



Promoting Artisanal Small-scale Mining in West Africa: The role of miners, community members and civil society organisations

Baseline study on the effects of ASM operations on environmental, socio-economic, human health and livelihoods impacts on selected ASGM communities in Ghana

Terms of reference

I. Context and justification

Most countries in the West African sub-region are endowed with diverse mineral resources such as gold, bauxite, iron, uranium, manganese, phosphate, limestone, diamonds, marble, lead, copper, gypsum, nickel, platinum, tin, lithium, just to name a few. These countries, like Ghana, Guinea and Mali, derive substantial budgetary support from proceeds from mining these minerals. In each of these three countries, the industrial exploitation of gold is carried out alongside with small-scale artisanal mining. This coexistence-competition means that the extractive industries in the sub-region are largely dominated by multinational mines operating on a large scale, with artisanal small-scale mining mainly managed by nationals, and in Ghana's case it is protected by law to be solely reserved for nationals.

In Ghana, the Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector is a major contributor to Ghana's gross domestic product (GDP), thus making this activity an important source of employment and income for miners and their dependents. For example, the sector contributed on the average 34.06% of total gold produce in Ghana between 2012 and 2014 (GHEITI, 2015)¹. It also serves as an avenue for employment creation and a catalyst for other business to drive local economy of host communities.

However, in most ASGM communities, activities from the sector has resulted in destruction of agricultural lands leading to loss of livelihoods of most residents, pollution of water bodies as well as the air and its attending negative health consequences to the miners and members of host ASGM communities.

The aforementioned concerns culminate into two overarching questions that most residents and the general Ghanaian public are asking:

1. What are the causes, consequences, and correctives of artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Ghana?
2. More specifically, what alternatives are available in resource-limited settings in Ghana that allow for artisanal and small-scale gold-mining to occur in a manner that is safe for

¹Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative(GHEITI, 2015): Aggregation and reconciliation of mining sector receipts and payments: 2012 - 2014

ecological health and human health without affecting near- and long-term economic prosperity?

It is to answer the aforementioned questions that the Centre for Environmental Impact Assessment (CEIA) in partnership with the Foundation for Development in the Sahel (FDS), and the International Trade Centre for Development (CECIDE) with funding from the Open Society Initiative of West Africa (OSIWA) under a project titled: Promotion of Artisanal Small-scale Mining in West Africa to conduct a baseline study on the effects of ASM operations on the health and livelihoods of people in Ghana.

II. Objectives

2.1 General objective

The general objective of this study is to provide baseline data on the effects of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) operations on environment, human health and socio-economic livelihoods of residents in selected mining communities as well as ASGM miners.

2.2 Specific objectives

Specifically, the study will permit to:

- Take stock of the health situation of operators and communities living in artisanal and small-scale mining areas;
- Make an inventory of the main health conditions resulting from artisanal and small-scale mining;
- Carry out an exhaustive analysis of the living conditions of actors and communities in order to have an objective opinion of their livelihoods following artisanal and small-scale mining activities
- carry out an exhaustive analysis of environmental impacts on ASGM operations on water quality, sediment as well as other food crops grown in host communities.

III. Expected results

1. A state of the health situation of the operators and communities living in artisanal and small-scale mining areas is available;
2. The main conditions resulting from artisanal and small-scale mining are known;
3. The livelihoods of communities living around artisanal and small-scale mining areas are objectively assessed.
4. The state of the environmental report

IV. Study areas

The study will focus on artisanal and small-scale mining sites of selected mining communities in Ghana.

V. Duration of the study

The total duration of the mission is three (3) months. However, the selected consultant or consultancy firm shall submit its provisional report within seventy-five (75) days from the signing of the contract with the CEIA. He or she shall integrate the various observations of the client after fifteen (15) days following receipt of the provisional report.

VI. How to apply

Interested consultants, Research Institutes and Think Tank must submit a 5 page concept note (in English and French) detailing how they intend to carry out the exercise (work plan, instruments for data collection and analysis), budget and 2 page CV of the lead scientist to the Project Coordinator, CEIA, P.O. Box AD 738, Cape Coast, Ghana or infoceia2005@gmail.com and copied kwesikwabo@gmail.com not later than 24th August, 2020.

If your proposal is accepted, you will be contacted by End of September 2020. You are eligible to receive financial support only after your proposal has been accepted and you have received a written confirmation from CEIA.