Desert Gold Outlines New Exploration Targets Proximal to the Senegal Mali Shear Zone

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Delta, January 30, 2020 - Desert Gold Ventures Inc. (TSXV: DAU) (FSE: QXR2) (OTC Pink: DAUGF) ("Desert Gold" or "the Company") is pleased to present, recently acquired and reviewed, geophysical data over the Company's SMSZ Project in Western Mali, near the border with Senegal.

The ~400 km^2 SMSZ Project is both named after, and, overlies a 38 km section of the Senegal Mali Shear Zone (see Figure 1), which is related to 5 large mines located both to the north and south, along strike, including B2 Gold's Fekola Mine, Barrick's Gounkoto and Loulo Mines and AngloGold Ashanti/Iamgold's (now Allied Gold's) Sadiola and Yatela Mines[1]. To the Company's knowledge, the SMSZ Project is the largest, contiguous, non-producer land package over this very prospective structural feature. Exploration targets within 5 km of the Senegal Mali Shear Zone, are considered by management to be high priority, exploration targets.

Induced Polarization (IP) surveys were carried out over the project area in 2011 for TransAfrika Resources, a precursor to Desert Gold. This work led to the definition of 15 strong anomalies that are presented in Figures 2 and 3, along with select drill results, the inferred location of the Senegal Mali Shear Zone and select geological data. Of these anomalies, 4 anomalies, B, E, F and I, are deemed to be tested with each of the 4 related to known gold zones. The remaining 11 geophysical anomalies have either not been adequately tested or tested at all. A summary of the anomalies is presented in Table 1. Testing of these geophysical anomalies is planned to begin in 1H, 2020.

Jared Scharf, Desert Gold's CEO comments "This newly evaluated geophysical data, further emphasises the potential of the SMSZ Project. We are defining new targets in a great structural setting, in generally, laterite and/or overburden-covered areas, that would not have been picked up by conventional soil sampling and mapping. As well, most, if not all of these anomalies are of sufficient scale for the discovery of a new, significant, gold deposit."

Figure 1 Property Scale Compilation Map*

To view an enhanced version of Figure 1, please visit:
https://orders.newsfilecorp.com/files/4954/51956_d8f226e824abdbd4_001full.jpg

*All gold grades over width, with the exception of the Soa prospect, represent drill holes with the true widths, for most holes, ranging from 70 to 95%. **The Soa Prospect result is from a trench with true widths unknown. Estimated true widths for the Berola Prospect are unknown. True widths at the Gourbassi Zones range are estimated to range from 60% to 90%.

Figure 2 Colour-contoured IP Chargeability Inversion data for -168 metre level

To view an enhanced version of Figure 2, please visit:
https://orders.newsfilecorp.com/files/4954/51956_d8f226e824abdbd4_002full.jpg

Figure 3 Colour-contoured IP Resistivity Inversion data for -168 metre level

To view an enhanced version of Figure 3, please visit:
https://orders.newsfilecorp.com/files/4954/51956_d8f226e824abdbd4_003full.jpg

Technical Details

Induced Polarization surveys were carried out over an approximate 3 km by 8 km part of the project area in 2011 for TransAfrika Resources, a precursor to Desert Gold. The geophysical surveys consisted of a Time Domain, Pole-Dipole IP survey that was conducted with 6 x 100 metre dipoles. The results were modelled using the Geotomo Software inversion package. This work led to the delineation of 15 anomalies with color-contoured inversion data presented at the approximate 168-metre vertical level, well below the base of oxidation (see Figures 2 and 3).

The IP summary data presented in Figures 2 and 3 also show three critical, regional scale geological features, including the Senegal Mali Shear Zone in the lower left portion of the figures, a northeast-trending shear zone corridor and two, larger granodiorite intrusions in the upper right of the figures. Regionally, the Senegal Mali Shear Zone is associated with 6, >1 million-ounce gold deposits that are located within 5 kilometres to the east of the shear zone. The inferred location of the Senegal Mali Shear Zone is based on an abrupt change in resistivity across the projected structure. The granodiorite intrusion may have been emplaced in an area where the dominantly north-trending Senegal Mali Shear Zone, locally trends more northwesterly. The northeast-trending shear zone, which controls the location of the carbonate-hosted Barani East Zone and a few other gold zones, appears to offset the granodiorite intrusion, in a left lateral sense, by 500 to 1,000 metres.

A potential geological scenario, is early movement on the Senegal Mali Shear zone, emplacement of the granodiorite intrusions, which are in turn are both cut by the Northeast Shear Zone, which is in turn cut by the reactivated Senegal Mali Shear Zone and a series of related north- to northwest-trending splay structures. Second and third order shears appear to have developed as splays off of the Senegal Mali Shear Zone and are focussed along, and locally within, the granodiorite intrusion. Gold mineralization is hosted by siltstones, sandstones, carbonates, felsic intrusions and gabbroic intrusions, or essentially any rock types that are intersected by stronger shear structures. Alteration consists of typical carbonate sericite zones with disseminated to veinlet pyrite, quartz veining and local hematization and tourmalinization. Both iron-(hematization) and tourmaline-enrichment are associated with most of the large deposits in the region and thus are viewed as positive aspects in this overall target area.

IP chargeability anomaly highs appear to indicate increased in pyrite content as evidenced by increased pyrite content in the known gold zones, which are associated with chargeability highs. However, chargeability highs can also be related to other conductive materials, like graphite, which may or may not be related to gold mineralization. Resistivity highs in this area denote intrusive rocks or general rock type changes proximal to the Senegal Mali Shear Zone, and areas of abundant quartz veining. Resistivity lows can represent graphitic shear zones. While gold zones, related to the IP chargeability highs, would be the easiest to follow, gold zones can also occur on the flanks of the geophysical anomalies.

Table 1 - IP Anomaly Summary

IP Anomaly	Chargeability	Resistivity	Strength	Length (m)	Comment
A (Target Area 58)	high	Low to flank	strong	1,500	May be we
B (Target Area 37)	high	Flank to high	Mod to strong	2,100	Barani Ea
C (target Area 56)	high	Low to flank to high	Weak to strong	3,200	Recently t
D (Target Area 57)	high	moderate	medium	600	Parallel tre
E (correlates with Barani Zone)	high	moderate	Medium to strong	4,000	Northern h
F (correlates with Barani Zone)	moderate	low	moderate	850	Part of Ba
G (Target Area 55)	moderate	Low to flank	moderate	2,400	Not tested
H	moderate	Flank to high	moderate	260	Likely a sh
I (correlates with Keniegoulou Zone)	strong	Wk to mod to flank	moderate	2,500	Eastern fla
J (Target Area 59)	moderate	Moderate to flank	moderate	1,300	Not tested
K (Target Area 51)	strong	strong	strong	1,600	Not tested

L (Target Area 48)	moderate	Moderate to flank	moderate	2,300	Partially te holes to te
M (Target Area 49)	Moderate to strong	moderate	moderate	2,400	Not tested
N (Target Area 53)	moderate	moderate	moderate	1,000 and 300	Not tested
O (Target Areas 1 and 52)	moderate	Weak to flank	moderate	500 and 750	Not tested ppb Au so

Exploration Plan

These target areas will be evaluated in a sequential fashion. Wide-spaced auger lines will initially test for gold enrichment along the IP anomalies that are covered by laterite. If anomalous gold values are delineated over the anomalies, then more systematic auger drilling will be carried out to better define the gold anomalies prior to first pass testing by AC drilling. IP anomalies that have been validated by existing soil surveys and/or geological mapping, will be tested by AC if the rocks are weathered (saprolitic) and RC if the rocks are fresh.

Additional drilling is planned both to depth and along strike of known zones with a goal to delineate mineral resources. Recent work at the Barani and Keniegoulou Zones suggests a flat plunge, which would support continuing to test high grade zones, along strike, at or about the same vertical level. The Barani East Zone, which is controlled by a different structure, appears to plunge moderately to shallowly to the southwest, with new drilling targeting down plunge of the known lenses and along strike, with a goal to discover additional lenses.

The company, also plans to extend the IP geophysical surveys to the north, since many of the anomalies are open to the north and the favorable northwest orientation, of the Senegal Mali Shear, appear to persist for approximately an additional 2 km before appearing to trend northeast for approximately 4 km and after that, northerly.

This press release contains certain scientific and technical information. The Company is solely responsible for the contents and accuracy of any scientific and technical information related to it. Don Dudek, P.Geo a director of Desert Gold and a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101, has reviewed and approved the scientific and technical information contained in this press release.

[1] Mineralization hosted on adjacent and/or nearby properties is not necessarily representative of mineralization hosted on the Company's SMSZ Property.

About Desert Gold

Desert Gold Ventures Inc. is a gold exploration and development company that holds 3 gold exploration projects in Western Mali (SMSZ, Segala West and Djimbala) and its Rutare gold project in central Rwanda. The Company's current focus is its 391 km^2 SMSZ Project that spans approximately 38 km of the prolific Senegal Mali Shear Zone.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors

"Sonny Janda"

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For further information please visit our website www.desertgold.ca or information available on www.SEDAR.com under the company's profile.

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