

Lombok gold, copper prospects better than ever, says miner

CANADIAN miner Southern Arc Minerals has commenced diamond drilling on one of its south Lombok prospects, a major step towards developing a major mine in the area.

The company announced this and other advances at prospects in Sumbawa in statements from its Vancouver headquarters in late April and early May.

Preliminary geologic mapping and sampling at Southern Arc's Mencanggih prospect, in the Sekotong peninsula, found five areas worth further exploration.

Mencanggih is at the centre of a 13-km long mineral corridor also containing the Pelangan gold prospect and the Selodong copper-gold prospect.

The company says all five targets selected for further detailed exploration "exhibit significant mineralisation".

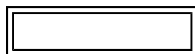
Mencanggih "represents a significantly large, highly prospective, and under-explored area", the company says.

Southern Arc has several exploration projects on six properties in the so-called Sunda-Banda area, which includes Lombok and Sumbawa.

It has told investors it has been focusing on this area because since 1997 there has been little activity and now, with changes in the economy, legislation and improved governance, the ability to access, explore and develop mining properties in Indonesia is exceptional.

"Management believes it to be a unique window of opportunity," it said in a statement released on April 30. Southern Arc is the first Canadian junior mining company to have raised funds (IPO - \$C2 million and, subsequently, \$C1.4 million in January 2006, \$C3.03 million in March 2006, and \$C2.1 million in April 2007) and to be focusing on Indonesia since the exodus of miners after the 1997 economic crisis. It says its corporate strategy is to continue to develop strong relations with the local, regional and national levels of government, NGOs and local communities and to develop "significant symbiotic relationships" with large mining companies such as Newmont Corporation

[BACK TO TOP ↑](#)



BIZ BRIEFS

'Private' tax to boost tourism

BALI Chamber of Commerce chairman, Gede Wiratha, has called for tourist promotion to be funded through a foundation using additional money raised by the private sector collecting the provincial hotel and restaurant tax.

He told the Bali Tourism Board (BTB) at a recent meeting this would ensure it could launch an effective tourism marketing organisation for the island.

Repeated attempts in the past by tourism stakeholder organisations to obtain provincial government financial support have all failed.

Qatar's big show

NEW Bali travel entrant Qatar Airways heavily promoted its new services at the Arabian Travel Market (ATM), the Middle East's leading travel trade show, held this year at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre from May 1-4.

It focused on services to New York, due to commence on June 28, and Washington, on July 19, promoting these prime routes to the Gulf region's big

