

LET'S TALK ASIKHULUME

A QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER FOR THE PEOPLE OF DRDGOLD SA

TIME TO 'DISH UP'



DRDGOLD SA CEO Niel Pretorius talks about making the most of the opportunities that come your way

Just over a year ago, DRDGOLD SA set off on a strategy to take our business from a state of relative instability to stability, and from there, to create a measure of flexibility. We thought that by creating a regionally co-ordinated and stable leadership, and by intelligently sequencing capital expenditure between the operations, these strategic goals could be achieved.

We do not control the gold price, and we are supplied mostly by monopolies. As a result, we are vulnerable to negative variances in these dynamics. Gold is regaining its shine, though, and we must continue to position our business in such a way that we can optimally benefit from this. There is a saying in Afrikaans, "as dit pap reen, moet jy skep" - directly translated, "if it rains porridge, you must dish up". These are favourable times for our industry, with the gold price reaching all time highs, and we owe it to ourselves to make the best of this opportunity. Hopefully, our aggressive capex and consistency in strategy over the last year has positioned each member of the DRDGOLD SA team to do just this – each of you should be holding a ladle in your hand, and dishing up! I am sure that you are, because we are seeing encouraging consistencies coming out of all sectors of our business.

Achieving long term consistency is a journey, not an event, and excellence is a mindset evidenced by spectacular results. In our quest to achieve this, it is time to move on to the next, higher level, and this phase involves each and every man and woman who works for DRDGOLD SA. We need to unlock the wisdom that every person in our organisation possesses. I say this because I believe that the wellbeing of our business is the responsibility of everyone in DRDGOLD SA. There is no job or position that is more important than the next in striving to achieve the goals of our company. There are not levels of employment where you are allowed to think, and others where you are not.

Every man, and every woman must therefore consider, every day, what he or she can do for this machine called DRDGOLD SA to make it run better. It is time to THINK; it is time to DEVELOP. It is time to share with your colleagues your ideas on how to do things better, safer, more cost-effectively. I urge every employee of DRDGOLD SA to make use of the training and development programmes that we have launched or improved upon in the last year. Grasp the opportunity to develop to your full potential, and then use that to make a lasting contribution to the business, to your life and the lives of your families, your co-workers' lives and their families' lives.



New JV looks east

A new joint venture (JV) company, a 50% partnership between Mintails SA and DRDGOLD SA, has been formed to treat significant gold-bearing tailings material acquired from AngloGold Ashanti in the vicinity of ERGO, AngloGold Ashanti's surface reclamation operation on the East Rand which closed in 2004. It is envisaged that the JV's operation (ERGO Mining) will be managed as a fourth business unit of Crown Gold Recoveries (Crown).

The successful construction, commissioning and operation of ERGO Mining may help to extend the life of the Crown and City Deep operations by providing alternative deposition sites.

"ERGO processed more than 890 million tonnes of tailings material in its 25-year history, producing some 8.2 million ounces of gold," says Crown General Manager Henry Gouws. "We're confident that significant potential remains for processing surface gold tailings on the East Rand goldfields. Subject to results of the current drilling and testing evaluation, the first phase of the project – the refurbishment of one carbon-in-leach (CIL) circuit at the old ERGO Brakpan plant – will, we believe, have the capacity to treat some 1.25 million tonnes of tailings per month."

Depending on the outcome of the feasibility study, ERGO Mining could produce its first

gold within 18 months and it is expected that the operation will have a life of at least 10 years. The process will involve the treatment of tailings from the Elsburg Tailings Complex, contributed by DRDGOLD SA to the JV, through a refurbished section of the old ERGO Brakpan plant, acquired by Mintails in 2006. Residue will be deposited on the East Daggafontein deposition site.

(Editor's note: This JV is a separate entity from the JV formed in April (see Asikhulume Issue 5) between DRDGOLD Limited and Mintails SA to explore and evaluate, and possibly mine, gold and uranium in the Western Rand Goldfields in the Roodepoort/Randfontein area).

Kaho ya tshebedisano ya Sehlopha Blyvoor

Thuso ya sehlopha se nang le tswelopele e sebetsang ka katleho e a kenngwa Blyvoor. Sehlopha sa Exco se qadisitse ka ho ba le seshene ya matsatsi a mabedi, e neng e hlophisitswe ke moeletsyi ya ikemetseng, ka Mmesa. Maikemisetso a kopano ena ya ho sebetsa ke ho fetola dihlopha tse lokileng hore di be betere, dihlopha tse sebetsang hantle haholo tse tla sebetsa ka ho ikemisetso ho aha kgokahano le kutlwisiso. "O shebana le tsamaiso e boima ho hlomamisa makgabane a sehlopha le motho ka mong, tseo o ikemiseditseng ho di fihlella le ditebello : ditho tsa sehlopha di tlameha ho ba le botshepehi ba nnete dipakeng tsa bona, mme o ithuta ho amohela ho bontshwa diphoso ho ahang molemong wa sehlopha le mokoti," o realo Mookamedi Kakaretso Collie Russouw. Jwalo ka mohato wa pele phuthullong ya kgopolo ho bohle ba mokoti, kopano e tshwanang ya thuto ya maeneng, e neng e hlophiswa ke Mookamedi wa Human Resources Barry de Blocq, e ile ya tshwarwa ka Phupu.

TEAM-BUILDING AT BLYVOOR



The Blyvoor Exco team – leading the way in team-building

A successful team effectiveness intervention is being introduced at Blyvoor. The Exco team started the ball rolling on 14 and 15 April, with a week-end workshop at the Ngonyama Lodge near Krugersdorp. The session was facilitated by Cape-Town based independent consultant Kevin Godwin. The workshop's objectives are primarily to transform good teams into even better, more effective teams that will actively work at building good communication and understanding between departments and within individual responsibility areas.

"I came across this approach some years ago, and was impressed," says General Manager Collie Russouw. "You go through quite an intensive process to establish the team's core vision and

values, as well as clarifying individual roles, targets and expectations. Team members have to be brutally honest with each other – which sometimes means being resilient enough to accept constructive criticism – in the interests of the team and the mine."

As a first step in rolling out the concept to the rest of the mine, a similar session, facilitated by Human Resources Manager Corporate Services Barry de Blocq, was held for the mining discipline over the week-end of 15 to 17 July. "We went to 'Stonehenge in Africa,' near Parys on the Vaal River," says Barry. "We did have some provincial anglers with us, but we didn't catch any fish: what the delegates did catch was something much more important – how to become a more effective and productive team."

Letters to the Editor

This is your newsletter and we want to hear from you. Letters or questions can be sent to your HR manager.

If you have a question you would like to put to Niel Pretorius, please send it to us. Niel will answer the most interesting question received every quarter.

DRDGOLDSA ▶

Highlights of this issue

- ▶ Uranium at Blyvoor
- ▶ New project at Crown
- ▶ New ounces at ERPM
- ▶ Meet Phillip Tshiloane



Six months' hard work has paid off for ERPm's ABET facilitators. Left to right (back): Busi Mweli, Thozama Ngcakani and Elizabeth Esau. In front: Sikhumbizo Vilakazi.

Leading the fight for literacy

On 11 July, ERPm's team of Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) teachers were recognised for their achievement in completing the ABET facilitator's qualification at the Gold Fields Academy.

Human Resources Manager Buti Biloane presented the group with their certificates at an informal ceremony at ERPm's ABET centre, situated at the regional offices.

Co-ordinator Elizabeth Esau and facilitators Busi Mweli, Thozama

Ngcakani and Sikhumbizo Vilakazi are now all qualified to teach ABET to Level 4; learners who achieve this level can apply to enrol for learnerships in mining, engineering and metallurgy.

Everyone in the group referred to the interest and challenge of working with adults, rather than children in a school environment, and of finding it rewarding to witness the change literacy makes in people's lives.

In Memoriam

With deep regret, we report the death of two employees of DRDGOLD SA in mine-related accidents during the June quarter. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

At Blyvoor, Rock Drill Operator Mojalefa Bernard Semano was injured in a fall of ground on 22 May in the 35=21 Stope No 8 East Panel. He died, as a result of his injuries, on 25 June 2007. Mojalefa, who came from Mafeteng in Lesotho, had joined DRDGOLD SA in March 2007. He was married with three children.

At ERPm, Winch Driver Siyakudumisa Qwetsha was fatally injured in a fall of ground on 4 June at 66 West Pillar, No 3 Gully. Siyakudumisa, who was single and came from the Eastern Cape, had worked for DRDGOLD SA for one year.

Ingxolo ebanga ukulahlekelwa kukuva

Ingxolo ebanga ukulahlekelwa kukuva (i-Noise induced hearing loss) (NIHL), sisifo sasembenzini esibangwa ngumsebenzi esixhaphakileyo kubasebenzi basemgodini, kwaye sesona sifo sinokuthintelwa lula.

Isandi yinxalenye yobomi bemihla ngemihla – esivela kwiiradio neeTV ukwenza umzekelo – kodwa isandi esinobungozi, esiphuzulu okanye esiqhubeka ixesha elide, singenzakalisa iindlebe, sibange i-NIHL. Ukuba phezulu kwesandi kulinganiswa ngemilinganiso ebizwa iidesibele (decibels) (dB(A)), 85 dB(A) zomda osemthethweni ofunekayo kwinkqubo yokhuseleko lokuva emsebenzini.

Izixhobo zokukhusela ukuva kufuneka zinxitywe ngabantu ababekeke kwingxolo engaphezulu kwe-100 dB(A) ixesha elingaphezulu kwemizuzu eli-15. Kubume bemeko yasemgodini, ukuba sesichengeni okunjalo kuqhele ukwenziwa kukuqhekeza ngeebhora zamatye, izivutheli zomoya ezingenabo oomatshini bokuthothisa ingxolo, izixinzeleli (ii-compressor) nezinye izixhobo. Uvavanyo lwezonyango olwenziwa rhoqo neemvavanyo zokuphila kakuhle, kunye nokunxiba izixhobo zokhuseleko xa umntu evuleleke kwizixhobo ezingxolayo, zizezona zilumkiso zibalulekileyo zokunceda ukuphepha i-NIHL.



Prevalent but preventable

Noise induced hearing loss (NIHL) is the commonest occupational disease among mineworkers, but is also easily preventable.

"Everyone – workers, their families, management, equipment designers and health professionals – can make a difference in reducing noise exposure," says Phillip Watters, General Manager: Projects.

Sound – from TVs, radios, cars and household equipment – is an everyday part of life but harmful sound can cause damage to sensitive structures of the inner ear, leading to NIHL. "Hearing loss can be temporary or permanent," says Phillip. "After exposure to a significantly loud noise, like an explosion, people experience some hearing loss, for anything from a few minutes to some hours. Prolonged exposure to excessive noise will permanently damage the ability to hear."

How loud is too loud? "Loudness is measured in units

called decibels (dB(A))," explains Phillip. "A normal conversation is about 60 dB(A), and heavy city traffic noise can reach 85."

In workplaces, 85 dB(A) is the legal limit over which a hearing protection programme is required. Hearing protection devices are recommended when exposure to sounds of 100 dB(A) is longer than 15 minutes: above 110 dB(A), regular exposure of more than one minute, if no hearing protection is used, carries a risk of permanent hearing loss.

Exposure to noise can also have other negative health effects, such as increased stress levels, high blood pressure, fatigue and irritability.

What can you do to avoid NIHL? "Everyone should understand the hazards involved, both in the workplace and in everyday life," says Phillip. "Regular medical examinations and health tests are important; ensure your family, friends and colleagues are aware of the hazards of excessive

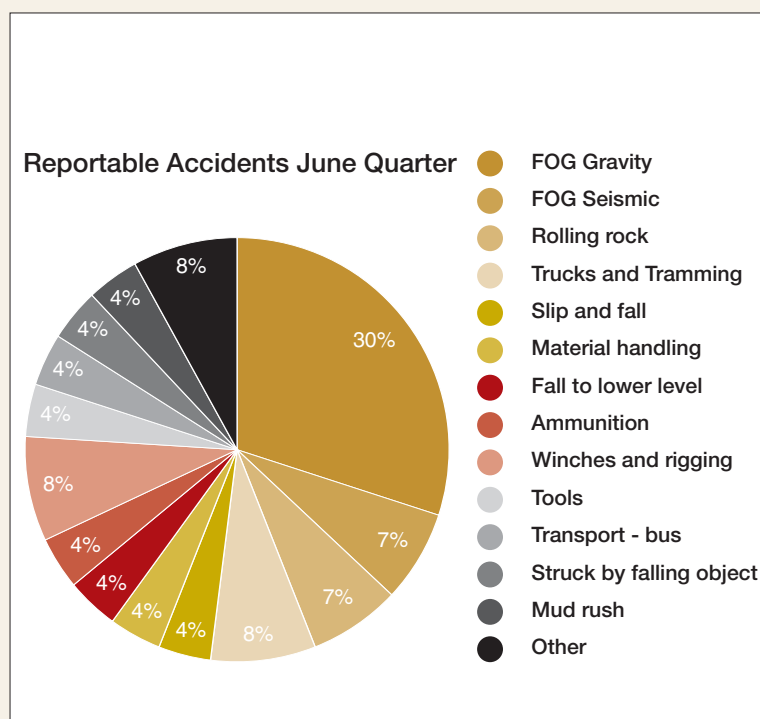
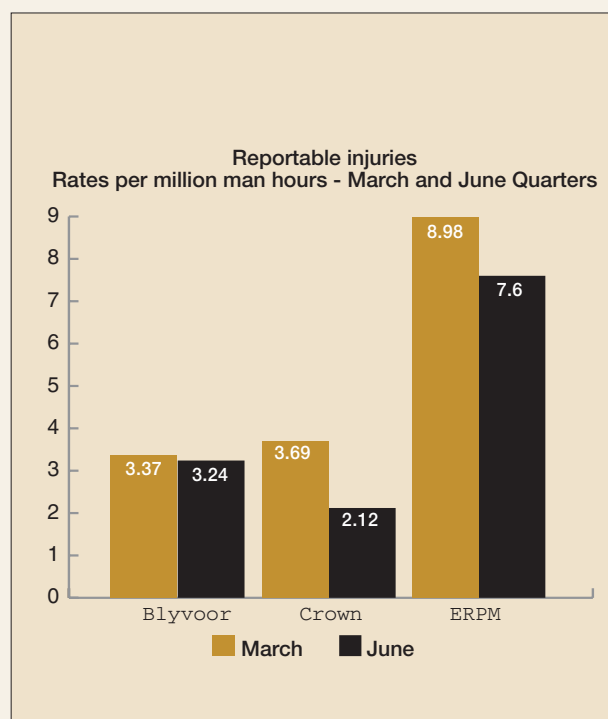
noise; be aware and alert; and wear hearing protective devices when exposed to loud activities.

In the mining environment, sources of noise likely to exceed 110 dB(A) include rock drills; fans without silencers; compressors and pumps; locos, winches and loaders; and workshop equipment. "As a good rule of thumb," says Phillip "if you have difficulty hearing someone who is speaking in a normal tone of voice and is about a metre away from you, you should be using hearing protection."

Phillip dispels a number of myths about hearing protection. "It's not true that it decreases speech recognition. It actually improves communication, because it filters or attenuates background noise. And remember, walkmans or personal stereo units are not considered to be hearing protection: they increase your noise exposure because you have to turn the volume up to hear the music clearly."

SAFETY REPORT

General Manager: Projects Phillip Watters reports that the campaign, launched in the March quarter at Blyvoor to reinforce safety procedures relating to trucks and tramming has had encouraging results. "Trucks and tramming accounted for 8% of reportable accidents in the June quarter, compared with 18% in the March quarter," says Phillip. "We are very pleased with the outcome of this intervention: the important thing now is to maintain the improvements going forward."



The campaign to emphasise Sections 22 and 23 of the Mine Health and Safety Act, focusing on the rights and duties of employees regarding workplace safety, remains in place.

Insofar as safety indicators are concerned, Phillip reports an encouraging improvement in reportable injury rates at Crown, with some improvement also at ERPm. The slight improvement at Blyvoor is attributable to additional man hours worked.

New initiatives for the quarter include a mini risk assessment at Crown Plant. "The whole team is required to conduct this mini assessment before any work is conducted. Once implemented at Crown, it is planned to extend this to City and Knights plants as well," says Phillip.

At the underground operations, a new safety campaign focusing on the prevention of fall of ground incidents is being workshopped with employees and unions. Plans are in place to introduce this in the September quarter.

Falls of ground (gravity-related and seismic) accounted for 37% of reportable accidents, compared with 26% in the March quarter and 45% in the December quarter



Meet Phillip Tshiloane

Phillip Tshiloane, who joined DRDGOLD SA recently as General Manager: Exploration and Prospecting, is enthusiastic and upbeat about the new opportunities facing DRDGOLD SA. "Since I joined, we have already delineated 8.32 million ounces of inferred resources at ERP Ext 2 (the Sallies Extension). I have been gathering, collecting and preparing all the relevant historical data, such as geological borehole information, pre-feasibility studies and mining

design data."

On the uranium portfolio, Phillip reports that the analysis of historical tonnage and grade of rock dumps and slimes dams is under way.

Phillip's experience prior to joining DRDGOLD SA covers virtually the complete spectrum of the South African resources industry, in mining, marketing, new business development and project management. After completing a B Sc (Mining Engineering) at Wits, Phillip

progressed through the mining discipline at various operations. A spell at the Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) provided useful insight into the government's perspectives of the mining industry.

An invitation from Patrice Motsepe led to Phillip spending time with the African Rainbow Minerals group, in gold mining near Klerksdorp and at the Assmang manganese mine (50% ARM-owned), near Kuruman in the Northern Cape. "The two

highlights here," says Phillip "were exposure to highly mechanised mining, and to life in the remote mining community of Hotazel."

His next major move, which he recalls as a career highlight and the perfect preparation for his new role at DRDGOLD SA, was into a consulting role, covering the acquisition of prospecting licences in the platinum group metals (PGM) field for a number of companies, including liaison with the DME and local communities.

Kopana le Phillip Tshiloane

Phillip Tshiloane o sa tswa ikopanya ho ba setho sa DRDGOLD SA jwalo ka Mookamedi Kakaretso (General Manager): wa Exploration le Prospecting. O na le thahasello mabapi le menyetla e metjha e tobaneng le khampani. O bolela hore haesale a eba setho sa khampani, o ne a ntse a etsa pokello mme o lokisa data ka pale ya histori e tsamaelanang le ERP Ext 2 (Katoloso e bitwang Sallies Extension). Ho tsa uranium, tlhophollo ya pale ya ho tjheka ditonela le ho kgirilwa ha ditotoma tsa majwe le matamo a diretse di tla etsuwa. Pele a kena ha DRDGOLD SA, Phillip (ya nang le lengolo la B Sc ho bo-injineri ba maene Wits) o bokeletse boiphihlelo dithutong tse ngatanyana hohle di-indastering tsa mekoti mona Afrika Borwa. O kile a sebetsa le Lefapheng la Diminerale le Matla (Department of Minerals and Energy) (DME) mme, moraorao tjena, ho tsa boetsi bo amang ho fumaneha ha mangolo a dilaesense tsa ho tshwaneleha ha dikhampani tse ngatanyana dihlopheng tsa platinamo (platinum group metals) (PGM).



QUARTER AND YEAR-END RESULTS

On 31 August, DRDGOLD Ltd announced its results for the quarter and year ended 30 June.

Commenting on the results, CEO John Sayers said: "While group gold production for the quarter was 12% lower at 2 833kg, reflecting a drop in Australasian gold production, it is most encouraging that the South African operations increased gold production by 7% to 2 504kg, a consequence both of a return to planned underground production levels at Blyvoor and improved surface production at ERP." The drop in Australasian production was a result of the sale of Vatukoula Mine in Fiji and of the 20% share in the Porgera Joint Venture in Papua New Guinea.

"For the year, South African gold production increased by 6%, reflecting progress in our strategy to stabilise operating performance generally," said John. "Continuing progress with this stabilisation strategy – together with positive development in respect of both brownfields reserve and the JVs with Mintails SA – hold promise of a sound platform for further growth in South Africa."



Blyvoor recovers lost production

Agreement has been reached at Blyvoor on working arrangements to recover the 15 000 tons lost to the mine through the illegal work stoppage that took place in February this year. In terms of the agreement, the mine is working one additional Saturday per month between June and September.

"So far, we've had excellent support from all employees, with a 94% average turnout on the days worked so far," says Human Resources Manager Colin Goodwin.

The agreement was reached in May 2007 between General Manager Collie Russouw, representing Blyvoor management, and the newly-elected National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) branch committee chairman, Dyongwana Mayeki, representing the NUM.

Blyvoor was without an elected NUM branch structure for some months preceding the election of the current committee in May. "A lesson to learn is that you're going to have problems if you lose your NUM branch," says Colin. "We're confident that the new branch committee is going to play a major part in maintaining sound labour relations at Blyvoor."

NEW project under way at Crown

On 13 June, Crown Gold Recoveries began operations to reclaim the 7.64 million ton 3/L/2 dump in the Riverlea area south of Johannesburg. Some 270 000 tonnes per month (tpm), at an average recovery grade of 0.29 grammes per ton, will be treated through the Crown plant over an estimated 24-month period.

The material will be transported about 5.5km from the dump to the Crown plant. Some new pipelines and pumps were installed, with the remaining equipment relocated from other depleted reclamation sites.

"The R11 million project was completed on schedule with no injuries recorded," says Crown General Manager Henry Gouws. "This project will provide material to keep the Crown plant at full production while the Top Star mining right application is in progress." (The Top Star Dump was bought by DRDGOLD SA from AngloGold Ashanti in 2006, and an application for Crown to recover gold from the dump has been lodged with the Department of Minerals and Energy.)

Another highlight for Crown was the completion of the optimisation at Knights Plant, Crown's operation in Boksburg. This project was aimed at providing all the necessary control instrumentation and process improvements on two additional grinding mills. "The mills, which have been in operation since March 2006, were essentially made for the processing of underground ore: we have refurbished these for sand and slime processing, slowing the mills down and replacing the steel liners with rubber," said Charles Symons, Regional General Manager of Crown and ERP.

"I would like to thank Danny and his team at Knights plant for the extraordinary efforts and commitment that they have shown during a very trying year. The results of your efforts will surely be seen shortly," said Henry Gouws.

The installation of the two mills will enable Knights to increase its treatment of sand to 300 000 tpm.

Blyvoor ibuyelwa yimveliso elahlekileyo

Kufikelelwe kwisivumelwano eBlyvoor malunga namalungiselelo okusebenza ukubuyisa iitoni ezingama-15 000 umgodi wawuphulukene nazo ngexesha lokumiswa komsebenzi ngokungekho mthethweni okwenzeka ngoFebruwari kulo nyaka. Ngokwesivumelwano, umgodi usebenza uMgqibelo omnye ongezweyo ngenyanga phakathi kuJuni noSeptemba. Kwafikelelwa kwisivumelwano ngoMeyi phakathi koMlawuli Jikelele uCollie Russouw, omele abalawuli baseBlyvoor, noDyongwana Mayeki, usihlalo osandula ukunyulwa wekomiti yesebe leNUM, omele umbutho wabasebenzi.

Learner miners graduate at ERP



11 July was a proud day for a group of young learner miners at ERP, when they received their blasting certificates confirming the successful completion of their studies at the Gold Fields Academy near Carletonville.

Presenting the certificates, General Manager Manny da Silva congratulated the learners on their achievement. "This is the first step in ensuring you are focused on the safety of your working environment: with the achievement comes responsibility and accountability for your fellow workers' safety underground."

Replying on behalf of the learners, Zodwa Siswana said: "We are happy about this achievement and look forward to the long journey, and to the challenge that lies ahead. We are determined to apply what we have learnt to our work underground." (Zodwa was profiled in *Asikhulume* Issue 2 in August 2006.)

Water – from environmental risk to potential opportunity

The Western Basin Environmental Corporation, a section 21 (not for profit) company formed by DRDGOLD SA, JV partner Mintails (see page 1) and Harmony Gold Mining Company has the potential to turn a significant environmental risk to a potential commercial opportunity. In the Randfontein area of Gauteng, contaminated

water from a number of disused, interconnected mines, operated over many years by different companies, flows into and pollutes surface water resources. Through a separately formed water utilities company, Western Utilities Corporation (WUC) plans are in place to pilot a plant to treat this water to an acceptable industrial quality.



Women's Day was commemorated on 8 August at DRDGOLD's ERPM and Crown Gold operations respectively. The celebrations were marked by the discussion of challenges facing women in the mining industry. These include skills development; sexual harassment; maternity leave; pregnancy policy; and women's role in leadership positions.

Meet Joao Mahumane

“Blyvoor is an old mine, with many long-serving employees. That can be both positive – because people genuinely know and care about each other – and negative, because habits and mindsets become entrenched over time, and there can be a high resistance to change,” says Joao Mahumane, who joined Blyvoor as Production Manager on 4 June.

Managing the challenges and opportunities that come with change is going to be a major part of Joao's responsibilities at Blyvoor. “There is great potential here,” he says. “For example, at Number 6 Shaft we can access a substantial ore body in the Main Reef. The infrastructure is there, but we need to mine efficiently as grades are low. We can only fulfil this potential through our people but we must all be open to new ideas and ways of doing things.”

Joao was previously Mining Manager at Harmony Gold's Merriespruit mine in the Free State. “I moved there in January 2006,” he recalls “when the mine was dealing with a two-year production crisis. I achieved what I set out to do – we turned a R3m average monthly loss to a R7m profit – so when Collie contacted me about opportunities at Blyvoor I was very interested in taking on new challenges.” (General Manager Collie Russouw also joined DRDGOLD from Harmony, and Joao reported to Collie when he first worked at Merriespruit.)

Joao's previous career included experience at West Driefontein (Gold Fields) and Elandsrand (bought by Harmony from AngloGold in 2000). Originally from Mozambique, Joao came to South Africa in 1988 as a qualified artisan. After spells in the

engineering and stores departments, he joined the mining discipline in 1995 and rose steadily up the ranks to acting Mining Manager before his transfer to Merriespruit. Earlier in his career, Joao completed ABET Levels 1, 2 and 3 in one year (“mainly to perfect my written English”), as well as the Intermediate Mining Programme and mining to N3 level. He has also recently obtained his Mine Manager's Certificate of Competency.

Joao's family live in Maputo, Mozambique – he usually takes a long week end and gets home once a month. Part-time study until recently left little time for leisure, but he is a keen soccer spectator, participant and administrator, having successfully established teams at both Elandsrand and Merriespruit.



Uranium confirmed at BLYVOOR

Earlier in the year work began at Blyvoor to define the existing uranium resource contained in the slimes dams. Following a period of drilling and analysis, recent uranium resource results have been ‘encouraging’ according to DRDGOLD geologist Dave Whittaker. Volumes of the slimes dams were surveyed and their total tonnage calculated at 107.7 million tonnes.

Asikhulume survey

Asikhulume is your newspaper and we want to know what you think about it. Staff from Russell & Associates, who compile Asikhulume, interviewed a

number of people during July to ask them what they think of the publication. Highlights of the survey results will be published in a future issue.

Kopana le Joao Mahumane

Joao Mahumane o ne a joene Blyvoor jwalo ka Molaodi wa Tlhahiso (Production Manager) mohla la 4 Phupjane. Pele e ne e le Molaodi wa Mokoti (Mining Manager) kwana Merriespruit Foreisetata, ebile hape o kile a sebetsa le West Driefontein le Elandsrand. “Ho teng kgonahalo e kgolo Blyvoor,” o realo. “Re ka kgona feela ho fihlella kgonahalo ena ka batho ba rona, empa kaofela re tshwanela ho ikemisetsa ho amohela phetoho le maikutlo a matjha.” Joao o tswa Maputo ho la Mozambique, moo ba lelapa la hae ba ntseng ba dula teng. Hantlentle ke setsebi se nang le mangolo, o ne a tle Afrika Borwa selemong sa 1986, mme a joena dithuto tsa mokoting selemong sa 1995 ka mora ho fumana boiphihlelo mafapheng a ditiro le bo-injinere. Joao o sa tswa fumana lengolo la hae la Mine Manager's Certificate of Competency. Ho fihlela moraorao tjena, dithuto tsa nako tse itseng di ne di mmolokile a le maphathaphatha haholo ho ka ba le nako ya ho itshisinyana ka boithabiso, empa o na le thahasello e kgolo bolong ya maoto (soka).

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

PROMOTIONS

May

Louis Roos has been appointed General Manager of the West Rand joint venture

June

Tollie Lubbe has been appointed Senior Plant Superintendent at the Blyvoor Metallurgical Plant.

Vivian Labuschagne from ERPM has been appointed Regional Exploration Officer and remains Section Surveyor at ERPM.

New engagements - June

Joseph Changa joined Blyvoor as Metallurgical Manager

Joao Mahumane joined Blyvoor as Production Manager (see also profile on this page)

New ounces at ERPM

ERPM's three-year, R35 million plugging project to secure the Far East Vertical (FEV) Shaft from underground water rising in the Central Witwatersrand Basin has helped safeguard the mine's future.

This was officially confirmed on 17 July, when DRDGOLD Ltd announced that ERPM's resources had increased from 16.58 million ounces to 41.37 million ounces.

“Without the plugging project, FEV Shaft would be lost to flooding; and without FEV Shaft

there would be little prospect of ERPM mining these additional ounces into the future,” said DRDGOLD SA Chief Executive Officer Niel Pretorius, in the announcement. “These ounces, all on the ‘dry’ side of the mine, are a lifeline into the future for ERPM, with significant benefits for all its stakeholders, not least the surrounding community.”

The Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) subsidised the project, contributing about 63% of the total cost.

liawunsi ezintsha kwaERPM

Iminyaka emithathu yakwaERPM, iprojekthi yama-R35 ezigidi (ii-million) yokuvingca ukukhusela ishafti eyiFar East Vertical (FEV) kumanzi angaphantsi anyukela kwiCentral Witwatersrand Basin incede ukukhusela ingomso lomgodi. Oku kwaqinisekiswa ngokusemthethweni ngomhla we-17 Julayi, xa i-DRDGOLD Ltd ibhengeza ukuba amancedo e-ERPM anyukile ukusuka kwi-16.58 yezigidi (ii-million) zee-awunsi ukuya kuma-41.37 ezigidi zee-awunsi. “Ngaphandle kweprojekthi

yokuvingca, kweFEV Shaft ngekuphulukenwe nayo ngenxa yokugutyungelwa ngamanzi; kananjalo ngaphandle kweFEV Shaft ithuba beliza kuba lincinci lomgodi weERPM lokwenza ezi awunsi ezongezelelweyo ukuya kwixesha elizayo,” litshilo iGosa eliPhezulu eliLawulayo lakwaDRDGOLD SA uNiel Pretorius. ISebe leziMbiwa naMandla (Department of Minerals and Energy) libe negalelo elimalunga nama-63% kwiindleko zizonke zeprojekthi.