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## HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES IN UGANDA

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# Introduction

1.0 Environmental and health initiatives

2.0 Lessons

3.0 Areas of research need

4.0 Way forward



# 1.0 Environmental and health Initiatives

Environmental and health initiatives anchored on formalisation

1. Geo-prospect & allocate land for ASGM

2. Facilitate Miner's organization

3. License & regulate ASGM

4. Organize the supply chain

5. Facilitate access to finance, assistance and markets

6. Monitor & enforce ASGM regulations

- Raising public awareness about dangers of mercury use
- Enhancing state and non state actor collaborations in reducing the use of mercury across relevant sectors
- Licensing & regulation



# Environmental and health Initiatives cont



- Organising the supply chain
- Demonstration sites, tools
- Facilitating miner organisations
- Improved/sustainable ASGM practices are seen as avenues for reducing poverty at the local level



## 2.0 Lessons learnt

- Whereas effects of mercury are scientific, strategies to mercury reduction are majorly socio-economic. The need to combine scientific and social economic research in the mercury field. Develop investment models, restoration models
- Multisectoral approach in developing and implementing NAPs, projects including PlanetGold & other interventions has been a foundation to their success
- Ensuring political will is key in influencing miner behavior change, policy review
- Increased uptake of mercury free technologies will require organizing the supply chain, ensuring financial inclusion, tailoring technologies to suit scale of mining operations and ore grade – address currently low uptakes
- Adoption of mercury free technologies may require development of investment models

### **3.0 Areas of research need**

QN1 : What would be the unit cost of restoration in USD for 1 acre of land outside a fragile ecosystem but hosting mining shafts of 10m, a processing area for an artisanal whose operations equal USD 104,919

QN2 : What would be the assumptions on the gold ore stock, recommended inputs for artisanal mining investment amounting to USD 104,919...we need to come up with mining models/metrics...this may inform basis for financial security

QN3 : What would be the the assumptions on the gold ore stock, recommended inputs for a small scale miner using chemical leaching or mercury free technologies with an investment amounting to USD 5,245,946

## **Areas of research need cont.**

Qn 4: What procedures should a miner use to clean up a site contaminated with mercury prior to obtaining a formal license to operate. Regulators may clean contaminated sites whose source of contamination may not be traced

Qn 5: Artisanal miners are not required to use cyanide. What artisanal technologies can be as efficient as cyanide

QN 6: What has continued to compel licensed small scale miners to use both cyanide and mercury

## 4.0 Way forward

- Increasing the impact of current efforts in the ASGM sector may require strengthening science-policy interface – developing investment models, restoration models
- Ensuring access to & dissemination of mercury research findings in a form interpretable by policy makers



*Thank you*