

THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND MINING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN EXTRACTIVES IN KENYA

Presents

GEMS AFRICA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2021

13 July 2021
9.00am -4.00pm EAT

THEME: RESPONSIBLE SOURCING OF GEMSTONES AND GOLD FROM MINES TO MARKET

CONCEPT AND PROGRAM

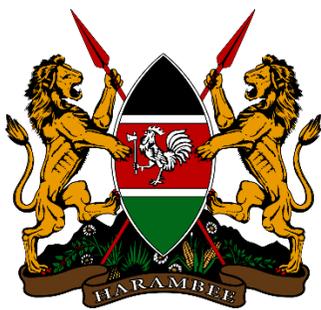
In Africa, artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) is a largely informal economic sector that includes workers who use basic tools to extract from the earth including gemstones and gold. ASM is an incredibly important driver of development in communities in Africa, where there are often few other opportunities available for generating income particularly in remote areas. ASM contributes positively to many of the Sustainable Development Goals, and with inclusive, comprehensive responsible sourcing, the global community can amplify ASM's positive impacts and mitigate negative ones.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Mining in collaboration with the Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK) seeks to bring together global stakeholders in the gemstone industry including governments, industry and artisanal miners themselves in a virtual conference that champions responsible sourcing of the gemstone and gold industries to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic transformation.

The Gems Africa 2021 Virtual Conference will help reveal ASM's contributions to development in Africa and propel meaningful dialogue that scales up the sector through encouraging partnerships and technological innovations. The conference will also highlight the role that women can play to foster peace where colored stones and gold are mined and harness support for the women who, against all odds, are mining in hardship areas.

Register for the conference at: kgjf.co.ke

For further details on how you can support this event, kindly contact us at: **The Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK)**, Email: admin@aweik.or.ke; Tel: **XXXX**



GEMSAFRICA 2021

RESPONSIBLE SOURCING OF GEMSTONES AND GOLD FROM MINES TO MARKET

8.30am- 09.00am	Registration
09.00am-09.30am	<p>Opening Session & Remarks: Enabling Meaningful Dialogue Between ASM and Global Stakeholders</p> <p><i>Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator:
09.30am-10.00am	<p>State of Kenya’s Gemstone and Gold Sectors – Opportunities and gaps in upstream, downstream & horizontal linkages</p>
10.00am- 11.30am	<p>Bridging the Gap between International Buyers and ASM Miners: What will it take to fix the complexities?</p> <p>The complexities of risk management for ASM (gold and gemstones) sources often deter international buyers, refiners, brands, and customers committed to responsible supply chain management. At the same time, international norms such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) minerals sourcing guidance encourage proactive engagement with the artisanal sector to support development.</p> <p>This panel discussion will interrogate what it will take to bridge this gap and help to expand trade between legitimate ASM producers and refiners, jewelers, companies, banks, and other supply chain actors. The panelists will discuss progressive, defining clear criteria for critical risks while assessing opportunities for mitigating risks and improving on social, environmental and safety practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Presenter: • Panelists: • Moderator:



11.30am-1.00pm

Blockchain Technology and Mining: Understanding the disruptive potential of blockchain to solve responsible sourcing pain points

The gemstone value chain is undergoing profound change and disruption resulting in a fractured system that has left behind parts of the 'at source' ecosystem. For example, the price for gemstones has significantly dropped and in most cases, only high-quality stones marketable at very low prices. These record-low price changes have been caused by lack of access to international markets by the exporters.

This session will explore a cross-industry desire to collaborate around blockchain technology in efforts to enhance responsible sourcing and ensuring the use of any use blockchain technology is in tune with realities on the ground. The panelists will discuss the impact and potential of blockchain technology in ASM including increasing trust between upstream and downstream partners, increasing mine-to-market speed, addressing issues surrounding chain of custody and production methods, addressing transparency and consumer trust; and unlocking opportunities including integration of key data such on environmental impact.

Lead presenter:

Panelists:

Moderator:

1.00pm -2.30pm

Gemstones for Peace: Harnessing women in mining to drive peace in gemstone and gold rich areas prone to conflicts and violent extremism

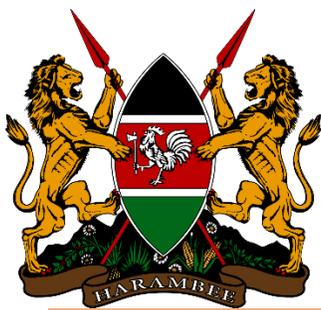
It is becoming increasingly important to double up efforts towards understanding the role women play in the ASM (gemstones and gold) sector and in particular how to create a conducive environment to ensure their meaningful participation as leaders in peace building in those mineral rich areas that are prone to conflicts and violent extremism.

This panel session will feature grassroots women and men at the forefront of mining in conflict sensitive areas. The session will showcase the experiences from women and men drawn from across Africa and globally. It will enable delegates to hear first-hand accounts of how women ASM miners can play decisive roles in negotiating peace processes.

Lead

Panelists:

Moderator:



2.30pm-4.00pm	<p>Forging a New Generation of Leaders in Sustainable Mining: A holistic approach to transformation and fostering youth participation in the gold and gemstone industry</p> <p>Young people are a major stakeholder in Africa’s gold industry in terms of human capital. It is high time that policy makers and industry stakeholders focus on the transformation, inclusion and growth of young people – not just on community and women empowerment.</p> <p>This panel will provide a much-needed platform to drive youth focused discussions that span from skills building to obtaining access to finance and industry power houses and how to achieve sustainable youth involvement in the mining industry. Discussions will also include championing collective youth action in leveraging technology to reduce emissions and attaining a low carbon future.</p> <p>Lead: Panelists: Moderator:</p>
4.00-4.15pm	CLOSING

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OUR PARTNERS

For further details on how you or your company can support this event, kindly contact

The Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya.

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