



Due diligence in Morocco, Nicaragua, Mali & Burkina Faso



Dr. William Kennedy, one of Prizma's Senior Advisors based in Montreal, has been supporting the Environment and Social Assessment Division of the US Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) over the past

year. His duties involve carrying out environmental due diligence on the 'compacts' which the MCC has established with a number of developing countries including Morocco, Nicaragua, Mali, Burkina Faso and Moldova. The picture of Bill included here was taken in the Medina of Fez, Morocco where MCC will support the design and reconstruction of a number of historic sites as part of its five-year, \$697.5 million grant to reduce poverty and increase economic growth in the country. Other projects include a fruit tree productivity project which will reha-

bilitate 135,000 acres of olive trees and expand production to a further 300,000 acres of olive, almond and fig trees. A small scale fisheries project will construct up to 20 landing sites along both coasts of the country to construct or upgrade fishery facilities in 13 major ports and build or re-build up to 6 modern wholesale markets in selected cities. As with all MCC funded activities, these projects are subject to MCC's Environment and Social Guidelines which are based on those of the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions.

Completing Gold Reserve's First Sustainability Report

Mehrdad Nazari, Prizma's Senior ESIA and CSR Advisor, completed Gold Reserve Inc's (GRI) first Sustainability Report. This marks also the first Sustainability Report by a Canadian exploration and development company using the Global Reporting Initiative's sustainability reporting framework and its pilot Min-

ing and Metals Sector Supplement. The report focuses on GRI's Brisas Project in Venezuela and covers key issues associated with its location in a designated mining district in the Imataca Forest Reserve, efforts underpinning its broad community support, strategic partnerships involving Conservation International, and chal-

lenges associated with artisanal and small-scale mining activities. Previously, Prizma also assisted GRI with the development of its ESIA designed to meet the Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards. Copies of Gold Reserve's Sustainability Report are available upon [request](#).

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ASM, Voluntary Principles and Human Rights



Karen Hayes, Extractive Industry Director at Pact, DRC, and a member of the Advisory Groups of CASM and the Diamond Development Initiative

Operating in post-conflict regions and dealing with artisanal and small-scale mining are formidable challenges associated with some mining projects and result in considerable reputational risks relating to human rights issues. However, ASM also provides constructive intervention and collaboration opportunities which will be discussed during a one-day short course on the IFC Performance Standards and Equator Principles, on 04

Dec 08, in London. This course will be hosted by [LEAD International](#), a non-profit organization headquartered in London featuring Member Programs in Africa, Brazil, Canada, China, CIS, Europe, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan and the USA. Course presenters include Karen Hayes, Extractive Industry Director at Pact, DRC. Karen is also a member of the Advisory Groups of the CASM project of the World Bank

and the Diamond Development Initiative. Karen will be joined by Mehrdad Nazari, Prizma's Senior ESIA and CSR Advisor and Vice President of [LEAD Canada](#). Previously, he was Principal Environmental Specialist at the European Bank, CSR Research Director at CoreRatings (now Innovest, DNV) and Project Manager with Dames & Moore (now URS). Please [email us](#) to request course brochure for further details.

Congo Project Review & Assisting ICMM, EBRD & IFC



Dr Martin Birley is a leading global expert in the field of health impact assessment

Dr Martin Birley, a Prizma Associate, has recently completed a peer review on a Health Impact Assessment for a large copper mining project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

He is also assisting the International Council for Mining and Metals (ICMM), a CEO-led organization representing many of the world's leading

mining and metals companies as well as regional, national and commodity associations, with the production of a guide to Health Impact Assessment. This work is being conducted in association with the Institute for Occupational Health Management.

Following EBRD's board approval of its new Environmental and Social Perform-

ance Requirements (see page 3), Dr Birley is now assisting them with capacity building associated with the Community Health, Safety and Security sections, in association with the World Health Organization.

Dr Birley is also providing peer review to assist IFC with the preparation of additional guidance on Health Impact Assessment.

Managing Stakeholder Relations with MS Dynamics CRM



Gudars Nazari has 15 years of IT & CRM experience

The effective management and reporting needs involved in increasingly complex public consultation, resettlement planning and grievance mechanisms requires the replacement of disjointed data, spreadsheets and tables dispersed uncontrolled across the organization with a more effective system designed around clearly defined busi-

ness processes and decision making requirements. Gudars Nazari, Prizma Senior IT Advisor with 15 years of international experience streamlining business operations in various sectors, conceptualized a system using Microsoft Dynamics CRM. It allows easy dovetailing with other Microsoft products, particularly Outlook, reducing development time and

simplifying data/task/outcome tracking and management. In addition to offering this effective solution, Prizma can also support project developers from initial data acquisition, such as surveys and consultation, through to auditable reporting required by lenders.

Short Courses — Sign up now to secure your seats & discounts

Download detailed course brochure here: www.prizmasolutions.com

IFC Performance Standards and Equator Principles for Extractives

1-day short courses

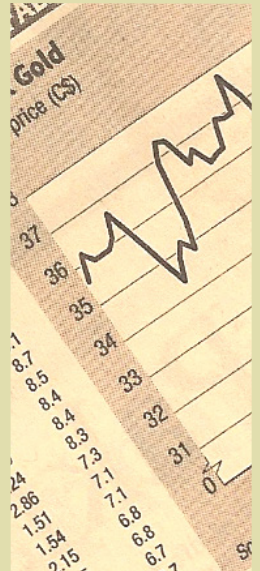
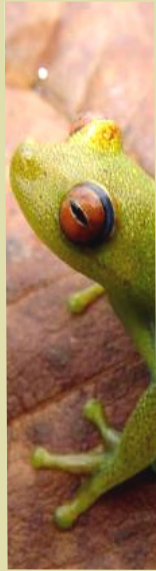
London: 04 Dec 08*

(Mines & Money '08)

Toronto: 28 Feb 09

(PDAC '09)

*Features: Karen Hayes, Pact, DR Congo, on Artisanal Mining, Voluntary Principles on Security & Human Rights

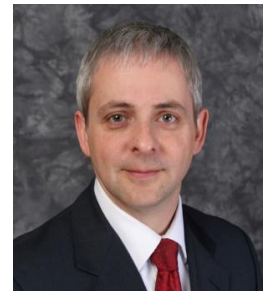


Developing GRI training course for LEAD Canada

Prizma's Mehrdad Nazari was selected by [LEAD Canada Inc](#), a Canadian training partner of the [Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\)](#), to develop a 2-day training course on GRI's sustainability reporting framework. Prizma was also tasked to spearhead the course certification process required by GRI. This process involves a number of formal quality control and support features,

including 'train-the-trainer' workshops and access to online tools. The training program will cover four main learning objectives: (i) introduction and preparation of a GRI reporting process; (ii) stakeholder dialogue and credibility; (iii) defining the report content and monitoring; and (iv) preparing final reporting and its communication. Courses are expected to be

offered by the end of 2008. A course targeting the extractive sector has also been scheduled to coincide with PDAC 09 conference in Toronto, in early March 2009. Please [email us](#) to receive additional information, pre-register for the course or find out about remaining sponsorship opportunities.



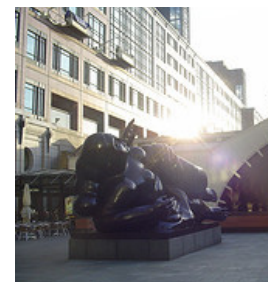
Mehrdad Nazari, Prizma's Director, has 17 years of international experience in ESIA and CSR

European Bank approves new Performance Requirements

On May 12, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) new Environmental and Social Policies were approved by its Board of Directors and will become effective in November 2008. The 2003 Environmental Policy was substantially revised, including in areas such as biodiversity, dis-

closure, public consultation, and land acquisition and resettlement. EBRD's new requirements are largely modeled after the [IFC Performance Standards](#). Notable differences include EBRD's requirements for free, prior and informed 'consent' (instead of 'consultation', the term used by the IFC) of Indigenous Peoples

were projects may result in involuntary resettlement impacts or otherwise affect their cultural resources, and traditional or customary land use. EBRD's new Performance Requirements are available [here](#).



The Fat Lady in front of EBRD's entrance, London

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Our clients retain us to make their projects more bankable, credible and sustainable. They benefit from our insights, experience and relationships gained working in and with financial and multilateral institutions, blue chip corporations, consulting firms and academia. We design, develop, evaluate and troubleshoot environmental and social impact assessments, CSR & sustainability strategy and reporting in line with recognized international benchmarks. These include the Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Equator Principles (EP2), the Performance Requirements of the European Bank (EBRD) and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). Visit our web site, review our experience, request references and contact us to discuss how we can make your projects more bankable, credible and sustainable.

Assurance with AA1000 & GRI's G3

The demand for verification of sustainability (or CR) reports is growing in Asia, as companies realize the benefits of independent assurance. Dr Helena Barton, one of Prizma's Senior Advisors based in Hong Kong, works closely with Det Norske Veritas (DNV) to deliver assurance based on the AA1000 Assurance Standard and the Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI) G3 guidelines. Her assurance work helps companies reap the rewards of verification, not only in providing credibility to the report's content but also in improving the reporting process. For example, a recent assurance en-



gagement for a global food ingredients manufacturer took Helena to factories in China and Europe to understand how the company's commitment to sustainability is implemented on the ground, testing the report's data and statements, and advising the company on how to make the reporting process more efficient and transparent. Other companies whom she has helped DNV deliver assurance to include IT, electronics and engineering companies based in India, Japan and Korea.

Kudos

In September and October 2008, the Canadian Mining Journal and the [Mining Environment Magazine](#) published articles about biodiversity offsets co-authored by Mehrdad Nazari, Senior ESIA & CSR Advisor, Prizma LLC, and Dr. Don Proebstel, VP Environment & Sustainability, Gold reserve

Inc. Previously, Mehrdad spoke about the use of IFC Performance Standards and the Equator Principles as risk benchmarking tools at the 'Mining for Success: Social Risks & Responsible Mining practices' conference held in May 2008 in Panama.

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