The 2016 Responsible Mining Report has been finalised as of 1 May 2017 and contains certain “forward-looking information” and “forward-looking statements” (collectively, “forward-looking information”). “Forward-looking information” refers to information that is based on certain expectations and assumptions made at the time of the information, and that are otherwise not historical facts. Forward-looking information is characterized by words such as “could,” “may,” “would,” “should,” “will” and “potential,” “schedule,” “forecast,” “budget,” “estimate,” “intend” or “believe” and similar expressions or their negative connotations, or that events or conditions “will,” “would”, “may”, “could”, “should” or “might” occur. Forward-looking information necessarily involves assumptions, risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from the estimates in the Company’s feasibility studies; the ability to obtain and maintain any necessary financing; risks associated with mining operations; geological, environmental, community and social development, construction, permitting and operational risks and uncertainties, certain of which are beyond the Company’s control; continuing work of the Company with the DENR in relation to the Masbate Mine and the final result thereof; developmental, construction, production, permitting and operational risks and uncertainties of the Company’s projects; the Company’s ability to access capital; continuing work of the Company with the DENR in relation to the Masbate Mine and the final result thereof; developmental, construction, production, permitting and operational risks and uncertainties of the Company’s projects; the Company’s ability to access capital; and other factors identified herein or herein or therein. The list of such factors should not be construed as exhaustive, nor an exhaustive list of the factors affecting forward-looking information, and should be read in connection with the “Risk Factors” section in the Company’s management report of fundamental changes, if applicable. In addition, the Company cautions that forward-looking statements reflect current expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speak only as of the date hereof and the Company does not assume any obligation to update forward-looking statements if circumstances or management’s beliefs, expectations or other circumstances or beliefs change. The Company makes forward-looking statements and underlying assumptions and expectations in this and other filings with the Canadian securities regulators and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), which may be viewed at www.sedar.com and www.sec.gov, respectively. The Company has attempted to identify and provide additional information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS and should not be read in conjunction with B2Gold’s consolidated financial statements. Readers should refer to B2Gold’s management discussion and analysis, available under B2Gold’s corporate profile at www.b2gold.com, and at its website at www.b2gold.com, under the heading “Non-IFRS Measures”. For a more detailed discussion of how B2Gold calculates such measures and a reconciliation of certain measures to IFRS terms.
MISSION FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING
To produce superior returns as a responsible mining company
We need to believe in — and commit to — continual improvement through our efforts, values and principles. We need to at all times remember our overriding commitment to health and safety, the environment and sustainable development.

VISION FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING
To be the best example mining operation
We are a highly reputable organization that protects its people, the environment and broader community from harm, enabling them to grow with the success of the Company.

INTEGRITY
Doing what we say we will do and doing it in an honest, ethical, law-abiding, and transparent manner.

HIGH PERFORMANCE
Stepping up to the challenge of improving our business results by extending and being more demanding of our capabilities.

BUILDING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS
Seeking relationships that benefit all parties involved — enabling us to grow and synergize efforts.

RESPECT
Respecting one another and acknowledging and valuing our cultural diversity — a strength of ours that grows from a valuable pool of cultures, experiences, and skills.

ACCOUNTABILITY
Placing ownership on our performance and upholding the policies and decisions of the Company.

ADDING VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY & COUNTRY
Acknowledging and respecting the communities where we work, and striving to provide economic opportunities that result in sustainable social, economic and environmental benefits.
MESSAGE FROM CLIVE JOHNSON
B2GOLD CORP. PRESIDENT & CEO

WITH THIS, OUR FIRST PUBLISHED RESPONSIBLE MINING REPORT FOR 2016, I’VE BEEN COMPELLED TO CONSIDER THE STATUS OF B2GOLD AS A RESPONSIBLE MINER, AND AT THE SAME TIME TO REFLECT HOW FAR B2GOLD HAS COME IN JUST NINE YEARS.

Since we went public in 2007, B2Gold’s strategic focus has been to acquire interests in mineral properties with demonstrated potential for hosting gold deposits, to undertake exploration and drilling campaigns to define and develop resources on these properties, and to finance, develop, construct and operate mines.

While our headquarters are in Vancouver, Canada, our team is spread all over the world. We are a global family and see each of our employees and the communities where we work as crucial to our success as a company. As a result, our business decisions incorporate careful consideration of people’s health and safety, environmental protection, and community well-being.

B2Gold is one of the fastest growing gold producing companies in the world. Starting as an exploration company and community well-being.

B2Gold and put us in the international spotlight – approaching a million ounces towards the end of 2018.

We are also capitalizing on our strong strategic position and balance sheet by evaluating further exploration and acquisition opportunities that fit within our strategic objective of building an intermediate gold company.

Our commitment to social responsibility and environmental stewardship combined with our rapid growth, has made it crucial for us to review our status as a responsible miner and to take a step back and critique our performance in this regard. We took on the challenge to produce our first Responsible Mining Report for 2016 – a report based on internationally-respected Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) guidelines. Our report content is based on a structured analysis of responsible performance within a selected number of GRI Material Aspects and Indicators from the Economic, Environmental, and Social categories. Through the process of compiling and writing the report, we also came to recognize that this is the conclusion of the successful turnaround of our company.

The data generated through this reporting initiative and the resulting publication of the key findings and learnings offers us an opportunity to reflect on how we do business – and how we can do it even better. Not just for the shareholders of our company, but for all our stakeholders influenced by our presence.

The corporate standards that we have put in place are being reflected by the great work done by our teams on the ground. As a testament to this – have a look at the featured stories on the Jabali resettlement project, the Otjikoto Nature Reserve, and the DENR Audit at Masbate as just three examples of their hard work coming to fruition.

What also stands out from this report, from my perspective as CEO, is the considerable work we’ve already done in terms of implementing processes and systems to support our Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) and Social Performance Standards.

The data generated through this reporting initiative and the resulting publication of the key findings and learnings offers us an opportunity to reflect on how we do business – and how we can do it even better. Not just for the shareholders of our company, but for all our stakeholders influenced by our presence.

The corporate standards that we have put in place are being reflected by the great work done by our teams on the ground. As a testament to this – have a look at the featured stories on the Jabali resettlement project, the Otjikoto Nature Reserve, and the DENR Audit at Masbate as just three examples of their hard work coming to fruition.

By the same token, our growth compels us to address some challenges. We need to work toward standardizing human resource approaches across our operations. We need to accelerate strategies to empower women in our communities to develop opportunities toward standardizing human resource approaches across our operations. We need to accelerate strategies to empower women in our communities to develop opportunities.
limited without their involvement. We must also be cognizant of low literacy levels and resultant lack of skills in the areas where we operate and the responsibility we have in this respect as a significant employer. How can we provide skills development and be a facilitator for change in this regard? Read our feature on the AFECK project that was launched in Mali last year, which offers one possible solution.

A deep-seated commitment is that our performance must never come at the cost of the health and safety of the people that work for us. They must always return to their families unharmed after each day at work. Towards the end of 2016 we celebrated six million man-hours without a Lost-Time Injury (LTI) at our Masbate operation, and two million LTI-free man-hours at Otjikoto.

At Masbate, that performance continued and the operation completed 2016 without an LTI. This safety performance was achieved despite a year where Masbate had significant construction activity on site, as well as expanding deeper into main mining areas.

As we celebrate these achievements, we must also pause and be brought back to a deep realization of our incredible responsibility when it comes to the safety of our people. The passing of a colleague at Otjikoto was deeply distressing to us all. He was seriously injured on the 28th of December 2015 during a re-fueling operation. Unfortunately, he succumbed to his multiple injuries in January 2016. Every effort has been made to redouble our safety practices and procedures to ensure such an accident cannot happen again.

Managing safety is never an easy task, and without 100% commitment it is almost impossible to achieve good results. Let us never forget the potential consequences of workplace accidents and how this must always drive us to consider Safety First, Every Day.

B2Gold is 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. Our principles are simple and powerful: fairness, respect, and transparency in dealing with all our stakeholders. These principles are genuine and deeply rooted in our corporate culture.
ABOUT THIS REPORT

COVERED IN THIS SECTION

General Standard Disclosures
- G4-17
- G4-18
- G4-19
- G4-20
- G4-21
- G4-22
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- G4-24
- G4-25
- G4-26
- G4-27
- G4-28
- G4-29
- G4-30
- G4-31
- G4-32
- G4-33
- G4-28
ABOUT THIS REPORT

This first annual B2Gold Corp. Responsible Mining Report covers the reporting period of January to December 2016. Our report adheres to guidelines as set out by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). We elected to report in accordance with the Core GRI guidelines, with no external assurance.

Listed entities included in our financial statements are:

- Philippines Gold Processing & Refining Corporation
  - Masbate
  - 100% interest
- Filminera Resources Corporation
  - La Libertad
  - 100% interest
- Desarrollo Minero de Nicaragua SA
  - El Limon
  - 95% interest
- Triton Minera SA
- B2Gold Namibia (Pty) Ltd.
  - Otjikoto
  - 90% interest
- Desarrollo Minero de Nicaragua SA
  - Kiala Gold
  - 81% interest
- Mocosa Ventures Ltd.
  - Fekola
  - 100% interest
- Grilli Resources Corporation
  - Masbate
  - 100% interest
- Desarrollo Minero de Nicaragua SA
  - Kiala Gold
  - 81% interest
- Mocosa Ventures Ltd.
  - Fekola
  - 100% interest

Given that B2Gold is beginning the process of sustainability reporting, we elected to adopt a phased approach. For 2016, our first report, we have limited the number of GRI sustainability aspects and indicators that are included. We established a corporate-level working group to lead the process with country-level counterpart working groups in Nicaragua, Philippines, Namibia, and Mali.

The process included an assessment of sustainability aspects in terms of their importance or impact on the company and the perceived importance or impact on our stakeholders. The assessments were conducted by each of the five cross-functional teams, the results were aggregated, further analyzed and a limited number of indicators chosen. For 2016, our methodology did not include an external stakeholder consultation.

The indicator selection triggered the data collection at corporate and country levels, compilation of supporting information on management approaches, the analysis of results by corporate-regional counterparts, and the collation of final content by the corporate working group.

In future, the scope for our report will be expanded. In this, our first report, we focused on our four operational mines (La Libertad and El Limon in Nicaragua, Masbate in Philippines, and Otjikoto in Namibia) including satellite mines and near-mine (brownfield) exploration activities, and the Fekola Project which is under construction. Where relevant, regional and corporate offices are included. Offices include Vancouver (Canada), Managua (Nicaragua), Makati (Philippines), Windhoek (Namibia), and Bamako (Mali), along with the associated mine, project, and exploration offices. The employment data includes our employees at our Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) office and associated exploration office.

Regional or greenfield exploration projects are not included, unless they are tied into site statistics. Kiaka, Gramalote and Mocoa projects are not covered in this report. The only exception to the above report parameters is the reporting of employment data – employees from all B2Gold operations across the globe are included.
COVERED IN THIS SECTION

General Standard Disclosures
- G4-1
- G4-3
- G4-4
- G4-5
- G4-6
- G4-7
- G4-8
- G4-12
- G4-13
- G4-15
- G4-16
- G4-34
- G4-56
HEADQUARTERED IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, B2GOLD CORP. IS ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING INTERMEDIATE GOLD PRODUCERS IN THE WORLD. Founded in 2007, B2Gold has evolved into an international gold mining company, with four operating mines, one mine under construction, and numerous exploration projects across four continents in various countries, including Nicaragua, the Philippines, Namibia, Mali and Burkina Faso. Construction of B2Gold’s Fekola Mine in southwest Mali is on schedule and on budget, and is projected to commence production in 2017. As a result, B2Gold is well positioned to maintain its low-cost structure and growth profile.

B2Gold achieved another record year of consolidated gold production in 2016 (for the eighth straight year) producing 550,423 ounces of gold, near the mid-point of our revised production guidance range (of 535,000 to 575,000 ounces) and surpassing our initial guidance range (of 510,000 to 550,000 ounces). Gold production for the year also increased by 12% (in 57,358 ounces) over 2015. The record performance in 2016 reflects the record performances from our Masbate and Otjikoto mines. Our La Libertad Mine also met its production guidance, with 2016 production near the high end of its production guidance range.

OUTLOOK

Our core activities remain our current mining operations and the construction of the Fekola Project. Based on Fekola’s current construction progress, the project was approximately three months ahead of schedule at time of publication, with a planned 1 October 2017 production start. Fekola is expected to be another low-cost mine and should help us to significantly increase our production base while at the same time reducing our longer term forecast consolidated cash operating costs (see “Non-IFRS Measures”) as well as all-in sustaining costs (AISC; see “Non-IFRS Measures”) per gold ounce.

The 2017 outlook provides for forecast annual consolidated gold production of between 545,000 and 595,000 ounces (versus 2016 record annual consolidated gold production of 550,423), forecast cash operating costs of between $610 and $650 per ounce and forecast AISC of between $940 and $970 per ounce (including expected Fekola pre-commercial production of between 45,000 and 55,000 ounces).

The 2018 outlook provides for very strong production growth. With the planned first full-year of production from the Fekola Project, consolidated annual gold production is expected to increase significantly and be between 900,000 and 950,000 ounces with cash operating costs and AISC expected to approximate our 2016 revised cost guidance ranges (of $500 to $535 per ounce for cash operating costs and $780 to $810 per ounce for AISC).

We continue to pursue our organic growth strategy. Sustainable growth also requires continued focus on exploration, permitting and feasibility programs at our existing projects. Exploration will focus on drilling additional greenfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Production In Ounces</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>108,935</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>157,885</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>155,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>159,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 A</td>
<td>166,285</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 E*</td>
<td>550,423</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 E*</td>
<td>595,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

(a) Actual

(b) Estimated

Pre-commercial production at the Fekola Mine scheduled to commence production on 1 October 2017

**Graph 3**

- **El Limon** Nicaragua
- **Masbate** The Philippines
- **Otjikoto** Namibia
- **Fekola** Mali

**Notes**

(*) Estimated

(£) Actual

Based on current assumptions, including commencement of production at the Fekola Mine on 1 October 2017
opportunities – the most significant areas of exploration focus are in West Africa. Our objective is to continue growing as a profitable and responsible gold producer through a combination of exploration projects and accretive acquisitions, irrespective of gold price.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
The members of the B2Gold Corp. Executive team and Board agree that one of the most rewarding aspects of the mining industry is the positive socio-economic impact that developing new mines can have on the local populations in what are often remote and/or impoverished areas of the world.

B2Gold recognizes that environmental stewardship and social responsibility are integral components of business in today’s world. We integrate environmental and social factors in our decision-making. As we continue to develop and build on our existing exploration assets and pursue additional opportunities around the world, we will remain committed to maintaining the high standards that we have established.

B2Gold’s Health, Safety, Environment, Social and Security (HSESS) Board Committee governs our performance in these areas. The Committee assists the Board and Executive Management to understand our progress and challenges regarding HSESS aspects. Currently B2Gold is not a member of any specific Responsible Mining associations or organizations. However, our policies and standards align with the principles of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

Our Corporate Governance and Nominating Board Committee (Governance Committee) is responsible for setting the standards of business conduct. These standards are contained in our Business Conduct and Ethics Code (Code).

The purpose of the Code is to define the standards and values which we expect personnel to follow in all their dealings with stakeholders. While our Board of Directors (Board) oversees and monitors compliance with the Code, it is the individual’s responsibility to comply with the Code as it applies to all B2Gold personnel, including every director, officer and employee of the Company and its subsidiaries. Currently, all B2Gold employees based in Vancouver and key management personnel at our various sites are required to read, acknowledge, and sign off on the Code upon commencement of employment.

The Code’s Guiding Principles

- act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the company;
- exercise due care, diligence and skill in fulfilling the functions of their position;
- avoid conflicts of interest between work and personal affairs;
- exercise the powers attached to their employment and use the assets of The company for the purposes for which they were intended;
- demonstrate honesty, truthfulness, respectfulness and integrity in all business dealings and interactions with our shareholders, customers, suppliers, competitors and other employees; and
- act in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, adhere to the ethical standards set out in the Code, and follow our policies and procedures.

The most recent version of The Code can be found on www.b2gold.com.
The presidential elections in the Philippines in May 2016 changed the political landscape for the extractive sector operating in the region. The freshly appointed cabinet and heads of ministries resulted in some new initiatives. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) began the roll-out of a nationwide audit of most mines with the expectation of suspension and closures—rather than fines—for non-successful results. The approach entailed a comprehensive look at all aspects of governing a mine, well beyond an environmental compliance audit.

MASBATE AND THE DENR

In 2016, the DENR conducted two mine audits at the Masbate Gold Project: the first in August and the second in September. The findings were then provided on 11 October 2016 for comment to the two companies that operate Masbate. Responses from Filminera Resources Corporation and Philippines Gold Processing & Refining Corp. were independently submitted to the government on 21 October 2016 for review.

Since the initial release of the audit findings in September 2016, Masbate has worked closely with the DENR to resolve issues raised in the audit. Beyond the audit findings, Masbate and the DENR both recognize that community relationships and community development continue to be priorities. Masbate will maintain its leadership role to improve ongoing programs by working with local communities.

Masbate operations are ISO 14001 compliant which demonstrates that our environmental systems meet Philippine requirements. Masbate remains committed to industry best practice and to ensure that the companies continue to comply with the terms of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) and other mine and environmental regulations, and fulfill their obligations to the DENR. Masbate will promote continued community development and sound environmental stewardship while providing a modern and safe work environment for its workforce.
However, an element of political risk continues to exist in the Philippines within the mining industry and other sectors. The DENR Secretary was rejected by the Confirmation Assembly in early May 2017, and a replacement assigned on 8 May 2017.

There are several governance lessons from our experience over the last nine months:

□ Review audit findings very carefully. The government appointed Audit Committee can make mistakes. Documentation and organization are important. Take all regulatory compliance sampling and ensure the closeout meeting is thorough.

□ Compliance with legal and environmental aspects are key factors, but not the only factors. In general, we anticipate that our immediate rectification was sufficient to address those findings.

□ Social or community aspects can be significant considerations depending on who is conducting the audit. In several cases of community concern at Masbate, the issues had been addressed but either not communicated sufficiently to the local population by the appropriate government institution, or not to the satisfaction of specific local individuals. For example, the results of several investigations by government agencies regarding coastal health were either not published or not well communicated, causing ongoing conflict.

□ In many countries, and especially in the Philippines, operating mines are being pushed to assume leadership roles in community planning and management. While this can be seen as positive as it complements our planning policy for mine closure, it can result in mining staff assuming roles which, perhaps, fall outside their expertise, but which fall within the area of government responsibility. In the case of the Philippines we are signatories of an agreement to develop an IADP; however, it is unclear how this will be implemented or funded.

□ A direct approach in building relationships with government officials can ease misunderstandings and distrust, and facilitate resolution.

Masbate has an outstanding safety record (see Our People section for more detail) and is the largest producing gold mine in the Philippines. The operation is the largest private employer on the island of Masbate, employing more than 1,900 Filipino workers and contractors.

THE AUDIT AND KEY LEARNINGS

Out of 40 mines that were audited, 12 passed the audit, 21 were recommended for closure, and six were suspended. The audit was a combination of legal adherence, environmental checks, and ensuring community concerns were addressed.

On 2 February 2017, B2Gold officially publicized the results of the Masbate mine audit as reported by the DENR. Our approach was to closely engage with the DENR on all levels of governance. Internally, all Masbate departments (including executive management, public relations, community relations, environmental, production, and legal) recognized that this audit was a major challenge to the mine’s license to operate. An Audit Response Team was formed to address emerging and urgent issues and to ensure that internal and external stakeholders were fully aware that management was addressing the situation.

Masbate worked closely with the DENR to maintain compliance with regulations and to demonstrate our commitment to promote improved quality of life in the communities where we operate. Mining and milling operations continued normally throughout the audit process.

As a result of discussions with DENR personnel, a Memorandum of Agreement was forged between the Masbate companies, the DENR and the Local Government Unit to work on an Integrated Area Development Plan (IADP) which seeks to harmonize development projects in the municipality of Aroroy which includes the Social Development Management Programs of Masbate – in order to optimize the benefits that communities derive from the operation of the mine.

At the time of publication of this report, Masbate management had met with the former DENR Secretary who confirmed verbally that Masbate had completed the audit successfully; however, no public announcement was made. Masbate management is currently working to obtain written confirmation of the result.
OUR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

COVERED IN THIS SECTION:

General Standard Disclosures
- DMA

Specific Standard Disclosures
- EC1
WE VIEW OUR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AS A DRIVER FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING. TO ENABLE US TO OPERATE RESPONSIBLY AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO LONG-TERM POSITIVE IMPACTS IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE WE OPERATE, WE NEED SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE. Many business decisions lead to creating economic value. Understanding how that economic value is distributed among employees, within the countries where we operate, and specifically the investments within our host communities, are key tenets of B2Gold’s economic responsibility.

Gold revenue for the year ended 31 December was an annual record of $683.3 million on record sales of 548,281 ounces at an average price of $1,246 per ounce. For the year ended 31 December 2016, the Otjikoto Mine accounted for $207.7 million of gold revenue, the Masbate Mine accounted for $255.6 million of gold revenue, the La Libertad Mine accounted for $163.7 million of gold revenue, while $56.4 million was contributed by the El Limon Mine.

Revenues are defined as “gold revenue”, as proceeds from silver sales are considered to be a by-product and credited against production costs for accounting purposes. Proceeds from interest income or sale of assets are not considered material.

B2Gold defines AISC as the sum of cash operating costs, royalty and production taxes, capital expenditures and exploration costs that are sustaining in nature, corporate general and administrative costs, share-based payment expenses related to restricted stock units (RSUs), community investment expenditures, and reclamation liability accretion.

We celebrate our successful business results in 2016 with our shareholders. B2Gold also celebrates this success with the many stakeholders in the countries, regions and communities where we operate. Our economic performance is also measured by the economic value that we generate for others including payments to governments through taxes and royalties, local hiring and procurement, and investing in communities.

### TABLE 1: 2016 Economic Value Generated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mine</th>
<th>2016 Gold Revenue ($ '000)</th>
<th>2016 Gold Sold (oz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Libertad</td>
<td>163,660</td>
<td>131,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Limon</td>
<td>56,379</td>
<td>49,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masbate</td>
<td>255,581</td>
<td>204,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fekola(1)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated</td>
<td>683,293</td>
<td>548,281</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES (1)  n/a = not applicable. Fekola mine under construction in 2016.

### TABLE 2: 2016 Economic Value Retained

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mine</th>
<th>Gold Revenue ($ '000)</th>
<th>Adjusted AISC (A) ($ '000)</th>
<th>Employee Wages and Benefits (B)</th>
<th>Payments to Capital Providers (C)</th>
<th>Payments to Government (D)</th>
<th>Community Investments (E)</th>
<th>Economic Value Retained (F)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Libertad</td>
<td>163,660</td>
<td>98,185</td>
<td>18,134</td>
<td>8,751</td>
<td>3,395</td>
<td>35,051</td>
<td>204,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Limon</td>
<td>56,379</td>
<td>38,722</td>
<td>14,348</td>
<td>6,471</td>
<td>1,014</td>
<td>(2,502)</td>
<td>(50,929)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masbate</td>
<td>255,581</td>
<td>116,264</td>
<td>15,311</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6,150</td>
<td>3,206</td>
<td>114,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fekola(5)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated</td>
<td>683,293</td>
<td>338,092</td>
<td>89,736</td>
<td>18,782</td>
<td>22,561</td>
<td>116,264</td>
<td>204,939</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES (1) Adjusted AISC (see “Non-IFRS Measures”) is AISC less employee wages and benefits (column B) and less community investments (column E).
(2) Payments to Government consists of income and withholding taxes (includes production tax, property taxes and business licenses as these are already included in AISC).
(3) Masbate’s Social Development Tax of $3,206,000 is presented as Community Investment in this table.
(4) El Limon’s Nature Reserve spending estimated at $801,000 is presented as Community Investment in this table.
(5) Includes $1,477,000 for Fadougou Village relocation costs.
(6) n/a = not applicable. Fekola mine under construction in 2016.

GRAPH 4: Economic Value Distributed (Without Fekola)
OUR ENVIRONMENT

COVERED IN THIS SECTION

General Standard Disclosures
- DMA

Specific Standard Disclosures
- EN10
- EN14
- EN16
- EN21
- EN24
- EN32
- MM3
We are committed to minimizing the impact on and conserving the quality of the natural environment in areas where we operate. As part of our corporate environmental commitment, B2Gold will provide sufficient resources to ensure environmental risks are adequately addressed during all phases (exploration, design, construction, and closure) of each project.

We aim to avoid, or where this is not possible, minimize our impacts, while contributing to lasting environmental benefits across the regions where we operate. Where unacceptable impacts remain, we focus on implementing compensatory actions to address residual impacts to the environment. Beyond our direct environmental management actions, we pursue opportunities, such as conservation, to deliver lasting environmental benefits.

See our Namibian case study at the end of this section.

To ensure that we are able to reduce potential environmental impacts from our operations, we apply robust Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Management System Standards and Environmental and Biodiversity Performance Standards based on international best practice – this includes compliance with country regulations, relevant International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS) Standards, and reliance on the IFC Performance Standards and international best practices in cases where national regulatory requirements are not sufficiently stringent. These management systems, including external audits, enable us to mitigate and manage the potential risks and impacts of our operations.

**WATER**

In the mining industry, water management has emerged as a critical issue because mining typically uses large volumes of water and can potentially affect water quality, which in turn can impact other water users. As a result, the industry can affect, and is affected by, issues of water availability and quality.

The sustainability of our operations relies on our ability to obtain the appropriate quality and quantity of water and to use this resource responsibly. Water risks and impacts experienced by our operations vary from region to region. Some sites are located in water scarce areas, while others must manage water excess, water quality or water discharge issues. In addition, communities near our operations, or with whom we share watersheds, care about access to sufficient quantities of clean water for physical health and well-being and the maintenance of local environments. Without adequate access to water, our operations could not function. Likewise, responsible water management is fundamental to maintaining the trust and well-being of our communities in areas where we operate.

Our efforts are focused on keeping clean water clean through a strategy that avoids affecting water quality whenever possible. We do not water discharge in a way that would cause contamination or potential water quality impacts as this is not only responsible and legal, but also, in some cases, reduces the potential risks associated with water quality.

To ensure compliance with applicable standards, regulations and permits, we monitor the quality of water that is discharged from our operations and returned to the environment. We also monitor several surface water and groundwater parameters in the receiving environment surrounding our operations to ensure that we are not adversely affecting our water resources.

**Water Abstraction**

Across our various sites, we are shown from surface water and groundwater sources as well as run-off collections. As our operations are located across the world, each operation site has different challenges in measuring water abstraction and discharge on the supply and demand of the site. Not all sites had flow monitoring equipment in place for the full reporting period, requiring some quantities to be estimated. Therefore, the water abstraction data for 2016 is considered highly variable.

Sites are working to improve water quantity measurements in 2017, starting with establishing the ability to collect more accurate water abstraction and discharge data. Future initiatives include improving measurement and monitoring methods so that trends can be established which will enable, ultimately, the setting of targets to reduce water abstraction where possible.

**Groundwater**

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Biodiversity
Mining activities have the potential to impact biodiversity and to alter ecosystems in a significant and highly visible way. Direct impacts can result from any mining activity that involves land disturbance or discharges to water bodies or the air. Indirect impacts can result from social or environmental changes that are induced by mining operations, particularly when mining opens up an area for other economic activities and increased habitation. In areas where mines are developed in landscapes where other pressures on biodiversity are present, the potential for cumulative impacts must also be considered.

Responsible mining companies can create significant opportunities to achieve positive impacts on biodiversity. This can include the protection and restoration of ecosystems and sharing expertise to improve biodiversity management.

We recognize that our activities have the potential to impact biodiversity and to alter ecosystems in a significant way in the regions where we operate, which can affect both individual species and the provision of critical ecosystem services that communities of all species rely on. It is therefore important for us to operate in a manner that minimizes and mitigates our impacts on biodiversity.

Protected and High Biodiversity Areas
Protected areas include those protected by national or regional law or designated by international bodies, including United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categories Ib, II, III or IV protected areas. High biodiversity value areas have features that provide essential ecosystem services relied on by humans and animals, an abundance of rare, vulnerable, or endemic species, and/or large areas of relatively intact natural habitat.

None of our operations are in (or adjacent to) protected areas as identified by international organizations or national legislation. There is a marine protected area, protected by local ordinance, approximately 3.8 kilometers from the causeway at Masbate. Each of our operations has occurrences of species at risk within and/or adjacent to the operation. Most of these species are of lower conservation threat classification – i.e. IUCN Vulnerable (VU). However, some species identified adjacent to our operations are categorized as IUCN Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR) as presented in the accompanying table. The presence of these threatened species adjacent to our Fekola and Masbate sites indicates that there are areas of high biodiversity value. This then directs the development of our biodiversity management for each operation.

Masbate continues to support the host municipality of Acors by through partnerships in environmental stewardship. This is done through assistance with the management of multiple Marine Protected Areas, expansion of mangrove reforestation projects, commencing coral reef rehabilitation, increased biodiversity monitoring, area’s ongoing capacity building of local fishermen. External experts provide ongoing review and guidance regarding biodiversity management measures as needed. Masbate is working with the surrounding communities to develop and implement a Coastal Management Plan which will strengthen conservation measures and lead to improved ecosystem function of the marine and estuarine environments in the areas surrounding the mine.

The IUCN categories are the global standard for classifying protected areas and with categories ranging from the most strictly protected (category I) to a nature reserve (category VI).

The species identified in areas adjacent to Fekola include one of the most iconic species for global conservation efforts – the West African chimpanzee. We recognize the importance of conserving this species and we view the presence of chimpanzees as an opportunity to create significant positive impacts on biodiversity in the area. We have engaged external experts to conduct extensive survey work and have implemented a monitoring program to identify the extent (number and range) of the species. In 2017, we will implement (with the support of expert consultants) a Chimpanzee and Priority Species Conservation Strategy.

Establishment of Conservation Areas
In addition to our direct biodiversity management actions relating to threatened species and high biodiversity value features, as part of our commitment to conserving the quality of the natural environments in areas where we operate, we pursue conservation opportunities that will deliver lasting environmental benefits.

We established the Peñas Blancas Wildlife Refuge near the community of Santo Domingo at our La Libertad Mine in 2011. The refuge provides protected habitat for the relocation of flora and fauna from the Santo Domingo project area. We have collaborated with a local contractor to manage the refuge, training members of the local community and establishing a “brigade” to rescue flora and fauna. A management plan has been developed and implemented in alignment with the guidelines of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and the refuge is helping to ensure the long-term viability of biodiversity in the area. This refuge and its flora and fauna rescue program is the first of its kind in Nicaragua.

Diploto provides a unique opportunity for significant conservation efforts. Namibia has some of the largest populations of cheetah, rhinos and other iconic species of global conservation status. We have established the Diploto Nature Reserve on the adjacent property and our mine operation – a viable area of 15,000 hectares. The reserve’s management...
The reserve and its team also support conservation and other biodiversity research. The reserve and its team also support conservation and other biodiversity research. The reserve and its team also support conservation and other biodiversity research.

Responsibly closing our sites and managing our legacy properties is an important part of our commitment to provide for long-term environmental conservation of the areas where we operate. Proper mine closure can significantly mitigate risks and liabilities, reduce the need to manage the property in perpetuity, and successfully transition the land from a mine site to a stable land resource that will provide sustainable community benefits for generations to come.

Guiding our approach to responsibly reclaim our sites is our Reclamation and Closure Planning Performance Standard, which sets the minimum requirements to proactively plan, manage and monitor the long-term liabilities associated with our sites. While we are still operating at a site, we progressively reclaim portions of the mine site that are no longer required for mining purposes. As an operation matures, we update our Reclamation and Closure Plan to reflect significant changes in the project, to incorporate results from reclamation activities and monitoring, or based on outcomes of engagement with stakeholders.

In 2016, site-wide Mine Reclamation and Closure Plans were in place at our La Libertad, El Limon and Masbate mines. Fekola has not initiated significant reclamation activities, but it does have in place a conceptual plan that has guided design and construction aspects of the project to this stage and presents reclamation activities as the project progresses into operations in 2017. Also in 2017, Otjikoto will establish this site-wide Mine Reclamation and Closure Plan to further facilitate its ongoing reclamation and monitoring programs and incorporate closure considerations into the long-term mine plan.

Our sites rehabilitated approximately 148 hectares in 2016. The La Libertad, El Limon and Masbate mines reclaimed more land than they disturbed in 2016 as part of their progressive reclamation efforts. Our Otjikoto and Fekola sites disturbed more land than they reclaimed in 2016 by over 500 hectares due to pit expansion at Otjikoto and general mine construction progress at Fekola.

Reclamation and Closure Plan to further facilitate its ongoing reclamation and monitoring programs and incorporate closure considerations into the long-term mine plan. We seek to minimize the quantities of waste that we produce and materials are reduced or recycled whenever possible. All materials are recycled or disposed of in accordance with relevant in-country statutory obligations, licenses, and other requirements.

Non-hazardous waste at our sites typically consists of scrap metal, wood, metal, paper, toner cartridges, etc. The primary hazardous waste produced at our operations include waste oil, solvents, anti-freeze, paint, batteries, and fluorescent tubes.

TABLE 5 Waste Generated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Waste Generated (tonnes)</th>
<th>Site Waste Oil Generated (tonnes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Libertad</td>
<td>140.9</td>
<td>182.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Limon 131.6</td>
<td>7.1 6.3</td>
<td>300.9 0.24 12.3 47.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masbate 297.2</td>
<td>235 96.9</td>
<td>663 0.16 411 15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otjikoto 321.6</td>
<td>19.5 8.0</td>
<td>615 0.56 70 3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fekola 41.1</td>
<td>n/r 113</td>
<td>n/r 0.27 95.4 0.27 101 n/r</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES
(1) Non-hazardous materials, typically consisting of automotive/equipment batteries, fluorescent bulbs, electronics, printer toner cartridges,
(2) Includes waste oil and hydraulic fluids impregnated waste.
(3) Includes paper, cardboard, plastics, batteries, and toner.
(4) Includes all recyclable materials (i.e., paper, plastic and metal).
(5) Comprised of 175,268 litres of waste oil and 137,006 litres of heavy fuel oil (HFO) sludge.
(6) Reported recycling of all usable equipment batteries and 17 turner cartridges that were properly recycled.
(7) Reported recycling of 15 fluorescent bulbs, five air conditioners, and five turner cartridges that were being temporarily stored on site for future reuse.
(8) Materials temporarily stored on site for future recycling.
(9) Materials temporarily stored on site for future disposal.
(10) In addition, approximately 38.6 tonnes of materials were burned at landfill site.
(11) n/r = not reported.
hydrocarbon hazardous materials, 313 tonnes of waste oil and 450 tonnes of hydrocarbon impregnated materials. In 2017, we will continue to improve our waste management practices, including improvements in reporting, classification of materials, and monitoring the amounts of each waste stream generated.

COMPLIANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

We are committed to meeting regulatory and permit requirements and our approach to managing legal compliance is guided by our Legal Obligations and Evaluation Compliance Management System Standard. This standard sets minimum requirements at our operations with respect to the various national, provincial/state and local/municipal laws, regulations, rules and other HSE obligations that apply to our operations.

We track our compliance through legal and permit registers, on-line audits, and environmental inspections and audits, and environmental monitoring. We track our compliance through legal and permit registers, obligations that apply to our operations.

Not all our sites have performed comprehensive environmental legal compliance audits. This is an improvement to take place in 2017 for us to better manage, report, and track our environmental legal performance. Although we do have need for improvement in this area, we have completed some environmental legal compliance audits of our operations reported any material environmental legal compliance audits. This is an improvement to take place in 2017 for us to better manage, report, and track our environmental legal performance.

An incident is an unintended event that, in the vast majority of cases, is immediately managed and has no environmental implications. All incidents have control measures in place to minimize the likelihood of environmental incidents and to mitigate potential effects on the environment for those incidents that do occur. Control measures include facility design considerations, spill containment measures, meters, alarms, Standard Operating Procedures, training, reporting systems, and the identification of potential issues through internal risk assessments. Significant environmental incidents are investigated to identify the root causes, and we implement remedial measures and corrective actions. In 2016, we did not experience any significant environmental incidents at any of our operations.

Well before starting construction of our Otjikoto Mine in Namibia, B2Gold committed to the goal of leaving Namibia better off as a result of a mining operation having been there. We aligned with the government development objectives for environmental management and social upliftment.

Namibia is the second least densely populated country in the world, with extensive and diverse wilderness areas, a growing eco-tourism industry, and a strong culture of environmental stewardship. Namibia has a rapidly growing population, many of which live in poverty and are an economy driven by mining.

Environmentally speaking, issues are almost never isolated and are influenced by the societal context. For example, the loss of natural environments is often linked to urbanization and population growth; accessibility of affordable housing is often linked to sanitation concerns which have impacts on the environment; furthermore, many Namibians depend on the environment for their livelihoods.

In Namibia, we have taken a holistic view in terms of contributing to the society and environment within which we work. We are demonstrating that a successfully run mining operation can be a net benefit for a country. The Otjikoto Mine is situated in a sparsely populated area a few hours north of the capital Windhoek, with the nearest towns 40 and 70 kilometre away. Adjacent to our mining operation we have established the 15,000 hectare Otjikoto Nature Reserve. The reserve, which was previously heavily overgrazed by domestic livestock, is being systematically rehabilitated to its natural state. The reserve also includes an extensive Education Center where approximately a thousand school learners a year attend a wide variety of classes based on the government school curriculum, with an added focus on environment, conservation, sustainable utilisation of biological resources, recycling, responsible living, and alternative energies. We hope to inspire a life-long appreciation for the environment. A special focus has also been given to physics, as this is a subject with which many Namibian children struggle academically. In partnership with Colorado State University (USA), a practical and fun-based approach to teaching basic physics has been introduced through their Little Shop of Physics program.

In support of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in Namibia, B2Gold has worked with various government organizations (NGOs), and industry partners to create the Namibia Chamber of the Environment (NCE) in 2016. The NCE now has a membership comprised of nearly every in-country environmental NGO. This allows for a pool of researchers, scientists, and practitioners who are the best in the country and from whom the mining industry can draw practical best practice guidelines. The intention is to streamline mine site practices (rehabilitation for example), improving results, and reducing costs. Several projects already undertaken included in-situ rehabilitation lobbying and support, research into sustainable housing, and not unexpectedly, environmental best practice guidelines for the mining industry.
OUR PEOPLE

COVERED IN THIS SECTION

General Standard Disclosures
- G4-9
- G4-10
- G4-11

Specific Standard Disclosures
- LA1
- LA2
- LA4
- LA5
- LA7
- LA8
EMPLOYMENT
AN IMPORTANT ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MINING CAN BE MEASURED IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME GENERATION. GLOBALLY THE FORMAL MINING SECTOR EMPLOYS AND PROVIDES SKILLS TRANSFER TO BETWEEN TWO AND FOUR MILLION PEOPLE. This benefit is expanded by a multiplier factor of between two to five when indirect impacts are considered.

B2Gold believes that every employee is part of our global team, and that each and every person is a key component to our success. At some of our sites we have more than 20 nationalities working together. This is a tribute to all the places that we have worked and to our inclusive culture that attracts talent from around the globe. As progressive miners, we generate opportunities for people to develop their careers, train employees to acquire new skills, open doors to women and minorities, and establish internship initiatives. This provides significant incentive to many workers that dream of an international career or of providing a stable income for their families.

As of the end of 2016, our employees totaled 3,934 and employment levels are fairly stable. The only significant challenge. B2Gold has developed a Local Content Performance Standard to promote responsible mining and improve the communities in which we operate. Our goal is to increase the number of local workers employed on site.

Due to the operations being in wide-ranging locations around the world, benefit policies and practices vary to a great extent. This is mainly as a result of different in-country practices, statutory environments, and collective bargaining agreements. However, the following can be positively stated:

- health care, life insurance, disability / invalidity coverage and retirement provisions have been implemented, mostly for permanent employees and as governed by the specific laws, agreements and / or funds in place for the various regions;
- a discretionary stock option program is in place; it needs to be harmonized and structured; and
- parental leave benefits are provided within legal frameworks.

Benefits are reviewed in terms of legislation, collective agreements, and type of employment contracts. Pay policies and access to standard company benefits for temporary or part-time employees are not purely based on the nature of the employment contract, but also on union membership. In some operations, non-permanent employees may also receive standard benefits if they are members of a union.

As indicated by the data, we do well at retaining talent and providing stable employment. We had a total employee turnover rate of 5.3%, with the major reason for separation being the end of fixed-term contracts. The natural attrition rate for permanent employees is 2.6%. Generally speaking, we are able to source more young, skilled labor than what we lose in the market.

Even though only 13% of our total workforce is female, 21% of senior positions are occupied by women. These positions include occupiers of a specialized or professional nature as well as superintendent, middle and senior management positions. During 2017, we will aim to understand whether any employment barriers exist in the workplace prohibiting the employment and advancement of female employees, and also how an increase in female representation can be facilitated and encouraged. Focus areas may include recruitment practices, training and development, and internship programs.

Across all operations, only 7% of the total workforce are expatriate employees, indicating a high level of local employment. In regions with operating mines (i.e. Nicaragua, Philippines, and Namibia) expatriates comprise just 3% of the workforce. Regions where we have exploration or development projects, the expatriate rate is higher – either due to low labor numbers or the need for specialized skills.

With a mining company comes to a region, a leading expectation of government and community stakeholders is opportunities for employment. In many developing countries, the low literacy and skill rates make the fulfillment of these expectations a significant challenge. B2Gold has developed a Local Content Performance Standard to promote the process of employing employment data for this first report, provided the opportunity to analyze to what degree we are delivering employment benefits to people. Collected data covers the period 1 September to 31 December 2016.

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We can now see to what extent our employment statistics are influenced by projects under development which employ a significant number of fixed-term employees as a result of the finite nature of the construction phase. Although overall permanent employment positions are only 57% of total positions, statistics for our operating mines indicate 75% overall are permanent employment positions.

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strategies directed at enhancing local employment and local procurement. We provide many employment opportunities to unskilled individuals. Across all regions, approximately 20% of the total workforce constitutes unskilled employees. Semi-skilled employees form 26% of the total workforce.

Two-thirds of all employees are employed in technical or operational positions, as opposed to administrative or support functions. The demographics of our employees show that approximately two-thirds of the company’s workforce is 30 to 50 years old, with just 10% being over the age of 50.

In Namibia, the successful fast-track construction of Otjikoto was achieved through the involvement of a large Namibian workforce, along with specialized support from Canada, USA, Mexico, Russia, Ghana, Nicaragua, South Africa, and Australia. Many of these Namibians became experts in their various disciplines due to their experience with the Otjikoto construction. They in turn are now “expats” and are transferring their expertise to our Malian workforce at Fekola. In Mali we have a unique opportunity to make a sustainable impact on skills for employment and small business development. See our AFECK case study at the end of this section.
In 2014, the Human Development Index ranked Mali as 187 out of 187 countries. Mali is confronted with skilled human resources issues in all sectors of the economy, which is inhibiting the private sector’s development. In 2010, more than 70% of its population aged between 15 and 24 was not attending school. The education sector suffered severe disturbances during the 2012 crisis6, aggravating the training and employment prospects for young people.

The Fekola Project is located within the Golden Bight of Kenieba, an area in south-west Mali with a strong concentration of mineral exploration licences and several operating mines. However, the Kenieba district is a poorly-developed rural area with high rates of illiteracy, and low participation by the local workforce in the mining industry outside of low-skilled jobs. According to a recent socio-economic survey of the most populated village within the impact area of Fekola, only 23% of men and 15% of women have completed secondary education, with self-reported literacy rates of 36% for men and 20% for women. Low levels of education and skills limit employment opportunities, as well as the ability to develop businesses.

Within this context, BGGold saw the opportunity to invest in the socio-economic development of the region through support for strengthening basic vocational and business skills. The AFECK Project (Adéquation Formation-Emploi dans le Cercle de Keniéba) is co-funded by Global Affairs Canada and B2Gold, and is being implemented by the international development organization CRC Sogema. Objectives of the project include:

□ improved technical and professional skills for Kenieba area residents to meet the needs of the labor market;
□ increased capacity of local small businesses, with a focus on female entrepreneurs, to provide goods and services to the extractive and other sectors; and
□ greater government capacity at the national, regional, and local levels to develop and support vocational skills programs in the extractive sector.

In 2017, training was initiated at the Fekola Project to meet the immediate needs of a resettlement plan for the village of Fadougou. CRC Sogema has developed training plans in the sectors of masonry, welding, electrical work, and carpentry. The courses will be short-term and take four to five weeks to complete.

The project includes a substantial entrepreneurial component, due to the fact that BGGold and other mines in the region have significant supply requirements, including food, services, and manufactured products. Currently, mining companies procure very little within the region itself. Training programs will be developed to encourage the establishment and growth of small businesses, with the goal that a significant number of these businesses will be run by women, and will ultimately service other sectors.

At the end of 2017, a permanent training center will be established in Kenieba to serve the broader area, which is currently the nearest vocational training facility. The project is funded by the Human Development Initiative, and aims to achieve economic and social development through education and capacity building in the local area.

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CASE STUDY: MALI
Vocational and Small Business Training in Kenieba

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In a global context, an estimated 2.3 million people die in the mining industry, and an estimated 313 million non-fatal accidents per year occur, which involves the handling of large volumes of materials, the use of heavy equipment, and potentially hazardous processes. It also has the potential to expose employees and contractors to physical, chemical, and biological health hazards. We believe the mining industry has a responsibility to identify and mitigate health and safety risks in the workplace and we believe it is possible for us to work without serious injuries and illnesses.

In 2016, there were no fatalities at our operations and we have made efforts to improve our safety culture and performance, establishing additional safety procedures and controls and implementing improvements identified through our internal audit program of our health, safety, and environmental management systems – as part of our commitment to continuous improvement in health and safety performance. We achieved 365 days without an LT1 at Masbate and over two million man-hours without an LT1 at our Dikolo operation. However, the LT1 Frequency Rate at La Libertad and El Limon edged upwards. This emphasises that we must remain diligent as we work to reach our goal of everyone going home safe and healthy every day.

Beyond protecting human health, we believe that effective health and safety management also enhances production and reduces costs. Occupational Health and Performance Standards are based on international standards including compliance with in-country regulations, design of facilities, construction and operating procedures, and Performance Standards and internal best practices in cases where national regulatory systems are not sufficiently stringent. These management systems enable us to optimize our production and avoid potential injuries, accidents, property damage and operational disruption.

We implement the HSE management systems and manage performance with dedicated HSE committees across the corporate and site levels. In addition, we have in place a HSE Steering Committee which is made up of several members of the Board and our Executive Management team. This Committee assists the Board in overseeing our health, safety, environmental and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies and programs, and our health, safety, environmental and CSR performance.

Our DHS Policy defines our corporate commitment to protecting our workers and to ensure that management holds our employees and contractors accountable for their health and safety performance. In 2015, our DHS Policy was updated to include our belief that work place injuries and illnesses are preventable, that health and safety considerations are integral and compatible with all other management functions, and that effective health and safety management enhances production and costs. Our OHS Policy defines our corporate commitment to continuous improvement in health and safety – as part of our performance, establishing additional safety processes and叁員s our responsibility to identify and mitigate health and safety risks in the workplace and we believe it is possible for us to work without serious injuries and illnesses. B2Gold recognizes Safety is a core value for us and nothing is more important than the health and safety of our people. B2Gold’s Golden Rules for Safety have been in place since 2013. These rules are focused on basic safety activities and behaviors and apply to all our sites. These rules must be followed by everyone on site. Simply, everyday decisions that impact safety will result in either safe or unsafe outcomes. The fundamental rule is: any action we perform on or around our site in 2016. We evaluated the number of workers with occupational illness. Higher exposure risks or illnesses is focused on workers with higher exposure risk or higher incidence of occupational illness.

In 2016, we performed a comprehensive occupational health survey at our Dikolo operation and began work to implement comprehensive exposure monitoring programs. We plan to use these findings as a basis for an additional survey at El Limon in 2017. In 2016, we evaluated the number of workers with higher occupational exposure risk or higher incidence of occupational illness. Higher exposure risks or illnesses were identified relating to noise induced hearing loss.
in 2017, we plan to enhance our occupational health and hygiene risk assessments, monitoring, and exposure controls to protect the long-term health of employees. We also plan to develop indicators for occupational health and hygiene reporting and incorporate these indicators into health and safety performance reporting.

Safety Performance

In 2016, there were no fatalities at our operations and we continued to build on our efforts to improve safety performance, especially in respiratory disease, establishing additional safety processes and controls and implementing improvements identified through our internal audit program of our HSE management systems as part of our commitment to continuous improvement in health and safety performance.

On 12 October 2016, Masbate completed 365 days and over six million man-hours without an LTI. That performance continued and the Masbate operation completed 2016 without an LTI. This is a considerable achievement, particularly due to the fact that in 2016 there was significant construction activity on site including expansion of the plant, several critical shutdowns and contractor activity, and the mine moved deeper into the main mining areas.

In addition, our Otjikoto operation achieved over two million man-hours without an LTI and only two LTIs were reported for the year. This accomplishment, as well as the performance at Masbate, were possible only through the dedication to safe production of our employees and contractors at every level of our operations.

The LTI Frequency Rate at La Libertad and El Limon increased in 2016 by 32% and 18% respectively. Our La Libertad and El Limon operations experience a higher number of LTIs for a variety of reasons, one being higher risks associated with underground mining. We will evaluate the causes of these increases in LTI Frequency Rate and additional controls will be implemented in 2017 to reduce the number of injuries to our employees and contractors.

Safety Performance Indicators

We also plan to develop indicators for occupational health and hygiene reporting and incorporate these indicators into health and safety performance reporting.

RISING THE BAR

respiratory disease (dust and heavy metals exposure), musculoskeletal disorders, and thermal-induced illness and skin disease. In 2017, we plan to enhance our occupational health and hygiene risk assessments, monitoring, and exposure controls to protect the long-term health of employees. We also plan to develop indicators for occupational health and hygiene reporting and incorporate these indicators into health and safety performance reporting.

Safety Performance

In 2016, there were no fatalities at our operations and we continued to build on our efforts to improve safety performance, especially in respiratory disease, establishing additional safety processes and controls and implementing improvements identified through our internal audit program of our HSE management systems as part of our commitment to continuous improvement in health and safety performance.

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OUR COMMUNITIES

COVERED IN THIS SECTION:

General Standard Disclosures

□ DNA
□ G4-1
□ G4-24
□ G4-25
□ G4-26
□ G4-27

□ SO1
□ SO2
□ SO11
□ HR1
□ HR2
□ HR4
□ MM
□ MMR
□ MINT

FEKOLA | MALI
Companies can contribute to positive social and economic development when they involve stakeholders, such as local communities, in their planning and decision-making. This is particularly true in the extractive sector, which is associated with extensive social, economic, and environmental impacts. Engaging with stakeholders also makes good business sense in that it can contribute to attaining and protecting a social license to operate, avoiding reputational risks and costs, avoiding the costs of conflict arising from grievances, improving corporate risk profile, and attracting and retaining employees.

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B2Gold is committed to engaging openly and respectfully with stakeholders in order to build constructive and responsive relationships. We consider stakeholder views in our operations and decision-making, and apply both formal and informal methods to ensure this happens effectively.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Companies can contribute to positive social and economic development when they involve stakeholders, such as local communities, in their planning and decision-making. This is particularly true in the extractive sector, which is associated with extensive social, economic, and environmental impacts. Engaging with stakeholders also makes good business sense in that it can contribute to attaining and protecting a social license to operate, avoiding reputational risks and costs, avoiding the costs of conflict arising from grievances, improving corporate risk profile, and attracting and retaining employees — particularly in the context of recurring skills shortages.

B2Gold is committed to engaging openly and respectfully with stakeholders in order to build constructive and responsive relationships. We consider stakeholder views in our operations and decision-making, and apply both formal and informal methods to ensure this happens effectively.

To ensure that we are able to respect community stakeholder interests, we follow comprehensive Responsibility Performance Standards that align with IFC and ICMM standards. The IFC standards are the most recognised, quoted and referred to for Social Performance. The requirements of our Social Performance Standards apply to all stages of our activities, from exploration through to closure, and to all interactions between stakeholders and our staff or sub-contractors. The B2Gold Board has additional oversight of our social performance through the HSESS Committee.

Each of our regions creates Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEPs) that describe how, when, and where engagement will occur. Our SEPs are reviewed and adapted and analyzes our stakeholders to determine material issues, establish objectives, and share information, listen, and respond to stakeholders. Our planning process identifies sensitive issues and reduce or remove social risks.

Impact assessment to ensure that detailed mitigation plans are in place to address resettlement of Fadougou Village near our Fekola Project, B2Gold conducts a specific adverse impacts.

When there is the potential for a distinct adverse impact, as in the recommendation for resettlement of Fabulous Village near our Fabulous Project, B2Gold conducts a specific impact assessment to ensure that detailed mitigation plans are in place to address sensitive issues and reduce or remove social risks.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Community development is often described as the process or set of activities that allows members of a community to work together to improve the conditions for economic and social progress. It is considered sustainable when a community is strengthened as part of the process and plays a leading role in their own community’s development. Mining companies and mining projects can play a role in this process by acting as a catalyst or facilitator for social and economic opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder Groups Addressed in Country-specific Stakeholder Engagement Plans</th>
<th>Nicaragua</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
<th>Namibia</th>
<th>Mali</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighboring Village/Town Residents</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Providers/Contractors</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local and Regional Government</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Minerals</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighboring Mines/Industries</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unions</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Conservation Organizations and Researchers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Concessions for Wildlife Protections</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations and NGOs</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Chambers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Chambers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Chambers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Wildlife Authorities</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism Establishments and Operators</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Businesses</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools, Education and Training Institutes</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artisanal Mines</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unions</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our approaches to engagement are not always effective and we sometimes learn this after tensions rise or issues emerge. Our periodic evaluations allow us to alter our approaches to align with our stakeholder responses.

A notable challenge to engagement occurs when significant in-migration takes place at any one of our sites. The host community can be overwhelmed by this change of social dynamics. When this happens extra-ordinary approaches are developed in collaboration with local authorities and community leaders. We often are recognized by local authorities for helping to support their traditional ways of life and preserving social capital.

Communities closest to our mining sites are most likely impacted by our presence. While these community stakeholders often are prioritized in our considerations, we also identify and engage with stakeholders at local, regional and national levels.

Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) are part of the mine project planning and permitting process. As operations advance, we follow up our assessment by conducting socio-economic studies to further evaluate any actual or potential social impacts on community stakeholders by our operations. All of our sites have either EISA or socio-economic impact assessments available to help us address and mitigate adverse impacts.

When there is the potential for a distinct adverse impact, as in the recommendation for resettlement of Fabulous Village near our Fabulous Project, B2Gold conducts a specific impact assessment to ensure that detailed mitigation plans are in place to address sensitive issues and reduce or remove social risks.
B2Gold invests in community programs and initiatives at all of our operations and often at all stages of our activities – beginning as soon as we put boots on the ground. Our Community Investment Performance Standard defines how we will meet our commitment to make meaningful, positive and sustainable contributions to the communities where we operate.

Our approach aims to include community stakeholder participation in the generation of community development plans. In some regions this is easily achievable. In Mali, from the outset, we worked with stakeholders to establish community consultation committees and combined their input with socio-economic studies to prioritize the social needs. We are leveraging other initiatives (e.g. the AFECK Project, and the resettlement livelihood restoration plans for Fadougou) into our community development strategies. Even though the Fekola project is still in development, in 2016 we invested in the social preparation needed for strengthening the community to take a role in their own development.

In other regions, we adopted some alternative approaches for community-led development. In Namibia, we work through a CSR Steering Committee which invites proposals from all levels of stakeholders throughout Namibia. Community ideas are encouraged within the aspects of education, health, livelihoods, and environmental conservation.

A notable achievement in 2016 was the leadership role taken by B2Gold in setting up the Namibian Chamber of Environment (NCE), which has an over-arching mandate to look after the interests of Namibian environmental NGOs and other non-state organizations that are working to promote conservation, good environmental management, and sustainable development. It is a membership organization open to any environmental organization, professional, or interested individual. The Namibian government has welcomed this initiative.

In the Philippines, the government requires mining companies to follow a structured Social Development and Management Program (SDMP). Our community investment projects are developed under this framework and follow their reporting and assessment guidelines.

B2Gold recognizes that our expertise is in mining, so we work with local and international NGOs to bring appropriate and proven approaches to development to our host communities.

Women’s involvement is secured through bilateral meetings in our workplace, community assemblies and through low-key gatherings – depending on what is most appropriate for the cultural setting in which we are working. Women can sometimes be more adversely impacted by a change in social and economic context brought on by a mining project. Community initiatives are currently focused on livelihood projects in collaboration with women’s associations, as well as education and employment support for rural villagers. Overall, we still confront challenges in delivering positive impacts directly to women. Diversity and gender considerations remain an area for improvement for us.

### Table 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operations</th>
<th>Hazardous Substances</th>
<th>Environmental Dust, Noise</th>
<th>Employment Benefits</th>
<th>Land Acquisition, Resettlement</th>
<th>Socio-economic, Cultural, Livelihoods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Limon(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Libertad(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Domingo(3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masbate(4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fekola(5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menankoto</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otjikoto</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES
(1) Direct proximity to community
(2) 6 km from community
(3) 0.5 km from community
(4) Mining operations contiguous with communities
(5) 60 km and 116 km from several communities
(6) 3.5 km from community
(7) ~5 km from communities

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GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT

A large scale activity, like mining, will inevitably generate concerns within a neighboring community. Even when excellent stakeholder engagement occurs and best practice performance standards are followed, real and perceived issues can occur. Concerns can be expressed informally or formally and, when not addressed, will often escalate.

Our Community Grievance Management Performance Standard defines the requirements to have a mechanism to receive, investigate and respond to grievances from neighboring communities, with the goal of managing and mitigating impacts in a timely, respectful, and locally appropriate manner. The Standard aligns with the guidelines from IFC and IOM and the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights.

All B2Gold sites have implemented grievance mechanisms that report on issues by type, severity, resolution time, and acceptance. We recognize that if a complaint is left unaddressed, it can escalate to a conflict – which should be avoidable. In 2016, we reviewed and improved the effectiveness of each mechanism in Nicaragua and the Philippines in response to historical community concerns. A fresh communication process with employees and community members was achieved.

The grievance process has proven effective with sensitive activities like resettlement in Nicaragua and Mali. In the Philippines, we continue to face challenges internally with ensuring cross-functional management of grievances, timely resolution and mitigation actions. In 2017, we will be implementing a company-wide technology solution to make grievance management more effective – internally we will have increased analysts and easier collaboration; externally we will improve feedback to community stakeholders. Most of the issues in Nicaragua and the Philippines relate to regular complaints about dust and vibration from blasting, as well as longstanding complaints regarding impacts on livelihoods.

In 2016, grievances at our Namibian operations mostly related to neighboring commercial farmers who had groundwater and dust concerns during an excessive drought period in the region. The limited number of grievances at Otjikoto overall is likely related to its remote location and limited numbers of stakeholders in the direct area of impact. At all sites, but in Mali in particular, the limited number of grievances at our Namibian operations mostly related to neighboring commercial farmers who had groundwater and dust concerns during an excessive drought period in the region.

In 2016, our community relations and human resource departments periodically review human rights considerations in order to respond to changing situations.

Human Rights

In meeting our responsibility to respect human rights, we will:
- promote and support human rights awareness, when appropriate or possible;
- assess and treat human rights risks with the same diligence as we do legal and business risks; and
- pay particular attention to human rights impacts on vulnerable groups who may be at heightened risk;

In 2017, we reviewed and improved the grievance mechanisms, and timely resolution and mitigation actions. In 2017, we will implement a company-wide technology solution to make grievance management more effective – internally we will have increased analysts and easier collaboration; externally we will improve feedback to community stakeholders. Most of the issues in Nicaragua and the Philippines relate to regular complaints about dust and vibration from blasting, as well as longstanding complaints regarding impacts on livelihoods.

TABLE 14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Filed 2016</th>
<th>Addressed 2016</th>
<th>Resolved 2016</th>
<th>Filed Prior and Resolved in 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>n/r</td>
<td>n/r</td>
<td>n/r</td>
<td>n/r</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to a lack of childcare centers and public parks in the community of Otjiwarongo (close to the Otjikoto Mine), some children end up using a local waste dump as a playground.
As part of our Human Rights Management Strategy to be implemented in 2017, we will deliver customized human rights and security training that will ultimately reach all employees, management, and corporate executives.

As of 2016, limited human rights training has been executed within the company. In the Philippines, 4 direct security employees, 400 security contractor employees and 157 armed forces were trained in security and human rights awareness. Total training hours delivered was approximately 1,122 (i.e. 2 hours per person).

The most effective way we can influence human rights performance is through training. Examples are agreements with security forces or services, agreements and expected protocol through its supply and service providers. Integrating human rights screening or defining human rights performance expectations can be part of an awareness building strategy.

Extending Human Rights Awareness through Agreements and Training

One way to integrate human rights considerations into a company’s business decisions is to extend human rights standards into its supply chain. A company can raise awareness and communicate expectations regarding aspects of human rights and security risks and expected protocol through its supply and service providers. Integrating human rights screening or defining human rights performance expectations can be part of an awareness building strategy.

Although B2Gold does not yet have a consistent approach, regions have begun to take the following actions: 

- B2Gold’s DRC operations have been training their security personnel in human rights awareness.
- In Nicaragua, B2Gold complies with the national labor law with regards to freedom of association. B2Gold upholds these principles within our management of labor relations.
- Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining

In Nicaragua, B2Gold complies with the national labor law with regards to freedom of association. There are currently four established unions in our Nicaraguan operations or within significant service suppliers – all of which are considered during workers’ collective agreement negotiations and evaluations. Historical conflict with our unions at El Limon and La Libertad in Nicaragua and Otjikoto in Namibia. Approximately 90% of staff in these regions are covered by collective agreements.

In 2016, limited human rights training has been executed within the company. In the Philippines, 4 direct security employees, 400 security contractor employees and 157 armed forces were trained in security and human rights awareness. Total training hours delivered was approximately 1,122 (i.e. 2 hours per person).
During the initial feasibility and the impact assessment phase of the Fekola project all risks were assessed – including an analysis of security risks of the region and the project. As part of this risk assessment, action and mitigation plans were put in place. A security manager for West Africa continues to conduct ongoing risk assessments including the development of policy and procedures. In late 2016, as part of our human rights impact scoping activity, we considered human rights and security issues and will be implementing our initiatives in Mali in 2017. The extent to which we directly employ versus outsource security personnel varies in each region according to the security risk scenario. Nicaragua outsources security entirely to a third-party contractor (employs 231 people). Our Philippine in-house security department of four works with a total of 400 third-party security personnel supported by a further 157-strong detachment from the armed forces. Namibia’s direct security team of 47 has not yet received training in the Voluntary Principles. There is no security personnel directly employed in the Philippines. Mali directly employs 72 security personnel that are supported by the gendarme forces of Mali. As of 2016 there has been no training in the Voluntary Principles for Malian security personnel. The extent to which we directly employ versus outsource security personnel varies in each region according to the security risk scenario. Nicaragua outsources security entirely to a third-party contractor (employs 231 people). Our Philippine in-house security department of four works with a total of 400 third-party security personnel supported by a further 157-strong detachment from the armed forces. Namibia’s direct security team of 47 has not yet received training in the Voluntary Principles. There is no security personnel directly employed in the Philippines. Mali directly employs 72 security personnel that are supported by the gendarme forces of Mali. As of 2016 there has been no training in the Voluntary Principles for Malian security personnel.

ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING (ASM)

ASM refers to informal mining activities carried out using artisanal methods or with minimal machinery. It is estimated that more than 100 million people rely on ASM for their livelihoods, mainly in developing regions. At this scale, it is recognized that ASM is a livelihood that contributes socially and economically for many countries. In some regions, ASM takes place alongside large-scale formal mining leading to conflicts. As part of this risk assessment, action and mitigation plans were put in place.

Nicaragua, the Philippines and Mali all have a long history of ASM activity. ASM takes place nearby and alongside our La Libertad and Santo Domingo operations in Nicaragua; our Masbate Mine in the Philippines, our Fekola Project in Mali, and in several exploration projects in each of those countries. Their close proximity can lead to conflicts and sometimes poses risks for our operations. The fact that ASM mostly occurs outside of the regulatory frameworks can make addressing those risks somewhat complex. The extent to which we directly employ versus outsource security personnel varies in each region according to the security risk scenario. Nicaragua outsources security entirely to a third-party contractor (employs 231 people). Our Philippine in-house security department of four works with a total of 400 third-party security personnel supported by a further 157-strong detachment from the armed forces. Namibia’s direct security team of 47 has not yet received training in the Voluntary Principles. There is no third-party security force associated with our Otjikoto operations. Mali directly employs 72 security personnel that are supported by the gendarme forces of Mali. As of 2016 there has been no training in the Voluntary Principles for Malian security personnel.

Our strategic approach to ASM is to seek and maintain a peaceful co-existence. With this in mind, we are guided by our ASM Performance Standard that outlines how we will manage relations and interactions with ASM actors with the objectives of protecting our people and property, maintaining our license to operate, and supporting wider community benefits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>ASM Risks</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Social conflict</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement to facilitate co-existence strategies and minimise conflicts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Threat to operations</td>
<td>Support for alternative livelihoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Impact on livelihoods</td>
<td>ASM-specific risk assessment and strategic plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Influx into industrial mining areas</td>
<td>Baseline survey, registration and monitoring to control influx of new ASM actors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Resistance to relocation</td>
<td>Identification of new work areas for organised ASM with the approval and oversight from the Ministry of Mines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Alternative ore processing solutions not sustainable</td>
<td>Support for alternative processing solutions (mercury-free processing plants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>ASM-generated risks: health, safety, environmental impact, child labor, livelihoods</td>
<td>Health and safety capacity development plan and affordable access to safety equipment for ASMs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Resistance to awareness of ASM risks with government authorities (Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Environment) and community leaders</td>
<td>Access to safety equipment for ASMs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Compensation expectations</td>
<td>Negotiation and acceptance of compensation framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Security issues (e.g. theft, property damage)</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Access to safety equipment for ASMs</td>
<td>Safety and security procedures</td>
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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>ASM Risks</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Social conflict</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement to facilitate co-existence strategies and minimise conflicts</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
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<td>Support for alternative processing solutions (mercury-free processing plants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
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<td>Health and safety capacity development plan and affordable access to safety equipment for ASMs</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Resistance to awareness of ASM risks with government authorities (Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Environment) and community leaders</td>
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<td>Security issues (e.g. theft, property damage)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Access to safety equipment for ASMs</td>
<td>Safety and security procedures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some mining projects involve land acquisition or restrictions on land use that can have adverse impacts on communities and people that use the land. Resettlement refers to either the physical displacement or economic displacement (loss of access to assets, impact on income sources or livelihoods) as a result of project-related land requirements. Unless carefully managed, resettlement may result in impoverishment for the affected community and its inhabitants. Conversely, a well-planned and participatory resettlement process can offer an opportunity for development and sustainable well-being.

Although we seek to avoid or minimize the need for resettlement, some of B2Gold operations and projects do require resettlement due to either the physical displacement or economic displacement of community members. Our Resettlement Performance Standard ensures that all land access and acquisition activities avoid and minimize involuntary resettlement. Where it is unavoidable, we commit to mitigate any economic or physical displacement by improving or restoring livelihoods and standards of living. The requirements of this standard apply to all stages of our activities – from exploration through to closure. Due to the close proximity of communities to some of our operations in Nicaragua, the Philippines, and Mali, resettlement has been required under careful consideration.

Challenges associated with ASM presence near our operations still occur. When engagement and monitoring of ASM miners lapsed, influx and relationship tensions occurred. Re-engagement and facilitating involvement of authorities has resulted in peaceful outcomes.

Artisanal gold miners near our exploration project in Mali.

A “Chilean mill” processes artisanal miners’ ore in Santo Domingo.

Resettlement

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Jabal Antena (Santo Domingo) NICARAGUA

Resettlement was required in order to progress with the Jabal Antena mining project. Pit design alternatives were adopted in order to reduce the impact of displacement. The Jabali Antena Resettlement Project has not concluded. Negotiations continue for 2017. The main challenge is reaching agreement on joint actions with the government institutions in charge. During the last quarter of 2016, a stakeholder forum was organized in order to sensitize them to their responsibilities in caring for their new properties, and the community could re-establish itself successfully, an alliance was formed between the community and government departments to address the gaps that were identified.

B2Gold facilitates resolution of these grievances through coordination between stakeholders and the government institution in charge. In the last quarter of 2016, a 4P analysis on the resettlement project was carried out in relation to our Resettlement Standard to evaluate the process and compensation framework, and identify possible actions for 2017. The main challenge is reaching agreement on joint actions with the government departments to address the gaps that were identified.

Regular on-site monitoring and house-to-house visits were carried out to identify and address impacts, deliver key messages (e.g. explaining the compensation framework), and provide responses to frequent concerns. Main challenges included the completion of negotiated agreements within the compensation framework and continuing the resettlement process without any social conflict.

Various communities in close proximity to, or contiguous with, our Masbate operations. Several resettlement activities (of varying scale) are occurring with different approaches. For larger scale acquisitions that include significant land use and inter-community conflict. The RAP and ESIA have been approved by authorities. Various communities are in close proximity to, or contiguous with, our Masbate operations. Several resettlement activities (of varying scale) are occurring with different approaches. Smaller scale acquisitions of land are regularly carried out following the municipal standards for compensation. For larger scale acquisitions that include significant displacement, Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) are established and implemented. The implementation of our Resettlement Performance Standard remains a challenge due to the variety of impacts. Engagement with municipal officials and impacted stakeholders continues throughout the land acquisition process.

One of the streets in the Nuevo Jabali resettlement neighborhood in Santo Domingo.
Ribbon-cutting ceremony to inaugurate the new house of a beneficiary of the Nuevo Jabali Resettlement Project; beneficiaries see their new homes for the first time.

Considering the living conditions in Barrio Jabali, B2Gold proposed the Jabali Antena pit limit. Of 46 owners of homes and plots within 100 meters of the mine, 90% of families did not have legal titles to their homes or properties. Beneficiary families have potable water services (24/7), electricity and public lighting, waste water treatment, trash collection, paved streets, bus stops, green areas, a park and soccer field, and sidewalks to the neighboring Barrio José Bregeón. In addition, beneficiaries receive legal title to their homes and plots, duly inscribed in the National Registry of Properties.

Prior to the Jabali Antena Resettlement Project in Santo Domingo, the beneficiary families lived in precarious conditions: "My son (Giovanni Cienfuegos) has been handicapped since birth. When he wanted to leave the barrio (Jabali), he would have to drag himself along the bad roads. When it rained, the situation was worse. It was very dangerous, and it would have to walk back to his house. But now, we can arrive at the barrio. We do not have to drag ourselves along."

"I am very happy. This is a dream come true. Where I lived before I didn't have electricity or water, so here I feel pleased to hear so many comforts I didn't have before."

"I feel very pleased because my clothing business is growing. I've built a porch. I have my display cases, and shelves, thanks to the support that B2Gold has provided." EMELANIA URIBA, resettlement project beneficiary and owner of a clothing and miscellanea store.

PROSPERING IN NUEVO JABALI

As part of the process to improve the living conditions of beneficiary families in Nuevo Jabali, B2Gold implemented the Livelihood Restitution Program. Through this program, we are promoting the creation of successful business initiatives in this urban development.

A VOLTARNO, transparent and informed process

Considering the living conditions in Barris Jabali, B2Gold proposed a resettlement project to benefit the families of 46 owners of homes and plots within 100 meters of the proposed Jabali Antena pit limit.

"This is Jabali Antena resettlement project in Santo Domingo. For our successful work on the Jabali Antena resettlement project, B2Gold applies the highest international social performance standards in a transparent, voluntary and informed process with the beneficiary families' full participation, we have set a precedent in Nicaragua: we are the first mining company to directly execute a resettlement project.

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Promising a fair and equitable compensation framework (one asset computed per family). Nevertheless, in most cases, the benefits provided to each family surpassed what was stipulated in the corresponding compensation package.

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TABLE 19
Specific Standard Disclosures

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TABLE 18
General Standard Disclosures

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