



planet**GOLD**

Making a world of difference
in small-scale gold mining.

A GEF Initiative

2021/2022

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

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Supporting countries' commitments under the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the planetGOLD programme is funded by the Global Environment Facility, led by the United Nations Environment Programme, and implemented in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and Conservation International.

For more information, visit planetgold.org.

AT A GLANCE

By working to close the financing gap, supporting formalization, raising awareness, and connecting mining communities with mercury-free technology and formal markets – all with a gender mainstreaming approach – planetGOLD aims to demonstrate a pathway to cleaner and more efficient small-scale gold mining practices that benefit everyone, from the mine to the marketplace. The highlights below give a snapshot of what is captured in this report.



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS



6 projects installed—or began installing—new mercury-free processing systems



3 projects worked to strengthen existing processing plants through capacity building



Projects across the programme provided technical assistance and trained miners and gold processors on utilizing mercury-free technologies



Some projects additionally taught miners improved laboratory techniques, proper management of tailings, and how to remove mercury from existing tailings



ACCESS TO FINANCE



2 projects piloted debt financing mechanisms using a “de-risking” intermediary



2 projects developed debt mechanisms with loan guarantees



1 project participated in the creation of a Credit Surety Fund offering for miners



1 project created a model using Central Bank forward purchasing agreements



4 projects trained miners in basic business skills, pitches, and applying for loans



All projects reached out to the formal financial sector to promote opportunities for financing mercury-free ASGM



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS



2

projects sold responsible, mercury-free gold to the formal market



2

projects supported responsible gold supply chains to the Central Bank



Most projects worked to educate mining operations on the planetGOLD Criteria, building miners' capacity to comply with relevant standards and verify that their gold is responsibly produced.



FORMALIZATION



All projects assisted and guided policy makers in improving or developing regulations on the ASGM sector

Several projects trained government officials at national and local levels to support policy and regulatory reforms that are essential for formalization



Multiple projects trained miners on steps toward formalization, including the process for establishing cooperatives and for obtaining mining permits



GENDER EQUITY



2

projects completed original research reports on gender equity dynamics and challenges in ASGM

A majority of projects facilitated trainings, workshops and discussions with miners, policy makers and other stakeholders on gender-related topics including access to finance for women miners, creating legal mining associations, and promoting the fundamental rights of women.



1

project developed a food security initiative as an alternative source of livelihoods for women

Multiple projects contributed to improved or newly created regulations for women working in ASGM





AWARENESS RAISING



All projects carried out education and training activities in-person and virtually on minimizing mercury exposure, alternative production methods, accessing financing, formalization, and more

All projects disseminated engaging materials to local communities, from comic books to hard hats, carrying slogans about avoiding mercury and reinforcing key messages about responsible mining



All projects promoted responsible ASGM and centered miners in stories and campaign materials published on the programme website, in national media markets, and on social media

THE GLOBAL PROJECT



Promoted financing and investment

- ▶ Participated in investor conferences to further build network of potential financiers
- ▶ Created a course to educate financial specialists on the basics of ASGM, and developed guidance on reporting geological information on ASGM in an investment-friendly way
- ▶ Published reports on supply chain technology solutions and on overcoming barriers to international markets, and supported reporting on the planetGOLD criteria



Developed and shared knowledge

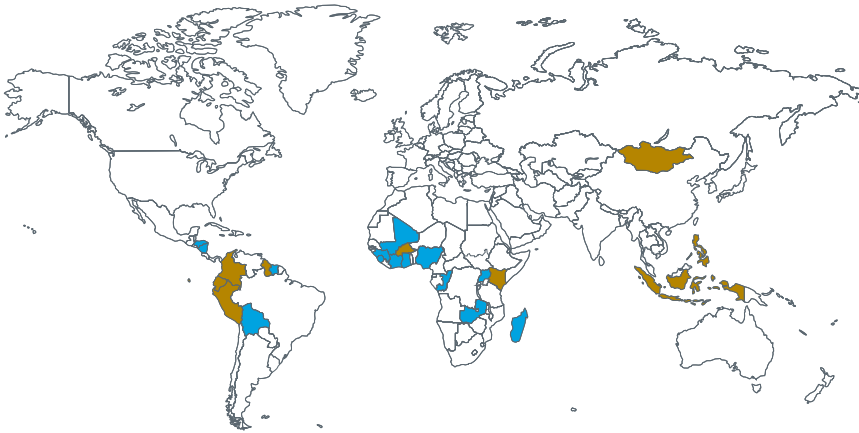
- ▶ Hosted the first Global Forum on ASGM virtually over 3 days with over 500 participants
- ▶ Supported knowledge exchange on mercury-free technology, and provided guidance on best practices for cyanide use in ASGM



Communicated stories and awareness material

- ▶ Produced video testimonials from miners in 9 countries
- ▶ Brought the message of clean gold to a side event on ethical gold at the July 2021 Cannes Film Festival
- ▶ Communicated about programme achievements through blogs, photo stories, email lists and social media

PROGRAMME MANAGER



This year marked a period of momentum for the planetGOLD programme. Country projects made great strides to advance toward their mercury reduction goals and to tackle other social and environmental issues associated with artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), accelerating these efforts significantly after the COVID-19 pandemic posed substantial challenges in previous years. As we are welcoming 14 new countries and bringing Ecuador in as an official member of the planetGOLD family with phase 2 of the programme, the experience gained in the first phase will be an invaluable resource for those just entering planetGOLD, as well as the broader community of ASGM practitioners around the world.

This report provides an overview of planetGOLD’s progress from July 2021 through June 2022. Our project teams have made key advances toward helping miners go mercury-free, by improving miners’ awareness of the dangers of mercury use,

educating and demonstrating to them viable technical alternatives, and progressing in creating an enabling regulatory and financial environment that supports miners to undertake this transition. Due to these efforts, we have achieved the great milestone of seeing the first production of gold via mercury-free processes at planetGOLD project sites.

My sincere thanks to the continued commitment and collaboration of all the staff, partners, advisors, and allies that are behind the achievements reflected in this report. I look forward to seeing the programme’s continually expanding efforts to advance responsible mining and make mercury history in the world’s artisanal and small-scale mines.



Ludovic Bernaudat
Senior Task Manager, Chemicals
and Health Branch, United
Nations Environment Programme

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernaudat".

For more on phases 1 and 2, see the Programme Structure in the [Appendices](#)



CHAPTER

1

OVERVIEW OF PLANETGOLD

Artisanal and small-scale miners are responsible for producing about 20 percent of the world's gold each year. Due to limited economic opportunities or a lack of awareness about the dangers, many of these small-scale mining operations use the highly toxic chemical mercury to extract their gold. This 3,000-year-old method for processing

gold is leading to grievous environmental and health consequences. Transforming the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector has the potential to inject new capital into local economies and improve the lives of more than 100 million people worldwide, who rely on this industry directly or indirectly for their livelihoods.

Supported by the Global Environment Facility, the planetGOLD programme works in partnership with governments, the private sector, and ASGM communities to upgrade the production practices and work environment of artisanal and small-scale miners—sustainably boosting their

productivity while improving the gold supply chain and reducing global mercury pollution. The programme is working to demonstrate a pathway to cleaner and more efficient artisanal and small-scale gold mining practices that benefit everyone, from mine to market, by supporting:



FORMALIZATION

Facilitating efforts to integrate the ASGM sector into the formal economy, society, and regulatory system



ACCESS TO FINANCE

Piloting a range of models for access to investment and finance for artisanal and small scale miners and their communities



ACCESS TO MARKETS

Facilitating miners' access to formal gold supply chains, in partnership with gold buyers and industrial users



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

Introducing and facilitating access to mercury-free technologies and best practices in ASGM



AWARENESS RAISING

Improving understanding of the challenges and opportunities of ASGM, in local communities and beyond



GENDER EQUITY

Identifying gender gaps in the sector and introducing strategies to promote equal opportunities for women and men

To learn more about planetGOLD, visit

planetGOLD.org



A close-up, top-down view of a person's hand sifting gold dust in a wooden pan. The dust is being moved in a circular motion, creating a central pile. The entire image is tinted with a blue color.

OUR MISSION:

To make small-scale gold mining safer, cleaner, and more profitable

OUR VISION:

A clean global supply of gold from small-scale miners



CHAPTER

2

PROGRESS ON CORE STRATEGIES

The planetGOLD programme is working to advance responsible ASGM and eliminate mercury from the supply chain of artisanal and small-scale mined gold by focusing on six key programmatic themes: access to finance, technical solutions, formalization, access to markets, awareness raising, and gender

equity. Projects have been progressively building on these programmatic pillars for the last three years. This chapter summarizes progress made across each of planetGOLD's key strategies by the countries engaged in Phase 1 of planetGOLD: Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Peru, and the Philippines.

Unless otherwise noted, the advancements described in this section reflect activities undertaken from July 2021 through June 2022. More detailed summaries for each project can be found in the [Appendices](#).



ACCESS TO FINANCE

Access to finance remains a critical barrier to the transition to responsible, mercury-free ASGM. The planetGOLD programme is working to improve access to finance by understanding the different barriers faced by miners and financiers and then designing approaches that address them. The typical informality of the sector, the lack of familiarity with formal business procedures, as well as the small size of operations all act to hinder miners' access to formal sources of finance, leaving them to turn to informal, and sometimes disreputable, sources. From the perspective of formal financial institutions, working with ASGM poses reputational risks; these risks, coupled with lack of experience with the sector and high transaction costs associated with small actors, formal financial institutions often shy away from engaging with ASGM.

The planetGOLD programme has been testing innovative approaches to finance for small-scale miners and their communities that work to overcome barriers and to unlock the flows needed to finance the mercury-free transition. By piloting different models for access to finance and working with a range of partners including microfinance institutions, commercial banks, national development banks, NGOs, socially responsible investments, and industry partners, planetGOLD is demonstrating how ASGM finance can be designed to fit a wide range of circumstances and needs.



Representatives from the financial institution Caja Ica visit artisanal miners in Arequipa, Peru

Debt finance with an intermediary

The planetGOLD Ecuador and planetGOLD Peru projects are piloting debt financing mechanisms that use an intermediary to “de-risk” the finance. The general model includes: a financier, who makes a loan to an ASGM gold producer (usually to finance purchase of equipment); the ASGM operation in turn produces and sells gold to a designated buyer at a discounted rate; the buyer then uses the discounted amount to make the loan payment on behalf of the ASGM gold producer. In the case of Ecuador, the project developed a model with the National Bank of Ecuador as the financier and the Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE) as the gold buyer. The team also created a similar mechanism with the private entity, the Jardín Azuayo Savings and Loan Cooperative, resulting in at least one credit so far, in the amount of \$40,000 USD over five years.

In the case of Peru, the planetGOLD team used a similar model to finance equipment but instead of directly providing the loan funds to miners, the loan proceeds are transferred directly to the equipment supplier who then provides the agreed equipment to the mining operation (See Figure 1). The operation then sells its ore to a central processing plant, which pays a portion to the financier as loan repayment.

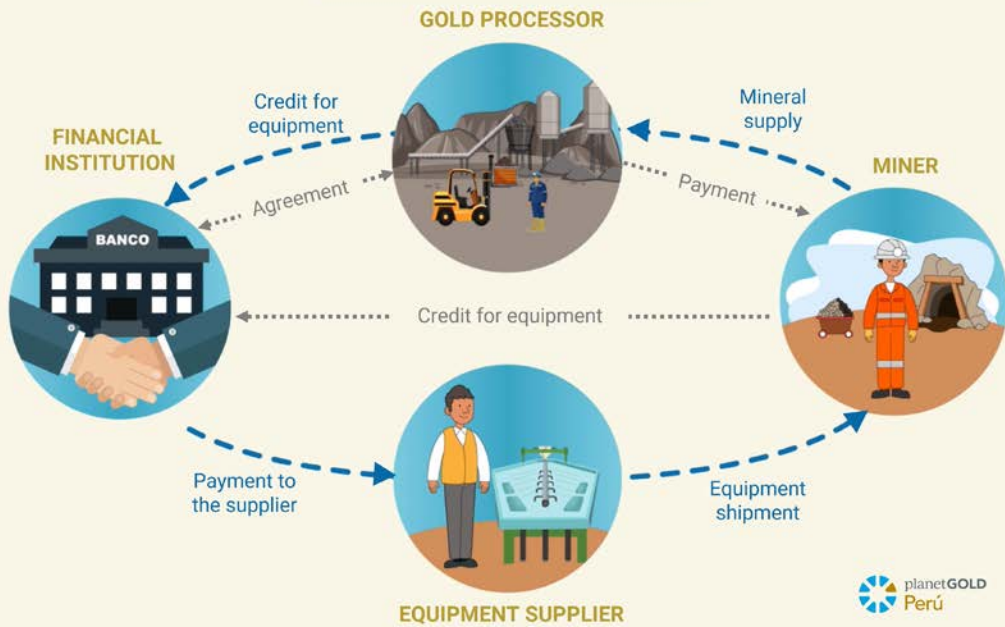


Figure 1

Financial institution Caja Los Andes has committed to allocate about USD \$500,000 for the implementation of this proposed financial mechanism, with plans to scale up from 8 to 40 mining groups in the Arequipa region.

Debt mechanisms with loan guarantees

Providing loan guarantees is one way to de-risk financing of the ASGM sector. In Burkina Faso, the team is developing a revolving fund that will be made available to ASGM operations, with the CorisBank International as the fund host. A loan guarantee will support the credit, where capital to fund the guarantee will be raised from both the public sector (e.g. bilateral donors) and from private actors, such as refiners, who are interested in the development of responsible gold production capacity from ASGM. The Colombia planetGOLD team has also created a financial mechanism agreement with Financial Cooperative CFA

(Cooperativa Financiera de Antioquia), with a guarantee fund of USD \$80,000 contributed by planetGOLD Colombia to support this line of credit, worth a total of USD \$230,000. So far fifteen credits were awarded to mining units for a total amount of USD \$160,870 and to date, there has been a 100 percent repayment rate.

Participation in the creation of a Credit Surety Fund

In the Philippines, the project team began initial discussions with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), the central bank of the Philippines, to explore Credit Surety Fund offering for miners in Sagada. This pooled fund—with contributions from cooperatives and/or non-government organizations, the local government unit, the Philippine Guarantee Commission, and government-owned bank(s)—would act as surety cover and serve as an alternative collateral for participating mining entities.

Forward purchasing agreements as collateral

In this model, the central bank shall purchase gold from miners from the ASGM associations in the planetGOLD Philippines project sites, who meet the planetGOLD Criteria. Miners can then use the forward purchasing agreement to secure a loan from participating local commercial banks. (See Figure 2). A proposal will be presented to the central bank and participating local commercial banks. Meanwhile, training will be provided to the ASGM associations in conducting and adhering to due diligence procedures.

The Philippines project has also created a social enterprise model with an investable business plan to facilitate financing and investment, especially from socially responsible impact investors who may be attracted by the mercury reduction impacts. The social enterprise design includes allotting a portion of its profits for an ASGM fund that will be used for economic, social, and environmental outreach programs.

Educating miners and investors

Underpinning the development of these new financial models is education of the miners in basic business skills and specific training on the development of loan applications and business pitches. This training has been undertaken throughout the life of the programme, and during this period, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Indonesia, and Kenya reported these capacity building activities for the miners. Specifically, the Burkina Faso project trained the miners of the Gnikpière pilot site on the use of a specially-developed artisanal miners’ financial information booklet. In a second training in the Dano district, the team provided information on a new fund focused on women miners, under the “Fonds d’Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes (FAARF).”

In Indonesia, 22 miner groups with 303 members (of which 35 percent are women) received capacity development on loan applications for procurement of mercury-

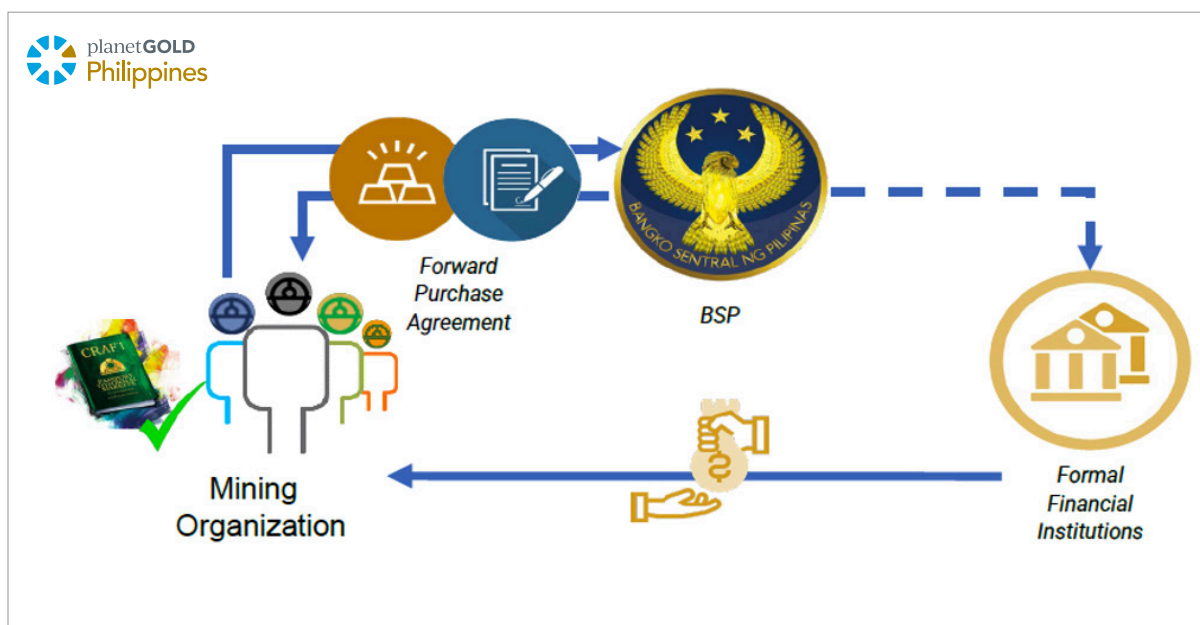


Figure 2

free processing equipment. After training, miners were able to submit a total of 38 loan applications to different financial entities such as cooperatives, banks and non-bank institutions – all of which were approved.

Finally planetGOLD projects also engaged in outreach and education for the formal financial sector (banks and investors) in order to bridge the knowledge gap about the ASGM sector and to promote the positive opportunities for financing the mercury-free transition.



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

When used properly, technologies and practices that reduce or eliminate the use of mercury can extract a greater amount of gold than traditional methods using mercury amalgamation—leading to more income for miners and their families and fewer risks to their health, their communities, and the environment. All projects across the planetGOLD programme are promoting and piloting alternative technologies and better practices with artisanal and small-scale gold miners.

The appropriate technologies depend on the ore type, available resources, and social and economic factors. While every site is unique, the mercury-free production methods being piloted by the country projects usually involve improved crushing and milling, gravity concentration tools such as sluicing and shaking tables, flotation, and/or chemical leaching.

Constructing mercury-free facilities

Six projects have designed new mercury-free processing systems that have either

been installed – or are in the process of being constructed – at project mine sites. Since 2019 the planetGOLD Indonesia project has established 21 pieces of mercury-free equipment of different scales at its six project sites. These new processing plants have led to an estimated total avoidance of 167 kilograms of mercury. In addition, the project’s broader activities promoting reduced mercury use have had indirect impacts, including the fact that ASGM miners at these project sites are now able to build their own mercury-free processing plants, which contributes to a total estimated avoidance of 19.57 metric tonnes of mercury.

Mobile pilot plants installed by planetGOLD Colombia have so far produced 72 kilograms of mercury-free gold. In Peru, Mongolia, and the Philippines, new processing plants were being built in several of their project areas during the reporting period. The planetGOLD Philippines team expects the processing system it is installing in Paracale to reduce mercury use by roughly 17 kilograms per year. The Burkina Faso project is likewise promoting technical solutions by importing and transporting equipment for the installation of a new mercury-free processing system at its Gnikipière mine site.



[See the installation of planetGOLD Burkina Faso’s mercury-free processing equipment](#)

In Guyana the project team [installed a mercury-free system](#) at a demonstration site, which has a parallel mining operation that continues to utilize mercury. The project has gathered samples at both the mercury-free demonstration site and the neighboring site for the purposes of assaying and quality control over a four-month period. This will provide verifiable evidence of the efficiency and effectiveness of the equipment in place at the two circuits.

Strengthening existing facilities

In addition to installing new processing systems, projects in three countries also have a strategy to strengthen existing processing plants through capacity building and the provision of mercury-free equipment. The project in Mongolia pivoted to strengthening two processing plants with mercury-free processing equipment, with regulatory barriers as of June 2022 preventing the team from installing a new processing plant. The project expects to reduce the use of mercury by 52.12 kilograms per year through the operation of both systems.



Technical training in mercury-free gold processing facility in Kulon Progo, Indonesia



Take a 360-degree interactive tour of planetGOLD Guyana's mercury-free demonstration site

Likewise, at one of its project sites planetGOLD Philippines changed course and proposed process improvements to existing processing plants after the local community objected to the project's plan to install a new centralized cyanide processing facility. And in Ecuador as of the end of this reporting period, mercury-free plants that were supported and expanded by the project team were ready to buy and process ore from miners, thereby enabling them to avoid the use of mercury.

Training and promoting best practices

Several projects across the programme are providing technical assistance and engaging miners and gold processors in trainings on how to utilize the mercury-free technologies they are promoting. Some projects are also teaching miners [improved laboratory techniques](#), the proper management of tailings, and how to remove mercury from existing tailings. For example, in Ecuador a pilot demonstration using gravimetric concentration on tailings removed more than 90 percent of the mercury.

At sites where miners are using what are considered the four worst practices in ASGM—whole ore amalgamation; open burning of amalgam or processed amalgam; burning of amalgam in residential areas;

and cyanide leaching in sediment, ore, or tailings to which mercury has been added without first removing the mercury—planetGOLD projects are also promoting adoption of better practices that can reduce the most harmful mercury exposures in a timely manner.



FORMALIZATION

The planetGOLD programme acknowledges the complexities to formalize the ASGM sector. That's why the programme prioritizes assisting miners with identifying technical and financial solutions to improve their operations. While formalization includes reforming the legal status of ASGM, the process also encompasses formulating policies, building capacity, and increasing provision of services among a variety of agencies and institutions (such as mining, education, environmental, labor, and health) that address different dimensions of ASGM.

Building and Sustaining National and Local Capacity

With the facilitation of a variety of trainings and geared towards different audiences, the planetGOLD projects continue to advance in building capacity on the ground. The

Indonesia project has trained 357 miners on establishing cooperatives and obtaining permits, while also training 344 government staff to support policy and regulatory reforms that are essential for formalization. The Colombia and Burkina Faso projects concentrated on miners and increasing the capacity of government personnel at both national and subnational levels to assess, plan and implement sustainable and mercury-free interventions. Directed towards policymakers, the Mongolia project worked as a member of a task force to develop the new ASM Regulation and supported the ASM National Federation to conduct awareness raising activities to stimulate the process of amending and approving the draft Artisanal and Small-scale Mining Regulation.

In preparation for its trainings, the Kenya team developed a number of materials for stakeholders on ASGM themes such as: formalization; environmental health and safety; legal and institutional framework; business management and gender. An example can be found on the planetGOLD website: [Comprehensive Training Manual on Integrated Sound Management of Mercury in Kenya](#).

The ongoing support provided by planetGOLD projects to local governance is important in all phases of the programme. The Kenya team demonstrated this with its support of the induction of four County Mining Committees (Kakamega, Vihiga, Migori and Narok) which review, consider, and recommend issuance of licenses for ASGM, and facilitate registration of mining groups by social services in priority areas.



Formalization training in Khovd province, Mongolia

Regulation Advances

The development and improvement of regulations is necessary for the progression of formalization. All of the projects have assisted and guided policy makers in improving or developing regulations in some capacity. In Indonesia, from 2019 to 2022 the project team has supported the Government of Indonesia in strengthening the implementation of the National Action Plan on Mercury Reduction and Elimination with the establishment of 36 regulations/guidelines at national and sub-national levels. With the Mongolia team's involvement, the Government made several adjustments on formalizing gold trade. Specifically, through Resolution No. 150 of March 2020, the Financial Regulatory Commission approved the "Procedure for licensing, permitting and registering of traders of precious metals, precious stones and items made of them." This regulation was one of the first policies to support the formalization of the gold trade.

The Colombia, Kenya and Peru projects conducted activities and published multiple documents to guide their governments in different areas of policy making. Supporting the development of a new tailings management policy, the Colombia team carried out a pilot to identify mercury tailings that may contain residual gold. The Kenya project developed Health, Safety and Environment Regulations and Guidelines, and Guidelines for Delineation of Land Licensing of Artisanal Miners. Focusing more on national policy and the commercialization of gold, the planetGOLD Peru project completed a draft of the National Multisectoral Policy for Small Mining

and Artisanal Mining, and the Normative Proposal about Gold Commercialization in ASM was published officially.

ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS



Under the planetGOLD programme, one key element of attracting finance and engaging formal markets is to ensure that the gold produced meets relevant environmental and social standards. The [planetGOLD Criteria](#) were created as a branched version of the CRAFT Code, providing an opportunity for planetGOLD beneficiaries to be in conformance with other key guidance and codes.

The programme also aims to connect interested responsible gold buyers (e.g. international refiners, potential domestic gold markets) and national banks to miners to sell their gold directly, which would reduce intermediaries and thereby increase the price miners receive.

Partnerships lead to mercury-free gold sold

Working with mining operations that comply with and show evidence of verification of environmental standards is a requirement of planetGOLD projects. This takes time and is achievable as both the Indonesia and Colombia projects have reported with their success stories in selling



mercury-free gold to the formal market. Specifically, the planetGOLD Indonesia project estimates 2.84 tonnes of mercury-free gold was produced, with 754 grams of this gold sold to the formal market, over a time period of 2019-2022.

Partnering with La Gabriela Mine (a Fairmined certified operation), planetGOLD Colombia reported the sale of 3.7 kilograms of mercury-free gold to the formal market via C.I ANEXPO, currently known as Grupo ALTEA. In compliance with the CRAFT Code and meeting planetGOLD Criteria, the project exported 1.8 kilograms of this Fairmined certified gold to an international buyer via its first established responsible gold supply chain, with the intervention of the international refinery Italtrepreziosi.

A challenge reported by the Indonesia project of the formal gold market entities is their willingness to adapt their purchasing practices with ASGM miners. For example, competing with the informal cash-and-carry system is difficult, as this is preferred by the miners due to its simplicity and quick turnaround.

Other partnerships may look like engaging with local and national stakeholders. The Mongolia project is working with local and national stakeholders to establish a transparent gold supply chain from the miner to the Central Bank of Mongolia. Gold traders play an important role in the supply chain and so the Philippines project assisted three local gold traders from Sagada on how to register and receive accreditation with the Bangko Sentral NG



Gold buyer in the Philippines weighing gold using a manual scale

Pilipinas (BSP). Sagada's accredited local gold traders are now selling to the BSP gold buying station in Baguio City.

Implementation of the planetGOLD Criteria and CRAFT Code

Complying with CRAFT Code and meeting the requirements of the planetGOLD Criteria is a process, and the planetGOLD projects continue to report success stories. Almost all nine projects have conducted trainings, facilitated national and local workshops, and as mentioned above, both the Indonesia and Colombia teams verified compliance in order to sell mercury-free gold to the markets.

The Peru team reported that they had used the CRAFT Code and planetGOLD Criteria to screen 15 mining organizations. Preparing for implementation, the Mongolia project selected two plants in Mandal soum of Selenge to pilot and install mercury-free processing systems. Once the plants are improved, the expected amount of responsible gold from both sites is 40 kilograms per year.



AWARENESS RAISING

One of the root causes of mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining is a lack of awareness: of the dangers of mercury, the availability of more efficient ways to recover gold, and opportunities to access finance and shorter supply chains. Tackling the use of mercury in the sector requires not only disseminating information on mercury, formalization, financial mechanisms, and mercury-free technologies, but persuading actors to change their behavior.

The ASGM sector also typically has a very dominant negative perception among the broader public, which blocks its potential in all spheres. The planetGOLD programme aims to use effective communications to help miners, local and national governments, financiers, consumers and other supply chain actors recognize and support the potential of responsible, mercury-free artisanal and small-scale gold mining.

Sensitizing miners and local communities

Communicating with miners and affected communities is very site-specific, requiring detailed knowledge of the local cultural, economic and institutional context. Several project teams have engaged in contextual studies and visits to local project areas to understand the best ways to reach these communities with their messages. In many cases, despite the increasing prevalence of mobile devices, project teams have found that effectively raising awareness in mining areas requires physical materials and physical presence.

Several country projects have created engaging print materials to disseminate to



Awareness raising among ore carriers in Migori County, Kenya

miners and others in the community, such as [posters](#), [booklets](#), [comic books](#) and coloring sheets for children, [wall calendars](#) with reminders and information for miners, and practical merchandise items such as shirts, hard hats, bags, water bottles, and stickers for miners to place on their motorbikes, mining equipment, and other places they view on a daily basis.

These merchandise carry images and slogans about avoiding mercury, reinforcing key messages about responsible ASGM even when project team members leave the sites. In Ecuador, recognizing how often miners play card games in their free time, the project team designed and distributed two decks of [playing cards](#) with more than 100



Community mural installed in El Bagre, Colombia

different facts about mining technologies, formalization, and other topics. The projects in Colombia and Indonesia installed large, permanent murals in project areas on topics of environmental protection and the risks of mercury exposure.

In-person and virtual education

In addition to providing information on the impacts of mercury use, all planetGOLD projects have carried out education and training activities, both in-person and virtually, on ways to minimize exposures, alternative gold production methods, accessing financing, formalization, safety, gender equity, and many more themes. The Mongolia project, for instance, developed a robust [training program](#) for miners in its project areas on several topics including the Minamata Convention, responsible mining, formalization, occupational health and safety, business management, human rights, and gender topics.

Teams in other countries, such as in Guyana and Indonesia, targeted future generations by going into local schools to hold awareness sessions and [storytelling events](#) on mercury and mining. In addition to seminars and

events held locally, multiple projects held virtual workshops and discussions to raise awareness of mercury’s impacts on health and the environment, finance, technical solutions, and more. To support further education, the Colombia project crafted innovative [e-learning courses](#), and the planetGOLD Peru project continued to widely share its [“Mercury Expedition” online campaign](#).

Miner-centered storytelling

To reach the broader public with messages on responsible ASGM and to elevate the perspectives of miners themselves, planetGOLD has focused on profiling miners in their project areas and the ways in which they are working to improve their practices and work environment. Projects across the programme have created human-centered stories about miners published on the planetGOLD website, YouTube, and social media—and in national media markets, such as this [campaign video](#), which was projected on digital videotron billboards in several regions of Indonesia.

The planetGOLD Philippines project has created an “ASGM Champion Spotlight” series on Facebook featuring individual miners and other partners who are recognized for inspiring change and advancing responsible ASGM in their community. The Guyana team kicked off a [“Women in Mining”](#) series sharing the stories of female small-scale miners, the projects in Kenya and Burkina Faso profiled miner stories on the [blog](#), and planetGOLD Indonesia shared the [story of a young woman](#) from one of their project sites who has since gone on to train other women miners on using mercury-free equipment.



Click to view the Indonesia project’s “We are ready to be free from mercury” campaign video

GENDER EQUITY

The empowerment of women's groups, and women-led groups, can have beneficial impacts in strengthening a community's response to unsafe practices in ASGM. Supporting gender equality in the planetGOLD programme, participation of women in the sector is encouraged and promoted, especially in the areas of access to finance, licenses and cleaner technologies.

Increasing capacity

With the intention to sustain gender equality and inclusivity progress, multiple projects have facilitated and continue to raise awareness through trainings, workshops and discussions with miners, policy makers and other stakeholders. In efforts to create access to finance opportunities for women miners, the Burkina Faso project conducted a training in the Dano district where women were introduced to the Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes (FAARF). The event provided information on the nature of the fund and the application process.

The planetGOLD Peru project designed a financial product for women mineral selectors in Arequipa, Piura, and Puno and provided technical assistance for the legal creation of two associations, which will be incorporated into the National Network of ASM Women. In collaboration with the Cooperativa Financiera de Antioquia the Colombia project created the Women in Mining Network, composed of 151 members, as part of its financial inclusion strategy.

Engagement and inclusion of national and local political stakeholders provides a foundation to inform change on the



Group of *pallaqueras* (female mineral selectors) from Arequipa, Peru, who were legally constituted with the support of planetGOLD

government level. The Mongolia project is working alongside Gender Focal Points (GFP), nominated by the ASM National Federation and local ASM organizations. These GFPs will serve as human rights and gender equality advocates and activists within their communities. In preparation for the Regional and National Roundtable Discussions on Gender and Small-Scale Mining, the Philippines project conducted basic advocacy training for women miners in Sagada and Paracale. The activity focused on topics such as identifying gender issues in small-scale mining, understanding the fundamental rights of women, and appreciating the laws related to gender and small-scale mining, to name a few.

To raise awareness on the prevention of gender based violence, planetGOLD Colombia carried out a number of workshops in the Cauca and Antioquia regions. These workshops were developed with a special emphasis on female *barequeras* (gold panners) or miners and contained an ethnic differential approach to bring to light the realities of Black women who live in these territories.



Left, Andrea, a *janchera* in Camilo Ponce Enriquez, Ecuador, with the chickens she raises. Right, a woman and child work in raised beds at family garden.

Alternatives to mining

Developing creative, safe and sustainable opportunities for women has been a priority for the Ecuador team. A food security project was funded in Ecuador to benefit female artisanal miners known as *jancheras* and their families, who live in the Camilo Ponce Enriquez canton. Provided with a land grant for ten years by the local government, the women created a collective garden. As a result of this exercise, an association called “New Horizons” was formed to give continuity to this initiative.

Improving and creating new regulations

The planetGOLD projects have made tremendous progress on national and local regulation levels. Through a new regulatory instrument in Ecuador, the work of the *jancheras* is legally recognized as a productive, formalized economic activity, thus enabling them to sell their minerals legally and at a fair price.

Along with developing a [Guideline of Gender Mainstreaming in the ASGM Sector](#), the Indonesia project also supported the implementation of the [Gender Responsive Village \(GRV\) initiative](#) to help establish regulations in the Kuantan Singingi District. Two local communities were motivated by this initiative to establish their own GRV.

Country projects continue to conduct research on gender in ASGM in their country. The planetGOLD Kenya project completed the [“Gender Dimensions on Existing Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in Kenya’s ASGM,”](#) and the Peru team published [“Mujeres y Hombres de Oro: desafíos hacia la equidad de género en la minería artesanal y pequeña minería del Perú”](#) or [“Women and Men of Gold: challenges towards gender equity in the ASGM.”](#)



CHAPTER

3

GLOBAL PROJECT PROGRESS

Recognizing the importance of replicating planetGOLD’s successes and understanding lessons learned, the programme includes a global project to collect, share manage and disseminate knowledge and to communicate programme

results. The planetGOLD global project not only fosters communication and collaboration across all projects in the programme, it also supports knowledge sharing and outreach with a wide range of international stakeholders engaged in improving the ASGM sector.

THE GLOBAL PROJECT FOCUSES ITS ACTIVITIES ON:

FINANCIAL ADVOCACY

1

promoting investment in ASGM through education and connection with the international finance community

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

2

disseminating relevant information about the programme, and about ASGM generally, to the global community of practice

COMMUNICATIONS

3

communicating about ASGM, with the goal of improving public perceptions of the sector

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. PROMOTING FINANCING AND INVESTMENT

To educate investors about ASGM:

- ▶ Participated in the 2022 Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) and Social Capital Markets (SOCAP) conferences to build on the network of potential investors and broader finance community and provide additional education on the ASGM sector.
- ▶ Produced a [Technical Report Writing Guide](#) that aims to guide a qualified geologist in preparing a comprehensive report to inform investors who evaluate ASGM projects.
- ▶ Developed and piloted a course to familiarize financial specialists with the basics of ASGM.

To support responsible supply chains:

- ▶ Published a revised version of the [planetGOLD criteria and a reporting form](#) to be submitted



Speaking to visitors at the planetGOLD exhibit at PDAC 2022

with the existing CRAFT reporting form; and a [report on supply chain technology solutions](#) for planetGOLD countries.

- ▶ Drafted a [report on overcoming barriers preventing miners from accessing international supply chains](#) (this report was in draft form during this reporting time frame but is now finalized and published).

2022 Global Forum on Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining

#GOLDForum

26-28 APRIL 2022

bit.ly/JoinGOLDForum



ABIOLA OLANIPEKUN
Chief, Science & Technical Assistance Branch, BRS Conventions



CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ
CEO & Chairperson, Global Environment Facility



MIRELLA STANKIEWICZ
Executive Secretary, Minamata Convention on Mercury



LUBOVIC BERNAUDAT
Senior Task Manager, Chemicals & Health Branch, UNEP

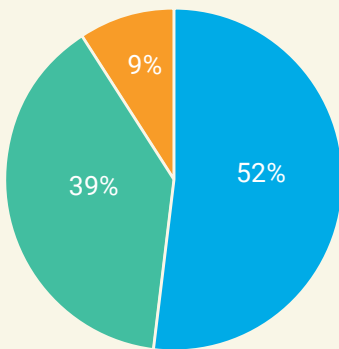


2. DEVELOPING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

▶ Hosted the first virtual [planetGOLD 2022 Global Forum](#). Over three days, sessions explored key opportunities to improve financial access for the ASGM sector; global experiences with creating responsible gold supply chains from ASGM operations; approaches to advance formalization; technologies for mercury-free gold production; addressing gender inequalities in the sector; mercury trade issues; and more.

- Offered **18** technical sessions and covered topics such as curbing illicit mercury and gold flows in West Africa, gender in ASGM
- Invited **81** speakers (42 female, 39 male)
- Interpreted in **3** languages: English, French, and Spanish

579 GLOBAL FORUM PARTICIPANTS



■ Men ■ Female ■ Prefer not to say

▶ Collaborated with PACT to produce a synthesis guidance document on [Best Management Practices for Cyanide Use in Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector](#). This document has recently been used by the government in Kenya as a reference guide.

▶ The planetGOLD programme with UNEP Global Mercury Partnership hosted a webinar on [Best Management Practices in the Use of Cyanide in ASM](#)

▶ Organized a virtual exhibit for dynamic conversations on new and emerging technologies amongst planetGOLD project staff, scientists, equipment engineers and the public: [Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Production: Technology Without Mercury](#)



▶ Hosted an online gathering with planetGOLD gender experts (March 2022), two Programme Advisory Group meetings (September 2021 and March 2022), annual programme virtual meeting (December 2021), and bimonthly calls amongst country project managers and project staff.

3. COMMUNICATING AND RAISING AWARENESS

- ▶ Produced [Voices from the Field](#), a video featuring testimonials from miners in each phase 1 country which premiered during the 2022 Global Forum on ASGM event
- ▶ Brought the message of clean gold to the global stage during a [side event on ethical gold](#) at the July 2021 Cannes Film Festival.
- ▶ Created video vignettes of miner perspectives on pursuing formalization, access to finance, and mercury-free mining technologies.
- ▶ Provided publication and dissemination support for **42** blog articles published by programme participants or commissioned from leading practitioners in the field.
- ▶ Published the [2020/2021 planetGOLD Annual Progress Report](#)
- ▶ Supported country project publication and dissemination of photo stories [profiling miners](#) at the Philippines project site of Paracale and on [raising awareness through storytelling](#) in Indonesia.



planetGOLD participation at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival side event on ethical gold



226,553
video views
on YouTube



1,239
new social
media followers



401
new email
subscribers



CHAPTER

4

PHASE 2 COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS

In 2020, the GEF approved the expansion of the planetGOLD programme to eight new countries: Bolivia, Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Honduras, Madagascar, Nigeria, Suriname, and Uganda. In June 2021, the GEF further

approved the addition of Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, and Zambia, and also approved the formal addition of Ecuador, bringing the planetGOLD programme to a total of 23 countries. [Learn more about phase 2.](#)



BOLIVIA

Funding: USD 6,583,500



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
18 TONNES

- ▶ In Bolivia, the area of land under improved practices will be 135,900 hectares, excluding protected areas.
- ▶ ASGM gold is a main export, critical to Bolivia's economy.
- ▶ In 2019, the country produced 42 tonnes of gold, of which 31 tonnes were reportedly from alluvial mining operations and 11 tonnes from primary mining operations.

- ▶ Bolivia has become a regional hub for the informal mercury trade.
- ▶ There is a strong need to reconcile growth in ASGM with land use, biodiversity, and other livelihoods.



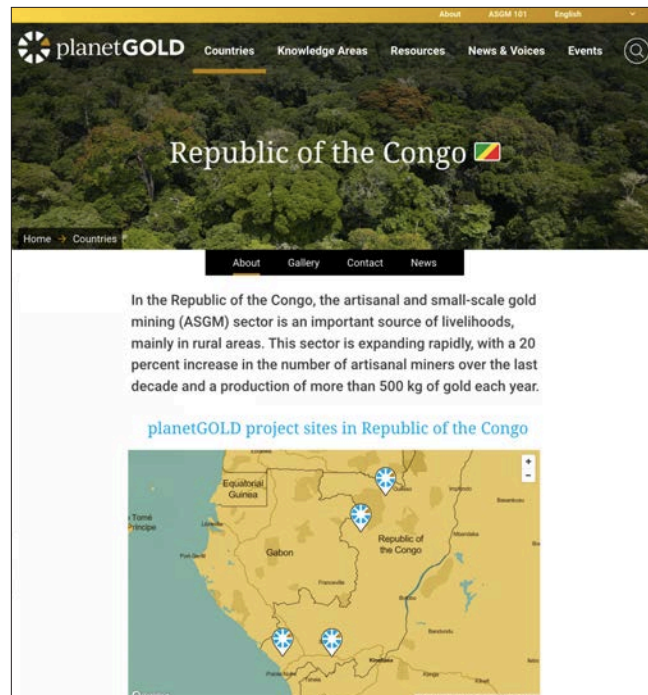
REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Funding: USD 2,700,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
1 TONNE

- ▶ ASGM is the primary livelihood source for 5,000 miners in eight districts.
- ▶ Most of the mining in the region is alluvial, with operations characterized by rudimentary panning, mercury amalgamation, and open burning.
- ▶ More than half a century of mining has resulted in significant contamination of human and natural environments.
- ▶ The Republic of Congo has over 200km² of forest; the project will collaborate with Congo Basin Impact Programme to reduce biodiversity impacts.
- ▶ To learn more, visit planetGOLD.org/republic-congo





CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Funding: USD 3,937,500

- ▶ More than 500,000 people work in ASGM sector.
- ▶ At an estimated 40 tonnes per year, the country is currently the 22nd largest producer of gold in the world and the 7th largest in Africa.



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
8 TONNES

- ▶ Mercury use is estimated at about 13 tonnes annually.



ECUADOR

Funding: USD 4,000,000

- ▶ Almost 24 tonnes of gold were produced in Ecuador in 2018, of which about 10 tonnes were recovered through the amalgamation process.
- ▶ Nearly 30 tonnes of mercury are estimated to be released into the environment by ASGM.



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
10 TONNES

- ▶ Poor ASGM practices are considered a major threat to the country's sensitive ecosystems.



GHANA

Funding: USD 6,350,000

- ▶ Known as the 'Gold Coast' until 1957, Ghana has an ancient mining history; it was once home to the wealthiest African kingdom due to prolific gold production and Trans-Saharan trade.
- ▶ Currently, Ghana is Africa's largest gold producer.
- ▶ The country's ASGM sector employs at least 1 million rural Ghanaians.



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
9 TONNES

- ▶ Mercury use in ASGM accounts for 42.5-62 tonnes per year, with most miners operating illegally or informally.
- ▶ Cyanide use is rising where unsafe mining practices have spread from the neighbouring countries of Burkina Faso and Mali.



GUINEA

Funding: USD 5,302,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

13 TONNES

- ▶ ASGM supports the livelihoods of more than 240,000 miners in Guinea, most of whom are in the north-eastern region of Kankan, near the borders with Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, and Sierra Leone.

- ▶ The country is the 10th overall producer of gold in Africa.
- ▶ The ASGM sector produces an estimated 32 tonnes of gold per year and uses approximately 42 tonnes of mercury.



HONDURAS

Funding: USD 4,000,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

8 TONNES

- ▶ The ASGM sector employs roughly 3,000 people.
- ▶ The sector uses an estimated 9.5 tonnes of mercury each year.
- ▶ In Honduras, ASGM is characterized by

diverse local mining techniques; mechanized operations coexist with artisanal miners.

- ▶ Honduras is a global biodiversity hotspot situated at the convergence of tropical and subtropical ecosystems in northern Central America.



MADAGASCAR

Funding: USD 4,971,750



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

5 TONNES

- ▶ In Madagascar, the area of land under improved practices will be 75,300 hectares, excluding protected areas, benefitting more than 18,000 people.
- ▶ ASGM is livelihood source for 600,000 miners.
- ▶ Mercury use in the country's ASGM sector is estimated at over 18 tonnes annually.
- ▶ Madagascar has an extended network of

over 100 protected areas covering more than 10 percent of terrestrial landscapes and seascapes.

- ▶ The country has lost 90 percent of its original forests, which are home to over 80 percent of Madagascar's biodiversity.
- ▶ Madagascar has been declared as one of the world's 200 global hotspots for biodiversity due to its endemism and threat status.



MALI

Funding: USD 5,150,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

24 TONNES

- ▶ Half a million people reportedly rely directly on ASGM activities, of whom 38 percent are women.
- ▶ The ASGM sector is a vital source of livelihoods for those living in rural and remote areas where alternatives are limited.

- ▶ The sector produces an estimated 26 tonnes of gold per year.
- ▶ A reported 33 tonnes of mercury enter the environment annually due to ASGM.



NICARAGUA

Funding: USD 3,380,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

3.5 TONNES

- ▶ ASGM is one of the main sources of income for approximately 40,000-60,000 people, of whom 15 percent are women.
- ▶ Around 9 tonnes of gold is produced by the sector each year.

- ▶ Estimates range from 1.5 tonnes to tens of tons of mercury use per year in ASGM, with a central estimate of 3.52 tonnes.



NIGERIA

Funding: USD 3,850,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

5 TONNES

- ▶ In Nigeria, phase 2 of the programme will result in about 250 hectares of land under improved practices and nearly 2,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated.
- ▶ About 200,000 miners participate in ASGM, but the sector serves as an indirect livelihood source for 500,000 people.
- ▶ The country's gold production is an estimated 13 tonnes per year, with more than 90 percent of

all gold production carried out by ASGM miners.

- ▶ Mercury use is approximately 14 tonnes.
- ▶ In 2010, Nigeria experienced deaths from exposure to lead that co-occurred with gold ore.
- ▶ In Nigeria's northwest states, ASGM activities contribute to deforestation and desertification, adding a burden to the already arid and water-scarce region.



SIERRA LEONE

Funding: USD 2,703,750

- ▶ The ASGM sector supports 80,000 artisanal gold miners.
- ▶ Gold production is estimated at nearly 3 tons annually.
- ▶ Estimated mercury use in the ASGM sector is 352 kg per year.



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

0.325 TONNE

- ▶ Little attention has been paid to the country's ASGM sector, as national and international development efforts have largely focused



SURINAME

Funding: USD 5,250,000

- ▶ The ASGM sector directly employs between 20,000-40,000 miners, of which 17,000 individuals are officially registered.
- ▶ The sector produces an estimated 17 tonnes of gold, representing at least 50 percent of the total annual gold production.



END OF PROJECT TARGET:

Prevent or eliminate mercury use by

8 TONNES

- ▶ The ASGM labour force is dominated by Brazilian (Garimpeiros) and Surinamese Maroons (tribal peoples of African descent).



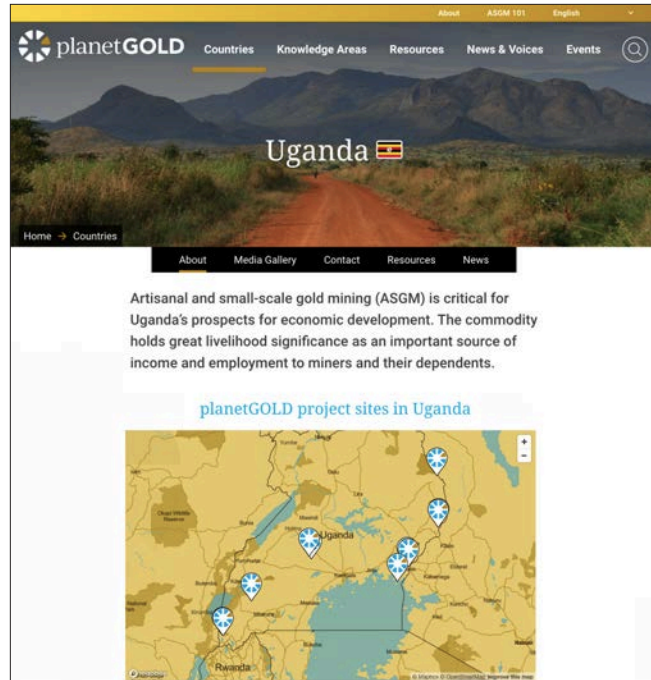
UGANDA

Funding: USD 5,500,000



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate
mercury use by
15 TONNES

- ▶ Nearly 5,000 hectares of land, excluding protected areas, will benefit from improved practices under phase 2 of the programme in Uganda.
- ▶ ASGM is the primary livelihood source for 30,000 miners in all four provinces.
- ▶ ASGM mercury emissions and releases are estimated to be over 15 tonnes per year.
- ▶ The workforce is characterized by a high proportion of women, especially in alluvial mining.
- ▶ Children comprise 20-30 percent of the workforce.
- ▶ To learn more, visit planetGOLD.org/uganda



ZAMBIA

Funding: USD 2,703,750



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate
mercury use by
0.286 TONNE

- ▶ An estimated 98 percent of the 30,000 people who work in Zambia's ASGM sector are informal miners.
- ▶ The ASGM sector uses 286 kg of mercury to recover about 143 kg of gold.
- ▶ Although current mercury use estimates are low, Zambia has an emerging ASGM sector; recent discoveries of gold in numerous locations in the country are changing the landscape.



APPENDICES

PHASE 1 COUNTRY PROJECT PROGRESS SUMMARIES



BURKINA FASO

The planetGOLD Burkina project aims to reduce mercury use in ASGM operations through 4 strategically linked components:

- ▶ Strengthening policies supporting formalization
- ▶ Establishing a revolving fund that can provide financial incentives
- ▶ Providing knowledge and training necessary to operate mercury-free processing systems, including development of ASGM curricula within vocational training entities
- ▶ Educating, raising awareness, and transferring knowledge to the global ASGM community



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
3 TONNES

THE PLANETGOLD BURKINA FASO PROJECT TEAM:



From left to right: Eve Sanou, Compliance Officer; Deborah Brougham, Finance and Administration Manager, AGC HQ); Saidou Kabre, National Project Coordinator; Abdoul Kader Sanou, Technical Specialist (behind Saidou); Hermann Moussa Konkobo, Training and Education Officer; Aboubacar Deme, Field and community relations Officer; Roger Rene Tissot, Deputy Executive Director, AGC HQ; Karim Badini, finance officer

EXECUTING PARTNER



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ The project imported and installed equipment for **1 new mercury-free processing system** at the Gnikpière mine site.
 - ▶ In addition to the unit's equipment, **1 borehole** was drilled to supply water necessary for processing.
 - ▶ The team hired **4 technicians** from the local community and with the unit's management committee, and trained them on the operation and maintenance of the equipment.
 - ▶ The project organized community level information sessions on the production process once the equipment arrived.
 - ▶ The project designed **2 approved types of curricula** for different educational profiles, under the coordination of Direction Générale de la Formation Professionnelle (DGFP).
- ▶ The “Nouvelles Technologies Appliquées” (NTA) institute was selected as the main vocational school hosting the curricula, with most classes directly being held in Dano and at the Gnikpière mine site.
 - ▶ National specialists, government and mining associations identified **4 future intervention sites** in the Southwest and Center West zones of Burkina Faso. Individuals from all four sites participated in a national training hosted by Nouvelles Technologies Appliquées.



“The arrival of the equipment is very much appreciated by the women on the site. I have great hopes for the operationalization of the processing unit which will help preserve human and animal health, and I will take the necessary steps to ensure the good collaboration of the women.”

— **Awa Guiro**, female miner, Gnikpière mine site



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ A revolving fund was approved by the Project Steering Committee, and **1 financial institution**, Coris Bank International, was chosen to host the fund.
- ▶ Coris Bank International agreed to invest in the fund, and requests were sent to formally confirm their contributions.
- ▶ Two mining companies agreed to contribute to the fund and funding requests were sent to them formally.
- ▶ A follow-up of the training held in June 2021 with the miners of Gnikipière was done in March 2022, to check on the state of the use of the [artisanal miners' booklet](#) and discuss its usefulness and difficulties directly with the miners. A total of **33** individuals (of which **43%** were women) participated in the activity.
- ▶ The project formalized **2 community/social enterprises** with bank accounts: the miners cooperative of Ioba and the women's cooperative of Gnikipière.
- ▶ The team held a financial education workshop in Dano and Ouagadougou with **76 participants**, 24 of whom were women.
- ▶ The team conducted further training with potential investors and lenders about the needs and opportunities of the ASGM sector.
- ▶ Bilateral discussions with three large-scale mining companies, private investors, and banks were conducted between February and June 2022.



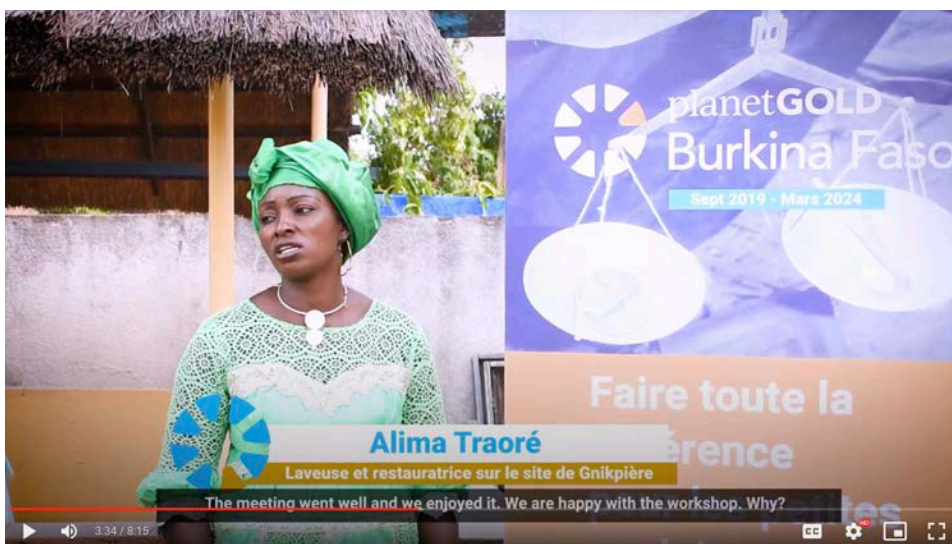
FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The project completed an institutional capacity assessment and organized **2 workshops** – one with key government agents and one with non-governmental structures involved in the sector such as large-scale mining companies and vocational training centers.
- ▶ The team led discussions for the women's organization at the project site on how to transition to a formal cooperative, and to miners on the structural organization for those operating the processing plant in Gnikipière. This entity will be crucial for the final ownership transfer of the processing plant.
- ▶ Both the FAARF narrative training report and formalization training report were completed.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ The project held a sensitization campaign in March 2022 on the Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes (FAARF), a women entrepreneurs' fund hosted by the Ministry of Women. The campaign informed women about the existence of the fund and familiarized them with the application process.
- ▶ A total of **52 individuals** (of which **71%** were women) were beneficiaries of the campaign.
- ▶ The project supported the women's cooperative of Gnikpière in organizing social mobilization activities on the inaugural International Women in Mining Day.



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ The project produced a general project [pamphlet](#), [finance booklet](#), [health booklet](#), and [mercury bioaccumulation poster](#), distributing these at key project locations and to other in-country ASGM projects.
- ▶ The team co-hosted an Access to Finance for Women session with the planetGOLD Colombia project during the April 2022 virtual planetGOLD Global Forum.
- ▶ Published **2 blogs/news releases** on the women's champion at Gnikpière mine site, [Zourata Nacanabo](#), and on the health and finance training with the women of Gnikpière.
- ▶ The project produced **1 documentary video** on the health and finance training for the women of Gnikpière.



COLOMBIA

The planetGOLD Colombia project’s objective is to eliminate/avoid mercury use in the Colombian ASGM sector by:

- ▶ Strengthening institutions and policy/regulatory frameworks
- ▶ Establishing financing lending arrangements to provide loans for new technologies
- ▶ Increasing capacity for mercury-free ASGM through provision of technical assistance, technology transfer and formalization support
- ▶ Raising awareness and disseminating lessons-learned on phasing out mercury



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
20 TONNES

THE PLANETGOLD COLOMBIA PROJECT TEAM:



Left to right: Jesús Nieves (Regional professional), Liliana Alvarado (National Project Coordinator), Germán Marquín (Technical ASGM expert), Juan Manuel Chavarria (Communications Officer), Aslam Real (Finance and Administration Assistant), Karen Alvarez (Regional professional), Diego Lesmes (Administration Support), Manuel Hurtado (Finance expert), Diego Olarte (M&E advisor)

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ As of June 2022, the project's interventions had prevented the release of **2.7 tonnes** of mercury into the environment at sites where this data was available.
- ▶ The project held a number of training campaigns on clean technologies for the extraction of gold ore, with **280 people** attending.
- ▶ The project signed an agreement with Universidad Escuela de Administración de Negocios to advance installment of a curricula for trainings. A credited course in "Small mining and subsistence mining in Colombia" is now being offered.



- ▶ Trainers at the National Training Service (SENA) were [trained on mobile laboratories and mobile plants](#) in Antioquia.
- ▶ The team developed Environmental Monitoring Protocols and a methodological guideline for the technical-economic management of tailings of mercury – detection of mercury in soil in the South of Bolivar.

“One of the greatest achievements is the elimination of mercury and the change of the mill that helps us to better extract the material. The challenge is to continue every day, to maintain what we have achieved so far.”

—**María Dolly Lopera**, administrator, Mina La Gabriela



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ **1.8 kilograms of mercury-free gold** were produced according to the planetGOLD Criteria and CRAFT Code, then sold through a responsible supply chain.
- ▶ A total of **72 kilograms of mercury-free gold** were produced.
- ▶ **1 mining unit** achieved Fairmined certification.
- ▶ **7 mining units** are in the process of accessing formal markets.



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project signed a financial mechanism agreement with the Financial Cooperative in Antioquia (Cooperativa Financiera de Antioquia).
- ▶ **15 credits** were awarded to mining units for a total amount of **\$160,870 USD**.
- ▶ Pre-feasibility analysis of **14 mining groups** was performed, in order to advance in the selection process for the commercialization pilot.
- ▶ The project conducted financial training for **258 miners** in Antioquia and Cauca.



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The project trained **1,134 people** from the ASGM sector on formalization processes, with **100** successfully registering in the government online platform Genesis.
- ▶ The project built the capacity of **36 public officials** through the sustainability in the ASGM sector diploma program implemented by EAN University.
- ▶ The project completed its socioeconomic study and analyzed **2,242 surveys**. The summary per region was shared online to authorities and mining communities.
- ▶ To facilitate decision-making regarding policies for the management of tailings in Colombia, the project performed characterization and lift **samples of 142 tailings** in the main auriferous departments in the country, with the aim of building a theoretical circular economy model for the use of tailings, separating mercury, and extracting gold as well as any other metals of economic interest.





COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ Through workshops, meetings, events, and educational activities raised awareness for **5,644 women** and **3,516 men** about the dangers of mercury and ways to eliminate/avoid its use in the ASGM sector.
- ▶ The project reached **131,376 people** with awareness content on the project's social networks.
- ▶ An awareness mural was installed in El Bagre, a town with nearly 50,000 people, on environmental protection and the risks of mercury exposure.
- ▶ **400 awareness raising kits** for the “Colombia Free From Mercury” campaign were delivered and the project developed a library of audiovisual pedagogical content under each theme regarding the avoidance or reduction of the use of mercury.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ **60 government staff members** were trained on gender sensitization.
- ▶ The project finalized a document on mainstreaming gender dimensions to improve environmental gender policies.
- ▶ The project consolidated the creation of a Women in Mining Network with **151 women**.
- ▶ The team facilitated a number of workshops on the prevention of Gender Based Violence in the Cauca and Antioquia regions with a special emphasis on female barequeras (gold panners) and on the realities of Black women who live in these territories. In Cauca **237 people** attended the training including 60 government officials. In Antioquia **119 women** attended the training, 29 being public officials.





ECUADOR

The National Program for Sound Management and Life Cycle Management of Chemical Substances, a planetGOLD partner project, aims to reduce the use and release of mercury by:

- ▶ Strengthening national institutional capacity and the regulatory framework for the sound management of chemicals
- ▶ Reducing the use and releases of mercury from ASGM and from products containing mercury
- ▶ Raising awareness on the sound management of chemicals in their life cycle, ensuring project monitoring and disseminating project results and experiences



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
2 TONNES

THE ECUADOR PROJECT TEAM:



From left to right: Diego Rueda, Undersecretary for Artisanal and Small-scale Mining; Jaime Martinez, Director of Artisanal Mining; Sofía Palacios, Technician of Small-scale Mining; Yahaira Atapuma, Technician of Artisanal Mining; Paulo Veintimilla, Director of Environmental Monitoring; Edwin León, Director of Small-scale Mining; Paul Paredes, Technician of Socio-Environmental Monitoring; Luis Tapia, Technician of ASGM of PNGQ; Bruno Belletini, Coordinator of PNGQ; Diana Cabrera, Technician of Gender Monitoring of PNGQ

EXECUTING PARTNERS

Ministerio de Energía y Recursos Naturales No Renovables



República del Ecuador



Juntos lo logramos

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ The project completed strengthening and expansion of ore processing plants and laboratories, enabling the mercury-free plants to be prepared to buy and process ore from miners, thus avoiding the use of mercury.
- ▶ **64 artisanal miners** (16 women and 48 men) participated in two training sessions held in the cantons of Camilo Ponce Enriquez and Portovelo, in collaboration with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research. The training included technical visits to mines and processing plants, as well as demonstrations of the benefits of innovative processing technologies, best available techniques for mineral extraction and occupational safety protocols.
- ▶ As a result of this training program, discussions began for miners to commit to the project's "mineral sales strategy," in which miners extract the ore from the mines and sell it to the mercury-free processing plants.
- ▶ A pilot demonstration was carried out for the recovery of mercury from tailings through gravimetric concentration, the result of which showed a recovery/removal of more than **90%**.
- ▶ Research was completed in coordination with the National Polytechnic School (EPN) on alternatives to reduce pollution in rivers affected by mining (phytoremediation), which identified three native species in Camilo Ponce Enriquez that have a greater capacity to retain heavy metals and were effective for the pilot research project.
- ▶ **Two serial biofiltration channels** were built at sites managed by the Association of Small Miners of San Carlos de las Minas (Zamora Chinchipe province), to test the above-mentioned method for treatment of wastes from these operations.





FORMALIZATION

- ▶ With the support of the project team, the “Legal instrument for the integrated management of mining waste of sterile material by base recyclers in the special regime of small-metal mining” was approved and published officially through an inter-ministerial agreement between Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition and Ministry of Energy and Mines. This is the first legal recognition of the work of women artisanal miners known as jancheras who collect mining waste material to recover gold.
- ▶ Through this regulatory instrument, the women’s activity is now legally recognized as a productive, formalized economic activity, thus enabling them to sell their minerals legally and at a fair price. The project aims for the mineral collected by jancheras to be integrated into its “mineral sales strategy” once their mineral is considered of legal origin.



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ The project commissioned a study analyzing the current situation of the country and regulations for artisanal and small-scale mining regarding compliance with quality standards and mining certifications and the potential scenario for marketing certified gold from Ecuador. The study examines the role of the Central Bank of Ecuador as a buyer, and the diagnosis and analysis of six mining stakeholders, including the feasibility of implementing an international standard and the integration of responsible supply chains in Ecuador at the local and national level.
- ▶ As a result of the study, **2 mining companies** have potential and interest in becoming certified.



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project put forth a proposal for a financial product involving the Central Bank of Ecuador and the savings and loan cooperative Jardín Azuayo. This cooperative has agencies in the project's intervention zones and its portfolio of loan products has competitive market conditions (competitive interest rate, term, guarantees).
 - ▶ The team socialized the financial product proposal among **38 artisanal and small-scale miners** with legal activity who are qualified by the Central Bank of Ecuador. Of this group, 21 miners (55% of the people who attended the workshop) went through a credit pre-qualification exercise to learn in-depth the requirements and the use of the credits.
 - ▶ Following the above-mentioned workshop, one event attendee successfully received a **\$40,000** USD credit for a term of 5 years. The loan is classified as an ordinary individual microcredit with an interest rate of 12.77%, and its purpose is to capitalize its mining activity.
- 
- ▶ The project engaged in discussion with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the Cooperative to achieve more flexible credit conditions and to expand the scope of beneficiaries.
 - ▶ The project commissioned an academic article entitled "Funding for the mining sector: Opportunities for the development of Latin America free of mercury" was in the process of being published in a scientific journal, in coordination with the Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (ESPOL).

"Thanks to this work I have been able to give my four children an education. We turn [...] all the garbage from the mines into education for our children."

—Magdalena Rodríguez, a janchera in the Camilo Ponce Enríquez canton



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ The project designed a communication campaign to promote the mineral sales strategy and convince miners to test their mineral in the laboratories that were strengthened by the project then sell it to the strengthened plants.
- ▶ A knowledge management strategy was developed and a partnership with Duke University was established to collect the experience of the implementation of the mineral sales strategy.
- ▶ Actions were coordinated with the Institute of Geological and Energy Research to produce communication pieces to be used in workshops in the territory.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ The project delivered training on geology, marketing, taxation and associativity, aimed at the members of four women's associations. **Seventy-seven women artisanal miners** known as jancheras were trained in better techniques applicable to their field.
- ▶ A food security project was funded to benefit **23 jancheras** and their families in the Camilo Ponce Enriquez canton. They implemented a collective garden on local government land granted for 10 years. As a result of this exercise, an association called "New Horizons" has been formed to give continuity to this initiative.



- ▶ The project team produced a video showcasing a goldsmith workshop that was supported by the project's competitive fund, which was released in commemoration of International Women's Day.
- ▶ Two jancheras participated in the international exchange of experiences of women involved in mining activities that took place in La Paz, Bolivia.
- ▶ The project published [Jancheras: Mujeres con Voluntad de Oro](#) (Jancheras: Women with a Golden Will), a study that reports on socioeconomic characteristics and productivity of jancheras in mining tailings.



GUYANA

The planetGOLD Guyana is supporting the country’s aim to have 100 percent mercury-free mining by:

- ▶ Strengthening policies supporting formalization
- ▶ Mainstreaming appropriate mercury-free technologies in Guyana’s ASGM sector
- ▶ Establishing a functional mechanism for financing capital investments for mercury-free technologies
- ▶ Establishing a market for branded mercury-free gold produced in Guyana
- ▶ Establishing national policies and incentives for mercury-free gold
- ▶ Communicating and disseminating knowledge products and providing education and awareness trainings.

THE PLANETGOLD GUYANA PROJECT TEAM:



Left to right: Dayshawn Billingy, Technical Officer; Kristia Ramlagan, Communications Coordinator; Ingrid Sarabo, Project Director; Kazia Watson, Safeguards Coordinator



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
15 TONNES

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

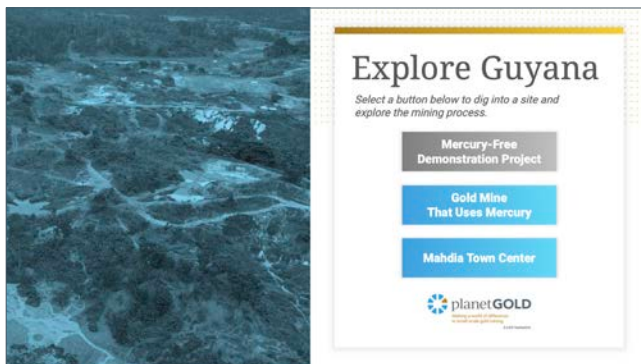


KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ The team conducted prospecting activities in two regions to confirm sufficient gold supply in areas where a demonstration site would be established. Consistent with the ore type identified during the prospecting, the appropriate technology was selected, and **2 mercury-free systems** were set up in Regions 7 and 8. Both operations were successfully producing gold without any use of mercury.
- ▶ Demonstrations of the technologies were conducted at both sites and were viewed by miners, members of the community, and local government officials.
- ▶ A consultant was hired to gather samples at both sites for assaying and quality control over a four-month period. The series of reports will provide verifiable evidence of the efficiency and effectiveness of the equipment in place at the two circuits. Each location has a parallel mining operation utilizing mercury from which production data is also collected for comparison purposes.
- ▶ Perceptions about the project site demonstrations, the mercury-free circuits, and the prospect of future adoption of mercury-free gold processing, as reflected in the feedback received from miners and stakeholders; generally the appropriate technologies and techniques as demonstrated was well received with many miners expressing interest in having similar circuits at their site. It was recognized that size of equipment would vary with the scale of operation.
- ▶ An assessment of Mercury Capture Systems at the Guyana Gold Board (GGB) and Gold Shops in Regions 4,7 and 8 was facilitated. Initially, GGB mercury capture systems were inefficient with emissions being significantly higher than the WHO standard. After adjustments in design based on recommendations from Mercer University the emissions were reduced by approximately **75%** of initial levels.



Take a [360-degree interactive tour](#) of planetGOLD Guyana's mercury-free demonstration site.



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ Consultants developed a road map on mineral processing, responsible mining standards, chain of custody, and El Dorado Branding and Marketing within the Guyana ASGM sector.
- ▶ The resulting report focused on stakeholder engagements, review of mineral processing

process flowsheets, assessment of gold circuits and possible rehabilitation practices, mine standard baseline assessment, supply chain and mine practice risk assessment.



FORMALIZATION

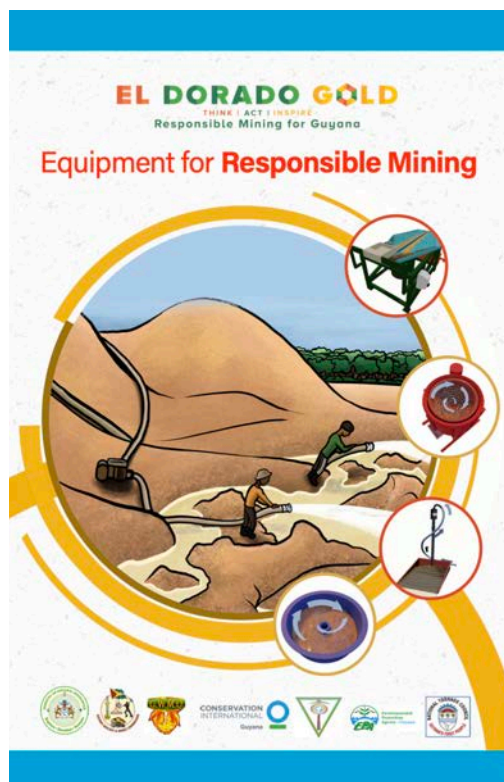
- ▶ The team participated in the development of the Revised National Action Plan (NAP), by participating in the National Working Groups, working with NAP consulting team during

data gathering activities, and providing input at the review and finalization stages of the process. The NAP has now been submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat.



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ Consultations with Local Government officials in Regions 7 and 8 resulted in their willingness to serve as an intermediary between the project and central government in an effort to encourage government support for one of the financing mechanisms recommended under the Financing Mechanism Consultancy.
- ▶ The Financial Mechanism Consultancy identified several finance options, each requiring an enabling environment that is only possible through clear policy change at the government level. Although these coincide with recommendations outlined in Guyana's Draft NAP, as of June 2022 there had been no uptake by the central government or the financial sector.





COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ A booklet titled [“Equipment for Responsible Mining”](#) that showcases equipment suitable for mercury-free gold production was produced and widely disseminated among miners.
- ▶ The project team completed three mercury awareness sessions for students from high schools in areas where mining is the main source of income. Many of the male students are likely to enter the mining sector after leaving school and the female students play some role along the gold value chain.
- ▶ The project gathered film footage for “Changing Minds and Mines,” a video that will show the journey of miners to adopt mercury-free methods.
- ▶ Posters on the dangers of mercury and small prospecting, along with the planetGOLD Guyana Fact Sheet, were translated to Spanish for dissemination by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- ▶ The project organized **2 sessions** on Effective Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) for CI-Guyana staff, to help staff have a better understanding of the IPLC perspective and to enhance their capacity to have more effective engagements.

“You get a better recovery with the planetGOLD equipment than our old style. Our old style you still throw away, some of the gold still passes, but with planetGOLD one you don’t pass anything.”

—Bernard “Chris” Alphonso, miner, Potaro-Siparuni region



INDONESIA



The planetGOLD Indonesia continues to work towards reducing and, where possible, eliminating mercury use in the ASGM sector by:

- ▶ Strengthening institutions and policy/regulatory frameworks for mercury-free ASGM
- ▶ Establishing financing lending arrangements to provide loans for mercury-free processing technologies
- ▶ Assisting with technology transfer and support for formalization
- ▶ Raising awareness and disseminating lessons learned on phasing out mercury in the ASGM sector

THE PLANETGOLD INDONESIA PROJECT TEAM:



From left to right: Khairul Amri (Project Associate), Irma Widiastari (Project Clerk), Witari Astriani (Project Clerk), Agneta Silvia (Procurement Assistant), Baiq Dewi Krisnayanti (National Project Manager), Jatu Arum Sari (Working Group Coordinator 3), Dzul Afifah Arifin (Gender and Community Development Associate), Harti Ningsih (Working Group Coordinator 4), Stephanie Natalia Mapeliey (Field Facilitator Minahasa Utara, Anggit Priadmodjo (Field Facilitator Gorontalo Utara), Roberta (Field Facilitator Kuantan Singingi), Singgih Seno Aji (Working Group Coordinator 2), Yusrin Afandi (Field Facilitator Lombok Barat, Muslim Nur Widodo (Field Facilitator Halmahera Selatan)



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
15 TONNES

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ ASGM miners in the 6 project sites have shifted their technology from mercury to mercury-free processing plants. This has led to an estimated avoidance of **19.57 tonnes** of mercury cumulatively from 2019 through June 2022.
- ▶ The project estimates that approximately **2.84 tonnes** of mercury-free gold was cumulatively produced from its 6 project locations between July 2019 and June 2022.
- ▶ In this time period the project established a micro-scale mercury-free gold processing prototype with capacity to process 150-250 kilograms of ore. For larger scale processing, the project developed a Detailed Engineering Design for 5 mobile plants and 1 permanent processing plant. In total, the project established **20 pieces of mercury-free equipment or plants**.
- ▶ The project provided technical training for **977 miners** in the existing mercury-free processing plant established by the government along with laboratory installations and mercury-free equipment established by the project. Trainings included in-class learning of technologies for mercury-free gold ore processing, as well as practical activities on operating equipment within the mercury-free gold processing plants, monitoring the processing, and checking the grade of produced gold. The team also shared information on solid waste and tailings management.



Miners are trained on how to operate mercury-free gold processing equipment in Kulon Progo

- ▶ To complete its efforts in mercury reduction through technology shifting and relevant trainings, the project developed a mobile application and web dashboard to help systematically and regularly monitor the estimation of mercury avoided from the processing units in the project locations.



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project has tracked a total of **USD \$4.2 million** in finance given to miners.
- ▶ This money has been accessed through **6 financial mechanisms** aiming to expand mining activities, including procuring and replicating mercury-free equipment along with waste treatment activities introduced by the project:

- A micro credit (Kredit Usaha Rakyat (KUR)) provided by the Indonesian Bank BRI (Bank Rakyat Indonesia) for miners. A total of 49 miners have received USD \$311,627 in loans from the bank.
- A credit facilitated by the state-owned bank (Bank Negara Indonesia – BNI and Bank Rakyat Indonesia - BRI) for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in all business sectors that can be potentially accessed by ASGM miners.
- A USD \$27,246 loan provided to a miner in Kuantan Singingi by the Indonesian Bank Perkreditan Rakyat (BPR) Cempaka, a bank under financial service authority of Indonesia that carries out its business activities without providing services in payment transferring.
- Micro-loans provided by mining cooperatives to mining members. In total, 38 miners have received USD \$56,513 from these cooperatives.
- Secured loans offered by the Indonesian state-owned pawnbroker Pegadaian, with personal assets used as collateral. This finance institution provided USD \$36,101 to a miner in Kuantan Singingi.



- Loans provided by an individual investor (a gold buyer) who purchases gold directly from miners and provides loans for mercury-free processing equipment/ investments and operational costs. In the last 3 years miners in 6 project locations have received USD \$3,768,513 in loans from the individual investor.
- ▶ Through six 2-day trainings, a total of **22 miner groups** with 303 members (of which 35% were women) received capacity development on loan applications for procurement of mercury-free processing equipment. Miner groups obtained a better understanding of record keeping, financial reporting and development of loan applications to access financial products.
- ▶ Following the above-mentioned training, the miners were able to submit a total of **38 loan applications** to financial entities (e.g. cooperatives, banks and non-bank institutions) – all of which were approved.



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The project has supported the Government of Indonesia in strengthening the implementation of the National Action Plan on Mercury Reduction and Elimination through the establishment of **35 regulations/guidelines** at national and sub-national levels to improve the enabling environment for ASGM and mercury phase-out in the ASGM sector:
 - 1 National Guideline of Sub-National Action Plans on Mercury Reduction and Elimination Development for 34 provinces in Indonesia
 - 14 regional action plans on mercury reduction and elimination for 6 provinces and 8 districts
 - 1 guideline on Good Mining Practices for primary ore of small-scale gold mining sector
 - 13 regulations at district and village levels in Kuantan Singingi District to support the implementation of Gender Responsive Villages (GRV).
 - 1 guideline on Responsible Village for ASGM sector was developed, providing a real example of village level responsibility and well-managed small-scale gold mining sites
 - 1 guideline on gender mainstreaming in the ASGM sector as a reference for implementing agents and parties related to ASGM at the national, provincial, district/ city, and village levels
- 1 handbook on the status of mercury in Indonesia was published which consists of four (4) book series: Policy Framework for Mercury Reduction and Elimination in Indonesia, The Use of Mercury in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining sector, Mercury Impacts to Human Health and Environment, and Technology Solutions for the ASGM Sector in Indonesia.
- ▶ **44 mining groups** with 1,161 miners in 6 project locations received formalization supports from the project including: establishment of mining cooperatives, obtaining the mining area permit, obtaining the environmental permit, and obtaining the gold processing permit.
- ▶ The project increased the capacity of personnel in **39 government entities** at national and sub-national levels (344 government staff of which 47% were women) to assess, plan, and implement sustainable and mercury-free interventions in the ASGM sector through trainings on topics including but not limited to: improving enforcement of local regulations and standards, supporting ASGM formalization, and improving cross-sectoral coordination.



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ Several interventions were executed by the project as of June 2022, including supporting the establishment of a certification system for mercury-free gold, connecting mining groups to gold refineries, and initiating a partnership with PT. ANTAM (the formal gold buyer in Indonesia).
- ▶ As a result of educating mining groups on formal market requirements, these groups now have a very good understanding of the formal gold market system.
- ▶ **754 grams of gold** produced by miners in project locations were sold to the formal market. A significant obstacle observed by the project is that miners strongly prefer an informal cash-and-carry system to the formal market purchasing system due to its simplicity and quick payment turnaround.



Mercury campaign with junior school students in Kuantan Singingi



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ As of June 2022, the awareness of **18,441 people**, including 8,298 females, had been raised on the dangers of mercury to human health and the environment.
- ▶ The project's door-to-door mercury campaigns to miners' houses and mining camps had reached a total of **4,442 people** with posters, brochures, stickers, calendars, infographics, and messages about avoiding mercury.
- ▶ Targeting the children of miners in ASGM communities, the project organized storytelling competitions, shows, and workshops to teach local teachers who were then tasked with spreading messages to their students. More than **2,800 students and 250 teachers** participated in these events.
- ▶ To support awareness raising and training events, the project produced multiple media campaigns and messaging such as posters, video, comic books, songs, and merchandise including t-shirts, tote bags, notebooks and calendars.
- ▶ As a result of the project's awareness and outreach activities, the project observed multiple positive behavioral changes. For example, in Kuantan Singingi the miners are no longer burning the bullions in their kitchens, in an effort to protect their families from mercury vapor.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ The project motivated **2 local communities** to establish Gender Responsive Villages.
- ▶ The project introduced gender aspects to financial entities about the role of men and women in mining activities, their different situations and needs to access financial products.
- ▶ **28% of cooperative members** who received formalization support from the project are women.

“We have learned that chemical composition is very important in gold processing and we now understand that toxicity of cyanide in the tailings can be managed with certain procedures.”

– **Daris Tukang**, a miner in Halmahera Selatan



KENYA

The planetGOLD Kenya project’s objective is to support the development of responsible mining by:

- ▶ Strengthening institutions and the policy/regulatory framework for mercury-free ASGM
- ▶ Establishing financing lending arrangements to provide loans for mercury-free processing equipment.
- ▶ Increasing capacity for mercury-free ASGM through provision of technical assistance and technology transfer, promoting alternative technologies that are safe for the environment and the miners,
- ▶ Raising awareness and disseminating best practices



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
1.5 TONNES

THE PLANETGOLD KENYA PROJECT TEAM:



Seated left to right: Washington Ayiembra, UNDP Kenya; Michael Mwania, (MoH); Henry Nyamai, Regional Project Officer; Amos Ng’etich (NECC); Regan Awino, NEMA Kenya. *Second row:* Convine Omondi, Chief Technical Advisor; Daudi Kamau (Ministry of Water); Gregory Kituku (State Department for Mining); Kiprono Patrick, Project Finance Officer; Moses Njeru; Francis Wekesa (State Department for Cooperative). *Standing:* Kathy Njuguna, Project Gender Officer; Sharon Chelangat, Project Assistant; * Dr. Lucy Ng’ang’a (Deputy MEAs)

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ Conducted socioeconomic baseline surveys and mercury/gold mass balance inventories for each of the priority project sites.
- ▶ Assessed the capacity of government entities (national, provincial, district and local level), as well as other stakeholders involved in the management of ASGM and/or responsible for providing ASGM extension services to the project's priority ASGM sites.
- ▶ Supported the induction of **4 County Mining Committees** (Kakamega, Vihiga, Migori and Narok), which review, consider, and recommend issuance of licenses for ASGM.
- ▶ Facilitated registration of mining groups by social services in priority areas, including: **4** groups in Kakamega Rosterman, **19** groups at Ikholumani, **6** groups in Vihiga, **17** in Migori, **12** groups in Masara, **10** groups in Kehancha, and **14** groups in Narok Lolgorian.
- ▶ Assessed existing analytical, consulting, training and equipment resources and services present in the regions of project priority sites (e.g. regional universities, analytical labs, geoscience consulting firms, and equipment suppliers/manufacturers).



Capacity building on the importance of group formation in Vihiga County

- ▶ Based on the training needs assessment, developed a **training manual**, plan, and materials for stakeholders' training on: ASGM formalization, environmental health and safety; ASGM legal and institutional framework; ASGM business management and gender and ASGM.
- ▶ Developed Health, Safety and Environment regulations and guidelines, as well as guidelines for delineation of land licensing of artisanal miners.
- ▶ Supported existing Environmental Governance Program to help finalize relevant policy documents on: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Guidelines for the mining sector, Environmental Guidelines on Mine Site Decommissioning and Rehabilitation, and the Artisanal Mining Committee Guidelines.
- ▶ Documented the Gender Dimensions on Existing Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in Kenya's ASGM.

“After the training by planetGOLD Kenya, I realized not having financial records of my business put me at a disadvantage of not being considered for loans by financial institutions. I also decided to form a group of artisanal mining where we do table banking. This is where we now save our proceeds and loan to members who need money and they pay back with a small interest.”

—Mary Alwany, artisanal gold miner, Kakamega County



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ Assessed the accessibility of financial products to artisanal gold miners and organizations. The report highlighted that access to formal financing faces stringent collateral requirements leading ASGM communities to prefer seeking financing from informal institutions, and identified the need for both asset-based financing and working capital facility.
- ▶ The project's research ranked **7 formal commercial financial entities** – Equity Bank (K) Ltd, Cooperative Bank of Kenya, KCB Bank, Family Bank, Faulu MFB, KWFT MFB

and ABSA – based on their accessibility to render financial services to the ASGM sector.

- ▶ The project trained **182 miners** from Kakamega (30 men, 15 women), Vihiga (12 men, 18 women), Migori (32 men, 28 women), Narok (27 men, 13 women) on basic financial management including record keeping, business operations/ entrepreneurship and awareness on formal financing in the project sites.



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ Reached **2,785 persons** (1,169 women and 1,616 men) through project trainings, workshops, field activities, and awareness creating activities on the dangers of mercury, the need to formalize the sector and the process to apply for permits, how to keep records, and available financial products in the market.
- ▶ Information, education and communication material was procured and distributed to **500** project beneficiaries.

- ▶ Provided information to around **90%** of ASGM miners in the project counties on the dangers of mercury.
- ▶ **300** full sets of Personal Protection Equipment were procured and ready to be distributed in mining communities.





MONGOLIA




The planetGOLD Mongolia project’s objective is to contribute toward the elimination of mercury in the ASGM sector by applying a supply chain approach from the miners to refiners:

- ▶ Enhancing formalization by reviewing legal frameworks, building capacity of national and local governments, and supporting miners
- ▶ Installing and piloting mercury-free gold processing technologies in the selected mining sites
- ▶ Implementing due diligence standards and connecting miners to responsible markets
- ▶ Improving artisanal mining practices through training programs

THE PLANETGOLD MONGOLIA PROJECT TEAM:



From far left in standing position: Gantugs Bayaraa (Site Coordinator) Munkhtseren Togtokhsuren (Finance Manager), Bolormaa Khosbayar (Finance assistant), Lkhagvadulam Jamiyandagva (Gender Specialist) and Chimedregzen Sanduijav (Project Officer and Environmental Specialist) From far left in sitting position: Khishgee Dondov (Field Coordinator and Community Relations Specialist), Byambasuren Odgerel (Technologist Engineer), Altanbagana Bayarsaikhan (National Project Manager) and Khishigsuren Lkhagva (Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist)



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
15 TONNES

EXECUTING PARTNERS



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
AND TOURISM OF MONGOLIA

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The planetGOLD Mongolia project completed and published the policy report [A Legal Framework Analysis of the ASGM sector in Mongolia.](#)
- ▶ The team trained at least **100 local government officials** in target project areas on Occupational Safety and Health Legislations in ASM and Gender Mainstreaming and at least 36 government officials have received technical support for the development and implementation of regulations relating to ASGM formalization.
- ▶ The project engaged **16 government officials, 28 miners, 5 civil society organizations** and **12 other stakeholders** from target areas in workshops to collaboratively develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and in processes to accelerate permitting and environmental compliance.
- ▶ The project team signed Memorandums of Understanding with the Governors of Selenge province and Mandal soum to promote and support formalization and professionalization of local ASGM communities, implementation of due diligence, and improvement of ore processing technology in the province.
- ▶ The project is working with the Governor of Mandal soum to establish an ASM Council, which will improve coordination between stakeholders on formalization.
- ▶ The project supported the Artisanal and Small-scale Mining National Federation (ASM NF) in conducting awareness-



Business management training in Selenge province

raising activities among policy makers to initiate the amendment process and approve the draft Artisanal and Small-scale Mining Regulation. The ASM NF organized awareness-raising activities and meetings with over **300 artisanal and small-scale miners, 7 central and local policymakers, and 26 journalists.**

- ▶ The project team supported the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) to organize national-level discussions and workshops on the Minamata Convention's implementation in Mongolia and on estimating and reducing the “hidden” use of mercury in the ASGM sector. The meetings attended by different government officials, researchers, and representatives from non-governmental organizations provided an opportunity to discuss issues of mercury use in the ASGM sector, which are often neglected by policymakers. In total, **63 government officials** joined the workshops.



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project trained **51 miners** from project provinces in business management.
- ▶ The team developed **2 social enterprise business models** for the ASGM community in targeted areas, and created **2 investment toolkits** for developing a business plan and a financial assessment.
- ▶ The project organized meetings with potential investors and representatives of TransBank and Golomt Bank, exchanging information and views on the gold trade legal environment, formalization of ASGM, the project activities and efforts, investment opportunities, and the needs of the miners. A summary of the access to finance challenges in ASGM can be found in the report [Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Trade in Mongolia: A Review of Current Policies and Practices.](#)
- ▶ The project co-organized Mongolia's first-ever [Precious Metal and Jewellery Forum and Expo](#) and provided presentations on the current ASM condition, challenges and investment opportunities in the ASGM sector. About **60 representatives** participated in the Forum and the project reached approximately **500 visitors** during the Expo.





TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Two processing plants were selected to install and pilot mercury-free processing equipment in Selenge province. The project expects to reduce the use of mercury by **52.12 kilograms** per year through the operation of both mercury-free processing systems.
- ▶ To promote responsible and better mining practices in the ASGM sector, the project trained **358 miners** (122 female; 236 male) in collaboration with the ASM National



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ As part of the Memorandums of Understanding the project signed with two plants in Mandal soum selected for improving their processing systems, the parties agreed to implement and develop a transparent gold supply chain from the mine site to the Central Bank of Mongolia, based on the CRAFT Code and planetGOLD Criteria standards. As part of the implementation of CRAFT Code/planetGOLD criteria, the partners have done combined preliminary assessments, developed improvement plans, appointed CRAFT officers, and started the implementation of the recommendations provided by the project team to comply with the criteria.
- ▶ Once the above-mentioned plants are improved and the CRAFT Code and planetGOLD Criteria are implemented, the expected amount of responsible gold from both sites is **40.089 kilograms** per year.

Federation. The miners' response was positive, requesting additional trainings, especially on ASM legislation, environmental management, gender and human rights, and business management.

- ▶ The project built partnerships with 2 institutions – the ASM National Federation and MONFEMNET – on the development and implementation of training modules for miners.



Mercury photo exhibit in Gobi-Altai province

- ▶ The project published the report [Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Trade in Mongolia: A Review of Current Policies and Practices](#), which provides an overview of existing gold trading practices, the legal environment regulating gold trade, conditions of access to finance in ASGM, and challenges and opportunities to regulate and formalize gold trade.



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ The project organized **5 workshops** on the Minamata Convention, ASGM in Mongolia, due diligence, gender mainstreaming, and occupational health and safety in project provinces.
- ▶ The project partnered with the ASM National Federation to support and improve the functionality and accessibility of the [ASM Knowledge Hub](#), aiming to make the national platform mobile-friendly, easier to use, and connected to social media.
- ▶ During the reporting period the ASM Knowledge Hub was updated with project news and information, including trainings conducted in three project provinces and the release of short reports on the ASM Legal Framework and Gold Trade in the ASGM sector.
- ▶ The Strategic Communications Plan and Social Media Strategy were updated to align with the results of the project's Contextual Study.
- ▶ The project used Facebook to reach out to various stakeholders, as 44% of surveyed miners indicate they receive most information from Facebook while 46% prefer to get information through mobile phones. During the reporting period, the number of followers on Facebook doubled, reaching **903 followers**.

“I am very confident that the mercury-free processing system will significantly reduce the potential use of mercury.... As capacity and recovery rate increase under the adoption of new technology, the production of gold through non-toxic technology will increase and the livelihood of artisanal miners will improve as well. It also provides a great opportunity for other artisanal miners to learn and adopt new technology to their own facility.”

—Ms.Tuya Damdinjamts, “Shijir Khishig” partnership leader in Mandal soum, Selenge province



PERU

The planetGOLD Peru project’s objective is to reduce, eliminate and/or avoid mercury use from the country’s ASGM sector through:

- ▶ Strengthening institutions and the regulatory framework for mercury-free ASGM
- ▶ Establishing financing lending arrangements to provide loans for mercury free processing equipment
- ▶ Providing technical assistance, technology transfer and support for formalization
- ▶ Monitoring and evaluation, awareness raising, capturing and disseminating experiences, lessons-learned and best practices



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
15 TONNES

THE PLANETGOLD PERU PROJECT TEAM:



In standing position: Javier Yrigoyen (Regional Coordinator Arequipa), Jonatan Soto (Regional Coordinator Puno), Franco Arista (National Coordinator), Nicolás Chávez (Project Administrator), William Quea (Regional Coordinator Piura)

In sitting position: Janeth Lazarte (Communication Specialist), Sandra Guzmán (Gender Specialist), Andrea Ravines (Microfinance Specialist)

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCY



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The project played a significant role in the formulation of the Peruvian government's National Multisectoral Policy for Small Mining and Artisanal Mining was completed and shared with artisanal miners, academia, and civil society to receive their feedback on the policy.
- ▶ The project supported the development of the Normative Proposal about Gold Commercialization in ASM, which was created and published by the Ministry of Energy and Mines.
- ▶ The team completed selection of beneficiaries for the project and signed collaboration agreements.
- ▶ The development of the online platform "RECPO en Línea" was improved by the project's securement of USD \$48,000 from Conservation X Labs. This digital tool will now allow controlling and tracing ASM gold for the Ministry of Energy and Mines.
- ▶ Held training [workshops for ASGM](#) about the process of mining formalization, mercury-free technology and other relevant topics, The training program was organized in alliance with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the SBG Project of the Swiss cooperation.





ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project completed and launched a study of supply and demand including propositions of a financial access plan for the ASM sector in Spanish ([Hacia la inclusion financiera de la MAPE](#)) and English ([Towards financial inclusion for ASM](#))
- ▶ In coordination with the NGO “Grupo GEA,” the project designed 4 financial products and 1 financial mechanism for ASM as well as a financial education program.
- ▶ Collaboration agreements were signed with 3 financial entities, Caja Los Andes, Caja Municipal Ica and Cooperativa San Miguel, to develop the above-mentioned finance products for the ASM sector.
- ▶ The project team prepared technical information from 8 mining organizations to connect with Caja Los Andes for a credit pilot.
- ▶ A financial product validation workshop was held with the financial institutions Caja Los Andes, Caja Ica and Cooperativa San Miguel to the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Mines.
- ▶ The agreement that establishes repayment through taking a portion of the payment for the miner towards the loan payment was prepared between the mineral collection plant and the artisanal mining product.
- ▶ Financial institution Caja Los Andes committed to allocate approximately USD \$500,000 for the implementation of the proposed financial mechanism, scaling up from 8 to 40 mining groups in the Arequipa region.



“As a financial institution, we seek that our clients comply with certain environmental and social standards. During the visit to the mines in Arequipa, I was impressed by the work, the employment chain generated, and the mercury reduction initiative by the small-scale miners.”

—Jefrin Rojas, Head of Business Products and Microcredits at Caja Ica



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ The project team initiated a year-long technical assistance program in the Puno region. In total **15 artisanal mining organizations** and **4 women's mining groups** have registered for this program.
- ▶ **146 kilograms** of mercury have been reduced in the districts of Chaparra and Mariano Nicolás Valcarcel, in the Arequipa region, due to the technical assistance from the project metallurgist.
- ▶ The project team initiated the process of building **5 new mercury-free gold ore processing plants** in the Puno region.
- ▶ Miners from Puno visited Madre de Dios and Arequipa mining operations to learn about the use of mercury-free technologies. (See the video “A mercury-free path”: [short version/](#) [full version](#))



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ The project supported **15** mining organizations in finalizing compliance with the planetGOLD Criteria.
- ▶ Topographic surveys, geological studies, laboratory analyses, businesses administration support, accountability and environmental management were carried out in the 15 mining organizations.
- ▶ The project supported the jeweler Sissai in obtaining a grant from Conservation X labs to improve its supply chain with blockchain technology.





COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ The team carried out the [“Expedition Mercury”](#) awareness campaign in alliance with the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Health, Regional Mining Directorate of Arequipa, Piura, and Puno, and Local Municipalities of Ananea, Suyo, and Sapillica. It included the design of social media flyers for miners and the production of [radio spots](#) and a [video](#) in Quechua, a local language spoken in the Puno and Arequipa regions.
- ▶ The project team developed [awareness workshops](#) to miners and mineral women selectors on the effects of mercury on environment and health in the Puno and Piura regions.
- ▶ The project presented **2 innovation proposals** to the global contest Artisanal Mining Challenge: The Amazon, organized by Conservation X Labs.
- ▶ The project prepared to launch a publication on gender in the ASGM sector in the Piura region.



- ▶ Produced [Annual Report 2021](#) which described the project’s progress in the regions of Arequipa, Piura and Puno.
- ▶ Created a [2022 ASGM Calendar](#) that includes relevant dates of the miner’s obligations and formalization processes and information about mercury impact.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ The design of a Financial Product Workshop for women miners was developed for women in Arequipa, Piura, and Puno.
- ▶ The Women Miners National Network was created, and the project is providing mentoring support for the leaders.
- ▶ For the first time, an association of “pallaqueras” (women mineral selectors) in Cuchi Corral - Chirinos was legally created in the Piura region.
- ▶ The project completed a study on gender in the ASGM sector and started the design of a document with the main results.



PHILIPPINES



The planetGOLD Philippines project’s objective is to reduce, eliminate and/or avoid mercury use from the country’s ASGM sector through:


- ▶ Enhancing formalization by reviewing legal frameworks and strengthening capacity of national and local governments to develop and implement plans
- ▶ Improving miners’ access to small capital to purchase mercury-free equipment, potentially through social enterprise business models
- ▶ Installing and piloting mercury-free gold processing technologies in the selected mining sites
- ▶ Creating a communications platform that will enable ASGM stakeholders and partners to learn and share the project news, experiences, and success stories.

THE PLANETGOLD PHILIPPINES TEAM:



From far left in standing position: Mildred Arucan (National Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist), Peter Espiritu (National Finance Manager) Louie Bedes (National Project Technical Expert), Michelle Arianne Manza (National Assistant Project Manager) , Dawn Jeffannie Vie Po Quimque (National Communications Officer)

From far left in sitting position: Jacklyn Belo-Enricoso (National Gender Specialist), Victor Quintana (Senior Mineral Processing Engineer), Douglas Kao (Project Manager), Abigail Ocate (National Project Manager) and Kristal Jaylo-Bautista (National Investment Specialist)



END OF PROJECT TARGET:
Prevent or eliminate mercury use by
25 TONNES

EXECUTING PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Through a partnership with the small-scale mining association Samahan ng mga Minero sa Barangay Casalugan (SMBC), construction of a mercury-free processing system in Paracale commenced in April 2022. With the ore throughput capacity of this system, the team expects to effectively reduce mercury use by **17.16 kilograms** per year.
- ▶ At the Sagada site, the project team proposed and designed process improvements to existing processing plants.
- ▶ The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and Department of Health (DOH) were identified as partners at the national level in conducting



ACCESS TO FINANCE

- ▶ The project team began initial discussions with the BSP North Luzon Regional Office concerning a possible partnership in exploring the Credit Surety Fund offering for miners in Sagada.
- ▶ The project completed a Mineral Resource Assessment of the Minahang Bayan in Paracale, which provides data on gold production that will serve as inputs in preparing a financial model for investors.
- ▶ The project team proposed and consulted with the SMBC on the creation of a social enterprise with an investable business model to facilitate financing and investment.



Signs marking the construction of a mercury-free processing system in Paracale

technical capacity development activities in the project areas.

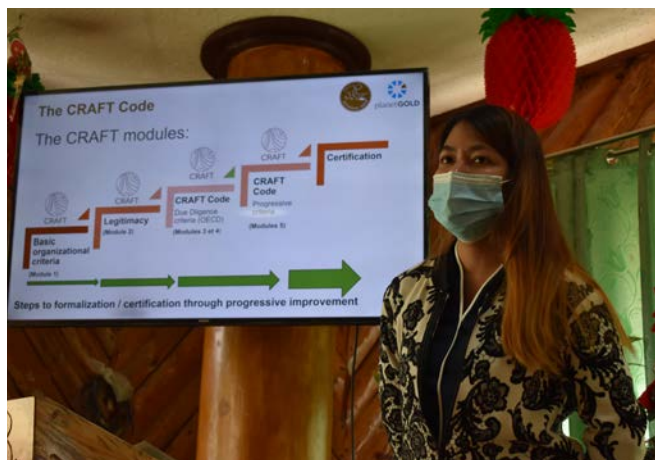
- ▶ At the local level, Camarines Norte State College (CNSC) and Mountain Province Polytechnic College were approached for partnerships in the conduct of trainings for small-scale mining associations.
- ▶ The planetGOLD Philippines team drafted and shared a training plan with the above-mentioned agencies.

- ▶ Together with the MGB, the team had a courtesy meeting with the BSP Deputy Governor for Payments and Currency Management Sector concerning future collaboration and strategies, including the potential exploration of a forward purchase agreement.
- ▶ The project drafted a tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among AGC, the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board (PMRB), and partner mining associations to promote project sustainability.



FORMALIZATION

- ▶ The project began identifying government incentives relating to the ASGM sector through an assessment of the legal framework governing the sector and the illicit financial flows. The results of this study will supplement information on the gaps and barriers to the formalization of the sector. It will also provide additional insights to guide policymakers in adopting reforms that respond to the concerns of small-scale mining stakeholders.
- ▶ The project team is working with the Mines and Geosciences Bureau - Mineral Economics, Information, and Publication Division to support the development of a multi-sided platform. This platform will be used by all small-scale miners in the country who will be petitioning for the declaration of a Minahang Bayan (small-scale mining area) and will be applying for a small-scale mining contract.
- ▶ The project launched its Policy Workshop series, which aims to provide a collaborative avenue for government agencies at the national, regional, and local levels with



National Investment Specialist Kristal Jaylo-Bautista speaking during a training on the CRAFT code in Sagada

mandates to oversee, govern, and monitor the small-scale gold mining sector in the Philippines. The first leg focused on stocktaking the current ASGM situation in the country and discussing findings and recommendations from different project activities. With a total of 5 legs, the expected output is an ASGM Action Plan co-developed by government offices which may be used as basis for the development of the National Action Plan for the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

“Through the planetGOLD project, I learned about the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas as the only formal gold market in the country. AGC invited the BSP representative to conduct an online orientation on responsible gold sourcing policy and guidelines. All misconceptions regarding the BSP gold buying policy were dispelled. AGC assisted us in our registration and accreditation process with BSP Baguio.”

—Enero Alejandro, BSP-accredited local gold trader in Sagada



ACCESS TO FORMAL MARKETS

- ▶ The project's Contextual Study found that the majority of miners in project areas are not aware of the policies and requirements of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), the central bank of the Philippines. As this is the only legal gold market in the country, the team conducted outreach campaigns to encourage the associations and local gold buyers to apply for the central bank's gold trading registration and accreditation.
- ▶ The project disseminated information materials to miners and local gold traders concerning the importance of selling gold to the central bank, its gold sourcing policies, processes, requirements, and benefits—and on the CRAFT Code planetGOLD Version, including planetGOLD-specific criteria.
- ▶ The team assisted **3 local gold traders** from Sagada in their registration to the central bank and coordinated for Paracale miners in undergoing their due diligence procedure. According to the traders, the activity clarified their misconceptions regarding BSP's gold buying program, paved the way for them to sell gold to BSP at a standard price, and provided an opportunity to participate in BSP activities.
- ▶ Sagada and Paracale accredited local gold traders have sold to the BSP gold buying stations in Baguio City and Naga City, respectively.
- ▶ The team facilitated national and local workshops on OECD Due Diligence Guidelines, focusing on the CRAFT Code, and localized the verification tool and report to the Philippine context.



GENDER EQUITY

- ▶ In preparation for the regional and national roundtable discussions on gender and small-scale mining, the project conducted Basic Advocacy Training for **66 women miners** in Sagada (26) and Paracale (40). The activity aimed at identifying gender issues in small-scale mining, understanding the fundamental rights of women, appreciating the laws related to gender and small-scale mining, and gaining advocacy skills that will further equip them to pursue advocacy engagements with the government.
- ▶ The gender action plan of the project was updated based on the final Contextual Study report.



COMMUNICATIONS AND AWARENESS RAISING

- ▶ The project published the photo story [Visualizing a Future with Formalized Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining](#) and a blog article titled [Voices of Women in Artisanal Small-Scale Mining in the Philippines](#).
- ▶ The project team created a new Facebook page and developed an information drive through the creation of planetGOLD Facebook group and ASGM Champion Spotlight series, which intends to highlight men and women in the ASGM sector who embody and inspire change in their respective communities.
- ▶ The project gained **971 followers** on the social media platform during the reporting period, reaching **49,074 people** and receiving **38,513 post engagements**.
- ▶ The team continuously developed and distributed information, education and communication (IEC) materials, and visibility materials for the project.
- ▶ The project team began engaging local workers for the installation of Community Bulletin Boards at strategic locations in the project sites, which will serve as a mechanism to disseminate project updates and other relevant information.



Women miners in a breakout session during Basic Advocacy Training in Sagada

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE



SUPPORTED BY



LED BY



IMPLEMENTED BY



● Republic of the Congo



● Cote d'Ivoire



● Guinea



● Mongolia



● Philippines



● Uganda



● Zambia



● Bolivia



● Burkina Faso



● Ghana



● Madagascar



● Mali



● Mongolia



● Nicaragua



● Nigeria



● Philippines



● Colombia



● Ecuador



● Ghana



● Honduras



● Indonesia



● Kenya



● Peru



● Suriname



● Guyana



● Sierra Leone

● Phase 1 ● Phase 2

PLANETGOLD GLOBAL TEAM AND PARTNERS

The planetGOLD programme is implemented thanks to the commitment, creativity, and efforts of a large group of individuals in the implementing and executing agencies, as well as in the national government agencies. The lists of people shown in the following pages include the names of the core individuals, teams, and partners that are officially involved with the programme.* We also acknowledge and extend sincere gratitude to all others who may not be named here, but who have had a helping hand in planetGOLD's activities and achievements thus far.

In alphabetical order

GEF Secretariat – Anil Sookdeo, Evelyn Swain

Implementing Partners:

UNEP—Lead Agency Core Team:

Ludovic Bernaudat, Kenneth Davis, Grace Halla, Inaki Rodriguez, Malgorzata Stylo

UNIDO Implementing Agency Core Team:

Rocío Fernández García, Hoa Lai, Hedy Roversi, Jérôme Stucki

Conservation International Implementing Agency Core Team:

Free de Koning, Prapti Bhandary

UNDP Implementing Agency Core Team:

Anderson Alves, Monica Gaba Kapadia, Kasper Koefoed, Jie Pan, Paloma Somohano

External Programme Advisory Group:

Miranda Werstiuk, OCIM Precious Metals (Chair); Rodges Ankrah, UNEP Global Mercury Partnership; Priya Bala-Miller, Palmyra Partners; Yves Bertran, Alliance for Responsible Mining; Eduard Cornew, Mwamba Mining; Diana Cullillas, Swiss Better Gold Association; Jane Dennison, US Department of State; Bob Donofrio, Futura Jewelry; Luis Fernandez, CINCIA/Wake Forest University; Angela Jorns, Levin Sources; Anna Loucah, Anna Loucah Jewelry; Mara Lupia, Kering; Louis Maréchal; Daniel Stapper, Pact; Phaedon Stamatopoulos, Argor Heraeus; Alice Vanni, Italpreziosi

Executing Partners:

GLOBAL PROJECT:

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Mona Avalos, Susan Egan Keane, Marilyn Martinez, Jennifer Wilmore Scroggins

Communications Subcontractor

Arrowhead Films: Max Anderson, Mita Hernandez, Cheryl Fries, Patrick Fries

Financial Outreach Subcontractor

Artisanal Gold Council: Scott Gryba, Kevin Telmer

COUNTRIES

BURKINA FASO

Project management team:

Abel Ouédraogo – Project Manager, Artisanal Gold Council; Saidou Kabré – National Project Coordinator; Eve Sanou – Compliance Officer; Abdoul Kader Sanou – Technical Specialist; Aboubacar Siriki Deme – Field and Community Relation Officer; Karim Badini – Finance Specialist; Daouda Maiga -Formalization and Trade officer; Nicole Yerbanga, Finance and Administration Officer

National stakeholders:

Ministry of Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change:

Minister: Augustin KABORE; General Secretary: Bouraima KOUANDA; General Directorate of Environmental Preservation: Roger Baro; Director of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Risks: Abou Traoré

Ministry of Mines and Quarries:

Minister: Simon Pierre BOUSSIM; General Secretary: Moïse OUEDRAOGO; National Supervisory Agency of Artisanal and Semi-Mechanized Exploitation (ANEEMAS): Wendpanga Aimé NONGKOUNI

COLOMBIA

Project management team:

Jimena Puyana Erazo - Focal point and Project Director, UNDP; Diego Olarte - Monitoring and follow up advisor, UNDP

UNDP and planetGOLD Team:

Liliana Alvarado Flórez - National Project Coordinator; Manuel Hurtado González - Specialist in financial inclusion strategy; Germán Marquínez Casas - Specialist in clean technologies strategy and ASGM; Karen Álvarez Riascos - Professional - Regional liaison in Cauca; Jesús Nieves - Professional Regional liaison in Sur de Bolívar; Aslam Maday Real González - Administrative and financial assistant; Juan Manuel Chavarría - Specialist in communication and knowledge management

* These lists reflect individuals and institutions involved with the programme as of June 30, 2022

Main government partners:

Ministry of Mines and Energy (Executing Partner):

Sandra Rocío Sandoval - Vice Minister of Mines and Project Manager; Ronnal Bello - Technical focal point

Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Supporting partner):

Andrea Corzo- Director of environmental affairs; Elías Pinto - Technical focal point

Ministry of Health and Social Protection (Supporting partner):

Jairo Hernández - Deputy Director of Environmental Health; Yady González - Technical focal point

ECUADOR

Project management team:

Bruno Bellettini - Coordinator National Program for Chemical Management, UNDP; Luis Tapia - Mining Expert, National Program for Chemical Management, UNDP; Diana Cabrera - Monitoring Technician, National Program for Chemical Management, UNDP; Gabriela Jarrín - Project Monitoring Specialist, UNDP; Mario Rodas - Programme Officer at UNDP Ecuador and planetGOLD Coordinator

Main government partners:

Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE), Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM), Geology and Energy Research Institute (IIGE), Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE)

GUYANA

Project management team:

Ingrid Sarabo – Project Director; Dayshawn Billingy – Technical Officer; Kazia Watson – Safeguards Coordinator; Kristia Ramlagan – Communications Coordinator

Main government partners:

Ministry of Natural Resources; Guyana Geology & Mines Commission; Environmental Protection Agency

INDONESIA

Project management team:

National Project Director (NPD): Yulia Suryanti; Deputy National Project Director (DNPD): Dadan M. Nurjaman; National Project Manager: Baiq Dewi Krisnayanti; Working Group 3 Coordinator: Jatu Arum Sari; Working Group 2 Coordinator: Singgih Seno Aji; Working Group 4 Coordinator: Harti Ningsih; Gender and Community Development Associate: Dzul Afifah Arifin; Project Associate: Khairul Amri; Procurement Assistant: Agneta Silvia; Field Facilitators: Anggit Priadmodjo, Yusrin Afandi, Muslim Nur Widodo, Roberta Zulphi Surya, Stephanie Natalia Mapeliey; Project Clerks: Irma Widiastari, Witari Astriani

Other key individuals and teams:

Rosa Vivien Ratnawati, SH., MSD., Director General of Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Substance Management, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia; Aretha Aprilia, Head of Environment Unit, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Anton Sri Probiyantono, Senior Programme Manager, UNDP

GOLD-ISMIA PROJECT

Main government partners:

- **Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF):** Engaged in management area as project board and National Project Director (NPD). All implementation activities are under MOEF coordination and approval. MoEF is also the leading Government agency on mercury elimination and reduction in Indonesia.
- **Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT):** is leading the implementation of Component 3 related to mercury phase-out from ASGM and establishment of mercury-free technology
- **Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MoEMR):** responsible for reviewing existing regulations on ASGM in Indonesia and also the leading Government agency for formalization process of ASGM.
- **Ministry of Health:** Engaged with project as a resource agency for awareness raising activities on the impacts of mercury to human health.
- **Ministry of Cooperatives and Small-Scale and Medium Enterprises:** responsible for the facilitation, and support for partnership between the project and miners' cooperatives and financial entities i.e. Village Fund (BumDes) and PIP.
- **National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS)**
- **Ministry of Finance** (Directorate of loans and grants)

KENYA

Project management team:

Mayiani Saino - Project Manager; Convine Nyamwea Omondi - Chief Technical Advisor; Henry Ngilu Nyamai - Project Regional Officer, Migori/Narok; Patrick Kiprono - Finance Officer; Sharon Chelengat - Project Assistant; Ruth Epwoka - Communication Officer; Grace Owitti - Policy and Governance Officer; Kathy Njuguna - Gender Officer

Main government partners:

Ministry of Petroleum and Mining; Ministry of Health; Ministry of National Treasury and Planning; Ministry of Water and Sanitation; and Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives; National Environment Management Authority; National Environment Complaints Committee; National Environment Trust Fund Council of Governors Counties of Kakamega, Vihiga, Migori and Narok

MONGOLIA

Project management team:

Rene Roger Tissot - Project Manager, Artisanal Gold Council; Altanbagana Bayarsaikhan - National Project Manager; Chimedregzen Sanduijav - Project Officer and Environmental Specialist; Khishgee Dondov - Field Coordinator & Community Relations Specialist; Dulguun Mijiddorj - Investment Specialist; Khishigsuren Lkhagva - M&E Specialist; Lkhagvadulam Jamiyandagva - Gender Specialist; Byambasuren Odgerel - Technologist Engineer; Munkhtseren Togtokhsuren - Finance Manager; Bolormaa Khosbayar - Finance Assistant; Gantugs Bayaraa - Site Coordinator

Main government partners:

Ministry of Environment and Tourism; Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry; Bank of Mongolia; Mineral Resources and Petroleum Agency; Financial Regulatory Committee; Artisanal and Small-scale Mining National Federation; Governor's offices of Selenge, Khovd, Gobi-Altai provinces; Governor's offices of Mandal, Bayangol, Altai and Yusunbulag soums and Tunkhel village

PERU

Project management team:

Franco Arista – National Coordinator; Jonatan Soto – Regional Coordinator Puno; Javier Yrigoyen – Regional Coordinator Arequipa; Janeth Lazarte – Communication Specialist; Sandra Guzmán - Gender Specialist; Nicolás Chávez – Project Administrator; Andrea Ravines - Microfinance and Financial Products Specialist

Main government partners:

Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Energy and Mines; United Nations Development Programme; Regional Directorate of Energy and Mines Puno; Regional Management of Energy and Mines Arequipa; Regional Directorate of Energy and Mines Piura; Ministry of Health -National Institute of Health; Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation

PHILIPPINES

Project Team:

Douglas Kao - Project Manager, Artisanal Gold Council; Abigail Ocate - National Project Manager; Michelle Manza - National Assistant Project Manager; Victor Quintana - Senior Mineral Processing/Mining Engineer; Louie Bedes - National Project Technical Expert; Kristal Jaylo-Bautista - National Investment Specialist; Jacklyn Belo-Enricoso - National Gender Specialist; Peter Espiritu - National Finance Manager; Dawn Jeffannie Vie Po Quimque - National Communications Officer; Mildred Arucan - National Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Government Partners:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, GEF Operational Focal Point; DENR Undersecretary Jonas Leones, PSC Chair; DENR Mines and Geosciences Bureau Acting Director Atty. Wilfredo Moncano



Supported by:



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