



APEX RELEASES FIRST SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Apex Mining Co., Inc. (APX) marks its 50th year in 2020 as it releases its first sustainability report. Crafted within the Global Reporting Index guidelines, the report details the company's integrated approach to responsible mining.

According to the company's President and CEO, Luis R. Sarmiento, "We believe that continuous improvement is imperative if we are to give equal importance to the triple bottom line."

Apex has five sustainability pillars: contribution to the economy; holistic approach to wellness; sustainable community development; safety as a way-of-life; and, achieving world-class environment standards.

Contribution to the economy. In 2019, its annual tax payment amounting to Php 215 million earned for Apex its ninth recognition from the Maco Municipal Government as the No. 1 Business Taxpayer and No. 2 Real Property Taxpayer of Maco.

Holistic approach to wellness. Apex is counted among the biggest employers in the Municipality of Maco and among the highest-paying employers within the Davao Region. As of 31 December 2019, Apex provided productive employment to 1,898 people, 238 of whom are IPs (indigenous people).

Sustainable community development. HELPS is the acronym of Apex's priority areas concerning the development of its host and neighboring communities: health and medical assistance; educational support; livelihood; public infrastructure; and, socio-culture and religious support. In 2019, Apex spent P3 million on its health programs, P9 million on livelihood initiatives and P4 million on socio-cultural and religious endeavors.

Safety as a way-of-life. Apex has a Comprehensive Safety Program and had zero fatalities in 2019. Another testament to its formidable safety record — Apex won the Safest Underground Operation award with the company's Safety Officer, Mr. Jonathan M. Havana, cinching the Best Underground Safety Inspector recognition at the 66th Annual National Mine Safety and Environment Conference (ANMSEC) in November 2019.

Achieving world-class environment standards. Stewardship of the environment remains a key priority of Apex, faithfully keeping to the provisions set by the Mining Act of 1995. In 2019 alone, Apex spent around Php 88 million for its various EPEP activities, or those that cover environmental protection and enhancement programs. Around 51% of the P88 M was spent on the progressive rehabilitation, forest protection, and construction of the necessary infrastructure and facilities to ensure the protection of the environment. The company also supported the programs of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), including the National



Greening Program, Adopt-an-Estero Waterbody Program, and Adopt-a-Mangrove Forest.

Sarmiento stresses that the company is merely the caretaker of their mine sites and long after each mine's end-of-life, their host community will continue to thrive and prosper because, "we are a responsible mining company."

"We equate sustainability with inclusivity," he adds.

Read the full report [Apex Sustainability Report](#)

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