

GOLD MINERALIZATIONS IN THE AGUAPEÍ GROUP, MATO GROSSO-BRAZIL

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Gold mineralizations in the Aguapeí Group was mined since the advent of "Bandeiras" during the eightieth century. The 80s' shown rapid growth of the mining activity in the region. The Aguapeí Group in the area is marked by a N20-40W trending line of hills, made of metaconglomerates, quartzites and metapelites. The basement of these Neoproterozoic metasediments are represented by gneissic-amphibolitic complex (e.g. Santa Barbara) and granitic-gneissic sequence (e.g. Santa Helena). Most of the gold mineralizations are quartz vein associated, related to shear zones that crosscut rocks from the Aguapei Group. However, there are some mineralizations hosted the basement rocks, associated with shear zones. Other types of gold deposits include alluvial-colluvial concentrations and disseminations. More than twenty gold concentrations and deposits have been reported to occur in the Aguapei Belt. Three of them have been studied in detail for the authors (Pau-a-Pique, Lavrinha and São Vicente). In the Pau-a-Pique deposit, gold is associated with sulphides and oxides in quartz veins that fill fractures related to transcurrent faults. In the Lavrinha deposit, gold occur in gently dip shear zones associated with sulphides in quartz veins. The São Vicente Mine is characterized mainly by mineralizations associated with saddle reefs structures related to upright folds, and gently dip (15NE) fracture system filled by quartz veins. This research is supported by PADCT/FINET(0812/98).