

Newmont leads on sustainability index

NEWMONT Ghana has for the third time in a row been ranked overall industry leader in sustainability on the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index (DJSI World).

This year, 942 companies participated in RobecoSAM's Corporate Sustainability Assessment, which evaluates and ranks the highest-scoring companies on the DJSI.

Newmont was the first gold mining company admitted to the index in 2007, and has been included on the DJSI North America Index

every year since 2006.

"This milestone demonstrates our commitment to building a safer, more inclusive, ethical and responsible business that continues to drive sustainable economic and social development in our host communities, responsibly manage the environment, and provide safe working conditions for our employees and solid returns for our stakeholders," the Regional Senior Vice-President of Newmont Africa, Mr Mr Alwyn

Pretorius, said.

In addition, Newmont received the highest score (100th percentile) in many areas, including Impact measurement and valuation; policy influence; biodiversity; environmental policy and management systems and water-related risks.

Other areas included asset closure management; corporate citizenship and philanthropy; and labour practice indicators.

Newmont also achieved the metals and mining industry's best overall scores in the economic, environmental and social dimensions.

Ghana

Since it commenced operations in Ghana, Newmont has instituted many social investment programmes in its operational areas in Akyem and Ahafo.

In 2016, the company invested about \$4 million in its host communities through in-kind and monetary support.

This includes contributions to its community development foundations, Newmont Ahafo Development Foundation (NADeF) and Newmont Akyem Development Foundation (NAkDeF).

Contribution to socio-economic growth

Mr Pretorius maintains that the company's

contribution to the socio-economic growth of the nation was a factor in Newmont's third time recognition by the DJSI as the world's leader in sustainability.

"Our employees and stakeholders have been very instrumental in ensuring that we uphold the high sustainability standards we have committed ourselves to and I would like to acknowledge them as well for their continuous support," Mr Pretorius added.

Earlier this year, NADeF was recognised as the Corporate Foundation Philanthropist of the Year by the National Philanthropy Forum.

Impact on operations

As a result of its commitment to reducing the impact of its operations on the environment, the Akyem Mine and the Forestry Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to initiate the second phase of the Akyem mine's reforestation project that involves planting various tree species on 256 hectares in the Kweikaru Forest Reserve.

This is to meet the company's commitment of replacing by threefold the 101 hectares of the Ajenjua Bepo Forest Reserve impacted by the mine's operations.

"Newmont remains committed to best practices, living our values and realising our purpose of creating shared value and improving lives through sustainable and responsible mining," he said.



• Mr Alwyn Pretorius