It has been a year of major milestones for Kaboko Mining (ASX:KAB) with the Zambia-focused junior explorer and miner announcing off-take agreements and a debt financing deal to advance project development and exploration across its high grade manganese projects.

Since it was established twelve months ago, the Perth-based exploration and mining company has moved ahead in leaps and bounds, both in terms of work on its Zambian manganese projects and in terms of locking in landmark agreements with two of China’s leading mining groups.

Kaboko holds majority interests in three projects in Zambia which cover around 2500 square kilometres in regions known for manganese occurrences. The Kanona (Vaz) project holds five large scale prospecting licences and two manganese license areas.

At its flagship Emmanual project, the company has already kicked off small scale mining operations from the Chowa open pit. Meanwhile, it has also progressed exploration work on its two other projects; Peco and Kanona (Vaz). Meanwhile, Kaboko recently received final environmental approval from the Zambian government for its Chowa mine plan.

The company is planning to carry out further exploration work on Kanona (Vaz) throughout 2012-13.

Recent activities

In a bid to provide a greater depth of understanding of its Zambian manganese projects, Kaboko has recently carried out technical and geological activities over its assets. Findings from the work so far carried out have shown extensive manganese endowment exists across the main sites areas, in many cases greater than previously thought and XRF analyses have revealed high grade manganese of over 55 per cent manganese and with little or no impurities.”

In addition, Kaboko has completed a geological review and is looking to wrap up an exploration strategy in the coming weeks. This will be implemented in the coming months. The company is also continuing discussions regarding infrastructure including road, rail and port options.

“The outcome of this recent technical activity has not only significantly enhanced our understanding of the mineralization that exists within our portfolio, but has also allowed us to prepare a more detailed and comprehensive program that will add significant value to the company moving forward,” Brewer said.

Last month, Kaboko appointed a highly experienced manganese executive Simon Young as the company’s Technical Consultant. Simon Young is a professional mining engineer who has worked extensively in mine project development and mine management in Africa, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

MANGANESE FOCUS BEARING FRUIT

One of its largest State-owned enterprises Sinosteel has played a key role in investments in Australian resources companies including the acquisition of Australian iron ore play Midwest Corporation for US$3.5 billion in July 2011.

The news follows the successful shipment of around 210 tonnes of manganese ore shipped to Xinxing in China which confirmed the high grade and high quality of the ore.

Since announcing the agreements, Kaboko and its technical and corporate advisors have been working with Noble Group to satisfy conditions precedent under the transaction.

A shareholder meeting is expected to take place prior to the end of October this year by which time all conditions precedent will be satisfied.

Noble Group has been involved in key investments in Australian resources companies including acquiring a 65.4% stake in Australian coal miner Gloucester Coal and scuttling Gloucester’s planned merger with Whitehaven Coal. Earlier this year, Noble Group announced its support for an US$58 billion merger between Gloucester Coal and Chinese firm Yanzhou Coal.

ZAMBIAN PROJECTS

Emmanuel

Kaboko’s flagship Emmanuel project, which lies near Kabwe in central Zambia, covers over 2,000 square kilometres and includes a granted mining lease, the Chowa open pit, and two exploration licences.

The project lies within the Kabwe manganese field, an area of known manganese occurrences and several established open pit operations.

Exploration work has been carried out over the project including several ground, aeromagnetic and gravity surveys as well as diamond and RC drilling.

Manganese mineralisation has been identified to occur in several veins each 1.5 – 5m in thickness with a north easterly strike and dipping around 40 degrees to the southeast.

The project is expected to produce three clean and classified manganese lumpy ore products (course 23%, medium 60% and small 12%) as well as an upgraded fines product (97%) for export.

The plant is forecast to be built during a 3-4 month period and will include the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site.

Peco

The Peco project lies 65 kilometres east-northeast of the town of Mansa, in the northern Luapula Province of Zambia and is proposed to be the second mine to be brought into development by Kaboko later this year.

The project consists of two granted mining leases and a large area covered by prospecting licences surrounding the current and historic high grade manganese mining. A new road around 30km in length has been completed to connect the property directly to Mansa.

Kaboko has completed ground magnetic and radiometric surveys over the project area which identified a number of follow up targets and also exposed more than eight old exploration trenches (exposing manganese mineralisation) and artisanal mine workings.

Earlier this year, the company completed a maiden 3D aeromagnetic surveys over the small mining licence area and began work over the two large-scale exploration licences.

The company is planning to begin a RC drilling program at Peco once its debt facilities with Noble Group has been finalised. The company will then look towards developing a maiden resource statement for the project.

Kanona (Vaz)

The Kanona (Vaz) project hosts a large exploration licence and is located close to the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site. According to Kaboko, production from Kanona (Vaz) project is expected to be 25,000t a month next year.

The company is looking to significantly increase work carried out in the Chowa pit ramping up to potentially 40,000t per month period and will replace the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site.

Manganese ore from the Chowa mining lease through its interest in impondo Zambia Mining.

In June 2011, Kaboko kicked off its maiden development with the first mine production blast of approximately 2000 tonnes of high-grade and high-quality manganese ore from Chowa which is being mined by conventional open cast drill and blast, truck and shovel methods.

According to Kaboko, monthly production from Chowa is targeting around 10,000t of ore from the Chowa pit ramping up to potentially 25,000t a month next year.

One of its largest State-owned enterprises Sinosteel has played a key role in investments in Australia’s resources companies including the acquisition of Australian iron ore play Midwest Corporation for US$3.5 billion in July 2011.

The news follows the successful shipment of around 210 tonnes of manganese ore shipped to Xinxing in China which confirmed the high grade and high quality of the ore.

One of its largest State-owned enterprises Sinosteel has played a key role in investments in Australian resources companies including the acquisition of Australian iron ore play Midwest Corporation for US$3.5 billion in July 2011.

The news follows the successful shipment of around 210 tonnes of manganese ore shipped to Xinxing in China which confirmed the high grade and high quality of the ore.

The company is looking to significantly increase work carried out in the Chowa pit ramping up to potentially 40,000t per month period and will replace the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site.

The company is planning to begin a RC drilling program at Peco once its debt facilities with Noble Group has been finalised. The company will then look towards developing a maiden resource statement for the project.

Kaboko’s flagship Emmanuel project, which lies near Kabwe in central Zambia, covers over 2,000 square kilometres and includes a granted mining lease, the Chowa open pit, and two exploration licences.

The project lies within the Kabwe manganese field, an area of known manganese occurrences and several established open pit operations.

Exploration work has been carried out over the project including several ground, aeromagnetic and gravity surveys as well as diamond and RC drilling.

Manganese mineralisation has been identified to occur in several veins each 1.5 – 5m in thickness with a north easterly strike and dipping around 40 degrees to the southeast.

The project is expected to produce three clean and classified manganese lumpy ore products (course 23%, medium 60% and small 12%) as well as an upgraded fines product (97%) for export.

The plant is forecast to be built during a 3-4 month period and will include the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site.

Kaboko Mining (ASX:KAB) to begin exploration work on Kanona (Vaz) throughout 2012-13.

Recent activities

In a bid to provide a greater depth of understanding of its Zambian manganese projects, Kaboko has recently carried out technical and geological activities over its assets.

Findings from the work so far carried out have shown extensive manganese endowment exists across the main site areas, in many cases greater than previously thought and XRF analyses have revealed high grade manganese of over 55 per cent manganese and with little or no impurities.”

In addition, Kaboko has completed a geological review and is looking to wrap up an exploration strategy in the coming weeks. This will be implemented in the coming months. The company is also continuing discussions regarding infrastructure including road, rail and port options.

“The outcome of this recent technical activity has not only significantly enhanced our understanding of the mineralization that exists within our portfolio, but has also allowed us to prepare a more detailed and comprehensive program that will add significant value to the company moving forward,” Brewer said.

Last month, Kaboko appointed a highly experienced manganese executive Simon Young as the company’s Technical Consultant. Simon Young is a professional mining engineer who has worked extensively in mine project development and mine management in Africa, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

Since announcing the agreements, Kaboko and its technical and corporate advisors have been working with Noble Group to satisfy conditions precedent under the transaction.

A shareholder meeting is expected to take place prior to the end of October this year by which time all conditions precedent will be satisfied.

Noble Group has been involved in key investments in Australian resources companies including acquiring a 65.4% stake in Australian coal miner Gloucester Coal and scuttling Gloucester’s planned merger with Whitehaven Coal. Earlier this year, Noble Group announced its support for an US$58 billion merger between Gloucester Coal and Chinese firm Yanzhou Coal.

Exploration work has been carried out over the project including several ground, aeromagnetic and gravity surveys as well as diamond and RC drilling.

Manganese mineralisation has been identified to occur in several veins each 1.5 – 5m in thickness with a north easterly strike and dipping around 40 degrees to the southeast.

The project is expected to produce three clean and classified manganese lumpy ore products (course 23%, medium 60% and small 12%) as well as an upgraded fines product (97%) for export.

The plant is forecast to be built during a 3-4 month period and will replace the existing small scale and temporary crushing plant on site.

Kaboko Mining (ASX:KAB) to begin exploration work on Kanona (Vaz) throughout 2012-13.

Recent activities

In a bid to provide a greater depth of understanding of its Zambian manganese projects, Kaboko has recently carried out technical and geological activities over its assets.

Findings from the work so far carried out have shown extensive manganese endowment exists across the main site areas, in many cases greater than previously thought and XRF analyses have revealed high grade manganese of over 55 per cent manganese and with little or no impurities.”

In addition, Kaboko has completed a geological review and is looking to wrap up an exploration strategy in the coming weeks. This will be implemented in the coming months. The company is also continuing discussions regarding infrastructure including road, rail and port options.

“The outcome of this recent technical activity has not only significantly enhanced our understanding of the mineralization that exists within our portfolio, but has also allowed us to prepare a more detailed and comprehensive program that will add significant value to the company moving forward,” Brewer said.

Last month, Kaboko appointed a highly experienced manganese executive Simon Young as the company’s Technical Consultant. Simon Young is a professional mining engineer who has worked extensively in mine project development and mine management in Africa, Papua New Guinea and Australia.