

Placer Dome trains women entrepreneurs

From Correspondent
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PLACER Dome, a Canadian gold mining company operating here, has embarked on a programme to help women acquire entrepreneurial skills.

The firm's Social Development Co-ordinator, Ms Fatuma Msumi, said here yesterday that the project would benefit women in five wards in Tarime District.

She said at present there were three groups of women who have been picked for training. She said 20 of the trainees were Songambele Village, 18 from Lamboni and 22 from Muungano in Nyamwaga Ward.

"We have decided to start with these three groups but we will move to other wards and cover 100 women", she said. She said the training would cover a number of areas including making of batik and *vikoi*.

"They also get training on modern farming," she said, adding that the ultimate goal was to turn them into good gardeners.

Currently, 18 women at Lamboni Village are engaged in a vegetable project to improve their income.

She said the company also helps the women by providing them with water pumps for irrigation.

She said the company undertakes the project in

partnership with the ward and district authorities.

The company has also supported communities living around the mine in health, education and other social services.

Early this week, workers of the company contributed over 5,300 US dollars (about 5.4m/-) to finance treatment of six children from the district to undergo surgical treatment at the CCBRT Hospital in Dar es Salaam.

Meanwhile, Geita Gold Mine (GGM) in Mwanza Region has donated 2,750 US dollars (over 3m/-) to five institutions in support of social development activities in the country.

The recipients were the Tanzania Broadcasting Commission (TUT), Muungano Disabled Sports Club, the Geology Department of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), the Institution Engineers of Tanzania (IET) and the Tanzania Medical Students Association (TMSA).

Anglogold Ashanti Country Manager, Hatibu Senkoro, handed over the donations to the recipients at a brief ceremony in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Two recipients — Samwilu Mwafisi of TUT and Thomas Ngabo of IET — attended the function.

GGM donated 1,000 US dollars to TUT for organising the Southern African Broadcasting Association (SABA) conference to be



ANGLOGOLD Ashanti Country Manager for Tanzania Hatibu Senkoro (left) presents a cheque of 1,000 US dollars to Southern African Broadcasting Association (SABA) General Assembly Steering Committee Chairman Samwilu Mwafisi (right). The donation is in support of the general assembly to be held in Arusha later this year. (Photo by a Correspondent)

held in Tanzania later this year. TUT plans to raise 100m/- for the meeting.

GGM also donated 500 US dollars each to Muungano Disabled Sports Club, the

Geology Department of UDSM and IET in support of their various commitments later this year.

TMSA got a donation of 250 US dollars.

In another development, Geita Gold Mine is sponsoring 20 children for cleft and palate disorder being conducted by the Western Australian (WA)

surgical mission to Tanzania.

The surgical is conducted at the CCBRT hospital in Dar es Salaam. GGM has spent more than 10,000 US dollars for the task.