

# Thabazimbi

## evolving with the times

Thabazimbi Mine is committed to its employees and its environment, with detailed plans in place to ease transitions after planned closure in 2014.

### HOW

Insightful and strategic planning will ensure that Thabazimbi's potential is fully realised in the next six years.

#### Substantive mining operations began

at Thabazimbi Mine in 1934, initially underground, and then on the surface from 1942. Underground mining was halted in 1998. Current mining activities take place in five pits, where conventional opencast methods (including blasting, drilling, loading and hauling) are in operation.

A determination to extend the life of Thabazimbi Mine has seen the inclusion of reserves that are now considered economical.



Thabazimbi Mine is an established open pit operation, with ore processed through a single processing facility. It is a relatively small operation with a limited life of mine, although this has been extended to 2014 by including reserves now considered economical. Thabazimbi Mine's total iron ore production is sold to ArcelorMittal.

Even though Thabazimbi is a small operation, it faces several environmental challenges as a result of the steep slopes that are left after mining. These include water management, rehabilitation and revegetation of the landscape. Thabazimbi awaits the results of experiments at Sishen to establish the

feasibility of replanting steep slopes. Seasonal bio-monitoring determines the environmental impact of the mine's water consumption.

The mine invests in its staff and the community, including employee assistance programmes to promote home ownership. Several hostel blocks have been converted into family units, with more earmarked for the same treatment.

The mine frequently consults with community stakeholders and the local municipality to support integrated development plans supported by government initiatives.



# Thabazimbi

## looking after its own

Even though it only employs around 3% of the local population, Thabazimbi Mine has reached out to the community with various empowering projects, many of them geared to prepare the mine's workers for employment after its scheduled closure in 2014.

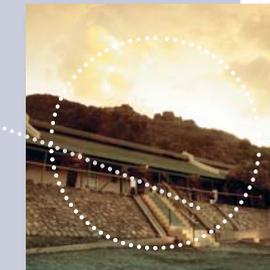
#### The Itireleng Skills Development Centre ...

Training is provided free to local people only. The mine invested R800 000 in machinery and equipment, and technical courses in plumbing, welding, carpentry, bricklaying and motor mechanics are offered. Since inception, the centre has trained more than 650 people.



#### Thabazimbi Mine ...

launched the Re Tlo Lwana (We will fight) community HIV/Aids programme in 2003. The mine invested heavily in training and capacity building, and provides office space and facilities to Re Tlo Lwana and other NGOs. It also provides transport for delivering food parcels to the community and transports caregivers for awareness campaigns.





## Thabazimbi Mine at a glance

**Thabazimbi Mine ...** is owned and operated by Kumba Iron Ore, an Anglo American plc company.

**Thabazimbi's total production ...** of iron ore is sold to ArcelorMittal at the cost of production plus a margin of 3% on a free-on-rail basis.

**Thabazimbi's iron ore ...** is particularly low in contaminants, making it valuable on the steel value chain.

**Extensive rehabilitation projects ...** to restore the environment once mining has been completed have been under way since the 1990s.

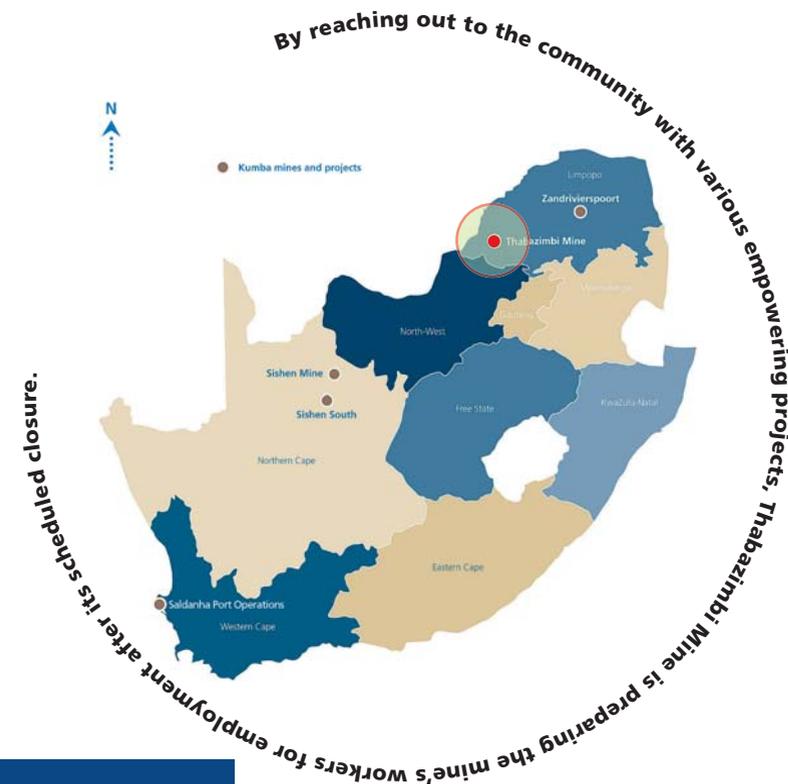
**Number of staff ...** 824 employees and 150 contractors.

**Total tonnage produced ...** 2,7Mta, yielding 84% of final product.

**Total investment in**

**CSI projects in 2008 ...** R1 879 759.

**Safety record ...** LTIFR per 200 000 hours in 2008: zero, with no fatalities.



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**THABAZIMBI MINE**