

MONTEPUEZ RUBY MINING LTD

A GEMFIELDS Group Company

NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WITH PICTURES
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MONTEPUEZ RUBY MINING'S NEW MOBILE CLINIC FACILITY TO BOOST COMMUNITY ACCESS TO HEALTH

MONTEPUEZ, MOZAMBIQUE – Montepuez Ruby Mining (MRM) has rolled out a mobile health clinic facility in collaboration with the District Health Office in Montepuez to help increase the community's access to basic health services.

The new mobile clinic was a star attraction at this week's Health Fair, a collaboration between the mining company and Montepuez Rural Hospital, which was launched by Montepuez District Administrator Mrs Etelvina Rita Joaquim Fevereiro.

The mobile clinic will provide healthcare for common ailments and referral to hospitals for more serious cases, through weekly visits to communities that have limited access to such facilities. The clinic will also educate the community on safeguarding good health and building awareness on protection against preventable illnesses. MRM will provide the vehicle driver and cover the operational expenses, while medical personnel and medications will be provided by the District Health Office. The nearest health post situated at Namanhumbir Sede serves more than 20,000 people from 15 communities, some of which are over 25km away.

During the Health Fair a variety of health programmes were promoted to the community members through presentations and educational material. The goal of the Health Fair was to provide a collective forum in an effort to foster health promotion and prevention awareness for the community members of Posto Administrativo de Namanhumbir (PAN) so that they understand the mobile health clinic can be used to help their wellbeing

Activities during the day included health screenings, gymnastics and aerobics, blood donation, HIV counselling and testing and workplace wellbeing advice.

"Health is not just the absence of the diseases, but rather it is the complete physical, mental and social wellbeing of the individual, which entails the whole community at large. Hence, it is the goal of MRM to work in partnership with the government and other partners to help people live the healthiest lives possible by raising awareness against any diseases. In partnership with Montepuez Rural Hospital, MRM has embarked on a mobile clinic outreach programme to reach those communities who do not have access to health facilities," said MRM General Manager, Gopal Kumar.

"Healthcare can sometimes be confusing and overwhelming" said Tania Mabota, Medica Geral do Hospital Rural de Montepuez. "Through this fair we have managed to provide opportunities for community members to learn how to help their families stay healthy and safe. Thank you very much MRM for the support and care."

Namanhumbir community leader, Mr. Terciano Dinis expressed his gratitude to MRM, explaining how local people have learned and understood that healthcare is about preserving good health through shared responsibility between “patients” and healthcare providers.

The Montepuez District Administrator thanked MRM for the initiative and encouraged communities to adhere to the health programmes being disseminated by MRM so that they could effectively meet their individual goals and be productive citizens. In her closing remarks she encouraged health personnel to maximise the support given by MRM and the community to take responsibility and embrace the opportunity.

The event was attended by more than 100 participants from PAN and other neighbouring communities. Together we can make some good strides towards a healthier community, concluded the District Administrator.

Research carried out in consultation with the District Health Office and the local community found malaria and water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and cholera to be the most prevalent diseases in the area. These are all preventable, and community education and advice on how to avoid contracting them will form a large part of the mobile clinic programme.

MRM is committed to empowering and adding value to the communities in which it operates, which is reflected in its Community Development Strategy, with health access as one of the major focuses, in addition to educational improvement and livelihood projects.

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About Montepuez Ruby Mining Lda and Gemfields plc

Montepuez Ruby Mining (MRM) Lda, based in Cabo Delgado , is part of the Gemfields Group of companies, a leading gemstone miner listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) of the London Stock Exchange (ticker: 'GEM').

Gemfields owns 75 per cent of the MRM mine, in partnership local company Mwiriti Limitada. Gemfields is the world's leading coloured gemstone producer, setting new benchmarks at the intersection of exploration, mining and marketing. Natural gems are at the heart of its operations, setting new environmental, social and safety standards in the coloured gemstone sector.

www.gemfields.co.uk

For media inquiries please contact:

Gillian Langmead at Langmead & Baker Ltd

Tel: +260 979 060705

Email: info@langmead.com