

Perseus Mining Ltd is a West African gold producer and explorer. The company has been operating in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire since its public listing in 2004.

The company's flagship Edikan Gold Mine, on the famous Ashanti Gold Belt in Ghana, began commercial production in January 2012. Perseus is also planning to develop its second mine, the Sissingué Gold Mine in Côte d'Ivoire.

The ongoing development of the communities close to Perseus' operations is a priority. Continuous dialogue and regular consultation with stakeholders allows Perseus to identify issues and seek resolutions that are acceptable to these communities. In addition to complying with legal requirements and other social requirements relating to compensation and resettlement of affected persons, Perseus is focused on supporting health, education, training and sanitation initiatives, as well as cultural events that enhance the community.

Perseus has established a Community Development Fund for the Edikan Gold Mine and contributes GHC 750,000 per annum. This fund is administered through a trust by representatives from the local communities who prioritise and select projects for investment. A similar arrangement will be established for the communities around the Sissingué Gold Mine.

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## A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR GHANA'S YOUTH

Young people in Perseus' catchment communities in Ghana are pursuing technical and vocational scholarships provided by the company that will help them to develop sustainable livelihoods and pursue future employment in mining and other industries.

The educational levels in the company's catchment communities of Ayanfuri, Fobinso, Gyaman, Nkonya Abenabena are low. Many school-aged children leave school to work in illegal artisanal mines (popularly known as 'galamsey'), which often do not provide a sustainable livelihood. The low education levels leads to lower incomes, resulting in communities where guardians are unable children.

Perseus is committed to providing employment opportunities for local community members and believes that one key way to develop local economies is to Perseus worked closely with the Kumasi Initially 40 students were awarded realise their potential and to contribute have the opportunity to continue their to the sustainable development of their education without this support. communities and Ghana as a whole.



Some of the beneficiaries during the Board Chairman and Social Development Manager's

a vicious cycle of poverty in these The PMGL Education Support Programme the opportunity to study at KTI, but provides technical and to provide an education for their education to willing youth in the here. It is a miracle and I know it is God community, to help them employment with Perseus and also make become an engineer in future and with them more competitive in the broader this, I will further my course at the Ghanaian job market.

Dora Atobrah, a student from Ayanfuri said, "I never thought I would ever have

vocational because of this scholarship scheme, I'm gain who has made it all possible. I want to Polytechnic".

build human capital. Consequently, Per- Technical Institute to develop a special scholarships as part of the programme, seus Mining Ghana Limited (PMGL) has training programme for youth from the followed by a further 50 as interest in the instituted a number of scholarship and local communities. Many of the youth training increased. Funded by PMGL, the training programs to help the youth to were from poor homes and would not scholarships covered tuition, boarding/ food, books and other related expenses. Students are currently continuing training and are expected to complete the programme in 2015.

## YOUTH TRAINED IN CONSTRUCTION

training programmes for the local youth area are generally very poor and builders undergo training in the four categories, to help build the estimated 300 resettle- look to distant towns including Kumasi, which will lead to the award of a NVTI ment houses required as a result of Accra PMGL's project expansion activities.



Masonry apprentices during practical

Perseus has invested in construction Construction skills in Perseus' catchment Some 80 candidates were selected to and Takoradi for construction workers.

> workers with brick laying, plumbing, elec- people in the region with the necessary trical installation and carpentry skills will skills to build houses and as a result will be needed. Perseus worked with local leaders to identify interested unskilled youth for the programme. Due to the limited training placements candidates were required to complete an application nominating their training preference and they were also tested to assess their existing competence.

skilled (National Vocational Training Institute) certificate.

build the resettlement homes This programme has provided young increase local employment. The successful candidates will also competitive in the local job market and will be able to contribute to an improvement in the overall economic development in the local catchment communities.

## SUPPORT FOR THE SISSINGUE VILLAGE

wellbeing of the community.

Northern Côte d'Ivoire is very isolated little large scale mining. Occidental Gold drilled for gold around the Sissingué village, which is to become Perseus' Sissingué Gold Project. The nearest town is Tengrela, where Perseus accommodates its people and has its local office. To improve the health, education and sanitation services available to the people of Sissingué, Perseus completed a number of projects in the area.

Firstly, the company worked with the community to upgrade three classrooms at the Sissingué Primary School. The improved school facilities and new furniture and teaching resources have created a more positive learning environment and encouraged students to attend school.

Perseus is building a strong long-term The Sissingué community now also relationship with the Sissingué village enjoys access to clean drinking water through the company's commitment to through the installation of a water bore improve the education, health and and hand pump located centrally in the village. People no longer have to walk long distances for clean water.

and until recently there has been very To ensure water for domestic purposes and livestock was available in the dry season Perseus also completed upgrades to the local dam. The improvements to the dam have kept the livestock away from the village bores, reducing the long term impact on ground water quality.

> Meningitis is highly contagious and is a significant health problem in northern Côte d'Ivoire with many deaths every dry season. To address this issue Perseus vaccinated 500 people for meningitis at Sissingué and Tengrela.

> Finally, Perseus supplied three air conditioners to the Tengrela Hospital. It is very hot in northern Côte d'Ivoire, and air conditioning at the hospital has improved the comfort and performance



of staff, and further aided patient recovery.

Perseus intends to continue to support the development of the Sissingué community.

"We believe it is important to assess the needs of the local community and determine where our support can be of long term benefit to the largest number of people, rather than benefitting just a few individuals in the immediate future", Jeff Quartermaine, Managing Director, Perseus.

