



# ILO-CARING

## GOLD MINING PROJECT

CONVENING ACTORS TO REDUCE CHILD LABOUR AND IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS IN ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

### AT A GLANCE

#### Donor

United States Department of Labor

#### Duration

December 2015 to October 2019

#### Target beneficiaries

Children in child labour and vulnerable families; artisanal and small scale gold miners and their communities; national government agencies and local government units.

#### Geographical focus

Global with Ghana and the Philippines as pilot countries; working in 4 districts/municipalities.

#### Partners

**Ghana:** Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations – Child Labor Unit; Minerals Commission; Local Government Service; Ghana NGO Coalition on the Rights of the Child; Ghana National Association of Small Scale Miners; Artisanal and Small Scale Mining Africa Network; District Governments of Adansi-North and Aowin; Support Services Foundation, University of Mines and Technology, and Network for Community Planning and Development. Delete Artisanal and Small Scale Mining Africa Network.

**Philippines:** BanToxics!, Department of Labor and Employment; Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Department of Social Welfare and Development; Department of Trade and Industry; Department of Education; Coalition for Small Scale Miners; Technical Education Skills Development Authority; Municipal Governments of Labo and Paracale, Camarines Norte and Municipal Government of T'boli, South Cotabato.

**Global:** Alliance for Responsible Mining, US Department of Labor, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, UN Environment, Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small Scale Mining Programme (GEF GOLD).



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### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sub-sector accounts for 15 – 20% of annual global gold production and provides employment to an estimated 10-15 million miners throughout the world. It is associated with a host of labour and social issues such as poor working conditions, child labour, mercury emissions, and environmental destruction. A major factor underlying these problems is informality whereby most operations are without permits and do not meet or strive to meet labour, environment and other social standards.

Supporting the development and formalization of ASGM to better address issues of child labour and poor working conditions are in line with the promotion of the following **ILO Conventions and Recommendations:**

- Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age
- Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour
- Convention No. 176 on Safety and Health in Mines
- Recommendation No. 204 on the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy

The CARING Gold Mining Project's overall goal is to increase to address child labour and working conditions issues in ASGM globally and in Ghana and the Philippines, its pilot countries. It does so by pursuing four outcomes, the first three to be carried out in the pilot countries and the fourth one on a global scale. These are:

**Outcome 1:** Laws, policies and action plans to address child labour and/or working conditions in ASGM in are strengthened, enforced and/or implemented

**Outcome 2:** Access of vulnerable households living in ASGM communities to relevant social protection and livelihoods programs is improved.

**Outcome 3:** Mechanisms to increase monitoring of child labour (CL) and working conditions (WC) in gold mining supply chains, particularly ASGM, are developed and implemented.

**Outcome 4:** Global networks to reduce child labour (CL) and improve working conditions (WC) in ASGM are operational



## GHANA

National and local policies enhanced to address issues of child labour and working conditions in ASGM, such as: National Plan of Action Against Worst Forms of Child Labour (NPA2) and local level by-laws and development plans.

Policy implementation in pilot Districts and communities strengthened through: developing systems and tools to address child labour for District Social Services Sub-Committees and Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs).

Technical skills among stakeholders enhanced such as: Ghana National Association of Small-Scale Miners (GNASSM) capacity in program management and capacity of miners on occupational safety and health.

## PHILIPPINES

National and local policies enhanced to address issues of child labour and working conditions in ASGM, such as: ongoing process of amending national small-scale mining law and developing National Action Plan on ASGM and ongoing process of local development planning to address ASGM issues

Coordination to address child labour and improve working conditions in ASGM enhanced with creation of Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (IATWG) with a sub-committee on ASGM.

Improvement of OSH regulations for ASGM starting with conduct of study on OSH Risks in ASGM

Strengthening of Provincial Mining Regulatory Boards (PMRB) starting with a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) as basis for development of a capacity-building program.

## GLOBAL

Knowledge-sharing and collaboration among global stakeholders in addressing child labour and working conditions issues in ASGM promoted through activities such as the Inter-Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting on Child Labour and Working Conditions Issues in ASGM on 28-30 May 2019 in Manila, Philippines in partnership with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UN Environment, Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) and the US Department of Labor (USDOL).

Engaging the Global Environment Fund-Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector (GEF-GOLD) as a co-implementer including engaging activities at the global and Philippines levels.





Development actors are responsive to needs of ASGM communities through the delivery of social services, such as: school feeding for students, supplementary livelihoods trainings for miners, and health insurance and cash transfers enrollment.

Approaches to support the formalization of ASGM developed, such as: piloting of Code of Risk-mitigation for ASGM engaging in Formal Trade (CRAFT) and development and piloting of mercury-free gold processing technologies in ongoing work with University of Mines and Technology.

Monitoring of child labour and working conditions issues among stakeholders improved through: building of capacities of Minerals Commission (MC) and Child Labour Unit (|CLU) and strengthening of child labour section of the GalamStop of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on illegal mining.

Coordination on child labour and small scale mining issues strengthened through the creation of the Child Labour and Responsible Mining Network (CLARM-Net).

Development actors made responsive to needs of ASGM communities through the delivery of social services such as: supplementary livelihoods, educational programs, vocational training program, and social welfare services.

Formalization of ASGM operations supported through: formation, registration and strengthening of 7 workers' associations, processing of Minahang Bayan permits for 5 mining associations resulting in 2 already declared.

Compassionate Gold brand that is child labour- and mercury-free launched and linked a Provincial-Government led certification system in South Cotabato.

Small scale miners' awareness of labour rights strengthened through the conduct of Freedom of Association (FoA) trainings. Government capacity to respond to child labour in ASGM is enhanced through SHIELD Against Child Labor with the following elements: child labour local registries, remediation services provided through convergence approach of government and non-government programs, and community-level awareness raising activities.

Developing a sub-module on child labour under the Code of Risk mitigation for ASM engaging in Formal Trade (CRAFT) Code with the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM).

Developing a compendium of good practices on addressing child labour and working conditions in ASGM/ASM with Levin Sources.

Networking and effective collaboration with various programmes and partners on child labour in mining in the framework of: USDOL/ILO project on child labour in cobalt supply chain in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with PACT as a major implementation partner; Netherland/ILO project on Child labour and decent work in (mining) supply chains; and collaboration with mining partners of the Action Group on Supply Chains of Alliance 8.7 and other relevant platforms.



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