The Mining Sector in Burkina Faso: Current situation, issues and perspectives

SE  Boubakar BA, Minister
PLAN

1. Introduction
2. Burkina Faso’s Mining Code
3. Current status
4. Results
5. Perspectives
6. Conclusion
1. INTRODUCTION

- Land-locked country situated at the heart of West Africa;
- 6 neighbouring countries;
- 274 000 km² surface area;
- 16 million inhabitants;
- Rich and varied mining potential;
- Young industry in Burkina Faso, compared to more traditional mining countries, such as Canada, Australia, Ghana, South Africa, etc.

274 200 Km²

16 000 000 Hbts
1. INTRODUCTION

- Significant enhancement of mining potential since 2007, with production commencement at the Taparko gold mine, developed by HRG;

- Followed by the Youga, Kalsaka, Mana, Inata, Essakane, Perkoa (zinc) and Bissa mines, until 2013;

- Unprecedented expansion of artisanal gold mining and quarry substances.
2. BURKINA FASO’S MINING CODE

- Mining code developed in October 2013;

- Global vision:

  “By 2020, Burkina Faso's mining sector is competitive and a real lever for economic and social sustainable development”

In order to do this, two strategic positions have been identified:

- create favorable conditions for rational and sustainable exploration and production of mineral resources;

- maximize the benefits of mineral production for the State and local authorities, optimally using the mining sector's contributions to economic growth and sustainable development.
3. CURRENT SITUATION

Mining Potential

Identified minerals include:

- Gold (Au) : across the national territory;
- Diamond (C) : numerous indications in particular regions and within watersheds;
- Copper (Cu) : more than 80 million tonnes of reserves;
- Zinc (Zn) important sulphide deposit at Perkoa;
- Lead (Pb) : value of Gan, near Tougan;
- Dolomite, of which the Tiara deposit;
- Marble production near Bobo Dioulasso;
- Silica sands : deposit at Sonssorobougou (Bobo-Dioulasso), with 32 Mt in reserves;
3. CURRENT SITUATION

Mining Potential

- Kaolin in numerous areas (Diékui, Koreba, Bobo Dioulasso, Titao, Kongoussi, Ouagadougou etc);
- Granite, of which the Pama pink granite and Kodjari phosphates;
- Some indication of uranium in both East and West of the country.
4. RESULTS

As of December 31st 2014:

- Over 900 mining titles, composed of exploration permits, authorizations (for artisanal and semi-mechanized production, quarrying);
- 11 industrial production permits;

Between 2007 and 2013,

- 7 industrial mines,
- 1 small gold mine
- and 1 zinc mine
entered production.

Since January 2015, four (04) new mining companies received their production permits.
4. RESULTS

Recent gold production of Burkina has evolved as follows:

2009 : 12,5 T
2010 : 23,1 T
2011 : 30,2 T
2012 : 32,6 T
2013: 32,904 T and 44 742 T of zinc
2014: 36,503 T and 87 039 T of zinc and lead concentrate.

Direct revenues of 168,493 billion francs CFA in 2014, compared to 191,40 in 2013 (lower gold prices).
Situation of legislative and regulatory reforms

The legislative and regulatory system put in place through the 2003 Mining Code made it possible to effectively promote the mining sector, which has made Burkina Faso a preferred destination for mining investors.

Despite the booming mining sector, some limitations became apparent in the application of the system, in terms of the evolution of the mining industry at the national and international level, as well as the practices of artisanal mining. All of which led the government to initiate a dialogue with others in the industry for its review.
5. PERSPECTIVES

Diversification of mineral production

- The Perkoa zinc mine produces, in addition to zinc, a lead-silver concentrate;

- Industrial manganese production permit granted to Pan African Tambao SA, to produce manganese (reserves estimated at 108 million T);

- Copper explored by Gaoua Minéraux in the south-west;

- Cement limestone (Tin Hrassan and Tin Dioulaf).

A catalogue of quarry substances with their development characteristics has been developed and made available to investors.
5. PERSPECTIVES

Creating growth centers around mining areas

Numerous related activities develop, upstream and downstream of industrial mining, thus constituting real opportunities for the development of growth centres around mining areas. These activities range from construction to catering, transport, transit and handling, through banking, insurance, healthcare and telecommunications, to name a few.

Thus the country decided to create growth centres in mining areas, the first of which is the Sahel, with 3 industrial mines (Essakane, Inata and Tambao) and one small mine (Guiro-Bayildiaga).

All of which is designed to ensure sustainable development in these areas beyond mining resources, which are non-renewable.
6. CONCLUSION

Mining and quarrying in Burkina Faso constitute an important pillar of economic growth and sustainable development.

The Mining Code is a good frame of reference for the sustainable development of a mining sector concerned with the protection of the environment and the interests of the State, investors and impacted communities.

Also, a vast geological and mining research program has been undertaken in recent years, by the BUMIGEB, with the aim of improving knowledge about the mining and energy potential of the country.

There will be a mining promotion conference (PROMIN 2015) in September. I invite you all to enjoy the event, with the theme “The Mining Sector, issues and perspectives for a sustainable socio-economic development”.

Ministry of Mines and Energy - Burkina Faso
Thank you for your attention!

See you soon, for a guided visit!

Ministry of Mines and Energy - Burkina Faso