



Proxima International LLP - Newsletter number 1

This newsletter exists in English and French.

Mining outlook 2025 in Africa: ESG-tinged insights from Morocco, DRC, Algeria and Cameroon

October 2024

Morocco: Capacity Building and Technological Innovation for 2025

The Plan Maroc Mines 2021-2030, supported by the legislative update of Law no. 33-13, enacted in 2015, aims to strengthen the legal framework for mining management. Morocco seeks to integrate advanced technologies to improve environmental practices, with a particular focus on mining waste management and mine site rehabilitation. This is accompanied by active promotion of green technologies, such as resource recovery and recycling systems.

With regard to recent operations, a key initiative is the Imiter copper mine project, where water recovery technologies are being tested to limit environmental impact. In addition, the public-private partnership with Managem Group for the development of the Tizert gold project aims to integrate less polluting extraction processes.

DRC: Evolving legal framework and social responsibility in 2025

The Democratic Republic of Congo continues to implement important reforms via the revision of the Mining Code (Law n° 18/001 of March 9, 2018 modifying and completing the 2002 Mining Code). These reforms aim to ensure greater transparency in mining, with a strong emphasis on corporate social responsibility (CSR). The aim is to ensure that affected communities benefit from the industry's economic spin-offs, while improving the environmental management of mining resources.

Recently, Gécamines entered into a partnership with a Chinese company to develop a copper project in Haut-Katanga province, focusing on local employment and the sustainable management of mine tailings. Another example is the involvement of Canadian company Ivanhoe Mines in the development of the Kamoa-Kakula copper project, where soil rehabilitation initiatives are being implemented to protect the surrounding land.



Algeria: Legislative Modernization and Economic Diversification in 2025

Algeria plans to revise its mining legislation, notably via Law No. 14-05 of February 24, 2014 on mining activities. These changes are aimed at simplifying licensing procedures, offering tax incentives for new mining projects, and promoting economic diversification, with a particular focus on rare metals extraction. Algeria is thus seeking to reduce its dependence on hydrocarbons.

Recently, Sonatrach, in partnership with South African companies, launched an exploration campaign to identify new iron deposits in the Tindouf region, while respecting strict environmental standards. The Tamanrasset lithium project is also part of these diversification and innovation efforts.

Cameroon: Mining Codification and Centralized Resource Management in 2023

Cameroon has implemented an ambitious reform with its new Mining Code (Law No. 2023/014 of December 19, 2023), which has introduced changes aimed at strengthening transparency and governance in the sector. SONAMINES (Société Nationale des Mines du Cameroun) was given extensive powers to manage and market mineral resources, ensuring better redistribution of revenues generated by the mining industry.

In 2024, a major operation was the inauguration of the cobalt mining project at Lomié, designed to meet the growing demand for materials needed for electric batteries. At the same time, SONAMINES signed an agreement with an Australian company to exploit bauxite deposits in the Ngaoundéré region, with clear objectives in terms of environmental rehabilitation and the creation of local infrastructure.

The evidence is clear: every legislative change in these 4 examples is clearly aligned with the long-term objectives of sustainable development, social equity and economic efficiency, seeking to balance the benefits of mining with the protection of the environment and the well-being of local communities. These legislative initiatives are essential to ensure that the mining sector makes a positive contribution to the global economy, while respecting international environmental and social standards.