



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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Ensuring Mining Compliance – Agenda for 2019

Kabul, 20th March 2019 – Yesterday, the Afghan Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) and the Afghan-German Cooperation's programme Promoting Good Governance in the Extractive Sector in Afghanistan (MinGov) came together in Kabul. On this occasion, they planned training activities for mines inspectors for 2019. In total, about 80 mines inspectors shall benefit from these training measures covering all Afghan provinces. MoMP and MinGov work together to improve mining governance to leverage the Afghan extractive sector's full potential.

Representatives from the MoMP's Human Resources Directorate, Donor Coordination Unit and the Mines Inspection Directorate (MID) participated. Heading the Afghan delegation, MID's Director, Mr Mohammad Rahim Samim, stated that he was 'grateful for the opportunity to kick off the 2019 training cycle as it is crucial for the future of the directorate.'

MinGov has been supporting MID with basic training measures for mines inspectors since 2017. Now, a more sophisticated capacity development cycle shall be implemented. It aims at supporting MID's transformation into a governmental agency in line with international standards. A rich pool of well-trained mines inspectors shall enable the directorate to effectively identify and prosecute defaulters and ensure that mining license holders respect Afghan law.

MID mines inspectors will learn about specific inspection procedures for gemstone mining and reporting as well as related fields such as mines planning and project design. Training will also cover current mining technology, MoMP Gender and HR policy, as well as mining law. The MID will further receive devices to access the MoMP's Central Mining Rights Database. In future, mines inspectors can access the database in the field and submit findings immediately.

A well-governed mining sector and transparent mineral resource extraction are crucial for Afghanistan's sustainable economic development. Increased MoMP capacity shall improve mining governance and ensure that mining license holders comply with Afghan law. This, in turn, would result in additional tax revenues for the Afghan state.

The programme Promoting Good Governance in the Extractive Sector in Afghanistan is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). To fully leverage the Afghan mining sector's potential, the programme aims at increasing state revenues, promoting investment and fighting corruption in the sector. The project trains stakeholders to ensure that mining activities are carried out transparently and according to law as well as international health and environmental standards. Among other activities, the project has implemented 26 training courses on topics such as mine planning, mining economics and mining supervision for more than 380 mining inspectors and other employees at the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) and provincial authorities since 2014. At the same time, the programme has financed 13 scholarships for Afghan women to promote female participation in the sector. The programme further supports the Afghan Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (AEITI) to promote transparency and fight corruption.