



## Lamego Project library to broaden knowledge

If a man searches for knowledge, it is much easier if it is close at hand. This idea led to the establishment of a new library at Lamego mine, in Sabará, Brazil, which opened on 21 September 2007.

The facility was named after Silas da Fonseca, a poet and musician who lives in the community close to the mine, and who attended the opening ceremony.

The library is a resource for the 192 employees at the mine and their families, and houses a collection of 620 books, donated by employees, relatives and others. The mine constructed the facility and donated the requisite fittings. Lamego's Mine Manager, Apolo Evangelista, says that the objective of the mine was to provide cultural stimulus and an interest in areas outside of work to employees. The idea arose from an employee opinion survey that dealt with employees' perceived quality of life and satisfaction at work.

"The library is well used," says Silas, "and importantly, many people have contributed towards the project".

The mine is also promoting a "Book Day", with three such days already having been held. On this day time is set aside for employees to read and discuss books that are related to the activities of the company.

"Through the opening of the library, we are promoting a culture of reading, and motivating our people to read more," says the mine HR manager, Milvane Aguiar.

Books range in subject matter, from Brazilian and foreign literature, to technical books, management material, poetry, to books for children and teenagers. The library is open 24 hours a day to facilitate participation by all shifts and employees themselves manage the lending/return process.

