

FEATURE

## Wahgnion's Consultative Community Committee

We believe that being open about our impacts and agreeing with stakeholders on how they can best be managed lowers our business risks and increases sustainable benefits for communities.

At our Wahgnion mine, we have established a formal committee that plays a key role in making decisions around project impacts and benefits, including for the ongoing large-scale resettlement. Established in 2013, Wahgnion's Consultative Community Committee (CCC) includes 109 representatives from the state administration, local authorities, impacted communities, Wahgnion Gold Operations and civil society. Members of the CCC, including two women per village, were elected by communities with the support of two Burkinabe civil society organizations to ensure a fair and informed process.

The CCC is composed of an executive secretariat, general assembly and subcommissions. The subcommissions are given mandates to investigate and recommend options for specific issues such as compensation or housing for the resettlement, and the Livelihood Restoration Plan. Decisions are reached through consensus at the general assembly and then shared with the broader population through community forums.

The CCC has enabled all stakeholders to reach consensus on issues like the location of resettlement sites, replacement farmland and the local hiring process. The CCC also functions as the first level of appeal for any community grievances, ensuring a fair and open process to address any issues that have the potential to escalate into conflict. Teranga believes that the CCC will continue to play a critical role in maintaining our social license to operate.

