

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT

BCL Limited



Global Initiatives



Allan Hochreiter (Pty) Limited



PUBLIC, PRIVATE PARTNERS AGREE ON BOTSWANA 'NICKEL FROM TAILINGS/SLAG' PROJECT

In a landmark agreement, nickel/copper/cobalt producer BCL and Global Initiatives, a mining company owned primarily by a group of Botswana citizens, are planning to retreat approximately 100 million tonnes (Mt) of mine tailings and 45Mt of smelter slag at BCL's Selebi Phikwe mine in Botswana to recover some 150 000t of nickel, as well as copper and cobalt.

The public private partnership between BCL – owned by the Botswana government – and Global Initiatives, is believed to be amongst the first of such partnerships in Botswana. South Africa-based Allan Hochreiter (Pty) Limited is a shareholder in and adviser to Global Initiatives, which has other mining interests in Burundi, Namibia and Rwanda.

Additional evaluation and metallurgical testing on the 145Mt resource by an independent international firm of consultants will take the project to bankable feasibility stage. Within the next 12-24 months construction and commissioning of a US\$140 million plant at BCL's Selebi Phikwe operation is envisaged.

Incorporating cutting-edge Chinese metallurgical technology, the plant will treat up to 40 000t of combined tailings and slag per day, to recover at least 50% of the estimated 300 000t of nickel contained in the resource. Other metals, including copper and cobalt, will also be recoverable.

BCL General Manager Montwedi Mphathi said: “We are very pleased to be partnering a Botswana company – owned primarily by Botswana citizens – in this project to extract substantial additional value from our waste product.”

Global Initiative Chairman Atang Makgekgenene said: “The project, initiated by Botswana citizens with the involvement of the Botswana Government, promises to prolong recovery of nickel and from other metals from the Selebi Phikwe region, delivering continued benefits both locally and to the nation as a whole.”

Allan Hochreiter Managing Director James Allan said: “Doing business in Botswana is proving to be a pleasure; we look forward to our involvement in a project with the potential to generate significant additional nickel production for the country.”