



As part of British Gas' local economic development program in Tunisia, local women learnt about sewing and pastry making

Cardno Emerging Markets Private Clients Update

Welcome to the first edition of our regional update.

About us

The Private Clients practice draws on Cardno's extensive experience with development programs and applies this to private sector investments in developing countries and Australia. Our clients are mainly mining, oil and gas companies looking to maintain a social licence to operate. The companies aim to create positive opportunities for local communities and minimise negative social and environmental impacts in and around investment sites. We are a global practice with staff currently based in Melbourne, Washington, Jakarta, Lima, Mozambique and Port Moresby servicing multi-national companies.

Recent activities

Often our assignments are confidential and market-sensitive. To give you a sense of our work, below is a short overview of some of our activities:

British Gas Tunisia

British Gas in Tunisia experienced some discontent among the communities surrounding its operations when the construction phase of a gas project finished, resulting in the end of temporary employment for a large number of local workers. Taking up the challenge to leave a positive long-term impact on the surrounding communities, BG engaged Cardno to assist in the creation of a local economic development program. This program is working with the company's local community liaison team to launch both a microfinance program principally to support agricultural entrepreneurs and small family businesses for local residents, and a vocational educational training program for men and women in the areas surrounding the gas plant. The program is linking men and women with existing training centres and establishing new women's training centre focused on traditional pastry making and sewing.

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Mega Uranium Australia

Mega Uranium's Lake Maitland project in outback Western Australia is likely to be the state's first uranium mine, attracting intense public scrutiny. Cardno was engaged to develop a framework for commercial arrangements between Mega, the

government and the local indigenous community. Four areas were explored: education and training, employment, enterprises and health. We presented practical options to ensure a high level of indigenous participation in the workforce and supply chains.

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OECD Partnership for Democratic Governance

The OECD engaged us to research 'Private Sector Support for Local Capacity Development in Post-Conflict and Fragile Situations.' The research was presented at the OECD headquarters in Paris and is expected to feed into deliberations on contracting out certain functions in post-conflict and fragile states to the private sector. Drawing on interviews with our private sector clients and a broad literature review, we found that companies direct significant funds at capacity development to support their operations. Fragility is not necessarily a deterrent to investment. It does however inform the scale and type of capacity development required to support business investment. Several detailed case studies were offered to the OECD for consideration.

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Upcoming Activities

We recently won a contract with Gryphon Minerals to conduct a socio-economic and environmental baseline assessment and develop a social management plan for the Banfora Gold Project in Burkina Faso. The project is at the pre-feasibility stage of development and is being co-financed by the IFC. The assignment will involve adherence to IFC Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability.

We are pursuing an opportunity in Africa to implement a health program covering primary healthcare interventions, behaviour change communication and strengthening health delivery systems.

We recently submitted a proposal to Ok Tedi's PNG Sustainable Development Program to investigate options for the mining town of Tabubil post mine closure. Nine areas are to be studied: Settlements, Health, Education, Governance, Security Law and Order, Utilities, Transport, Commercial Activities and Urban Planning.

We are exploring social investment work with the gas industry in Queensland.

Contact us

Cardno's Private Clients practice is an exciting new business line and can draw on the wider technical skills of the Cardno group. We are growing rapidly by using our networks and delivering high-quality services. If you hear of any leads or have any suggestions about people with whom we should meet, please contact us.

Our business model draws on internal capability. We regularly seek community consultation specialists, environmental scientists, health professionals, cultural heritage experts, business developers, economists and a range of other professionals to contribute to our assignments. The work is interesting, challenging and rewarding. If you are interested in participating in our consulting opportunities, please contact us through your local management.



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