



Joint inspection checklist for ASGM in Tanzania

National Environment Management Council (NEMC)

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INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME 308
Mine Water & Mine Waste Management



THE CHANGE PROJECT

Mining is a major source of livelihood for a large number of people in Tanzania. Artisanal and small scale gold mining (ASGM) is estimated to employ about 1.2 million people and 7.2 million people (equivalent to 13% of the country population) depends indirectly on ASGM.

There are numerous challenges associated with mining and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) is mandated to oversee all environmental issues in the country, which also includes inspecting and monitoring mining operations to ensure proper environmental management. This assignment carries an extensive workload due to the country being the twelvth largest country in Africa, with an area of 945 203 km². To be able to execute its mandate, NEMC is present in 13 zones throughout Tanzania.

NEMC has discovered discrepancies in inspections and the absence of consistency in information from one inspector to another. In particular from the same facility. This has been deemed to be casued by the absence of guiding documents on how to carry out monitoring and inspections.

Due to the above inconsistencies and gaps, the ITP group 8 has decided to address the challenge and prepare a joint inspection checklist for artisanal and small-scale gold miners. This project is initiated under the Sida sponsored Mine water and Mine waste management programme. The short term goal is to develop a checklist that can be used by NEMC, Mining Commission, local government authorities and other regulators. The long term goal is to improve the ASGM mining environment and compliance.



Map of Tanzania and its regions (Government of Tanzania, 2024).



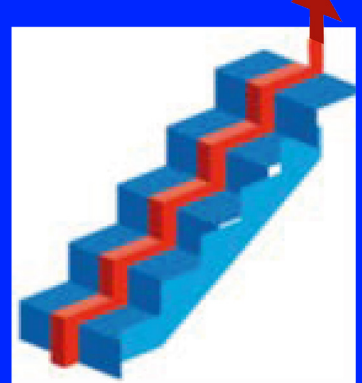
SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The project is intended to improve the work of the government officials carrying out inspections by streamlining the inspection procedure, and thereby, also provide clear information to the miners what is legally expected of them during their mining activities.

In addition, the miners will build capacity in mining risk management and prevention by learning about them during stakeholder engagement meetings and inspections. Thus, the inspection tool is also intended to be a disaster prevention tool. The officials, and miners, will be able to locate discrepancies at the sites from one visit to another and act on possible dangerous situations before tragedy strikes and injuries occur, pollutions take place, or even fatalities happen.



Site visit at Sekenke One, Singida.



RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The group has produced a joint inspection checklist, partly with input from a previous ITP 308 change project (group 2) and with the financial support from an ongoing World Bank financed project, the Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project (EHPMP).

During the creative procedure, the group connected with the Mining Commission and ASGM communities for stakeholder collaboration and meetings. A field visit to the Sekenke One mining in the Singida region was carried out for observations of mining processes, general site overview and discussions with workers. Duing this visit the accompanying Mining Commission officer provided technical support to the group.



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
JOINT INSPECTION CHECKLIST FOR ASGM
Inspection Checklist for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining Activities

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME OF THE PLANT / MINE:
POSTAL ADDRESS:
PHYSICAL LOCATION: (Village, District, Region)
NAME OF LICENCE HOLDER:
LICENSE NO.
LICENSE COORDINATES:
SURFACE AREA (Acres/hectares/m²)
ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS
ANNUAL FEES PAYMENT DETAILS (MINING COMMISSION, NEMC): (Y/N)
OTHER RELEVANT PERMITS:

Joint Inspection Checklist for ASGM.



The close collaboration with the EHPMP, has provided an opportunity for institutionalisation of the checklist going forward. It is the plan, that the tool will be used to evaluate environmental compliance amongst the ASGM, but before reaching that stage it must first be piloted. Unfortunately, the short time frame of the ITP 308 change project did not suffice to do a test run. Instead, the group hope to be part of the future pilot and also assist in institutionalising the check list, under the umbrella of the EHPMP.

The rationale for the EHPMP to complete the project is to meet the requirements of \$5.1.1., Guidelines for Disposal of Mercury Related and Small-scale Gold Mining and \$6.1.1. and Guideline for Import and Use of Mercury in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining respectively, prior to its programme completion.

There are still aspects that need to be considered prior to successful employment of the checklist. For the tool to be optimally utilised it should also be used by the Mining Commission (oversees mining) and the Government Chemistry Laboratory Agency (oversees use of chemicals in mining) as well as NEMC (oversees environment) and the miners themselves. In addition, the users, should be trained in the handling of the checklist.