



# WORLD TITANIUM RESOURCES

## Ranobe Project Update – March 2012

World Titanium Resources Ltd (ASX:WTR or “the Company”) is pleased to provide a Project update for its Ranobe Mine in Madagascar.

Since WTR listed on the ASX in early January 2012, the Company has been laying the groundwork for developing the world-class Ranobe mineral sands deposit. Over this short period a lot has been achieved and this, the first of our newsletters, aims to give an update on this progress.

### **Mining Licence (Exploitation Permit)**

The Company has engaged with the Transitional Government under Prime Minister Jean Omer Beriziky and in particular the new Mines Minister, Mrs Rajo Daniella Randriafeno, to progress converting the exploration mining licence to a mining licence. The Minister has recently established a process within the Ministry of Mines to prepare all outstanding exploration licence, mining licence conversion and licence transfer applications for approval by the Transitional Government.

The Company is encouraged by these developments and believes they bode well for its goal of obtaining the mining licence for the Ranobe Project in time to allow it to commit to the development of the mine and to raise the development capital in the second half of 2012.

### **Definitive Engineering Study**

Engineering work for the mine, processing equipment and infrastructure is being undertaken to finalise the design and update the capital and operating cost estimates. This engineering work is also being used to identify long lead time items, develop the optimum mine plan, and prepare the tender for project engineering, procurement, construction and management.

The study is being managed by TZMI with Engineering & Project Management Services as the lead engineering contractor, and commenced on schedule in January. Specialist sub-contractors have also been engaged for various aspects of the Project, including the mine and mining method, the port, the haul road and the slurry pipeline. The overall basis for design and process design for the mineral separation plant are currently being finalised and the study is on track for completion in mid-2012.

### **Community**

The Company continues to enjoy strong support at all levels of the local community; from the Toliara regional government down to the individual villagers. This includes formal representations by the Chef du Region, district and commune Mayors and the Chiefs of each village to the Government of Madagascar indicating their strong support for the Ranobe Project and their desire to see the mining licence granted as soon as possible.

The Company continues to support the local communities and recently refurbished three water wells in villages close to the proposed mine site. The Company intends to equip these wells with foot-pump powered pumping units.

### **Preparations drilling and pitting**

Preparations for the drilling and pitting programs, planned for the second half of 2012, are well advanced, with the camp at Ranobe being currently refurbished and trial mining equipment (front end loaders) successfully sourced from within Madagascar. Applications for the environmental permit for the program and for the import permits for the pilot plant and drilling rigs have been submitted.

The pitting program will focus on the mining area at Ranobe and will be used primarily for a confirmatory trial of the mining method selected in the engineering study. A bulk sample will also be collected and processed to confirm the selected flow sheet and to provide additional product samples for customer testing.







**New Canteen and Accommodation Block at the Ranobe Pilot Plant Camp**

The drilling program will incorporate in-fill drilling at Ranobe, if this is shown to be required as a result of the optimised mine planning in the engineering study. An exploration program is also planned for Morombe later in the year.

Exploration work to date indicates that the “Big Dune” area at Morombe contains higher TiO<sub>2</sub> ilmenite, as well as higher zircon grades than Ranobe. The area has abundant water, which would allow a dredging operation to be contemplated. While further work is required, early indications are that Morombe may be suited to a large-scale operation, which could support the development of the infrastructure required to export a product through a port created at Morombe.

The 2012 drilling program at Morombe will follow-up on earlier reconnaissance hand auger sampling results. The aim is to clarify the stratigraphy of the area, collect samples of heavy minerals (HM) for further analysis and determine the potential for economic mineralisation.

#### **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment**

Coastal and Environmental Services, a South African environmental consultancy with extensive experience in mineral sands and other mining projects in Africa, has completed the scoping document describing the Project. It is being translated into French for the public consultation process, which is due to kick-off this April. During the public consultation process key stakeholders, including the government, NGO’s and community, will be engaged to identify potential impacts of the Project. The findings will then be used to refine the scope for the specialist studies that will be completed following the public consultation phase.

#### **Plantation Trials**

A six hectare site has been fenced for a trial of fast growing plants identified as being of value by the local community. The objective is to identify plants for the mine rehabilitation that can grow quickly and provide ongoing benefits to the communities around the mine.

Seeds have been collected and raised in local nurseries and around 15,000 plants are currently being planted out in the trial site.



**Plantation Trial Site**



## Surface Rights

The process of identifying the owners and users of the land which will be required for the proposed mine site and associated infrastructure is continuing. This activity is being facilitated by the Regional Coordination Committee, chaired by the Chef du Region. This committee comprises representatives from the Company, the Ministry of Mines, other ministries, and the mayors of the districts and communities impacted by the Project.

Once all owners and users are identified, the Company intends to enter into long-term leases to secure access to the land for the Project.



**Regional Coordination Committee**



**World Titanium Resources Staff hosting a lunch for the Regional Coordination Committee**

The work required to deliver this exciting Project is progressing on schedule and with a thoroughness that should pay lasting dividends into the future for the local communities, the people and the Government of Madagascar and for the shareholders of World Titanium Resources Limited. The Company intends to keep all stakeholders fully informed on the progress at Ranobe. We are all looking forward to an exciting and rewarding future.



**Bruce Griffin, Chief Executive Officer  
World Titanium Resources**