

MONUSCO - Tenke Fungurume Mining (TFM) Training of Public Security Forces - DRC¹

In the DRC, national law requires the presence of public security around extractive sites. At the same time, although not all public security forces have been trained to perform their duties according to international standards for international human rights and humanitarian law, private companies are not allowed to provide this training themselves.

In 2012, this issue was raised in the framework of the monthly Security and Human Rights meetings in Lubumbashi.² The United Nations Organization Stabilisation Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) was seen as one of the solutions to help address the issue. TFM approached MONUSCO, as one of the participants in the discussion group, and requested a partnership in order to help conduct additional human rights training for public security forces assigned to the TFM concession area. All the participants in the monthly security and human rights meetings have been invited to partner with MONUSCO to assist in the training of the public security used within their respective areas. Since training public security forces is part of MONUSCO's mandate, this was a solution that complied with national law, addressed the challenge and was approved by all parties involved. The first training was held in December 2012.

The training focuses on the rule of law, democracy, use of force, human rights, Voluntary Principles, sexual violence and self-defence. It includes practical role play exercises allowing participants to learn how to react in real-life situations, such as having to confront a violent group. Participants include the mining police, territorial police, representatives of the national intelligence services, the public prosecutor's office, local NGO representatives, as well as TFM employees and contractors.

The training, conducted on the basis of a partnership between MONUSCO and TFM, is an innovative and pragmatic solution to a genuine need. MONUSCO provides specialized trainers, while the company offers food, transportation for training attendants and training facilities on site. Beyond the direct benefits of the training, this approach helps to establish an effective working relationship between TFM and the public security forces assigned to their operations. Through dialogue-based training that introduces security providers to TFM, they become more familiar with the company policies and procedures that they are invited to follow.

1. This case study has been written by DCAF in collaboration with TFM, in the framework of the DCAF-ICRC project 'Addressing Security and Human Rights Challenges in Complex Environments'. See: <http://www.securityhumanrightshub.com/>

2. For more information on the Security and Human Rights meetings, please see the case study 'Monthly Security and Human Rights Meetings - DRC'. Available here: <http://www.securityhumanrightshub.com/content/case-studies>