

NEXUS GOLD CORP

A pre-eminent gold explorer in West Africa

Triple-listed gold focused mineral exploration company **Nexus Gold Corp.** is fast staking its claim in one of West Africa's burgeoning gold hot-spots, Burkina Faso, where the company is in the process of acquiring its third gold property in just two years, bringing its total land package to over 400 km², chairman and COO **ALEX KLENMAN** tells **CHANTELLE KOTZE**.

IN SHORT

Nexus Gold Corp. plans to become a significant exploration company, unlocking as much gold value as possible in the highly prospective and underexplored West Africa region.



Artisanal mining near Bouboulou

Nexus Gold Corp. believes its strength lies in its management team, which has a strong record of success and history in Burkina Faso.

Warren Robb, who joined Nexus Gold in 2015 as a senior geologist and director, brings over 25 years of mineral exploration experience to Nexus Gold Corp. He has had specific West African experience having served as the chief geologist for gold exploration company Roxgold during 2011–12 when he supervised both field exploration and the diamond drilling programme on the company's Yaramoko gold property.

Country manager, Jean Claude Ouedraogo, also joined Nexus Gold Corp. as a former country manager for

Roxgold in 2011, when he assisted in the operations of company projects, notably the discovery and development of Yaramoko.

Nexus Gold Corp.'s portfolio comprises the Bouboulou and Niangouela concessions, which collectively offer significant discovery potential in Burkina Faso. The company has also recently signed a letter of intent to acquire its third property – the Rakounga concession.

The concessions are all hosted within the highly prospective Boromo Greenstone Belt, one of the several Birimian Greenstone Belts that traverse Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire and continue northward into Burkina Faso; hosting all of the major deposits including

the Bissa mine operated by Nordgold, Roxgold's Yaramoko mine, Semafo's Mana mine and Endeavour Mining's Houndé project, to name a few.

Bouboulou

The 38 km² Bouboulou concession, acquired in July 2016, is the most advanced of the concessions as it was historically explored by Boliden (1997 – 1999), Riverstone Resources (2005 – 2011) and Roxgold (2011 – 2012).

During this time, rotary air blast (RAB) drilling, trenching, geological mapping, airborne electromagnetic, magnetometer and radiometrics, as well as reverse circulation and diamond drilling were conducted – the result of which was the identification of four zones of gold mineralisation, namely Rawema, Peletanga, Bouboulou 2 and Koala.

Highlights of the previous exploration programmes include surface rock sampling and trenching, returning gold grades from 1.09 g/t to 19.16 g/t gold; while reverse circulation and diamond drilling identified multiple zones of gold

mineralisation on the property establishing both length (40 m @ 1.5 g/t gold, 35 m @ 2.2 g/t gold, among others) and grade (2 m @ 12.45 g/t gold, 4 m @ 12.53 g/t gold, and .3 m @ 81.32 g/t gold, among others).

Since acquiring the concession, Robb led the company's exploration efforts at Bouboulou using the intimate knowledge of the region which he gained while managing the drill programme at the property (previously called Bissa West while still owned by Roxgold).

Immediate work undertaken included reviewing legacy data, data compilation, geological mapping, drill hole mapping



The 38 km² Bouboulou concession was acquired in July 2016



Visible gold in quartz from samples taken at Niangouela

FAST FACT

Burkina Faso has undergone less than 15 years of modern mineral exploration, remaining underexplored in comparison with neighbouring Ghana and Mali.

delivered gold in eight of the first nine holes drilled – with one hole (drilled in the shear system) intercepting 26 g/t at 4.85 m.

The phase two diamond drill programme at Niangouela, comprising a total of 18 holes, consisting of 2 572 m, was undertaken to test the dip and strike extensions of gold mineralisation identified by the company in its initial phase one programme.

The programme also tested additional targets identified through surface mapping and prospecting.

A total of 4 020.5 m have been drilled to date at Niangouela, with final results of phase two also expected this month.

“We plan to follow this up with a fair amount of additional drilling and work to really get an idea of what we have. Despite being a much earlier stage development than Bouboulou, we are excited about the encouraging grades and believe we will do quite well here owing to the upside potential that exists,” says Klenman.

Rakounga

In July 2017, Nexus Gold Corp. signed a letter of intent to acquire a third property – the 250 km² Rakounga concession. The company hopes to successfully acquire this property as a means to add onto the prospective Bouboulou concession and allows the company to chase two of the major identified trends on Bouboulou, which continue to the south and the south west onto the Rakounga property.

“Lying adjacent to Bouboulou, and really forming part of Bouboulou, the acquisition of the Rakounga property will give us a lot of upside potential as it would add size to our existing Bouboulou property and will stand us in good stead when defining a mineral resource,” says Klenman.

Providing confidence in the prospectivity of the concession, there has been a ten-fold increase in artisanal mining activity on the Rakounga property since it was last visited in 2012 – with a large artisanal camp just south of the concession. Klenman believes that this is a clear sign that there is something worth exploiting.

Based on what is known about the three properties so far, Nexus Gold Corp. believes that the first mineral resource estimate it will be able to establish will be on the Bouboulou concession. “We have sufficient data and have undertaken sufficient work on Bouboulou to know what it contains so far as opposed to Niangouela, which is still very early stage at this point.

and selection, rock and core geochemical re-sampling and ground confirmation.

Having completed the compilation of historic exploration data on the Bouboulou concession, the company identified the presence of three strong anomalous gold trends, extending from the four drill-tested mineralised zones. Each of the three trends (PR, KB and B2) extends in length for 5 km.

Based on the data collected to date at Bouboulou, as well as data from other mines operating in the area, Klenman would be pleased if the project could average 2 to 4 g/t, in line with the 3 g/t average grade found within the area.

“At this point we know that all of the mineralised zones at Bouboulou are open in all directions having only historically been drilled from surface to 120 m,” says Klenman.

In August, Nexus Gold Corp. completed a 2 500 m Phase 1 drilling programme at Bouboulou to depths of approximately 150 to 175 m, which began in June 2017. The programme was undertaken by Falcon Drilling Burkina Faso S.A.R.L. and overseen by Robb. It twinned some of the historic holes and stepped out slightly in some areas. It is expected to return good results this month.

Niangouela

Late in 2016, while the team members were working on Bouboulou, Ouedraogo alerted them to the Niangouela property – where a significant amount of artisanal mining

was taking place in one main orpillage with visible quartz outcropping in what looked like a vein in the deep, well-established artisanal shaft.

Based on sight alone, Robb advised Nexus Gold Corp. to acquire the 178 km² Niangouela concession, which it did in November 2016. Robb, immediately thereafter in December, began a mapping, trenching and sampling programme on site, simultaneously contracting Forage FTE Drilling to undertake an 800 m RAB drill programme.

“Having identified visible gold in quartz upon first inspection of the sight, Robb collected 11 rock samples on site: five of the 11 samples returned high-grade results, with one sample grading 2 950 g/t (not visible gold, but rather free gold in part of the shear system surrounding the vein),” notes Klenman. These results indicated the presence of high-grade gold occurring within the primary quartz vein and the sheared intrusive envelope, and gave the company confidence to begin further testing at Niangouela immediately.

The RAB drilling results indicated the gold bearing nature of the primary quartz vein, as well as the strike length, which extended for 2 km.

Moreover, the company followed this up with two phases of drilling – the first phase (2 000 m) aimed at testing the primary quartz vein and associated shear zone at depth and along strike.

Results from the phase one programme

A total of 4 020.5 m have been drilled to date at Niangouela



THE SUCCESS FACTOR

With the aim of producing maximum value for its shareholders, it is Nexus Gold Corp.'s strategy to acquire top-tier assets on which to execute sound development strategies as a means to extract maximum value from the projects and in turn increase the value of the company.



Drilling team on site at Niangouela

Looking forward

Nexus Gold Corp. will continue to invest in exploration at the three concessions over the next 18 months, with in-fill drilling and regional exploration plans in place at Bou Boulou and Niangouela, undertaking 2 000 m to 2 500 m programmes at a time.

"Our aim is to delineate high grade gold deposits over the coming years and maximise shareholder returns in the process," notes Klenman.

In addition to these three gold concessions, Nexus Gold Corp. continues

to conduct due diligence programmes on potential acquisitions on additional properties or projects of merit in the country in line with its goal to have a portfolio of multiple active projects as a means to increase its chances of success and decrease its exploration risk.

The company is looking at a handful of other concessions in the south west and south east of Burkina Faso in well-established areas with existing infrastructure and other mines in proximity, notes Klenman. This future development will however be determined

by its geological team, led by Robb, and supported by Ouedraogo, which has the necessary skills to lead and advise on the next best acquisition.

"Our overall plan is to add to the portfolio, continue to explore and develop and move from a small-cap company; and hopefully bring a project into production stage in the next three to five years.

"We believe 2018 will be a good year for gold and believe that if our timing is correct and our strategy sound, it will pay dividends in future," Klenman concludes. **MRA**



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