foundation conducts this Annual Educational Conference to promote cultural, economic and educational exchange between stakeholders and the business community as a forum for social discourse. The Conference creates awareness, reinforces education programs on socially responsible investments, good practices and sustainable polices. The broad goal is to safeguard resources in the environment with the integration of business operations and values in the local communities.

The program began with Ambassador Denis Antoine, the Director of International Programs and Exchange who welcomed the students and guests to the University and stressed the importance of International Studies and programs notably the annual educational event by Lets Go Africa Foundation.



The moderator was Mr. Howard Ways, the Director of Sustainability at UDC. He explained the concept of Sustainability as a wide ranging term that has applied to our life cycles from a local to a global scale. The moderator explained the principle and concepts of Sustainability to the audience and talked briefly about the environmental, economic and social dimension of sustainability

In his address to the guests, the Principal Advisor of Rio Tinto, Mr. Jeffery Davidson introduced Rio Tinto and discussed the company's Communities Control Architecture that includes its multiyear community plans, community assistance programs, impact assessment, stakeholder engagement and its social risk analysis.



Jeffrey Davidson of Rio Tinto

Mr. Davidson discussed the many uses of aluminum metal and alloys in its structural composition. Other products of the company that he mentioned include Coal, Gold, Diamonds, and Iron ore.

In the production of these, he highlighted the social well being of the local communities where Rio Tinto operates as a major priority and stated that the company is committed to a safe and healthy work place in all its communities. Rio Tinto has many social and economic programs supporting communities in South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Madagascar, he concluded.



Mr. Martin Jones of Banro Corporation

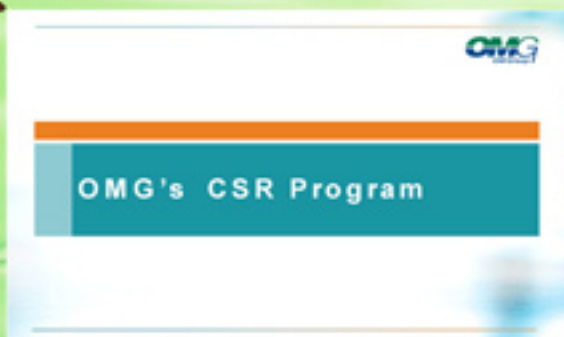
Mr. Martin Jones of Banro Corporation (pictured left) presented the Banro Foundation Community Development program. He highlighted the company's work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the role of Banro Foundation social and economic development. The latter included programs in health, education, infrastructure and humanitarian assistance. According to Mr. Martin Jones, this has been done with a vision to create a sustainable development through training and creating opportunities for the people in Twangiza, DRC.

Displays and major exhibitors at the event included,

- OMG of Cleveland
- Axmin Inc
- IAMGold Corporation
- Banro Corporation of Canada
- Nestle Waters North America
- Newmont Mining (Ghana)
- Orezone Corporation all of Canada



EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS AT THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE



OM GROUP STRENGTHENS THE CAPACITY OF GIRLS EDUCATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC).

The role of OMG of Cleveland in prioritizing of women education for poverty, education in the mining community of Lubumbashi was displayed at the event.

By materials, financial donations and direct support to the Hodari School in Lubumbashi, OM Group of Cleveland, Ohio has improved the quality of girl's education in vocational training, the arts and sciences in the DRC. In a school population of 1,400 girls, 1,290 are day students and 110 are boarding. The school is located in the community of Ruashi, near Lubumbashi. The school is the only institution solely for girls in this town. The dropout rate is very high. The intervention by OM Group aims at lowering the drop out rates, increasing retention rates and improving tests scores. The support seeks to create opportunities for the girls and empower them to take on meaningful course work to contribute to the community. OM Group also fulfills UN Millennium Development Goals. The company has brought social and economic benefits to the Lubumbashi Community in the DRC.



Picture shows Hodari School girls where OMG is mitigating girl's vulnerability

The Hodari School in Lubumbashi in the DRC was adopted by OMG of Cleveland under its good practices in mining for equity and support for gender dimensions.

OMG has made donations to strengthen the school. Working with the Lets Go Africa Foundation, OMG is donating more books and other materials to the school Library.

Picture on the left shows Hodari School girls where OMG is mitigating girl's vulnerability to risks by providing opportunities in girl's education. The Company has also invested very much in Orphanage programs in Lubumbashi as shown below.



OMG's women education for poverty reduction

Focus on the Local Community

Orphanage Support

- Orphelinat Laura – (2009)
- Orphelinat Kamanyola (shown below) – remodeling renovations and a new roof for the orphanage (2009)



Above shows the OMG orphanage support programs

Other OM Group community programs in the DRC displayed at the Conference are shown below.

Focus on the Local Community

Example Projects

- University of Lubumbashi – provided raw materials to the University for use in its Chemistry Labs (2009 & 2010)
- Institute Technique Salama
 - Provided equipment (~\$10,000) and sponsored entrepreneur competition
 - Recruited ~50% of graduates for internship program (2009 & 2010)



Focus on the Local Community (Environment)

Residential Areas

- Quartier Mampala – During the rainy season the small houses closest to the river flood. We regularly clean ravines and rivers to improve resident safety and improve the environment (2009 & 2010)

- A bridge was also built to allow for pedestrians to cross instead of walking through the river



- Quartier Chansansa – We helped clean the river and provided materials for electrification of the area
- Mairie – provide fresh water to the town hall on a monthly basis

OMG presence in Lubumbashi deepens their understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of local problems. It also promotes an understanding of the needs in the local community with a view to examining its implications for effective policies, support and development.



Participants at OM Group Exhibit Table



Kwasi Bosompem answering questions on Exhibits

The initiatives by OMG to examine the general empowerment status of girls in Lubumbashi supports the United Nations programs in education. As the audience noted, OMG's social work upholds the UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDG). The company plans to provide more to the curriculum at Hodari Girls School, support its skills development and promote good community values.

ABOUT OMG: Based in Cleveland, Ohio the company is a leading global solutions provider of specialty chemicals, advanced materials. It has a plant in the DRC. This the company's fourth year at LGAF Conference.

BANRO CORPORATION



Vice President of Banro Corporation Martin Jones explaining development programs to the audience.

Mr. Martin Jones of the Banro Foundation gave one of the most exciting presentations at the Conference. He engaged the audience as to Banro's Community Development in the DRC. Through the Banro Foundation, the company is supporting the Twangiza region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The company is guided by principles in education, health, infrastructure and humanitarian assistance. The projects by Banro Corporation is seen as benefiting the communities as a whole and according to Mr. Martin Jones, they are maximizing opportunities to generate local employment. Banro Foundation has provided new desks for school children, clothes and school supplies, HIV awareness for schools and the construction of a secondary and primary school. In the health sector, Banro has provided new bus for medical clinics, shipped medical supplies and opened a new health center to Kigumo. In infrastructure sector, Banro has rehabilitated local roads and built several new roads in Twangiza.



CSR Programs in the Local Communities

During the questions and answer period, the audience (left) inquired about the impact of the CSR programs in the local communities. It was noted that Banro CSR program is at the core of the company's culture. They understand that they have larger social responsibility to the people and they are very effective in community work.

Education : 2010 Achievements



Official Opening of the Chiburi Primary School November 30, 2010

BANRO FOUNDATION SUSTAINABILITY PRO

The sustainability of health intervention programs by Banro Foundation in the community was noted in his presentation. It was understood that Banro's planning for sustainability in public health include:

- (1) Maintenance of health benefits achieved through an initial program,
- (2) Measures of capacity building in the recipient community.

The planning for sustainability in public requires the use of approaches that favor long-term program maintenance.

The Lets Go Africa Foundation has reviewed these programs by Banro and do recommend it for three main factors

- (1) project design and implementation factors
- (2) factors within the organizational setting
- (3) the role of the broader community environment.



Banro's new latrines for the Namoya medical clinic and new beds & mattresses for the Namoya medical clinic

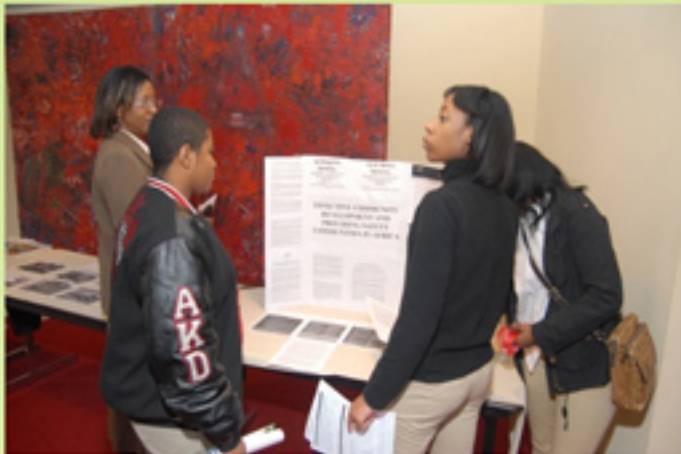
About Banro Foundation

Based in Toronto, Canada, Banro Corporation is a mining company with activities in the DRC. This is Banro Foundation 4th year at LGAF Conference.

Banro's Corporation commitment to corporate social responsibility is through-the Banro Foundation, which promotes local social and economic development, capacity-building job creation, training environmental protection and workplace safety .

NEWMONT MINING GHANA

This is the fourth year that Newmont Mining has participated in the Conference. Newmont's Sustainability Report, *Beyond the Mine*, describes their approach and programs on sustainability. The latter has guided the company towards achieving its sustainable development objectives. At the exhibit table, the audience discussed Newmont's local community work including the Ahafo Linkages Program. It was noted that in 2007, Newmont Ghana, in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) set up a comprehensive job intervention program "The Ahafo Linkages Program" (ALP), to create income and employment opportunities for local communities around the Ahafo Gold Project. The objective of this micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) was to help them become sustainable businesses. The success of this program was discussed and measured by the Lets Go Africa Foundation and other stakeholders.



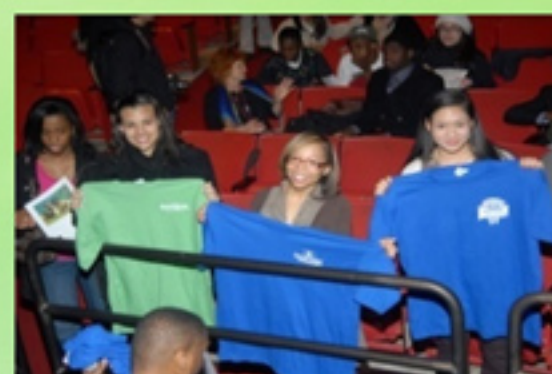
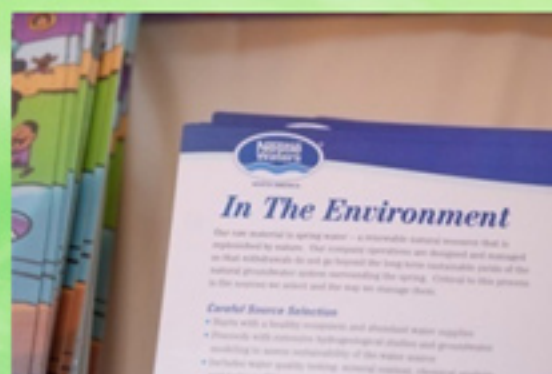
A total of 341 Ghanaian businesses were also awarded contracts worth over \$144.3 million accounting for over 60 percent of the Newmont Ghana's total purchases in 2009. Newmont Ghana continues to seek new opportunities to engage with appropriate local contractors and recently organized its maiden Supplier Summit.

For the past years, it has been recorded that Newmont Mining Corporation has scored better in almost all the seven sustainability and corporate social responsibility categories that includes: the Environment, Climate Change, Human Rights, Philanthropy, Employee Relations, Financial Performance and Governance. As stated by the company, "Demonstrating leadership in safety, stewardship of the environment and social responsibility remains one of our key commitments of Newmont Mining in Ghana.

The audience also noted reports by certain organizations in Ghana and their constant attack on mining by foreign investors. A discussion followed noting that these organizations should rather concentrate their efforts to help resolve the illegal mining activities in Ghana rather than the legitimate corporate organizations. Newmont Mining is Denver based mining company with operations in Ghana, West Africa

Nestle Waters North America

Nestle Waters North America displayed their Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Reports at the event. Picture below shows Dr Atobrah of Lets Go Africa Foundation distributing the Nestle Waters T-Shirts during the conference. The T-shirts were donated by the company.



At the exhibit table, the attendees learned a lot about Nestlé's Water Quality. They learned about water and health and the company's commitment to the environment and much on their work in managing water resources for long-term sustainability. The company donated 300 bottles of waters to the conference. The company is based in Connecticut and it distributes best-known bottled water brands. It is also a leading nutrition, health and wellness provider.

AXMIN INC

Axmin Inc. responsibility programs are centered on its gold explorations in Africa. Remedies for environmental issues and disposal of mine waste were discussed. Of particular interest was the farming projects undertaken by Axmin Inc. for women in Mali. The program promotes women participation as agents and beneficiaries of agricultural production. It increases opportunities for women to access new methods of production and supports their empowerment and decisions. Axmin's display is note worthy and the company plans to continue these programs in their other Africa prospect areas. The initiatives by Axmin Inc. helps women learn how to take risks and succeed, despite their low formal education. It also provides more opportunities for women to participate in farmers associations and gain leadership experience and make decisions.

About Axim Inc.

Axmin is a Canadian-based gold exploration company with projects and exploration properties in Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal and Mozambique. The company has adopted a strong community approach in its local area of operations.

IAMGOLD CORPORATION

IAMGOLD's environmental performance was displayed at the Conference to show the company's New Biodiversity Strategy, Land Restoration project in the Sahel, and the material and waste programs at the mining sites. Of special interest was also their Social Performance indicator as shown below.

Social Performance

- No significant community incidents in 2008 | 2009 | 2010
- Human Rights training for all operations in 2010 - 2011
- Over 28 community and NGO partnerships have been established in Suriname, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Canada, and French Guiana
- Community development embodied in the sustainability policy and framework
- All operations and advanced projects have community development projects; key is community participation for sustainable success



Students answering a quiz on Sustainability and CSR

IAMGOLD is a leading gold company based in Canada with a focus on West Africa. The company strengthens its CSR with a sense of purpose and hard work in the local communities.



Participants at the Conference



Students at the Conference



Jeffrey Davidson (Rio Tinto) answering a question

OREZONE

The company operates gold mining in Burkina Faso and has uranium interests in Niger. At the exhibit table, students at the University of District of Columbia who are from Burkina Faso reviewed the company's Social Responsibility programs as exhibited below.

WATER FOR COMMUNITIES

- Support communities by establishing water and sanitation services
- Over \$650,000 raised and spent to date for water projects / Ryan's Well Foundation

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- \$190,000 invested to date
- Collaborative research with Universities
- 4 PhD students supported
- Microscope donated to University of Ouagadougou

CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

The Educational Conference provided an opportunity to showcase responsible care of the environment and sustainable development of resources such as water supplies in local communities. It also provided an educational forum and review of Corporate Social Responsibility by investors in Africa. The main outcomes from the Educational Conference are as follows:

1. The Corporations that exhibited are making significant difference to the local African Communities.
2. The event contributes to a better information and discussion on the roles of Corporations in Community Development in local communities
3. Responsible care in business can create jobs and generate effective economic, environmental and social roles. It was noted that the OM Group has over 400 well paying jobs at its plant in Lubumbashi.
4. The Conference encourages business in Africa to adopt linkages between large and small local companies regarding the use of local suppliers, outsourcing and maximizing the transfer of skills. This was evident in Newmont's operations in Ghana and OM Group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
5. The event provides an opportunity for stakeholders to share information in a global age of communications.
6. The event promotes private sector contribution to sustainable development by nurturing socially-oriented companies and encourages linkages with civil societies.
7. The educational forum provides an opportunity for business to engage with stakeholders and to enable them to report on their activities in Africa.
8. The forum created dialogue between business, civil societies and institutions to build trust and mutual understanding of the potentials and limits of business contribution to community development. This was evident in the number of village forums held by Banro Foundation in the DRC.

Kwasi Bosompem

Mr. Kwasi Bosompem is an Urban and Regional Planner managing the consulting firm of TPPPI Inc, a Community Development Consulting firm in the Washington, D.C. area. He is also the founder and Executive Director of Lets Go Africa Foundation. Mr. Bosompem's work is focused on Community Development Planning as they pertain to the built environment. For the past 25 years, he has worked for many local governments, civil societies and the private sectors on major community development and comprehensive plans. Mr. Bosompem served on the Technical Forecasting Committee of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments and has worked on several development projects in the Washington-Baltimore regional area.

Mr. Bosompem has an extensive Community Development Planning experience in Ghana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Lesotho and the planning of over 28 new black townships in South Africa. Mr. Bosompem holds a B.Sc. in City Planning from KNUST in Ghana and a Masters degree in Community Planning from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Dr. Kobina Atobrah

Dr. Atobrah is a proven innovator with over 20 years of extensive experience in the water supply involving the expansion and rehabilitation of existing urban water systems, and borehole programs in rural water development. Dr. Atobrah was the Manager for the Privatization of State (Country) Owned Enterprises in more than 20 countries involving World Bank-Financed ventures, most of them involved privatizing water supply systems in Sub-Saharan Africa. As a certified Master Well Driller, Dr. Atobrah has installed hundreds of boreholes for potable water supplies in Sub-Saharan Africa and Ghana in particular, and several monitoring wells in the United States. Dr. Atobrah has earned a Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts in Hydrology and Geophysics from Princeton University; Master of Sciences in Earth Sciences and Hydrogeology from University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada; Bachelor of Sciences (Honors) in Geology from University of Ghana. He chairs Let's Go Africa Foundation Board of Trustees.



Let's Go Africa Foundation (LGAF)

The Lets Go Africa Foundation is a nonprofit organization created to improve the lives of the disadvantaged populations in the inner cities of America and in African Countries, by promoting social and economic development and cultural exchange through educational programs. The Foundation was formed in 2001.



TPPPI Inc.

TPPPI Inc is a full service multidisciplinary consulting company offering the highest quality professional services to many clients in Urban and Regional Planning, Community Development and Engagement, Sustainability of Resources, Environmental Services, Water Supply and Sanitation. The Company is based in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

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