

Approaches to Reduce the Use of Mercury in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining

Under

THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES PROJECT (SMMRP), TANZANIA

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1. General ASM Overview

- ❑ Artisanal and Small Scale mining activities (ASM) in Tanzania involve the mining and extraction of gold, gemstones and a variety of building and industrial minerals.
- ❑ ASM encompass owner of primary mining licences (PMLs); labourers, mineral brokers, and service providers such as food vendors and technicians.



General ASM Overview *cont...*

- A baseline survey conducted in 1996/97 estimated ASM to range from 550,000 to 1,000,000 people; Ratio of individuals engaged in gemstones to gold to other types of minerals being 11:8:1.
- Mining, milling, processing and recovery of gold by the ASM have been experiencing the use of rudimental equipment.
- Gold recovery still depends on amalgamation.



General ASM Overview *cont...*

ARTISANAL SMALL SCALE GOLD MINING

- Recently, some improvements have been noted in mining methods compared to processing (millings, crushing, and sluicing).
- Cyanide use has become popular in the lake victoria area, where cyanidation is used to leach tailings that were mainly discarded by ASGM.



Challenges



Home processing

River panning



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Some impacts



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4. Approaches to reduce Mercury use under SMMRP

SMMRP Overview

- SMMRP is a 5-year technical assistance project (2009-2014)
- Project Financing:
 - IDA Credit - USD 50M
 - Government of Tanzania - USD 5M
- Coordinated by the Minerals Division and the Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST)



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SMMRP Components

• Component A:	Improving the Benefits of the Mineral Sector for Tanzania
• Component B:	Strengthening Governance and Transparency in Mining
• Component C:	Stimulating Mineral Sector Investment
• Component D:	Project Coordination, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation



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Approaches to reduce Mercury use under SMMRP *cont...*

SMMRP Baseline studies

- The ASM assessment will establish the present situation in the field, including the impacts, behavioral changes and legacies of past interventions.



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_14425

