GUINEAN COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM MINING REVENUES AND CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY BUILDING

As part of its support to Guinean civil society and its provision of technical advice to Guinea’s Ministry of Mines, NRGI advocated the adoption of new subnational mining revenue-sharing mechanisms. The aim was to enable Guinea’s low-income communities in both mining and non-mining areas of the country to sustainably share in the proceeds from mining.

Following elements of NRGI’s recommendations, the Guinean government committed from 2019 to fully implement its previously established contribution to local development (CDL) mechanism to finance the new Local Economic Development Fund. A 2019 NRGI report had recommended ways to improve the implementation of these financial mechanisms for community development and local economic diversification.

NRGI provided training, advice and selected grant funding to Guinean civil society organizations (CSOs), journalists and parliamentarians to strengthen public oversight of the country’s mining revenue flows. A key focus has been to enhance CSO monitoring of mining companies’ legal and contractual obligations and subnational mining-related payments and transfers, including through the use of smartphones in data collection and the production of a guide and videos on citizen monitoring. NRGI has trained more than 200 members of five mining communities to monitor state and company legal and contractual obligations.

With NRGI’s help, under the subnational finance provisions of Guinea’s reformed mining code and via the two local development funds, the country’s 342 municipalities have received mining-related payments totaling USD 42 million since 2019. Mining companies have paid $20 million directly to municipalities where they operate, while the government has disbursed a further $22 million around the country.