



# 2018 ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION TO MALI FROM THE FEKOLA MINE

THE FEKOLA MINE IS LOCATED IN SOUTHWEST MALI, ON THE BORDER BETWEEN MALI AND SENEGAL, APPROXIMATELY 500 KM DUE WEST OF THE CAPITAL CITY, BAMAKO. IN 2018, THE FEKOLA MINE PRODUCED 439,068 OUNCES OF GOLD.

B2Gold acquired the world-class Fekola Gold Project through a merger with Papillon Resources Limited in October 2014. Led by core members of B2Gold's construction team, early work activities at the Company's fifth and largest mine began in February 2015. On September 25, 2017, the Company announced that it had completed construction of the Fekola mill and commenced ore processing, more than three months ahead of the original construction schedule and on budget.

The first gold pour at the Fekola Mine took place on October 7, 2017. Within only 60 days from start-up, the mine achieved commercial production on November 30, 2017, one month ahead of the revised schedule and four months ahead of the original schedule.

## ECONOMIC SPEND & LOCAL PROCUREMENT

### 2018 ECONOMIC VALUE DISTRIBUTED (\$US)

Capital Expenditure <sup>[1]</sup>	<b>\$57.158 million</b>
Employee Wages and Benefits	<b>\$46.906 million</b>
Payments to Government <sup>[2]</sup>	<b>\$121.047 million</b>
Community Investment in Mali	<b>\$13.495 million<sup>[3]</sup></b>

#### NOTES

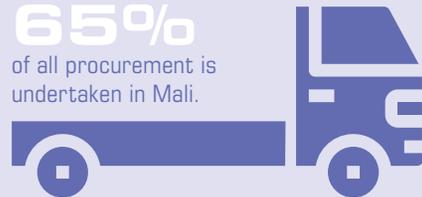
**[1]** Capital Expenditures consist of sustaining and non-sustaining capital expenditures, including exploration at development projects and are reported on a cash basis.

**[2]** Payments to Government consist of income and withholding taxes, production taxes, property taxes and business licences, and the 10% priority dividend to the State of Mali.

**[3]** Includes \$11.4 million for Fadougou village relocation costs for 2018.

### 2018 LOCAL PROCUREMENT

**65%**  
of all procurement is undertaken in Mali.



## 2018 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



**\$13.495**  
MILLION\*

\*Includes \$11.4 million in relocation costs for Fadougou village in 2018

- Community Investment also contributes towards livelihood development and education, leading to improved employment opportunities.
- At the community level, B2Gold invests in sustainable projects in education, environmental conservation, health and livelihoods throughout the world where we operate.
- Mining projects provide a unique opportunity for engaging with and contributing to the development of host communities. As part of our socio-economic impact and legacy, one of our goals is to help build sustainable communities, with B2Gold acting as a catalyst and community members playing a lead role in their own development.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



2018 EMPLOYEE WAGES & BENEFITS

**\$46.906**  
MILLION

### 2018 LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

**95%**  
LOCAL<sup>[1]</sup>  
EMPLOYEES

**2,029<sup>[2]</sup>**  
TOTAL NUMBER  
OF EMPLOYEES

#### NOTES

**[1]** "Local" is defined as individuals either born in the same country of operation, or those who have the legal right to reside indefinitely in that country.

**[2]** Includes permanent and fixed-term employees, as well as supervised labour

- B2Gold's local employment objectives address the demographics and empowerment initiatives of the respective national settings, while embedding our inclusive culture to attract talent from around the world. We are proud of the richness in diversity of our workforce; our people value working in a multi-cultural setting and the work experiences it provides.
- Employment for unskilled roles gives preference to neighbouring communities. Anticipating that the transition from construction to operations in 2018 would reduce the number of employment positions overall, we managed to reach higher local employment levels at the operations phase targeting two main initiatives. We transitioned over 80% of the Malian staff from construction to operations.



# GENERATING OUTCOMES IN MALI FROM THE FEKOLA MINE

More details can be found in B2Gold's 2018 Responsible Mining Report at [www.b2gold.com](http://www.b2gold.com)

## AFECK MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE LABOUR MARKET

The Adéquation Formation-Emploi dans le Cercle de Kéniéba (AFECK) project is a “Skills for Employment” initiative co-funded by Global Affairs Canada and by B2Gold (75% and 25% respectively), and implemented by Cowater-Sogema (an international development organization).

The objectives of the AFECK project are to improve technical skills for Kéniéba Cercle residents to meet the needs of the labour market and to increase the capacity of small businesses, with a focus on female entrepreneurs – enabling them to provide goods and services to the extractive and other sectors. AFECK will also support the local government to improve delivery of vocational skills and training programs.



## MALI SCHOLARSHIP FUND PROVIDING A PATH TO THE FUTURE

The B2Gold Mali Scholarship Fund was established to grant 10 scholarships across Mali. The Fund represents an investment over seven years that will provide financial support for students to cover tuition fees, study aids, health insurance and/or subsistence for the duration of their studies.

The aim of the program is to provide deserving Malian students with access to quality tertiary education and to increase their chances of successfully completing their studies – which will help them secure professional jobs and contribute to socio-economic development in Mali.

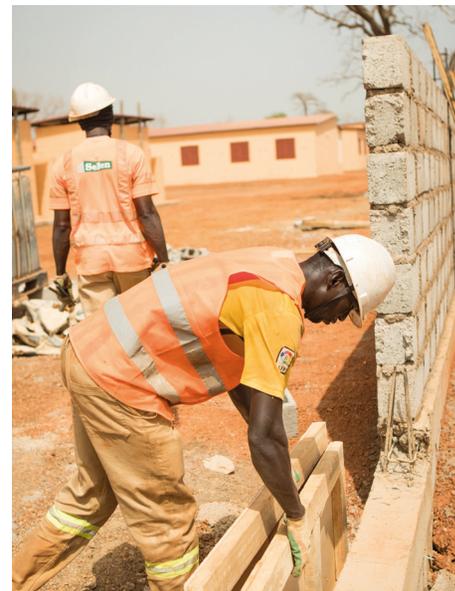
In support of B2Gold's Local Content Social Performance Standard, students from the Kéniéba district (the region where B2Gold's Fekola Mine is located) were given preference. A minimum target for female students was established, and students studying STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and math) were given special consideration. The 10 recipients include five girls and five boys; four of the 10 are from the Kéniéba district.



## RURAL DEVELOPMENT REDUCING POVERTY AND FOOD INSECURITY

The fight against poverty and food insecurity is an enormous challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa. Poverty affects more than 40% of Mali's 18 million people, of which most live in rural areas. According to the Malian National Institute of Statistics, more than a quarter of the Malian population has to contend with food insecurity.

The New Rice for Africa (NERICA) and the Fadougou Market Garden projects are two rural development initiatives developed by B2Gold and implemented over the last three years in collaboration with small farmers and a women's association from Fadougou. The projects are in their third year and their impacts are beginning to be significant.



## LEAVING A LASTING IMPACT CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FADOUGOU

The resettlement of a community is a sensitive undertaking. The rebuilding or development of livelihoods as part of this process often determines whether a resettlement is an opportunity for community strengthening and leaving a lasting impact.

The original village of Fadougou is located adjacent to the main Fekola open pit. Although the relocation of the village was not a requirement of the Fekola Mine Construction Permit, B2Gold was concerned about potential risks to the health, safety and well-being of the residents, due to the proximity of the village to the mine site. Following engagement with local and regional authorities, B2Gold proposed a resettlement program based on national law, cultural context, international standards, and industry best practices.