

Barrick Statement: Voices from the Ground

Earthworks, Institute for Policy Studies – Global Economy Program, London Mining Network, MiningWatch Canada, Terra Justa, War on Want and Yes to Life No to Mining recently published a report entitled “Voices from the Ground: How the Global Mining Industry is Profiting from the COVID-19 Pandemic”.

Barrick Gold Corporation was approached by the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to provide comment. The Report suggests that Barrick only made Covid-19 donations to various African countries in order to ensure the operations in these countries remained open during this global crisis. This could not be further from the truth.

These allegations are completely untrue. The donations and funds Barrick has provided are to assist the communities, regions/states and countries in which it operates to fight the Covid-19 pandemic. Barrick (through the former Randgold Resources) is no stranger to pandemics and our commitment to our host countries during the Ebola crisis in West Africa and the current crisis in the DRC is no different from this Covid-19 pandemic. As our partners, our communities have and will be supported and assisted through this outbreak with the bulk of this support occurring through in-kind donations.

To date Barrick has provided over \$20 million of support to our employees, host communities and host governments, with much of this being in the form of in-kind (goods and services) donations such as:

- Medical supplies and equipment to community and local clinics:
 - hand sanitizers
 - latex gloves
 - face-masks
 - goggles
 - thermometers
 - cleaning supplies
 - ventilators and oxygen concentrators critical to support of patients
- Mattresses and beds to hospitals
- Offices to hospitals for additional triage capacity
- Isolation facilities
- Community handwashing stations
- Support for the communities’ most vulnerable populations (senior citizens, 10 Native American tribes, homeless, children, those impacted by job loss and in need of assistance) through the provision of food and other daily necessities
- Native American support - Provided over \$200 000 in in-kind support through food relief and supply of essential household supplies
- Supply of Rapid Anti-Body Tests to local clinics and hospitals

Notably in North America we have sought to stimulate the local economies within our communities by donating Chamber Cheques to employees that can only be redeemed at community stores and local service providers. We have also initiated loan funds where local businesses can apply for funding to get up and running after their forced closure due to the virus.

Where financial donations were made to host governments, we engaged thoroughly with them on the specific needs of the countries and regions prior to making the donations. We have also since followed up and assisted our host governments in sourcing the equipment they had identified.

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Its also important to note that, in the case of Senegal, which the report focuses on, Barrick has not had an operating site in that country since the sale of the Massawa project well before the Covid-19 outbreak started. However, such is our partnership philosophy and the fact that Senegal hosted us for many years as we conducted exploration activities, that we reached out at this time of need to support them in their Covid-19 efforts.

In short, what was presented in the “Voices from the Ground” report could not be further from the truth. We have many more factual accounts we can share with you in this regard if required. Finally, it is worth noting that we recognise the communities around our mines and our host countries as key stakeholders in our business and our unconditional support during this global crisis re-emphasises this. For additional information find below a link to our most recent sustainability report which details our group commitment to the environment and stakeholders with a focus on sustainability.

<https://barrick.q4cdn.com/788666289/files/sustainability/Barrick-Sustainability-Report-2019.pdf>