

Gahcho Kué

Ni Hadi Yati

Ensuring Aboriginal Party Capacity for the
Holistic Environmental Stewardship of the
Gahcho Kué Project:

A Joint Presentation of Aboriginal Parties and De Beers

Overview

- Background
- Outline of Ni Hadi Yati
 - Purpose
 - Objectives
 - Key elements
 - Structure
 - Meetings
 - Technical Advisors
 - Funding
- Proposed measures for Panel decision

Background

- Since the previous diamond mines, extra-regulatory mechanisms have been reconsidered by all parties for various reasons (Aboriginal party needs, cost, duplication, regulatory efficiency).
- De Beers submitted the draft ToR for an Adaptive Management Committee in May 2012.
- Aboriginal Parties (Akaitcho and Tâîchô) considered the proposal and requested modifications based on respective views and needs.
- De Beers and Aboriginal Parties met on five occasions between October and November to advance a model suitable for the Gahcho Kué Project

Ni Hadi Yati - Purpose

- To ensure that Aboriginal parties have the capacity to participate in the holistic environmental stewardship of the Gahcho Kué Project.
 - Acknowledges that Aboriginal groups have limited technical resources to effectively participate in the development and review management and monitoring plans and reports.
 - Resolving this issue for the Gahcho Kué Project will lead to improved trust, participation and efficiency in the existing regulatory processes.

Ni Hadi Yati - Objectives

- Provide technical capacity for all Parties.
- Improve public trust in the project, processes, and parties.
- Reduce duplication and improve regulatory efficiency.
- Communicate to parties on activities.
- Identify opportunities for TK incorporation in environmental monitoring and management.

Ni Hadi Yati - Elements

- Transparent operations.
- Binding contract between De Beers and Aboriginal groups (the Parties).
- Parties convene to identify annual technical review needs (work plans) and the preferred technical advisors to carry out reviews.
- Technical advisors are drawn from existing government experts wherever available.
- Budget based on work plan developed by the Parties.
- Funding provided by De Beers.

Ni Hadi Yati - Structure

- The Ni Hadi Yati directs the activities and directs the annual work plans.
- Confirmed Parties include:
 - LKDFN
 - YKDFN
 - DKFN
 - Tâîchô Government
 - De Beers
- NSMA and NWT Metis are invited to sign-on as Parties if interested.
- Administration undertaken by the Parties.
- Technical coordination of work plans and document control undertaken by a contractor selected by the Ni Hadi Yati.

Ni Hadi Yati - Meetings

- Annual planning meeting to determine work plan for coming year.
 - Includes a review of activities and performance from previous year.
- Work plan implementation meeting with technical advisors.
- Consideration for at least one meeting per year on the land to foster relationship building.

Ni Hadi Yati – Technical Advisors

- Drawn from existing specialists where available to reduce duplication and increase efficiency:
 - AEMP (EC, DFO, AANDC)
 - WEMP (GNWT, AANDC, CWS)
 - Geochemistry (NRCAN)
 - Air Quality (GNWT, EC)
 - Cumulative Effects (AANDC, GNWT)
- Additional advisors recruited where needed (e.g., Traditional Knowledge)

Ni Hadi Yati - Summary

- Addresses the key issue of Aboriginal capacity to participate at a technical level in the development of project plans, adaptive management, and on-going regulatory processes.
- Allows Aboriginal Parties to shape technical review needs based on their workloads and areas of interest.
- Reduces duplication by using existing resources.
- Improves process efficiency by involving Parties in the development and evolution of project plans (early engagement throughout the Project life).
- Builds trust amongst all parties.

Ni Hadi Yati – A Plus for De Beers

- Opportunity to build on collaborative relationships
- Opportunity for increased efficiency in regulatory processes
- Alignment with De Beers corporate policies and values:
 - Working with Aboriginal Communities Policy
 - Sustainable Development Policy
 - Build Trust
 - Pull Together
 - Shape the Future
 - Show we Care

Proposed Panel Measures

- De Beers and interested Aboriginal Parties to the EIR shall further develop Ni Hadi Yati as outlined in the joint presentation and shall enter into a contract for its implementation.
- Ni Hadi Yati will ensure Aboriginal Party capacity to participate in the holistic environmental stewardship of the Gahcho Kué Project.
- The Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories shall lend available technical resources to the Ni Hadi Yati.