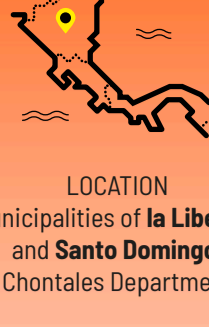


LA LIBERTAD PROJECT

SUBTERRANEAN AND OPEN PIT GOLD MINE



NATURAL RESOURCE
Gold



LOCATION
Municipalities of **La Libertad**
and **Santo Domingo**,
Chontales Department



AFFECTED COMMUNITIES
Santo Domingo



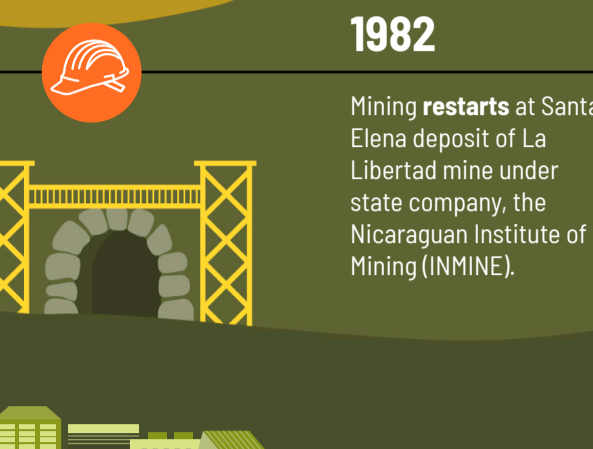
OWNED BY
Calibre Mining, run by
subsidiary **DESMINIC**

LA LIBERTAD

Nicaragua

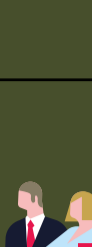
1862

Start of recorded gold mining history in La Libertad and Santo Domingo municipalities of Chontales Department.



1979

On coming to power, the Sandinista government **cancels all mining concessions** granted under the Somoza administration and **nationalises mining companies** in 1981.



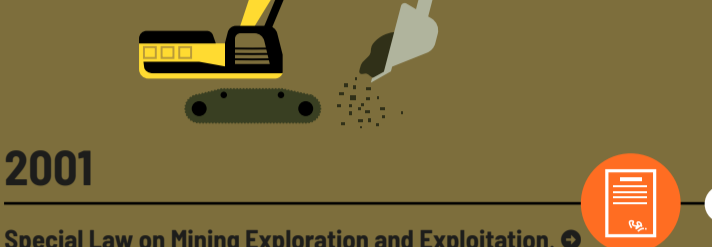
1982

Mining **restarts** at Santa Elena deposit of La Libertad mine under state company, the Nicaraguan Institute of Mining (INMINE).



1992

Chamorro government initiates **partial privatization** of mining industry.



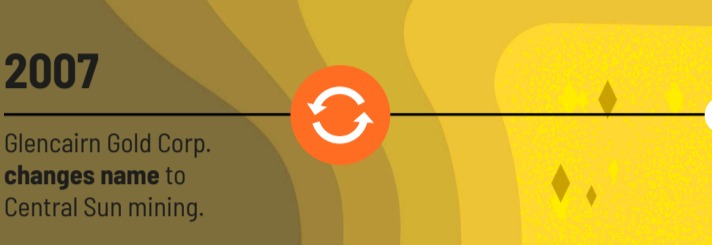
1994

La Libertad gold mining concession **sold** to newly created company, Minera Nicaraguense S.A. (MINISA). Majority owned by Canadian corporation, Greenstone Resources, through its local subsidiary GRENICA. IMISA, the privately run mine workers' union company, retains minority stake.



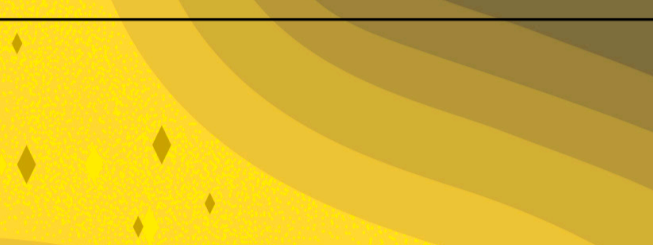
1996

GRENICA **buys out** IMISA to fully control MINISA, which continues to run mine.



1999

Desarrollo Minero de Nicaragua (DESMINIC), owned by various international investors, **buys out** GRENICA to become local concession holder of La Libertad project.



2001

Special Law on Mining Exploration and Exploitation.



2006

Glencairn Gold Corp. purchases DESMINIC to make La Libertad project into a major industrial open cast heap leach mine.



2007

Glencairn Gold Corp. **changes name** to Central Sun mining.



2008

Nicaragua's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) **issues DESMINIC with environmental permit and authorisation for gold deposit exploration.**



2009

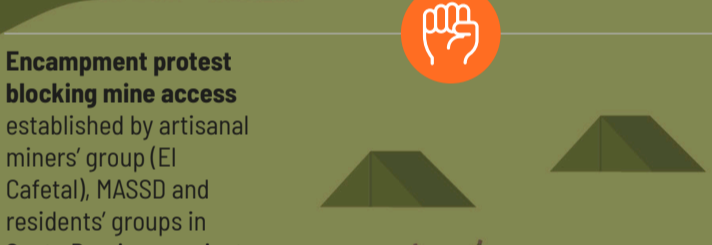
Latin American Water Tribunal **Forum on Open Pit Mining.**



Canadian corporation, B2Gold, **purchases** Central Sun and **starts extraction and processing at La Libertad**, particularly at Jabali Central site in the municipality of Santo Domingo.

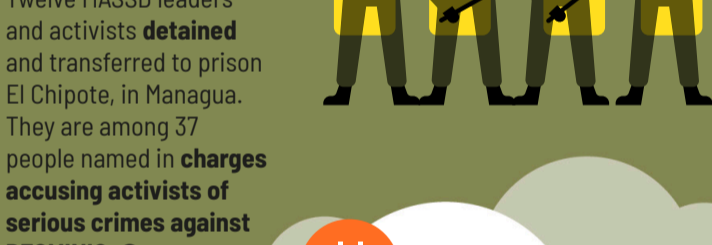
2010

Environmental management agencies (UGAs) in the municipalities of La Libertad and Santo Domingo **file complaints with MARENA and Public Prosecutor regarding pollution**, including of water resources.



2012

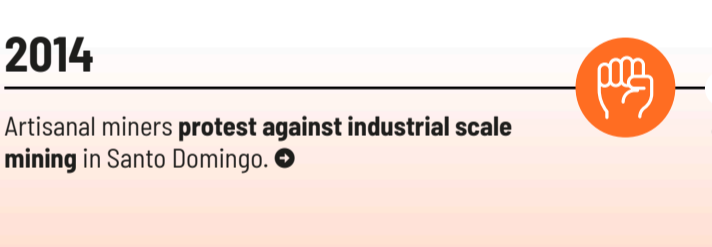
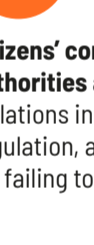
Artisanal miners and residents of Santo Domingo **protest** against mine. **Save Santo Domingo Environmental Movement (MASSD) is formed.**



Artisanal miners **file complaint with MARENA demanding compliance with provisions of the Special Mining Law** allowing artisanal mining.

2013

Licence granted for exploitation of the Jabali Central open pit site in Santo Domingo.



2013

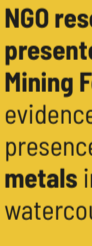
Encampment protest blocking mine access established by artisanal miners' group (El Cafetal), MASSD and residents' groups in Santo Domingo against B2Gold.



MASSD **files administrative complaint against authorities for granting of exploitation licences.**

2013

Riot police **violently evict** protest encampment. Twelve MASSD leaders and activists **detained** and transferred to prison El Chipote, in Managua. They are among 37 people named in **charges accusing activists of serious crimes against DESMINIC.**



Citizens' complaint filed with authorities against DESMINIC for violations in legal and environmental regulation, and against authorities for failing to enforce regulations.



Humboldt Centre **begins consultation process to test water** in Santo Domingo, demonstrating that water supplies were adequately drinkable before mining exploitation began.



2014

Artisanal miners **protest against industrial scale mining** in Santo Domingo.



Santo Domingo municipal council **approves ground use of new open pit site**, Tajo de Antena, directly impacting local residents.

2015

Residents of Santo Domingo **file an administrative complaint against MARENA, DESMINIC and B2Gold.**



NGO research findings **presented at National Mining Forum**, including evidence of increased presence of **heavy metals** in Tünel Azul watercourse.



Humboldt Centre **begins consultation process to develop of new open pit site**, Tajo de Antena, directly impacting local residents.

2017

Institute of Strategic Studies and Public Policy (IEPPP) and the Humboldt Centre **hold a forum on New Rules in the Mining Sector.**



Nicaraguan NGOs testify at **IACHR hearing** on "Right of Access to Information and Transparency in Environmental Management, Licensing, Monitoring, and Oversight of Extractive Activities in the Americas."



Environmental defence organizations in the Department of Chontales **adopted the "Environmental Ten Commandments on Water and Life".**

2018

MASSD holds **protest against mining** in Chontales and in remembrance of police operation against protesters and temporary detentions in 2013.



Residents of Santo Domingo **condemn company-led "consultation"** meeting and march through town **protesting against B2Gold and the expansion of its project** into subterranean mining at Jabali Oeste site.

2019

B2Gold merges with Canadian corporation, Calibre Mining Corp.



Mining temporarily **suspended** due to the instability affecting 25 households, but subsequently restarted.

2020

Calibre Mining **reports** production of 18,000 ounces of gold during 2019, projecting production to reach 70,000 ounces in 2020.



GOLD PRODUCTION

2019 ► 18,000 OUNCES

2020 ► 70,000 OUNCES



Santo Domingo Council, supported by MONAFMI, **renews demand for revision of mining and highlights pressure** placed on local residents to leave their homes.



September 2021

This timeline forms part of the **Juridification of Resource Conflicts** project at the Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at the School of Advanced Study, University of London, in partnership with Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS), Mexico.

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