

# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## RAISING THE BAR



**B2GOLD**

FAIRNESS | RESPECT  
TRANSPARENCY | ACCOUNTABILITY

# B2Gold – A Responsible Mining Company

FAIRNESS — **RESPECT** — TRANSPARENCY — **ACCOUNTABILITY**

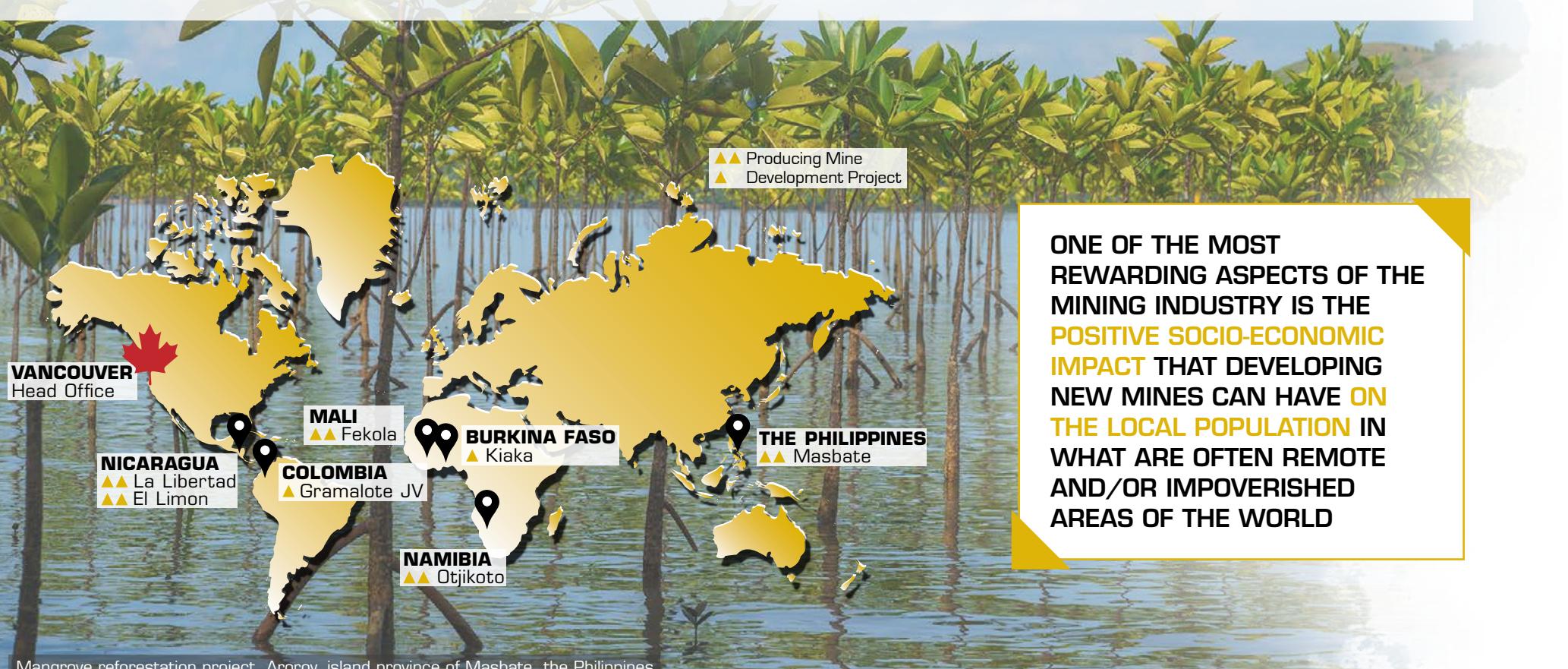
B2Gold Corp. is the world's new senior gold producer. Founded as an exploration company in 2007, we have evolved into an international gold mining company, and are now scheduled to produce almost one million ounces of gold in 2018. Headquartered in Vancouver, Canada, today, we have five operating gold mines and numerous exploration and development projects in various countries across five continents.

As a responsible Canadian mining company, we recognize that Corporate Social Responsibility ("CSR") is an integral component of our business. The communities in which we work are crucial to our success, therefore, our business decisions incorporate careful consideration of people's health and safety, environmental protection and community well-being.

Our core company principles – fairness, respect, transparency and accountability – guide our approach to identifying, selecting and implementing CSR projects at all of our sites around the globe. We engage regularly and openly with stakeholders to understand and address their needs and priorities, and look to strengthen communities through collaborations and partnerships.

At B2Gold, we believe that a successfully-run, responsible mining company can add value to the local communities and environment by generating sustainable socio-economic and environmental benefits.

Our vision is to be a responsible mining company that demonstrates leadership by going beyond industry standards and continuing to raise the bar on our own performance.



# B2Gold's Holistic Approach to CSR Focuses on Four Areas

Wherever we are around the globe, our CSR initiatives will continue to evolve and adapt in response to the needs of the local communities and stakeholders



## EDUCATION

One of the greatest and longest-lasting legacies we can offer local communities – key projects include school infrastructure, tools and teaching equipment, and teacher assistance and training



## ENVIRONMENT

We are committed to conserving the natural environment, contributing to long-lasting environmental benefits and promoting environmental best practices – key projects include water management, mine reclamation, reforestation and biodiversity conservation



## HEALTH

A healthy community means a happy and thriving community – key projects include access to healthcare facilities and medicine, nutrition education programs, access to potable water, improved sanitation and anti-epidemic prevention



## LIVELIHOODS

Strengthening and promoting sustainable and alternative livelihoods is critical to the economic growth, prosperity and general well-being of the local communities – key projects include job creation, local business development, vocational training and skills for employment



# B2Gold in Nicaragua

FAIRNESS — RESPECT — TRANSPARENCY — ACCOUNTABILITY

## LA LIBERTAD AND EL LIMON MINES

B2Gold arrived in Nicaragua in 2009 with the acquisition of the Company's first gold mine, El Limon, and first gold development project, La Libertad (which commenced production the following year).

The mines are situated approximately 110 km due east and 100 km northwest, respectively, of Nicaragua's capital, Managua, and are located in districts with long mining histories. For many years, these regions suffered from irresponsible mining activities which led to poor community relations and social issues. In order to change local perceptions of the mining industry, and improve industry standards and performance in Nicaragua, we applied industry best practice to our operations.



Since 2009, we have carried out more than 100 social projects in the local communities

**B2GOLD HAS BECOME A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO NICARAGUA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE PAYMENT OF SALARIES, CONTRACTORS, LOCAL SUPPLIERS, TAXES, EXPLORATION COSTS AND SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS**

One of our first priorities was to improve community relations and help improve the regions' social issues. Through local stakeholder engagement, we created and implemented CSR projects which focused on the areas of education, the environment, health and livelihoods. Since 2009, we have carried out more than 100 social projects in the local communities.

Today, our commitment to responsible mining continues and now extends beyond the local regions in which we operate.



Since 2010, we have planted over 1,000,000 trees in Nicaragua



## REFORESTATION

### GROWING AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAM

As part of our ongoing commitment to the environment and biodiversity, we currently have three active nurseries at La Libertad, Santo Domingo and El Limon which produce approximately 300,000 plants per year.

We comply with all reforestation requirements, as part of our Environmental Management Plan, but also go beyond this compliance and actively reforest areas that improve soil conditions in outlying areas.

Reforestation brigades are employed at each nursery, and we work in alliance with the communities, local authorities and the National Forestry Institute, INAFOR, to plant trees, focusing on areas around source water.

At our nurseries, we use micro-spray and drip irrigation techniques to conserve water, along with biodegradable technologies such as ellepots in order to avoid the use of polyethylene bags.



The water treatment project has provided more than 6,000 residents in the city of La Libertad with access to potable water



## WATER TREATMENT PROJECT

### PROVIDING POTABLE WATER TO HOMES

Prior to our arrival, residents in the city of La Libertad had limited access to potable water. Today, more than 6,000 residents in the city now have potable water in their homes – this is attributable to a water treatment project implemented by B2Gold in coordination with the community, municipal government and National Water and Sanitation Company, ENACAL.

The project included the design, construction and installation of a new water treatment plant, a 26,400-gallon storage tank, pumping system and 6,960 metres of distribution pipeline.

Aligned with the Nicaraguan government's National Development Plan and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this project will directly result in a reduction in diseases which are caused by the lack of access to potable water.



With our support, more than 20,000 community members in El Limon, La Libertad and Santo Domingo have benefited from fumigation and vector control campaigns

## ANTI-EPIDEMIC PREVENTION PROGRAM

### HELPING TO MITIGATE VIRAL INFECTIONS AND DISEASES

As part of the anti-epidemic prevention program carried out by the Nicaraguan Health Ministry, and with our support, more than 20,000 community members in El Limon, La Libertad and Santo Domingo have benefited from fumigation and vector control campaigns to reduce the spread of diseases, such as the Dengue and Zika viruses.

According to Health Ministry reports, these campaigns contributed to a 60% reduction in the prevalence of viral infections in the mining district of El Limon in 2014 and 2015, and a 40% reduction in viral diseases in La Libertad in 2016.



## Creating Sustainable Livelihoods

### LA LIBERTAD & SANTO DOMINGO DAIRY CHILLING CENTRE AND ALFA & OMEGA SEWING SHOP

Through community stakeholder engagement, we recognize the potential that exists within the communities around La Libertad and El Limón mines. Together, we identify local economic activities that are independent of the mining industry and support small business initiatives to strengthen the local economy in these regions.

La Libertad & Santo Domingo Dairy Chilling Centre and the Alfa & Omega Sewing Shop in El Limón are two examples of successful small businesses that demonstrate our commitment to creating alternative and sustainable livelihoods. Both have become well-established, sustainable businesses whereby their continued success is not dependent on mining.



Since initiating operations in early 2014, La Libertad & Santo Domingo Dairy Chilling Centre has stored and sold more than 5,000,000 litres of milk and stabilized seasonal milk prices

**“WE IDENTIFY LOCAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES THAT ARE INDEPENDENT OF THE MINING INDUSTRY AND SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.”**

#### LA LIBERTAD & SANTO DOMINGO DAIRY CHILLING CENTRE

Aside from mining, cattle ranching is the lifeblood of the local communities of La Libertad and Santo Domingo. For many years, the region lacked the much-needed facilities required for successful dairy farming in a hot climate and the infrastructure to take it to market, so the need for a chilling centre was brought to our attention by the local farming communities.

We recognized the importance and potential of this sector and, in 2014, we financed the construction of, and equipment for, the region's first ever dairy chilling centre. The local farmers were also trained to use better dairy methods, ranching techniques and business management skills.

With our assistance, La Libertad & Santo Domingo Dairy Chilling Centre has enhanced the lives of the local farmers and their families by generating employment opportunities and increasing personal incomes, and stimulated the local economy by strengthening an existing traditional and sustainable livelihood.

La Libertad & Santo Domingo Dairy Chilling Centre farmers plan to manufacture and sell milk derivatives, such as cream and cheese, and also plan on opening a commissariat for the local sale of veterinary products.

The Alfa & Omega Sewing Shop makes wedding dresses, men's suits, graduation gowns and other items, and plans on expanding its product line and client base

#### THE ALFA & OMEGA SEWING SHOP

The Alfa & Omega Sewing Shop in El Limón began operating in 2014. Initially, Alfa & Omega only fabricated basic clothing for local customers. However, after receiving small business development and management training from B2Gold, Alfa & Omega created a business plan and secured financing for growth. This enabled the shop to acquire specialized machinery, and has allowed Alfa & Omega to expand its product line and extend its clientele.

Today, Alfa & Omega supplies uniforms to schools and businesses, as well as clothing and protective gear to companies in the departments of León, Chinandega, Chontales and Managua. Alfa & Omega intends to expand its product line and further extend its client base, hoping to enter the export market in the future.



The Alfa & Omega Sewing Shop currently manufactures clothing items such as school and business uniforms, and protective gear for the departments of León, Chinandega, Chontales and Managua

# B2Gold in the Philippines

FAIRNESS — **RESPECT** — TRANSPARENCY — **ACCOUNTABILITY**

## THE MASBATE MINE (MASBATE GOLD PROJECT)

In 2013, B2Gold extended the Company's global reach with the acquisition of a substantial interest in the Masbate Gold Project, located in the Philippines. The Masbate Mine lies on the northern tip of the island province of Masbate, roughly at the centre of the Philippines archipelago and approximately 360 km southeast of the country's capital, Manila.

The Masbate Mine is situated within the municipality of Aroroy, in an ancient mining town, where gold mining has long been the heartbeat of the local community. Masbate is the largest employer and single private investment in the province, as well as the largest operating gold mine in the Philippines.



**THE MASBATE MINE IS THE BIGGEST, SINGLE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN THE ISLAND PROVINCE OF MASBATE.**



The Philippine Mining Act stipulates that mining companies operating in the country are required to invest 1.5% of their operating costs into local projects under a Sustainable Development Management Program ("SDMP"); each year we work closely with the local communities and officials to maximize the impact of our investment. We also voluntarily invest in other CSR initiatives, particularly at the provincial level, to ensure broader positive impacts.

Since our arrival in the Philippines in 2013, we have invested in extensive sustainable initiatives in the region surrounding the Masbate Gold Project, focusing on education, the environment, health and livelihoods.

The success of our CSR programs has been recognized by the Philippine government: the Masbate Mine was cited as a "model mine site" by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") for our impactful community development programs and progressive mine rehabilitation, and we were recently awarded the DENR's 2017 Saringaya Award<sup>1</sup>. This is the highest and most prestigious regional environment and sustainability award in the country, and reflects our industry-leading environmental preservation and protection, conservation and management and community development programs.

1. Please refer to pages 12 – 13 for other CSR awards won around the globe by B2Gold



Our financial contributions and education program initiatives within the municipality of Aroroy have enabled many students to graduate from high school and college

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION

### AN INVESTMENT IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

An investment in education is an investment in future generations. However, access to education across the island province of Masbate is limited due to a combination of factors including family poverty, the growing demand for education, and the loss of school facilities and infrastructure from Typhoon Haiyan which devastated the Philippines in 2013.

Through our financial contributions and education program initiatives, we have constructed numerous school buildings and facilities in barangays (villages) within the municipality of Aroroy, supplied classrooms with the necessary teaching equipment and tools, and provided means of school transportation for the local students. We have also provided training and assistance for pre-school teachers, school teachers and college lecturers, and have implemented measures to assist the country's Alternative Learning System program that allows students that have been unable to finish school to take alternative classes and fast-track to graduation.

Education is one of the longest-lasting legacies that we can offer the local communities, and many students have greatly benefited from our CSR programs. To date, we have witnessed a marked increase in the number of students being able to attend school and college, as well as a rise in the number of high school and college graduates.

# CSR Initiatives in the Philippines

## MANGROVE REFORESTATION PROJECT

### PROVIDING ECOLOGICAL STABILITY AND LIVELIHOODS

In 2012, we initiated an aggressive mangrove reforestation project in order to provide ecological stability and an additional livelihood opportunity to stakeholders residing in the coastal areas of Aroroy, while simultaneously stimulating the local fishing and crabbing industry.

Starting with only three fisherfolk associations from Aroroy, today, the project now includes associations from Aroroy's neighboring coastal communities.

Fisherfolk associations in the region are committed to planting and maintaining between 10,000 and 30,000 mangrove propagules each year, and are paid in tranches to ensure the survival of the mangrove shrubs. Close to 389,000 propagules were planted in the project's first year across approximately 88 hectares in Aroroy, and to date, almost 634,000 propagules cover more than 143 hectares of coastal area in and around Aroroy.

Dubbed "Aroroy's Mangrove Highway," we plan to continue extending the lush stretch of littoral forest to other nearby coastal barangays.



To date, almost 634,000 mangrove propagules have been planted, which cover approximately 143 hectares of coastal areas in and around Aroroy



As part of our extensive tuberculosis eradication program, local communities are educated about nutrition, better food sanitation, safety and hygiene, and how to care for a tuberculosis patient in the household

## TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM

### HELPING TO ERADICATE TUBERCULOSIS AND ASSOCIATED MISCONCEPTIONS

Tuberculosis continues to be a major health challenge in the Philippines, and a rise in the number of tuberculosis cases in barangays within the municipality of Aroroy prompted us to work alongside the local health workers to initiate a tuberculosis eradication program.

Instrumental to our program was an information campaign that raised awareness of how to avoid tuberculosis and dispelled common myths and misconceptions about the disease. Local communities were also educated about nutrition, better food sanitation, safety and hygiene, as well as how to care for a tuberculosis patient in the household.

In 2016, a total of 579 residents showed symptoms of the disease and underwent free medical tests. Results revealed that 217 residents were confirmed to be infected by the disease, and since then, almost a third are now cured, with the remainder currently undergoing medical treatment.



## The Pamana Program

PAMANA – THE FILIPINO WORD FOR “LEGACY”

The island province of Masbate depends on a number of daily essential items and supplies that come from outside the province. Historically, Masbate only accounted for a small percentage of chicken and egg production in the Bicol region<sup>1</sup>. This meant that until recently, poultry products were being imported to the island which heavily affected quality and price.

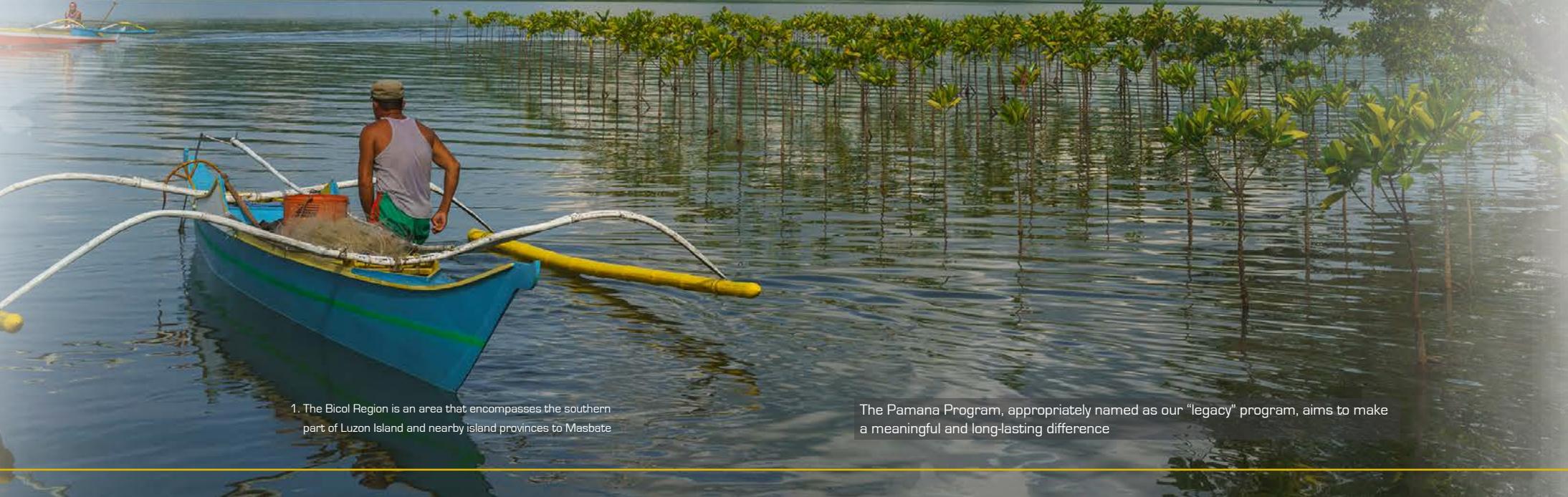
One of the key principles of our CSR strategy is to listen to the needs of the local people and design programs that respond to these needs. When the local communities in Aroroy were consulted, the majority of residents identified poultry farming as an opportunity to develop a locally-based livelihood and income-generation program.

With our support, a group of residents started a small-scale chicken egg-laying business in April 2015. We provided business training and advice, poultry farm training, financial support to purchase their first chicken coop and over 700 hens, as well as financial guidance. With a very high production rate, before long, sales had increased substantially. As part of their business plan, the “Golden Egg Producers” reinvested most of their profit to purchase an egg machine and expand into other poultry sectors such as quail egg production.

**WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE  
IMPACT OF OUR COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ON  
THE LOCAL POPULATION ARE  
FAR MORE EFFECTIVE IF THEY  
ARE TRULY SUSTAINABLE**



Comprised of 15 egg producing associations, with 37 members and producing 2,000 eggs per day, CEPA supplies Aroroy and the three surrounding towns with fresh eggs



1. The Bicol Region is an area that encompasses the southern part of Luzon Island and nearby island provinces to Masbate

The Pamana Program, appropriately named as our “legacy” program, aims to make a meaningful and long-lasting difference

Based on their success, this inspired residents in nearby barangays to adopt a similar business model. Within less than a year, with additional funding, training and the provision of essential machinery and equipment, egg production projects were replicated in several other barangays. The project was so successful that in November 2016, the Capsay Egg Producers Association (“CEPA”) was formed. Currently comprised of 15 egg producing associations, with 37 members and producing 2,000 eggs per day, CEPA supplies Aroroy and the three surrounding towns with fresh eggs to meet the region’s demand. Recently, CEPA has also added a duck hatchery to its expanding business.

CEPA is just one example of a livelihood project that makes up our Pamana Program. Part of the capital generated by CEPA is used as a start-up fund to encourage the development of other livelihood projects and associations. In addition to poultry farming, other sustainable business enterprises include vegetable market gardening, biodegradable net making, dressmaking, soap making, and crab and fish farming. The Pamana Program, appropriately named as our “legacy” program, aims to make a meaningful and long-lasting difference.



Biodegradable net making is another business enterprise that has been established as part of our Pamana Program. We utilize the nets for our extensive reforestation program

# Top CSR Awards Received Around the Globe

RAISING THE BAR ON OUR CSR PERFORMANCE

 August 2012

**Where:** Nicaragua  
**Award:** National Award for CSR 2012  
**Category:** Environment and Sustainability  
**Awarded by:** uniRSE<sup>1</sup>  
**Reason:** For environmental stewardship  
**Awarded to:** B2Gold Nicaragua

 March 2014

**Where:** Namibia  
**Award:** SNEIDA  
**Category:** Enterprise of the Year 2014  
**Awarded by:** Sam Nujoma Foundation  
**Reason:** Awarded to a progressive employer who exemplifies good corporate citizenship  
**Awarded to:** B2Gold Namibia

 May 2016

**Where:** Nicaragua  
**Award:** Exporter of the Year 2015  
**Category:** CSR  
**Awarded by:** APEN<sup>3</sup>  
**Reason:** For work on the Jabalí Antena resettlement project  
**Awarded to:** B2Gold Nicaragua – La Libertad Mine

 March 2014

**Where:** Namibia  
**Award:** SNEIDA<sup>2</sup>  
**Category:** Environmental Awareness 2014  
**Awarded by:** Sam Nujoma Foundation  
**Reason:** For the creation of a nature reserve adjacent to a mine and establishment of an education centre  
**Awarded to:** B2Gold Namibia

 November 2014

**Where:** Nicaragua  
**Award:** National Award for CSR 2014  
**Category:** Economic Empowerment and Impact in the Community  
**Awarded by:** uniRSE  
**Reason:** For promoting local micro and small-business development  
**Awarded to:** B2Gold Nicaragua

 June 2017

**Where:** The Philippines  
**Award:** Saringaya  
**Category:** Industry (Large-scale)  
**Awarded by:** DENR  
**Reason:** For the Masbate operations' contribution to environmental protection, conservation and management of the regions surrounding the mine  
**Awarded to:** Masbate operations

Note: The above timeline of CSR awards is by no means exhaustive; B2Gold has won, and been shortlisted for, many other CSR awards, plaques and/or certificates of appreciation from beneficiaries. In addition to receiving awards directly related to community development and the environment, B2Gold has also won various other industry-category awards around the globe

1. Unión Nicaragüense para la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial (Nicaraguan Union for Corporate Social Responsibility)  
2. Sam Nujoma Innovative Enterprise Development Awards  
3. Asociación de Productores y Exportadores de Nicaragua (Association of Nicaraguan Producers and Exporters)

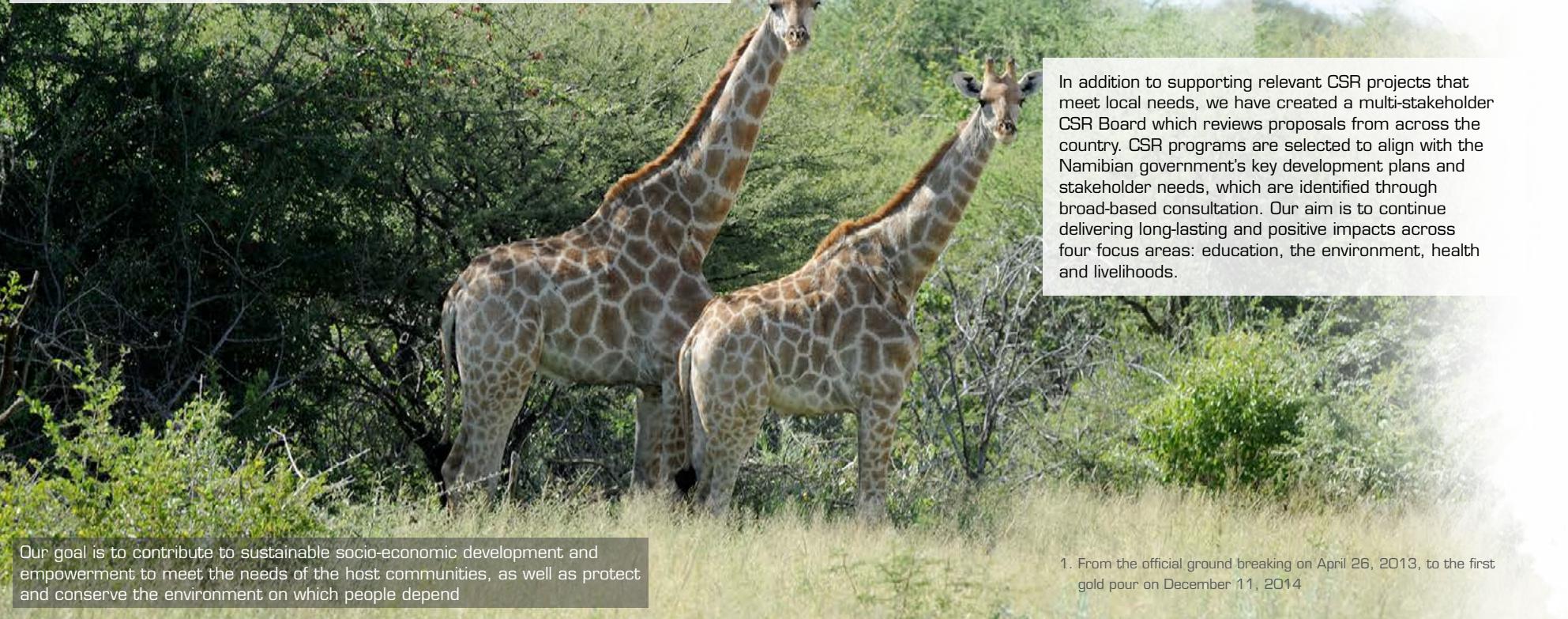
## B2Gold in Namibia

FAIRNESS — **RESPECT** — TRANSPARENCY — **ACCOUNTABILITY**

### THE OTJIKOTO MINE

In 2011, B2Gold acquired the Company's first African gold development project in Namibia, the Otjikoto Gold Project, located between the towns of Otavi and Otiwarongo in the Otozondjupa region, approximately 300 km north of the country's capital, Windhoek.

After completing the project's definitive feasibility study in 2013, we immediately began construction of the Otjikoto Mine, which was completed within 19 months<sup>1</sup>, ahead of schedule and on budget. As a company, we invest in CSR initiatives at all stages of our mining activities around the globe – beginning as soon as we "put boots on the ground." Well before we started mine construction at Otjikoto, we made a promise that we would leave Namibia better off as a result of a mining operation having been there.



**WE ARE COMMITTED TO LEAVING NAMIBIA BETTER OFF AS A RESULT OF A MINING OPERATION HAVING BEEN THERE.**



In addition to supporting relevant CSR projects that meet local needs, we have created a multi-stakeholder CSR Board which reviews proposals from across the country. CSR programs are selected to align with the Namibian government's key development plans and stakeholder needs, which are identified through broad-based consultation. Our aim is to continue delivering long-lasting and positive impacts across four focus areas: education, the environment, health and livelihoods.



Local students taking part in a fun and interactive workshop organized by B2Gold and the Colorado State University's Little Shop of Physics

### LITTLE SHOP OF PHYSICS

#### FOSTERING INTEREST IN SCIENCE AND PHYSICS

We partnered with the Colorado State University ("CSU") to empower individuals to see the world and themselves in a different light through hands-on science.

CSU's Little Shop of Physics ("LSOP") program aims to demonstrate to students and teachers that "science is something anyone can do." LSOP accomplishes this by allowing participants to act as scientists – to freely explore, engage and discover, and find creative ways to share the wonder of science. LSOP founders believe and demonstrate that anyone, at any age and from any cultural background, can understand science at some level.

The CSU LSOP team came to Namibia in January 2016 and showed different participants such as teachers, students and government officials the benefits of the program. This Namibian pilot program was such a success that we are now supporting the Ministry of Education to incorporate the LSOP into the Namibian school curriculum.

## CSR Initiatives in Namibia



### LIFELINE/CHILDLINE

#### SUPPORT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

We support Early Childhood Development ("ECD") by complementing government efforts to improve quality childhood care, as well as development and education through a holistic community-driven approach, at home and at ECD centres in Otavi and Otiwarongo.

The objectives of the LifeLine/ChildLine program include promoting good parenting, raising the standards of early childhood care provided by edu-carers, assisting ECD centres to meet the national minimum standards and improving the financial sustainability of ECD centres.



A small bakery owner, deep in the heart of an informal settlement in Otiwarongo, is one of the beneficiaries of the SMEs Compete program

### SMEs COMPETE

#### STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS

SMEs Compete is a driver for social entrepreneurship with a goal of providing assistance and support for income growth and job creation in the small and medium-sized enterprise ("SME") sector. Objectives include the improvement of entrepreneurial, management, finance, marketing and IT skills of SMEs.

We partner with SMEs Compete to support SMEs in Otavi and Otiwarongo.



ECD centres in Otavi and Otiwarongo were sponsored by B2Gold and provided with stationery, teaching aids and playground equipment



## Leaving an Environmental Legacy

### THE OTJIKOTO NATURE RESERVE AND THE NAMIBIAN CHAMBER OF ENVIRONMENT

The land adjacent to the Otjikoto Mine was once characterized by excessive overgrazing of domestic livestock, hunting and bush encroachment. While the mine was under construction we recognized a unique opportunity to create a sustainable 15,000 hectare nature reserve. Through our environment and conservation program, the land is being systematically rehabilitated back to its original state by reintroducing indigenous flora and fauna. Today, the Otjikoto Nature Reserve is home to a variety of indigenous species such as oryx, cheetah, giraffe, impala, kudu, leopard, springbok, waterbuck, wildebeest and zebra.

The nature reserve also includes an extensive education centre, where students can attend a wide variety of classes on environment, conservation, sustainable utilization of biological resources, recycling, responsible living and alternative energies – all of which are aligned with the Namibian government's school curriculum.



A class embarks on a bush walk at the Otjikoto Nature Reserve. In 2016, the B2Gold Education Centre hosted 1,089 students



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**LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE LAND AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RELIES ON A SHARED VISION AND COLLABORATION WITH MANY STAKEHOLDERS.**

**JJ**

A male and female waterbuck at the Otjikoto Nature Reserve. The nature reserve is home to a variety of indigenous species

Long-term, sustainable land and wildlife management relies on a shared vision and collaboration with many stakeholders. As a testament to our commitment to environmental stewardship, the Chamber of Mines asked B2Gold to set the internal agenda and strategy for environmental management in the mining sector. We worked with the government, environmental non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") and industry partners to create the Namibian Chamber of Environment ("NCE") in 2016.

The NCE now has a membership comprised of 54 members, representing more than 90% of environmental NGOs in Namibia. This allows the NCE to draw best practice guidance from a pool of researchers, scientists and practitioners who are the best in the country. Several projects that are already underway include anti-poaching lobbying and support, research into sustainable housing and plans to develop an environmental best practice guide for the mining industry.



As a responsible miner, our CSR initiatives clearly demonstrate that mining can harmoniously coexist with, and enhance, environmental conservation

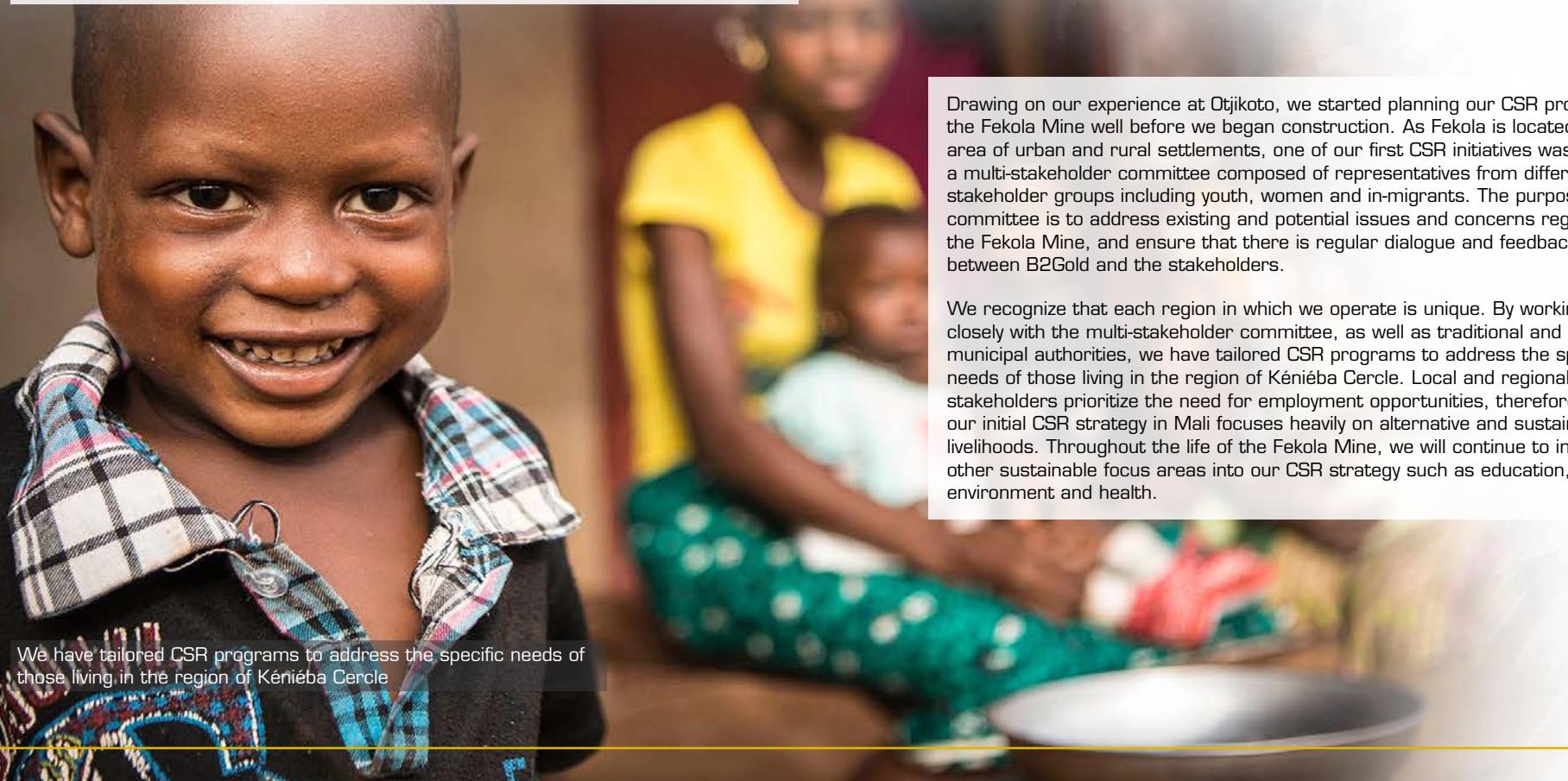
## B2Gold in Mali

FAIRNESS — **RESPECT** — TRANSPARENCY — **ACCOUNTABILITY**

### THE FEKOLA MINE

Following the acquisition of the Otjikoto Gold Project in Namibia in 2011, and the Kiaka Gold Project in Burkina Faso in 2013, B2Gold continued to grow in Africa with the acquisition of the world-class Fekola Gold Project in Mali in 2014. Positioned close to the Mali-Senegal border, Fekola lies in Kéniéba Cercle, due west of the country's capital, Bamako.

Led by core members of B2Gold's construction team, early work activities at our fifth and largest mine began in February 2015. The Fekola Mine was completed on budget and three months ahead of the original construction schedule. The mine's first gold pour took place on October 7, 2017, and commercial production was achieved on November 30, 2017.



We have tailored CSR programs to address the specific needs of those living in the region of Kéniéba Cercle

**“**

**WE RECOGNIZE THAT EACH REGION IN WHICH WE OPERATE IS UNIQUE – WE HAVE THEREFORE TAILORED CSR PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES.**

**”**

Drawing on our experience at Otjikoto, we started planning our CSR programs at the Fekola Mine well before we began construction. As Fekola is located near an area of urban and rural settlements, one of our first CSR initiatives was to form a multi-stakeholder committee composed of representatives from different local stakeholder groups including youth, women and in-migrants. The purpose of the committee is to address existing and potential issues and concerns regarding the Fekola Mine, and ensure that there is regular dialogue and feedback between B2Gold and the stakeholders.

We recognize that each region in which we operate is unique. By working closely with the multi-stakeholder committee, as well as traditional and municipal authorities, we have tailored CSR programs to address the specific needs of those living in the region of Kéniéba Cercle. Local and regional stakeholders prioritize the need for employment opportunities, therefore, our initial CSR strategy in Mali focuses heavily on alternative and sustainable livelihoods. Throughout the life of the Fekola Mine, we will continue to integrate other sustainable focus areas into our CSR strategy such as education, the environment and health.

## CSR Initiatives in Mali



The resettlement of the village of Fadougou is scheduled to be completed by late 2019



### RESETTLEMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF FADOUOGOU

#### THE RIGHT THING TO DO

One of our first CSR programs at the Fekola Mine is the resettlement of the village of Fadougou.

As Fadougou lies adjacent to the Fekola Mine footprint, we were concerned that the residents of the village could be at risk due to the proximity to a mining operation. Based on extensive discussions with local and regional stakeholders and a risk assessment, we proposed a village resettlement program, even though resettlement was not a requirement of the Fekola Mine construction permit.

Our multi-stakeholder committee has helped address issues such as the location and design of the new village of Fadougou, the compensation framework and resettlement-related grievances that required careful consideration.

The program is now well underway and is following a Resettlement Action Plan that has been developed in line with international performance standards, as well as through consultation with all impacted stakeholders. The resettlement of the village of Fadougou is scheduled to be completed by late 2019.



Our multi-stakeholder committee has helped address issues such as the location and design of the new village of Fadougou



## Skills for Employment

### THE AFECK PROJECT: VOCATIONAL AND SMALL BUSINESS TRAINING

The Adéquation Formation-Emploi dans le Cercle de Kéniéba ("AFECK") Project is a 'Skills for Employment' initiative that is co-funded by Global Affairs Canada and B2Gold, and is being implemented by the international development organization, Cowater-Sogema.

Although Kéniéba Cercle is home to many mineral exploration licenses and several operating mines, including the Fekola Mine, there has been a low level of socio-economic development in the area. This is due, in part, to low participation by the local workforce in the mining industry outside of unskilled jobs and limited local procurement of goods and services. High rates of illiteracy combined with low levels of education and skills limit employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.



AFECK aims to meet the needs of the labour market in Kéniéba Cercle, encourage the establishment and growth of small businesses, and provide goods and services to the extractive sector and other industries



**“ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE AFECK PROJECT IS TO IMPROVE THE TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS OF KÉNIÉBA AREA RESIDENTS.”**

Fadougou villagers harvesting okra from their market garden, a B2Gold community investment. The AFECK Project aims to increase the capacity of small businesses, with a focus on female entrepreneurs

The objectives of the AFECK Project are to improve technical and professional skills for Kéniéba area residents to meet the needs of the labour market and to increase the capacity of small businesses (with a focus on female entrepreneurs), to provide goods and services to the extractive and other sectors. AFECK will also support the government at a national, regional and local level to improve the delivery of vocational skills and training programs.

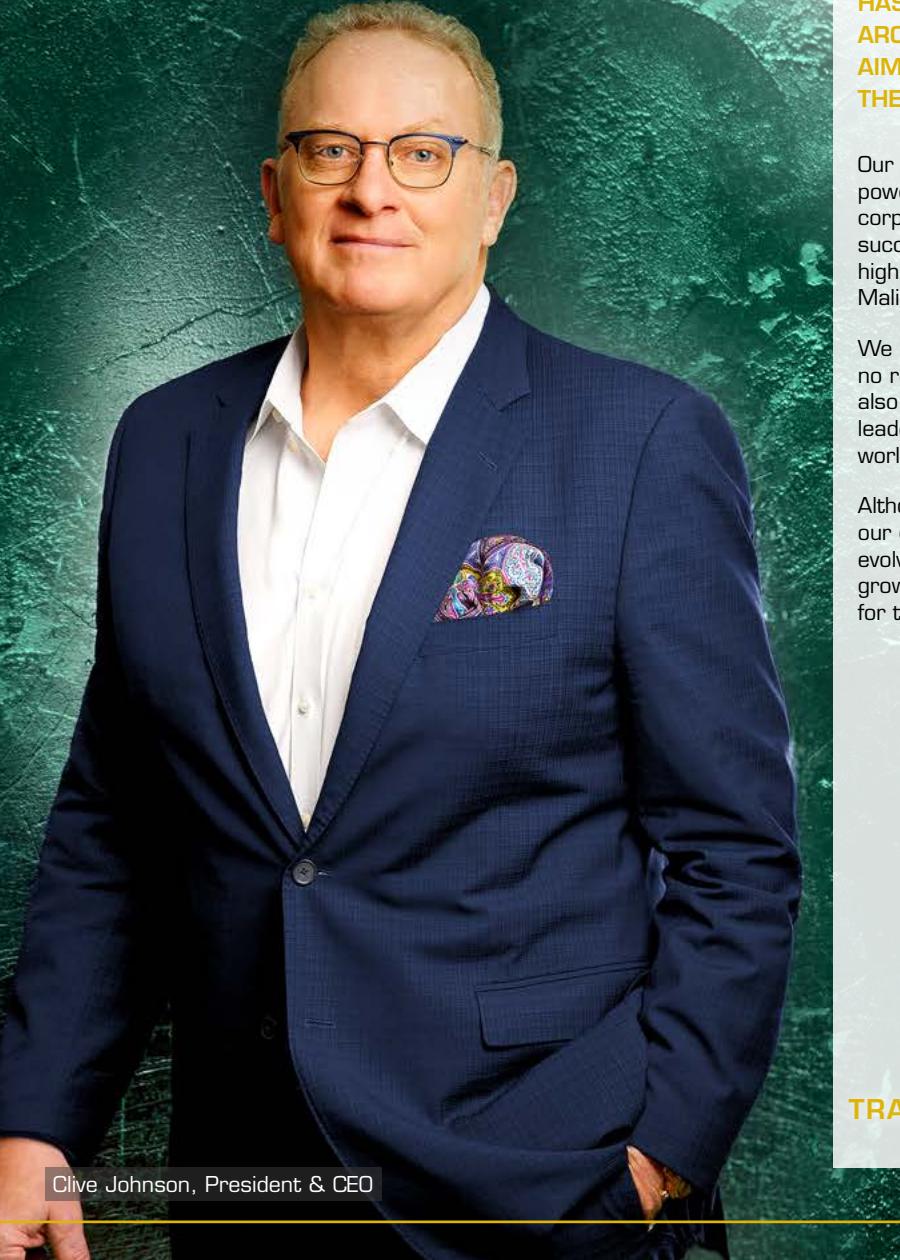
Through vocational training and support for small businesses, the AFECK Project will be a driver for socio-economic development in the region.



A training centre was established to teach skills such as masonry, welding, electrical work and carpentry, which will be deployed in the construction of the new village of Fadougou

## Message from Clive Johnson, President & CEO

### B2GOLD: NOT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S MINING COMPANY



**OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S FASTEST-GROWING GOLD PRODUCERS HAS BEEN TO ACQUIRE, DISCOVER, FINANCE, BUILD AND OPERATE PROFITABLE MINES AROUND THE GLOBE. SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT HAS ALSO BEEN OUR AIM TO GIVE BACK TO THE EARTH, AND ITS PEOPLE, MORE THAN WE TAKE FROM THE GROUND.**

Our core company principles – fairness, respect, transparency and accountability – are simple yet powerful. They are based on Canadian culture and values, and are genuine and deeply-rooted in our corporate DNA. These principles have made us successful in business as they have allowed us to succeed in a variety of jurisdictions. This is because they have enabled us to establish and maintain very high standards of CSR in countries such as Colombia, Nicaragua, Namibia, the Philippines, Burkina Faso, Mali and Finland, as we have grown across five continents.

We are truly committed to responsible mining. Simply put, this means doing the right thing. There is no room for the ignorance that the extractive industry of yesteryear had become too often known for. It also means doing what we say we will. We will always continue to deliver on the promises made to the leaders and people of the countries and regions in which we are present, no matter where we are in the world or what stage our projects or mines are at.

Although our headquarters are in Canada, we are very much an international mining company and see our employees and the communities in which we work as part of the B2Gold family. As we continue to evolve, it is our promise to make a positive difference that will enable our people and communities to grow with the success of the company. Through passion, devotion and imagination, our ultimate goal is for the B2Gold legacy to benefit future generations for many years to come, long after we have gone.



FAIRNESS | RESPECT  
TRANSPARENCY | ACCOUNTABILITY

**ONE OF THE KEY REASONS FOR B2GOLD'S SUCCESS IS DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISES – FAIRNESS, RESPECT, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

[www.b2gold.com](http://www.b2gold.com)

TSX: BTO | NYSE AMERICAN: BTG | NSX: B2G

Clive Johnson, President & CEO

FAIRNESS — RESPECT — TRANSPARENCY — ACCOUNTABILITY

### B2GOLD'S RESPONSIBLE MINING REPORT 2016

#### RAISING THE BAR

It is with great pride that we share with everyone B2Gold's first Responsible Mining Report – *Raising the Bar*. The 2016 report reveals our achievements in areas of economic value sharing, decent employment opportunities, record workplace health and safety performance, environmental stewardship, respect for stakeholders and investment in communities.

The report also serves as a mechanism for "raising the bar" on our performance year-on-year, since it also highlights where we need to improve or expand our efforts in order to achieve our objectives as a responsible mining company.

The report is in Core accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative ("GRI") Standards and G4 Mining and Metals Sector Disclosures, and is aligned with the principles of integrated reporting.

To view or download *Raising the Bar*, please visit [www.b2gold.com/corporate/responsible-mining-report/](http://www.b2gold.com/corporate/responsible-mining-report/).

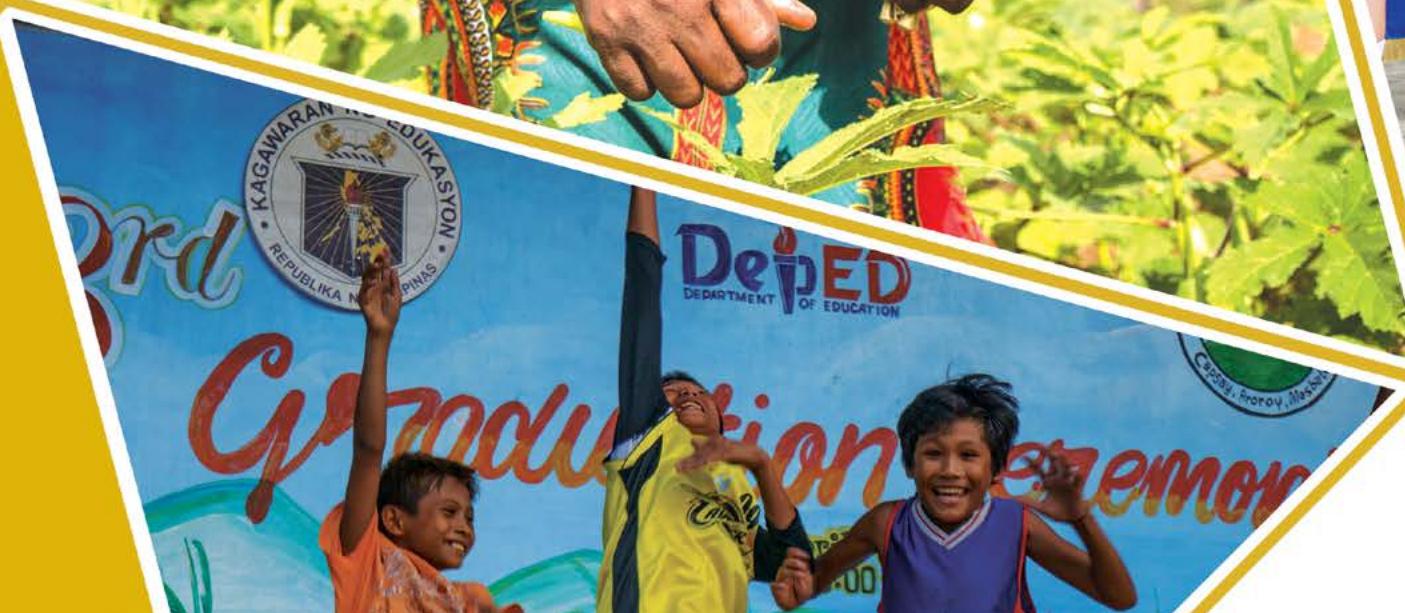


Hartmann's zebra, Otjikoto Nature Reserve, Namibia

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# RAISING THE BAR



**B2GOLD**

FAIRNESS | RESPECT  
TRANSPARENCY | ACCOUNTABILITY