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Geology of uranium in the Republic of Madagascar

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Madagascar has a high potential of uranium in terms of mineral resources on the island. Two thirds are distributed of these potential mining resources are distributed in crystalline basement and the third in a sedimentary formation. The Government of the Republic of Madagascar has been promoting a comprehensive national policy, aiming at the major goal of poverty reduction through economic growth. In order to realize this policy, it was recognized that the promotion of mining activities is crucially important, focusing on the large-scale mining development by introducing foreign capital investment. The obvious effort shown by the Government of Madagascar for this national policy has been highly evaluated by the international community. The CAE, PNUD, IAEA have supported this nation since 2009.

The first discovery of uranium in Madagascar is located in the lacustrine basin of Antsirabe located in the central part of Madagascar. Generally, the uranium found within five types of formation and different ores : the first proceed from the pegmatite (central part of Madagascar; Itasy, Antsirabe, Mandoto regions), locally called uranium pegmatite; the second from the pyroxenite; third from urano-thorianite (Fort-Dauphin area, South Eastern); fourth from uraninite-bearing granites (Ankazobe); and finally from the neogene lacustrine basin of Antsirabe, with autunite (central part) and from the Isalo formation of Mahajanga and Moramanga basin, locally called uranium sandstones (containing carnotite).

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