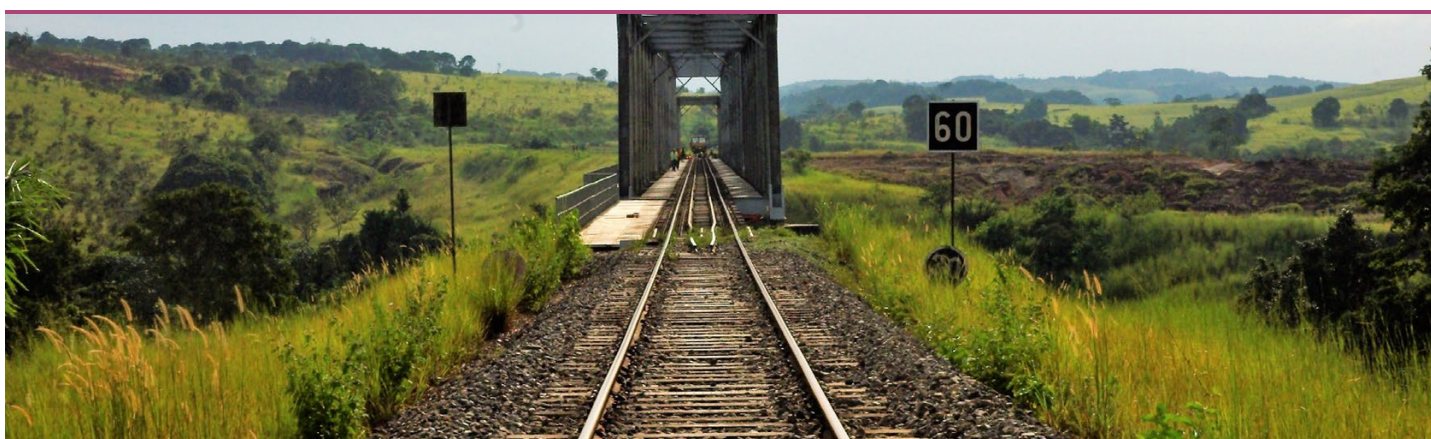


# Gabon the focus for Genmin's aspirations

WITH a sky-rocketing iron ore price, Brazilian production still on the backburner, and China increasingly flexing its economic muscles, Genmin Resources believes the time is right to go public.



*Genmin says the Trans-Gabon rail give it a huge infrastructure boost*

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While Australia could be a loser in China's plan to ensure 45% of the iron ore sourced by its steel sector coming from suppliers controlled by its companies by 2025, Genmin hopes to emerge a winner any from the Sino-Australian trade cold war.

Comments

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## Haydn Black

Reporter

Genmin is looking to raise A\$20-30 million at 34c by floating around 19% of the company with the aid of Foster Stockbroking and Bell Potter.

The cash will allow completion of a prefeasibility study for Genmin's flagship Baniaka project in Gabon, which it believes is a near-term development opportunity for China.

Baniaka, which was previously 20%-owned by Cape Lambert Resources before being sold for \$550,000, has resources of 257.9Mt million tonnes grading around 40.1% iron with 34% silica.

The licence is set to expire in September, but the company intends to apply for a six-year extension.

While other Australian-owned iron ore projects in Africa have struggled, Genmin believes it has the benefit of an easy development with key infrastructure

already in place, including the Trans-Gabon rail line and a 200Mw hydro power plant.

It also has a memorandum of understanding to explore an integrated rail and port logistics solution from Baniaka to ocean-going, Cape-size vessels at the Owendo port for export.

Genmin was founded by managing director Joe Ariti, who is best known in the market for leading ASX-listed African Iron when it was sold to South African giant Exxaro Resources for \$350 million in 2012.

Around US\$35 million has been spent over the past decade defining mainly at Baniaka, but also in developing the drill-ready Bakoumba exploration project some 80km away in southeast Gabon, and the earlier stage Minvoul/Bitam project in north Gabon.

Baniaka contains an 85km-long strike of mineralisation, of which less than one third has been tested by a mix of auger and diamond drilling with 17 prospects defined with potential for detrital iron deposits and underlying oxidised banded iron formations.

There are exploration targets for Baniaka of up to 547Mt grading up to 54%, including the largest oxide drill target at Bandjougoy of 67-124Mt at 35-49%.

Bakoumba has a mapped 36km of strike, with four priority targets for drilling, where there is an exploration target of up to 365Mt at up to 55%.

Rock chips grading 22-64% have been recovered at Minvoul/Bitam, where there is some 317km of mineralisation mapped by geophysical surveys.

Ariti, who expects to own 3.4% of Genmin post-IPO, has the support of major shareholder, private equity investor Tembo Capital, which will control around 67%.

Genmin's post-listing team includes lawyer Michael Arnett, Tembo founder John Hodder, Belgium national and former Eramet executive Pietro Amico, and South African engineer Brian van Rooyen, who was previously a director at several Exxaro subsidiaries.

The company says its team has the experience in both Gabon, and in building mines in Africa, to succeed in opening Gabon's iron ore sector.

The company's raising opened yesterday and it hopes to list on mid-March.



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