

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

# SENEGAL

By Philip M. Mobbs

Production of phosphate rock, fertilizers, and phosphoric acid continued to dominate the mineral industry of Senegal. Minerals accounted for almost 20% of the country's export earnings and approximately 2% of the nation's gross domestic product. Other mineral resources identified by the Government included clays, copper, diamond, the Tamna Lake diatomite, the Faleme iron ore, peat, additional deposits of phosphate rock at Matam, silica sands, dimension stone in the southeast, titanium-bearing sands along the coast, and uranium (Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Industry, 1995).

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Senegal, see the 1996 Minerals Yearbook, Volume III, Mineral Industries Review of Africa and the Middle East.

## Reference Cited

Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Industry, 1995, Mineral Resources Development Investment Opportunities: Dakar, Senegal, Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Industry, 35 p.

TABLE 1  
SENEGAL: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity 2/		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Cement, hydraulic	metric tons	589,820 3/	590,000	590,000	590,000	590,000
Clays, fuller's earth (attapulgitic)	do.	119,000 3/	119,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
Petroleum:						
Natural gas	thousand cubic meters	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000
Crude oil	thousand 42-gallon barrels	4	2	2	2	2
Refinery products	do.	6,200	6,200	2,500	2,500	2,500
Phosphate rock and related products:						
Calcium phosphate-based fertilizers		160 3/	160	160	160	160
Crude rock:						
Aluminum phosphate 4/		29	29	40	40	40
Calcium phosphate		1,667 3/	1,587 3/	1,500	1,340 r/	1,300
Phosphoric acid		274 3/	274	274	300	300
Salt	metric tons	117,400 3/	117,000	120,000	120,000	120,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Includes data available through August 13, 1998.

2/ In addition to the commodities listed, Senegal produced clays, sand and gravel, and stone for local construction purposes, limestone for cement, and artisanal gold. Information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output levels.

3/ Reported.

4/ Estimated data, based on clinker production reported in 1993.