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Role of Training in a Modern Mining Policy

MINES ParisTech Program

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Abstract

During the last years, the mining sector has seen a greater involvement of the producing States to develop their own resources as well as an opening to domestic and foreign investors as part of a privatization policy. At the same time, the States sought to clarify the legislative and lawful conditions mainly regarding the questions of safety and environment. These major evolutions were particularly sensitive in the mineral producing countries and strongly increased the requests of training.

Based on the idea that cooperation and training have a special position in its relations with mineral producing countries, France created in 1975 the Center for Advanced Studies of Mineral Resources (CESMAT) to coordinate the actions of training of foreign upper management personnel and to constitute a relation network. Created initially to encourage exchanges among the various sectors of technical mining expertise, CESMAT has constantly kept abreast of international developments and of new problems encountered by the mining industry such as market economies, environment and role of the State.

With seven training programs of one year duration and thirty years of experience in providing innovative training based on exchange of experiences between professionals, a network of almost thousand eight hundred former trainees from hundred odd countries was created. Regarding Saudi Arabia, more than thirty geologists and mining engineers, coming from DMMR, SGS and MAADEN, have attained one of the CESMAT trainings.

MINES ParisTech (Paris School of Mines), being very active in the CESMAT program, continues to lead its three specialized trainings covering the areas of Technical and Economic Analysis of Mining Operations (CESECO), Geostatistics (CFSG) and Public Administration of Mines (CESAM). It proposes also a catalog of short trainings. At the end of the long session trainings, successful participants are awarded a "Mastère spécialisé®" diploma and/or a national French post-graduate diploma of specialized training of MINES ParisTech.