



Australian Government
Australian Trade Commission

Mining to the Philippines.

Trends and opportunities

The market

After a continuous decline in the last decade, the Philippine mining industry is poised to regain its status as a leading producer of minerals, particularly gold, copper, nickel and chromite. The Philippines is one of the most highly mineralised countries in the country with untapped mineral wealth equivalent to US\$840 billion.

Recent legal developments upholding the legitimacy of the Philippine Mining Act and allowing 100 per cent foreign participation in Philippine mining activities have brought back investors into the sector with on-stream investments from both local and mining companies expected to reach US\$3 billion in 2005.

Australian companies are leading the charge with the following Australian companies already active in the Philippines: Lafayette, Indophil, Climax-Arimco, QNI/BHP Billiton Minerals and Red 5. Some of the Australian technology suppliers in the Philippines include: Environmental Systems and Services; Slope Indicator and Boart Longyear.

More Australian companies can be involved in the development of the Philippine mining industry supplying not only to other Australian firms but also to Canadian, US, Filipino and possible Chinese firms as mining projects move into the implementation phase.

Most of the Philippine mining companies are familiar with the capability of Australia in the mining industry and already source their equipment from Australia. An example is Lepanto Mining Corporation, one of the major Philippine mining companies, which purchases more than 50 per cent of its mining equipment requirements from Australia.

Opportunities

Opportunity areas in Philippine's mining industry include:

I. Development and expansion projects:

- ✍ Palawan Nickel by Coral Bay & Rio Tuba
- ✍ Rapu-Rapu Polymetallic Project by Lafayette and LG Collins and KORES
- ✍ Canatuan Gold Project by TVI Pacific of Canada
- ✍ Teresa Gold Project by Lepanto Consolidated Mining
- ✍ Pacdal Expansion Project by Philex Mines in Tuba, Benguet
- ✍ Nonoc Iron Fines Project by Pan Pacific
- ✍ Diwalwal Direct State Utilization Project by Natural Resources Mining Development Corp Phils

II. Some projects with final feasibility study/mine plan design:

- ✍ Adlay-Cagdianao-Tandawa Nickel Project by QNI/BHP Billiton
- ✍ Didipio Copper Project by Climax-Arimco Mining, Australia
- ✍ Aroroy Gold Project by Filminera Resources and Thistle Mining of Canada
- ✍ Siana Gold Project by JCG Resources/Red V Australia
- ✍ Tampakan Copper Project by Sagittarius Mines/Indophil Resources
- ✍ Toledo Copper Project by Alakor Mgt and Toledo Copper of London, England
- ✍ Itogon Gold Project by Itogon-Suyoc Mines, Inc.
- ✍ Pujada Nickel Project by QNI/BHP Billiton

These projects will require:

- ✍ Drill rigs
- ✍ Reduction plants, fans, winders, winches, pies, transformers
- ✍ Underground mining equipment such as, longwall mining system, continuous conveyor haulage, roof bolters, belt

- conveyor system
- ≠ High pressure water spray system
- ≠ Bulldozers, wheel track loaders, backhoes, excavators, paving equipment and trailers
- ≠ Slope indicators and seismic instruments

More information

For further information please contact Austrade on 13 28 78 or email info@austrade.gov.au

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