

# CERRO BLANCO PROJECT

SUBTERRANEAN AND OPEN PIT GOLD AND SILVER MINE



**NATURAL RESOURCE**  
Gold & silver



**LOCATION**  
Municipality of Asunción Mita, Jutiapa Department



**AFFECTED COMMUNITIES**  
Asunción Mita and other municipalities in Guatemala and El Salvador



**OWNED BY**  
Bluestone Resources and run by subsidiary Entre Mares de Guatemala (now Elevar)

## CERRO BLANCO

Guatemala

1997

General Mining Law passed.

Entre Mares de Guatemala SA, subsidiary of Canadian Corporation, Glamis Gold, granted gold and silver mining exploration licence for Cerro Blanco project in municipality of Asunción Mita, Jutiapa Department.

2005

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted by Glamis Gold is rejected twice by environmental authorities.

2007

Glamis Gold merges with another Canadian corporation, Goldcorp Inc.

2009

Guatemalan and Honduran civil society demonstrate against Goldcorp's presence in Guatemala.

2010

Guatemalan and Salvadoran social organizations meet Guatemalan legislators and officials to raise concern about the environmental impacts of Cerro Blanco.

2011

Salvadoran and Guatemalan human rights ombudspersons visit Cerro Blanco to assess impacts.

2012

Guatemalan indigenous organizations protest against government attempt to regulate community consultation process.

2013

Presidents of Guatemala and El Salvador announce bi-national commission to analyse impact of mine.

2014

Regional Forum on the Impact of Mining in Central America, held in Guatemala City.

2015

Organizations in El Salvador circulate their proposal for a Central American transboundary water treaty to protect shared water resources, and advance soil and forest conservation in the region of the transnational Lempa watershed.

2016

First community consultation in relation to Cerro Blanco mining project held in municipality of Quesada, Jutiapa in which 99% of participants vote against the project.

2017

Bluestone Resources carries out feasibility study to restart exploitation at mine.

2018

Bluestone Resources announces its plan to redevelop Cerro Blanco, to extend and convert it into an open pit mine, and to submit a new EIA to obtain a new exploitation licence.

2019

Bluestone feasibility study published promoting rapid restart to mining at Cerro Blanco.

September 2021

Leaders of El Salvador's Catholic Church highlight the threat posed by the Cerro Blanco mine to the Lempa River, the country's key water resource.

2021

Report published on crossborder environmental impact of Cerro Blanco mine.

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Salvadoran NGOs submit information on the lack of protection of the human right to water, including in relation to impacts of Cerro Blanco, for the assessment of El Salvador's human rights record in the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council.

2021

Entre Mares changed name to Elevar.

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Civil society protest at threat of crossborder environmental and health impacts of the new plans for Cerro Blanco.

2021

Meeting held in Guatemalan Congress to question minister regarding reactivation of Cerro Blanco project and Bluestone Resources plans.

2021

Archbishop of San Salvador proposes international legal complaint against Cerro Blanco mine.

2021

Goldcorp resubmits EIA.

2021

Community files legal opposition. Guatemalan authorities ignore this and award Entre Mares de Guatemala exploitation licence.

2021

Cerro Blanco mining project presented at Ethics Tribunal on Border Mining in Latin America.

2021

Guatemalan and Salvadoran NGOs block border in protest.

2021

UNESCO recognises the Trifinio Fraternidad transboundary biosphere reserve.

2021

Demonstration against mining and increased violence in municipality of Jutiapa.

2021

IACHR holds thematic hearing on human rights affected by metallic mining in El Salvador, including the crossborder impacts of Cerro Blanco.

2021

Mesa Nacional calls for permanent suspension of Cerro Blanco project.

2021

Goldcorp suspends operations at Cerro Blanco due to technical difficulties preventing mine entering into exploitation phase.

2021

Bluestone Resources purchases Entre Mares from Goldcorp and assumes ownership of Cerro Blanco project, including potential to a geothermal power station.

2021

The Human Rights Ombudsperson Offices of Guatemala and El Salvador agree to coordinate on transborder human rights violations.

2021

Resident of Asunción Mita files unsuccessful constitutional challenge to exploitation licence granted for the Cerro Blanco project.

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The Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsperson conducts an investigation into possible human rights violations arising from the Cerro Blanco project.

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