



## PLANNING AND EXECUTING GEOLOGICAL FIELD PROGRAMS HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY

### How to Plan and Execute a Successful Field Program, from Conception to Analysis

This guide is meant to serve as a primer and checklist for how to plan and execute a geological field program. While it has greater applicability for programs conducted outside the continental United States it can and should be used as an aid for all field programs, even those done in the domestic US. Any guide, including this one, cannot replace hands-on experience and local knowledge; however, an objective approach can help eliminate oversights and potential risks in the future.

#### Before You Start

Before any planning can begin there are some fundamental questions you should ask yourself. Failing to answer these key questions now can be the difference between success and failure of the field program. These questions include:

- Is a field program even necessary? Start by recognizing the gaps in your database. Can answers to your questions be found in public access work or In-Country Ministry archives? Have local academic institutions already done what you are planning to do?
- If field work is deemed necessary, what are the objectives (list them)? What questions are you trying to answer? Are your field objectives reasonable and achievable and will a field program provide clear resolution of the key questions?
- Do I have a fall back plan? Is it feasible to reschedule or work around problems?
- What issues or conditions could prevent successful completion of the program? What could aid in successful completion of the program?
- What are the physical and security risks to staff (list them)? How will you mitigate those risks (list the risk mitigation plan)?
- Do you have key contacts within the host government, local companies, or academic institutions you can rely on for help and assistance?
- What permits do you need from local, regional, or national government authorities? How long will it take and how much will it cost to get the permits (**mind the FCPA!**)?
- What language or social skills will be needed and who can provide them?
- Who needs to go? Can it be done by In-Country Consultants or do the Principal Investigators (PI's)/Company staff need to go?
- If the work cannot be done by In-Country Consultants are the PI's or Company staff technically and physically qualified to successfully carry out the entire program? What are the critical skill sets needed in order to achieve a successful result?

- What is your budget? There are field program options for every budget but they vary greatly. Make sure to include analytical costs for the samples you collect (if samples are part of the program). Compromises can be made but not in key areas (HSSE).

**Now that you've addressed these issues, it's time to build a plan and begin to assemble your Field Team and supplies. Contact us at [www.cayoenergy.com](http://www.cayoenergy.com) for more details!**