



## **SAGITTARIUS MINES, INC.**

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**10 November 2009**

### **SMI Art Camp unfolds skills of local young artists**

With her art work “Green Road for Development,” Marjorie Jorillo of Holy Cross of Kiblawan went home the Grand Champion of the 1<sup>st</sup> SMI Art Camp on 27-30 October 2009 at Del Rio Splash Resort in Koronadal City.

The SMI Art Camp is a capability-building initiative that aims to contribute to the holistic development of the young people through art and to engage them in our country’s cultural preservation and development.

At the Art Camp, the 50 student-artists from 25 high schools in Malungon, Kiblawan, Tampakan and Columbio, the towns directly hosting the Tampakan project, received training from top visual artists from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Arts Association of the Philippines (AAP), led by AAP President Salvador Convocar.

Acrylic and water color conceptual artist Robert Deniega appreciated how SMI takes care of the children. According to him, a visual art creates thousands of messages in a frame. He is happy to see a recording of everything the student artists’ learned about sustainable mining during the Art Camp.

There were four categories in the Art Camp competition – Sustainable Development, Dreams for Progress, Environment, and Community. The category winners’ work will be featured in the 2010 Calendar of SMI, thus the 1<sup>st</sup> SMI Art Camp being dubbed as “Project Calendar.”

“The Art Camp enhances the artistic and creative abilities and skills of the student artists, which is consistent with SMI’s thrusts in relation to cultural preservation and development,” said SMI Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership Superintendent Bella Lechonsito.

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### **Notes to editors:**

#### **About the Tampakan Project**

The Tampakan project is located on the southern Philippines island of Mindanao, approximately 65 kilometres north of General Santos City. The project area spans parts of four Provinces – South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Davao Del Sur and Sarangani. The copper gold deposit is located in the Province of South Cotabato, Municipality of Tampakan.

The Tampakan deposit represents one of the largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits in the South East Asia-Western Pacific Region. On 30 March 2007, Xstrata Copper acquired 62.5% of the controlling interest in the Tampakan Project and assumed management control through acquisition of common stock in Philippines based affiliate Sagittarius Mines, Inc. Indophil Resources holds 34.2% and Alsons Group 3.3% of the remaining common stock.

[www.smi.com.ph](http://www.smi.com.ph)

#### **About Xstrata Copper**

Headquartered in Brisbane, Xstrata Copper is one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc. Its operations and projects span eight countries: Australia, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Canada, the USA, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea. Its operations are administered by five separate divisions, based close to the mining operations, namely the North Queensland, Minera Alumbrera, North Chile, Southern Peru and Canada divisions. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with annual attributable production capacity of one million tonnes.

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