



5 March 2025

Government approval work progresses as Graphite Sector continues to develop and expand in Madagascar

Highlights

- The Evion management team in Madagascar has continued toward concluding the Maniry Community Development Plan with significant recent milestones achieved.
- The Maniry community continues to extend its endorsement for the development of the Project, with further pledges of support received.
- A site visit by officials from the Office of National pour l'Environnement ("ONE") is planned over the forthcoming weeks with an agreement reached on the final pathway for the confirmation of Evion's Environmental approval.
- Ongoing meetings have been held with the Mines Minister of Madagascar, Dr Olivier Rakotomalala, and his advisers with agreement reached on an effective development pathway for the Maniry Graphite Project.
- Managing Director, Mr David Round, to attend a series of meetings in Madagascar next week with the Mines Ministry, representatives of the EU and International Monetary Fund ("IMF") as support to develop Madagascar's graphite sector grows.
- Ongoing discussions and negotiations continue with the EU in relation to Evion's grant application as part of the EU's Strategic Project (Critical Raw Materials) Program.
- **Madagascar now recognised as the largest producer and exporter of graphite outside of China¹ – demand for this critical mineral is set to expand rapidly over the next decade.**

Mr David Round, Managing Director commented – "Ongoing, substantial developments have occurred in Madagascar over the last month as we continue to conclude all regulatory matters in order to be granted environmental and mining permits by the Malagasy Government.

We are delighted with the support of the Maniry community to develop our Project. The Project will provide substantial regional employment opportunities, and we are committed to working with the local community on a range of upgrades to infrastructure, to support educational and healthcare facilities.

We are also working closing with members of the EU advisory team in Madagascar as part of our recent application to provide critical minerals to the EU in the future. I have a range of meetings scheduled for next week in Madagascar including with the Mines Ministry, and we hope to conclude a formal plan on the timeframe for the development of the Maniry Graphite Project. This is indeed an exciting time for the development of our Project in Madagascar and we look forward to formalising a number of important matters over the short term".

¹ Source: Investing New Network February 2025

Granting of Mining Licenses & Environmental Approvals

As outlined in our earlier announcements², the Mines Minister of Madagascar recently authorised the Bureau du Cadastre Minier de Madagascar (“BCMM”), the government body that manages the issuance of permits, to formally proceed with the conversion of Evion’s Exploration (“PR’s”) to Exploitation (“PE’s”) for the Maniry Project (the “Project”) in the short term. The conversion of these final important tenements will result in all Project areas within our defined Definitive Feasibility Study³ (“DFS”) being approved as Mining (Exploitation) Licenses, allowing us to immediately move toward the mines development phase of our operations.

The final official conversion of our PR’s to PE’s will occur following a series of site visits from ONE officials which are planned for the next few weeks. These visits will confirm our final Environmental Plan and our community endorsed Community Development Plan (including the Relocation Action Plan).

The Evion in-country management team has recently received further endorsement from the local Maniry community with a range of outstanding matters expected to be concluded in the forthcoming weeks.

Meetings held with Maniry community leadership

In January 2025, Evion MD, David Round, and in-country General Manager, Lydia Boarlaza, held a series of meetings with Princess Zoendreniny and other regional officials as part of our agreement on the development of the Maniry Graphite Mine. Princess Zoendreniny confirmed her community’s support for the development of the Project, and Mr Round outlined Evion’s plans for the community, which includes extensive infrastructure development, employment opportunities and the implementation of a healthcare and an education centre for all local employees and their families.

Further meetings are scheduled over the forthcoming weeks as we seek to ratify and conclude several matters in support of the community as part of our final Community Development Plan and Environmental Plan.



Figure 1 – Evion MD, David Round, (right) with Princess Zoendreniny (second from right), Evion General Manager, Lydia Boarlaza (centre) and advisers

Support to Madagascar Graphite Mining Sector

In September 2024, Evion applied to the European Union for the Maniry Graphite Project to be recognised as a “Strategic Project” by the EU as part of the EU’s Critical Raw Materials Act⁴. Graphite is recognised by the EU as a one of the most critical Strategic Raw Materials within its Act.

² ASX announcement 23 and 30 January 2025

³ ASX announcement 3 November 2022

⁴ ASX announcement 18 September 2024

Recognition of the importance of the Maniry Graphite Project by the EU will provide Maniry with significant support for its development. The Evion Management team continues to liaise with representatives of the EU, in both Madagascar and Europe. The development of Maniry will see us provide substantial exports of battery-grade graphite to the EU as Europe seeks to secure a reliable supply of this critical mineral during its transition to sustainable forms of energy.

Evion MD, David Round, is scheduled to meet with key advisers from the EU next week in Madagascar, as well as with representatives of the IMF. The IMF is key supporter of Madagascar as the country transitions to becoming a globally important contributor to the critical minerals supply chain to Europe and other parts of the world.

Madagascar grows its Graphite Supply to meet the Worlds need

The development and growth of the graphite sector in Madagascar now sees the Country as the largest producer and exporter of graphite outside of China, and this expansion is scheduled to continue⁵.

Graphite exports from Madagascar have grown significantly over the past decade, and in 2024, the country produced and exported more graphite than any other country outside of China, with significant exports to Europe, the USA, and parts of Asia.

China's ongoing ban on the export of graphite to many global markets should provide Madagascar with the impetus for further expansion as new mines are developed and existing operations commence exports.

Madagascar has the largest reserves of natural graphite available for export in Africa⁶ and is strategically well located to continue its decades-long exports to Europe, the USA, and parts of Asia.



Figure 2 – Evion's proposed Maniry Graphite Mine adjacent to Next Sources' Molo operation – Southern Madagascar

⁵ <https://investingnews.com/daily/resource-investing/battery-metals-investing/graphite-investing/top-graphite-producing-countries/>

⁶ U.S. Geological Survey, Mineral Commodity Summaries, January 2025

Short term actions

The Evion team anticipates a number of key milestones to be confirmed of the short term and these include:

- ✓ Confirmation of our Environmental Action Plan with endorsement by ONE following their site visits,
- ✓ Confirmation from BCMM that all mining licenses are converted allowing Evion to move toward the financing and development phase,
- ✓ Formal Agreement with the Malagasy government on the implementation of commitments outlined in our DFS and a timeframe for development, and
- ✓ Ongoing proactive liaison with the EU in bring Maniry in to development.

This announcement has been authorised by the Board of Evion Group NL

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