

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### **Brief Description of the project:**

ASM mining in Malawi has been practiced for several decades and it is a sole source of income for some people. Many of them are involved in development Minerals extraction. Despite the mining activities offering a livelihood to many, still there are so many challenges that negatively affects the environment, community, health and safety due to knowledge gaps.

Many ASM and the community have struggled to acquire the appropriate knowledge and skills concerning the environment, community, gender, health and safety in regard to development minerals sector. This has led to environmental damage, health and safety hazards that affects both the ASM and community. The knowledge gap has contributed to stunted growth of the sector characterized by low household incomes and joblessness making people to migrate either to the cities or South Africa in search of greener pastures. In view of this, the project seeks to reverse the current trend.

There is need to do things differently to achieve sustainable development, therefore creating a well-managed and efficient development minerals sector that can transform the natural resources into lasting wealth for the local communities is the right solution. Skills and knowledge are two of the major drivers for growth in development minerals. Given the ASM potential, there is great need to create a conducive environment, that fosters its development and encourages the application of best mining practices, occupational health and safety.

It is because of these reasons, the project seeks to equip the ASM and the community with relevant basic knowledge about development minerals. Therefore, the project will conduct sensitization meetings and training workshops to improving their knowledge and skills in environment, community, gender, health and safety in the development minerals and other related areas like market linkages. Efforts have been made to ensure that the trainings are in line with the African Mining Vision (AMV) to develop skills at local level in the mineral industry.

In all, development minerals create and offers alternative economic streamline that can increase the socio economic activity at local level which leads to poverty alleviation and reduce unemployment especially in the youth and women.

### **Project Objective**

The primary objective of the training is to equip participants with the basic knowledge of the environment, community, gender, health and safety and related skills required in the development minerals sector with the aim of linking the relationship between low value minerals to local and national development.

### **Project Design**

The project has been designed to be more participatory in approach and shall engage participants by using presentations, group discussion and field visits. The project will be implemented in Mzimba District in the northern part of Malawi.

### **Expected Outcomes:**

- 100 people (ASM, associations, cooperatives and local leaders) sensitized on environment, community, gender, health and safety
- 80 Mine owner and workers trained
- Economic linkages from development minerals increase
- Environment protected, health and safety standards adhered to
- Conflicts between miners and the community reduced
- Illegal mining, child labour and gender inequality discouraged
- Pits refilled after mining
- The community's livelihoods and benefits from the mining activities improves.
- Increased awareness on environmental, health and safety issues
- Reduced health and safety hazards in mining sites
- Improved mining Practices
- Increased coverage of extension services
- An increase in productivity in mines
- Increase in household income – will ensure positive impact on poverty alleviation, and venture into value addition through mineral processing.
- Increase in knowledge and skills development – all miners will gain increased knowledge on to sustain their mining business.
- Benefits to community – the formation of co-operatives and associations will lower costs and increase knowledge amongst miners
- Improvements to infrastructure – improvements to physical infrastructure (like houses, communications and transport) leading to greater access to markets

**Expected Outputs:****Output 1**

100 Selected participants sensitized and empowered with relevant information

**Output 2**

50 Mine owners and workers gains knowledge about development minerals and adhere to good mining practices in regards to the environment, health and safety.

**Output 3**

Extension services in mining sites to give advice in mining sites

**Output 4**

The community in the mining areas empowered, Local mining committee established and addressing environmental, gender, community, health and safety issues

**Output 5**

Relevant stakeholders engaged about the adoption of the draft ASM policy

**Please describe how you plan to implement the return to work project:** (outline key partnerships and collaborations across sectors in your country as well as any joint collaboration with other countries)

Partners will include;

- Mines Department
- Gemstone Association of Malawi
- Malawi Women in Mining
- Mzuzu Artisanal Mining Training Center
- District Council (Local Government)

**What indicators of success will you employ?** (include indicators of success that go beyond activity-level implementation)

I will employ these key indicators to measure the success of the project. The indicators should be;

1. Quantifiable measurements that can be shared and analyzed at any time
2. Realistic

I expect the project to produce the following indicators;

- 200 people sensitized and educated
- 80 people trained, mining standards, safety and sanitation improves in mining sites
- 20 mines visited and environment, health and safety standards implemented

- 10 local mining committees formed and the community good in decision making.
- ASM Draft Policy adopted.
- Many people engaged in development minerals extraction
- Increased income at household level
- Increased knowledge/community awareness on environmental, gender, health and safety issues in regards to development minerals
- Increased coverage of extension services
- Market linkages increase
- Improved infrastructure and social economic development at local level

**What other strategic opportunities have you identified that will contribute to the success and sustainability of your project?** (include linkages to sub-regional and regional agenda)

- Infrastructure development is booming on a daily basis which means high demand of development minerals. This will encourage many people to start mining because of the huge market out there.
- An increase in value addition and mechanization. Instead of people selling raw materials will start selling finished products with high sales value
- Good transportation network locally and in the sub regional when moving the development minerals.
- Migration due to employment. This will improve local businesses, hence increase in demand for goods and services.

**What aspects of the training will be most useful in implementing your project? Explain**

For the project to succeed there will be need for people involved to be trained to increase their capacity in understanding the environment, gender, community, health and safety in relation to development minerals. All aspects of the training will be useful in the project implementation. The following groups will be targeted for these training;

- Mine owners and workers (miners): development minerals, environment, community, gender, health and safety

A high percentage of miners have very big knowledge gap in the above mentioned training areas. The gap impacts negatively on the welfare of the miners in terms of their health and safety due to poor sanitation and lack of protective wear. ASM activities are also environmental unfriendly which contributes to soil erosion, deforestation and usually pits are not refilled after mining. The project also seeks to address gender inequality issues in development minerals. It is my belief that the training shall bring positive results for the success and sustainability of the development minerals business.

- Local leaders and the community: environment, gender, community, health and safety Training. The community is the one that suffers most when it comes to mining of development mineral. The training seeks to empower the community to know their rights when faced with mining challenges. In most cases they suffer from air and water pollution due to contamination leading to silicosis, tremors due to blasting and machine vibrations, environmental degradation during and after mining.

after being trained, the community will be able to monitor and make sure that negative impacts of mining activities are avoided. They will also be empowered on how to engage with the miners to build better relations for the benefit of both parties.

**What are your future plans?** (Include any additional capacity building needs for your professional development that you have identified during the course of the workshop).

My future plans are to continue engaging with the ASM and the community in capacity building to further their knowledge in the development minerals. Some of the plans will include Value addition and Entrepreneurship trainings as a growth strategy. For this to work I will help them to form cooperatives for them to have easy access to financing for value adding machinery. This will increase productivity, efficiency and product quality.

The other thing is to help the ASM in market linkages locally and in the sub regional zone. This will need participation in international trade fairs in the sub region to showcase the products and also to learn from others who are doing the same in region.

I will also need to further my professional development through further trainings in the areas of Value addition, Entrepreneurship and value chain development in the development minerals.

### ACTION PLAN

Period	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Nov
<b>Activities</b>							
<b>Activity 1:</b> Sensitization workshops on environment, community, gender, health and safety in Development minerals	X	X		X		X	
<b>Activity 2:</b> training workshop on environmental management, health and safety in mining places		X	X				
<b>Activity 3:</b> monitor if mining standards are being implemented in mines and give advice on site.			X	X	X	X	X
<b>Activity 4:</b> Form and train community mining committees in mining areas				X	X	X	X
<b>Activity 5:</b> Advocate for the adoption of a National Artisanal and Small Scale Mining (ASM) Policy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Activity 6</b> Project Progress reports		X		X		X	
<b>Activity 7</b> Final project report							X