

Initial Project Summary – Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee

Project Location: Sangaredi, Guinea

Name of Applicant: Compagnie des Bauxite de Guinee (CBG)

Project Description: The Project involves the expansion of an existing bauxite mine that has been in continuous operations since 1973. In addition to the mine the Project operates a 120 km railway and a processing plant and port at Kamsar where the bauxite is exported. The expansion Project involving increasing the ore extraction rate from 13.5 million tons per annum (Mtpa) to 18.5 Mtpa, including extraction from new areas already permitted within the concession; capacity expansion of the railway; and expansion of the port and other infrastructure necessary to accommodate increased tonnage.

The Project area of influence can be divided into three separate zones: the bauxite mining area around Sangarédi; the mouth of Rio Nuñez, an area that encompasses the CBG's bauxite preparation plant in Kamsar and the bauxite ore loading port; and a corridor along the railroad between Sangarédi and Kamsar, with particular emphasis on two sections where new rail sidings are to be built.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale:

The Project has been screened as Category A because it involves a major mining complex that has the potential for significant impacts including those on: local infrastructure, biodiversity, resettlement (both physical and economic), erosion and drainage (including acid mine drainage) and their impacts on surface waters, release of dust and other air emissions (from bauxite ore preparation), marine ecosystems from port rehabilitation, wastewater and effluent discharges, water availability, disposal of wastes, occupational health and safety, community safety and security, and other social issues.

The major potential environmental and social impacts associated with the Project can be described within the three separate zones of area of influence of the Project:

The major environmental and social impacts associated with the bauxite mining area around Sangarédi include:

- Impacts on biodiversity including potential risks to critically endangered species and endangered species;
- Air quality changes resulting from increased dust emissions and the effects that these have on local flora, fauna, and human health;
- Quality and flows of freshwater available to local communities as a result of surface water and groundwater alterations resulting from projects activities;
- Increase in noise and vibration from mining operations;
- Impacts on groundwater quantity, quality, and flow because of increased water usage in mining activities;
- Erosion and loss of soil because of land clearance for new pits and roads;
- Physical and economic resettlement of approximately 3,000 persons; and
- Potential social impacts related to community safety and security.

The major environmental and social impacts at the ore processing plant at Kamsar and the ore loading port include:

- Potential for water quality and sediment quality degradation from dredging;
- Increased risk of marine accidents;
- Disturbance of fishing activity;
- Increased ship traffic congestion in the estuary; and
- Air emissions from ore drying and other ore preparation activities.

The major environmental and social impacts associated with the corridor along the railroad between Sangarédi and Kamsar include:

- Increase in noise and vibration; and
- Increased potential for rail accidents.

Environmental and Social Standards: International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards (PS, April 2012) 1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts), 2 (Occupational Health and Safety), 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), 4 (Community Health, Safety, and Security), 5 (Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement), 6 (Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources), and 8 (Cultural Heritage) are applicable. Based on the information currently available, no indigenous peoples have been identified at or near the Project site and therefore, PS 7 has not been triggered.

IFC's Guidelines applicable to the Project include: Mining Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) (2007); General (2007); Ports, Harbors, and Terminals (2007); Railways (2007); and Water and Sanitation (2007).

Location of Local Access to Project Information: Copies of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) in English and French may be found at the following locations:

<http://www.cbg-guinee.com/>

Address of location 1:

Centre Culturel de Sangarédi

Address of location 2:

Mairie de la Commune Rurale de Kamsar