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THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION SUPPORTS MINERS' REGISTRATION PROJECT IN DRC

PROMINES & DDI PROJECT SEEKS TO REGISTER MINERS, FORMALIZE SECTOR

The **Diamond Development Initiative (DDI)** is pleased to announce a grant from **The Tiffany & Co. Foundation** in support of its Registration project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

PROMINES, an agency of the Congolese Government supported by the **World Bank**, is working with DDI to design and implement a registration project in areas where gold, tin, tantalum and tungsten are artisanally mined. Registration contributes to formalization of the mining sector and is necessary to enable governments to put systems in place that regulate activities and protect miners.

"Unregistered miners are vulnerable to exploitation. Obtaining legal status through registration enables artisanal miners to contribute to the sustainable development of their communities, and ultimately, their country," said **Dorothee Gizenga**, DDI's Executive Director.

The Tiffany & Co. Foundation supports responsible mining through remediation, land preservation and standards-setting efforts. The Foundation has supported DDI's work since its inception and is its largest non-governmental funder to date. **Anisa Kamadoli Costa**, the Foundation's Chairman and President said: "In order for the mining sector in the DRC to improve, a focus on artisanal mining is critical. Formalizing the sector has the potential to lead to economic development and can bolster the country's efforts to rebuild. The Tiffany & Co. Foundation has supported DDI since its founding and believes it has the ability to effect real change in the industry through its on-the-ground expertise."

Ian Smillie, development expert and Chair of the DDI Board of Directors spoke to the longer term implications of this project: "DDI's work is beginning to show that long-term systemic change in artisanal mining areas is not just desirable, it is possible, replicable and sustainable. We are delighted that The Tiffany & Co. Foundation has joined hands with us and our partners on this important effort in DRC."

DDI aims to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development through education, policy, dialogue and projects working directly with artisanal miners and their communities.

The Tiffany & Co. Foundation was established in 2000 to focus the company's philanthropic endeavors. Through its three environment programs, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation seeks to preserve the world's most treasured landscapes and seascapes.

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