



**ACP-EU
DEVELOPMENT
MINERALS
PROGRAMME**

Implemented in partnership with UNDP



Co-funded by
the European Union



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AT A GLANCE

The ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme, implemented in partnership with UNDP, works to improve livelihoods and inclusion of Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (ASM) working in Development Minerals value chains in ACP countries.

Funded by the European Commission, and working in partnership with OACPS, the Programme has been implemented in 10 countries. Through knowledge sharing, the Programme also benefits a wider group of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. The Programme also supports the African Mineral Development Centre in partnership with the African Union Commission.



The Programme aims to increase competitiveness and incomes of artisanal and small-scale enterprises in mining and mineral processing, and help grow inclusive and sustainable Development Minerals value chains.



What are Development Minerals?

Development Minerals are mined, processed, manufactured and mostly used domestically in industries such as construction, manufacturing, infrastructure and agriculture.



Industrial minerals

limestone, gypsum, salt



Construction materials

sand, gravel, clay



Dimension stones

marble, granite



Semi-precious stones

garnet, agate, tourmaline

Eight of the top ten produced mineral commodities in the world are Development Minerals

Development Minerals account for **84%** of global mineral production

Development Minerals are also known as common minerals or low-value minerals. Many Development Minerals are non-metallic minerals and minerals used in construction.

Development Minerals are largely mined by artisanal and small-scale mining enterprises and cooperatives (ASMEs) in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. They generate important domestic economic revenues and linkages and have a high impact on livelihoods, economic well-being of local communities and poverty reduction.

More than 40 million artisanal and small-scale miners (ASM) worldwide contribute to local economies and meeting the rising demand for minerals used in everything from smartphones and solar panels to the construction of roads and buildings.

WHAT WE DO

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Supporting policies and regulations
Geological and mineral information

ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING

Supporting formalization of ASM
Building capacity of ASMs and
public institutions
Strengthening ESG and
safety practices in ASM

BUSINESS AND VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

Enhancing entrepreneurial skills
Building skills for value-addition
Promoting low-carbon, circular,
and green value chains

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Targeted support to women
artisanal miners
Supporting integration into
the formal economy

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND SHARING

Research and evidence base
Knowledge exchange between African,
Caribbean and Pacific countries

AFRICAN MINERALS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Strengthening the institutional
capacity of AMDC

HOW WE WORK



Capacity building

Training programs,
small grants,
and knowledge
exchange
platforms



Evidence for decision making

Creating a
knowledge base –
maps, assessments,
studies



Supporting policy reforms

Analyses and
participatory
consultations on laws
and policies practices



Productive capacities

Skills
development,
innovative pilots
and initiatives

WHERE WE WORK

The Programme works in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. At the country level, we have worked in ten countries.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

WORKING FOR AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES

The Programme supported countries to create a more enabling environment for artisanal and small-scale miners of Development Minerals and strengthen the capacities of artisanal miners and public institutions. It contributed to policies, strategies, laws and actions on strengthening the Development Minerals sector in programme countries.

40+ ACP countries

benefitted from the Programme,

10 countries

received direct support

Formalization and business acceleration

strategies developed in Uganda, Zambia, Cameroon and Guinea, which informed the African continental strategy on ASM

Paved the way for the historic

Mosi-Oa Tunya declaration reaffirming the rights of Artisanal and Small-Scale miners

Collaborated with the University of Queensland's Sustainable Minerals Institute in partnership with the World Bank, to create Delve Exchange, an **online platform** by and for artisanal miners, which currently has over

1500 members in **71** countries

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Programme organized extensive country-level and regional trainings for artisanal miners and public officials. These included trainings of trainers and resource persons to further amplify the reach of the training.

Trainings covered various thematic areas aimed at making artisanal and small-scale mining more responsible, sustainable and formalized.

300+

trainings delivered

20,000

people trained



**Administration and
governance of ASM**



**Mine and quarry
management**



**Environmental and social
practices in ASM**



**Health and safety
in ASM**



**Business
and finance**



**Value-addition and promotion
of low-carbon materials**



Training on Stabilized Earth Brick production

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

The Programme organized extensive knowledge exchange at global, regional and country levels on:

- putting Development Minerals on the map
- providing the evidence base about Development Minerals
- advocating for policy changes on artisanal and small-scale mining
- sharing lessons learned
- showcasing good practices
- building knowledge about low-carbon materials–produced by value-addition to Development Minerals
- enabling country-to-country exchanges



At the African Forum on Low-Carbon Materials and Value-Addition to Development Minerals in Burkina Faso

200+

Knowledge sharing and
South-South Cooperation events

23,000+

participants

7000+

Participants in outreach and
awareness raising events

SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

2017

Curriculum Sprint in Maputo, Mozambique

The Programme convened academics and trainers from a dozen countries to design teaching curricula on Development Minerals. The Curriculum Sprint birthed training programs adopted at universities in Fiji, Jamaica, Cameroon and Ghana, training hundreds of youths in geology and mining of Development Minerals, and eco-materials production.

2018

Mosi-oa-Tunya Declaration on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining

Organized an international conference in Livingstone, Zambia, which drew 500 delegates from 80 countries. The conference served as a major knowledge sharing platform for ASM organisations, governments and development partners.

Mosi-oa-Tunya Declaration adopted as a result, elevating the status of artisanal and small-scale miners globally.

2018-2025

From Cameroon to Congo Brazzaville, Guinea and Burkina Faso with Bricks of Hope

2018

The first training on Stabilized Earth Bricks (SEB) and eco-construction organized in Cameroon in partnership with the University of Dschang

2018-2024

“Bricks of Hope”, an initiative by AJDEC, a youth organization and social enterprise, supported to spearhead training on SEB and eco-construction to 5000+ youth throughout Cameroon, providing skills, uplifting livelihoods and contributing to post-conflict stabilization in the Far North of Cameroon, the Lake Chad region

2022-2024

Fora and roundtables raising awareness of low-carbon materials and value-addition to Development Minerals held in Addis Ababa, online and in Ouagadougou, drawing thousands of global and Africa continental participants

2023-2024

SEB and eco-construction trainings conducted in the Republic of Congo, Guinea and Burkina Faso. Demonstration buildings made with SEB, or eco-bricks, erected in Guinea, Burkina Faso and Cameroon, serving as tangible examples of the value of low-carbon materials.



Practical training on Stabilized Earth Brick making in Burkina Faso

2023

Digital Innovations in Uganda: Virtual knowledge-sharing

Facilitated experience sharing from Uganda to other ACP countries about innovative digital initiatives in the construction sector—digital market for construction materials accessible to artisanal and small-scale miners, digital solutions for calculating emissions of construction materials and managing brigades of youth working with machinery.

2024

South-South Cooperation and Knowledge Sharing Forum on Sustainable and Inclusive Mineral Value Chains in Lusaka, Zambia

The Programme convened a Forum as a platform to share experiences, lessons learned and good practices on ASM, Development Minerals, bringing together 140 participants from 30 countries. The Forum covered topics such as value addition and linkages with large-scale mining, low-carbon materials production, ESG in artisanal mining, critical minerals and ASM, digital initiatives in geological and mineral information, and professionalizing small-scale mining. It also featured an exhibition of products made with Development Minerals from the Programme countries



Participants at the South-South Cooperation and Knowledge Sharing Forum in Zambia

Tanzania-Uganda study tour on good practices in governance of artisanal and small-scale mining

The Programme facilitated deep-dive South-South cooperation between mining authorities and key stakeholders of Tanzania and Uganda. The study tour enabled to learn from Tanzania's good practices and helped the two sides share experiences in minerals regulation, digitalization, resources estimation, ASM governance, as well as data-driven governance and transparency in the sector.

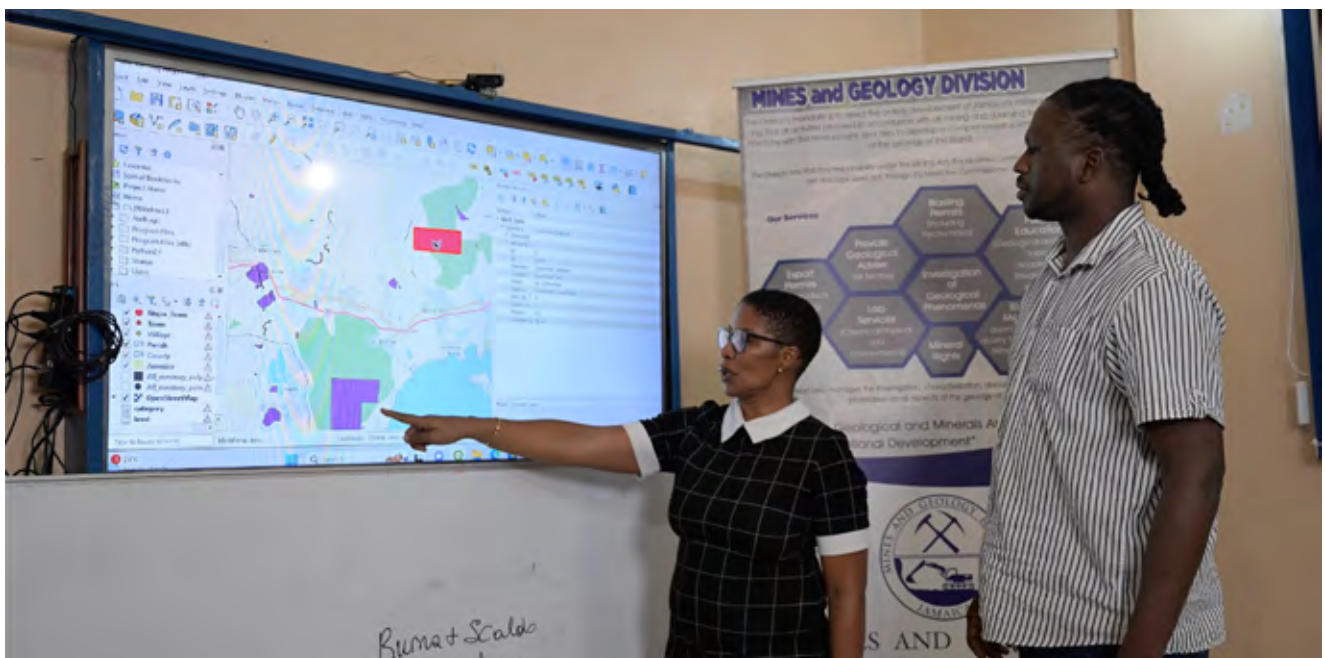
EVIDENCE BASE ON DEVELOPMENT MINERALS

To fill the gaps in information about the Development Minerals sector and improve transparency, the Programme carried out assessments, trainings and introduced digital tools.

- Baseline studies and censuses on Development Minerals in ten ACP Countries
- Digitization of geological data maps in Zambia and Fiji
- Open source-based mining cadastre in Jamaica
- Training of young geologists in geodata digitization and management
- Fieldwork in countries to map deposits of Development Minerals for sustainable sourcing
- Mapped land degradation, deforestation in Cameroon
- Developed an earth observation tool, part of the Digital Earth Pacific, to detect illegal mining in Fiji



BEFORE: Paper-based geological maps in Jamaica



AFTER: Jamaica Mining Cadastre digitized system

ORGANIZATION AND FORMALIZATION OF ARTISANAL MINING

The Programme worked extensively with artisanal and small-scale miners. It worked with governments to improve or create systems of formalization of ASM and provide extension services to artisanal miners.



Artisanal miners quarrying stones in Cameroon

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**ASM cooperatives & enterprises
with 20,000+ miners**

formalized in Burkina Faso, Cameroon,
Guinea, Uganda and Zambia

250+

government officials (40% women)
trained as trainers to provide extension
services to ASM

5000+ artisanal miners

sensitized on formalization in Zambia

64 cooperatives

joined to form a National Federation
of Artisanal Miners of Development
Minerals in Guinea



Artisanal miners participating in a site-level training in Uganda



92%
of ASMEs
have **statutes** and
elected leaders



73%
of ASMEs
have **bank**
accounts



73%
of ASMEs
use **mobile**
money



99%
of ASMEs
have **registered**,
with cooperative
or business certificate

From results of the 2022 survey of ASM cooperatives and enterprises supported by the Programme

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE AND SAFETY PRACTICES

The Programme trains on and promotes practices for better health, safety and environmental management practices, and social cohesion in artisanal and small-scale mining communities. It brings laws and regulations to the field, helping better implementation of laws in practice

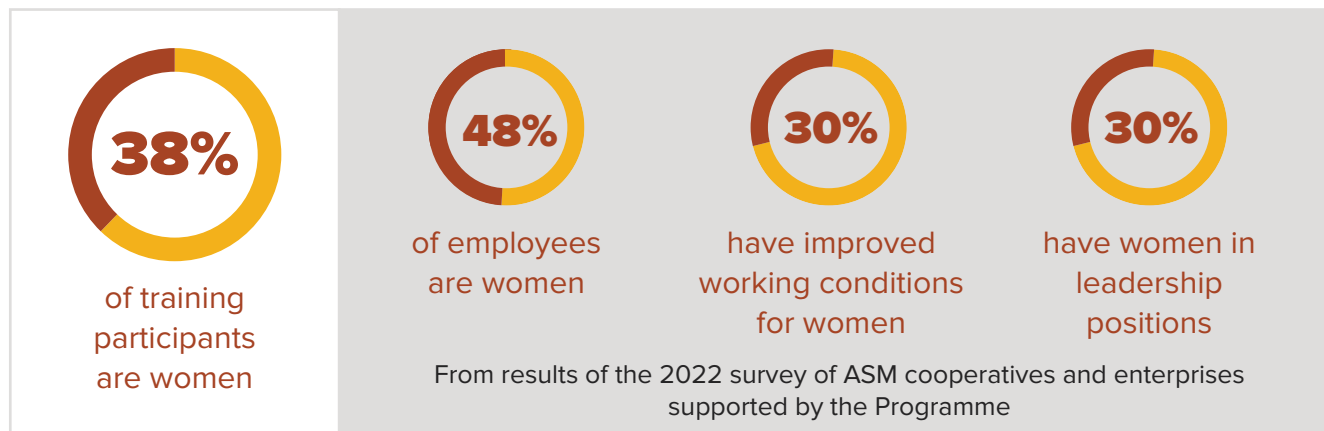
- Developed ASM-friendly environmental management toolkit in Zambia, bringing environmental regulations to the doorsteps of artisanal miners
- Supported extension services by local governments and mining authorities to over 1,600 artisanal and small-scale miners in Zambia
- A year-long training marathon were conducted in 25 districts of Uganda to 604 ASMEs with a total of 3,913 members (50% female miners). Additionally, these trainings indirectly reached 12,450 people
- Collaborated with local officials and communities for restoration of land degraded by mining activities in Uganda
- Spearheaded and implemented a Green Mining Initiative in Cameroon
- Developed a conflict management app for early warning of environmental and social problems of mining and quarrying in Jamaica
- Developed Guidelines for environmentally sustainable mining and for building disaster and climate resilience through Development Minerals in Fiji



Artisanal miners participating at a site-level training in Uganda

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

The Programme implements targeted initiatives to support women artisanal miners and women's mining cooperatives, enhance their leadership skills and standing. It also has extensive reach to women through inclusive training and capacity building programs.



Participants in the Stabilized Earth Bricks production training in Burkina Faso




BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Access to markets and access to finance by ASM is hindered by low productivity and poor ESG practices. Through trainings, events and small grants, the Programme helped improve the businesses and incomes of artisanal and small-scale mining and value-addition.

- Over 20,000 people in artisanal and small-scale mining and artisans' communities benefitted directly and indirectly from small grants to improve productivity and incomes, and implement initiatives to improve environmental management
- Supported participation of artisanal businesses and SMEs in product and business fairs in Cameroon, Zambia, Uganda and Jamaica to improve access to markets
- Supported women-run associations with small grants to increase their production and sell products at the regional level
- Implemented trainings for women and youth employment initiatives in Uganda and Cameroon
- Conducted reserve estimation training and awareness raising to facilitate access to finance in Jamaica and Uganda

SKILLS FOR VALUE-ADDITION AND LOW-CARBON MATERIALS

Since 2024, the Programme embarked on new initiatives to support the Programme countries in business and value chain development, and value-addition to Development Minerals to produce low-carbon, circular materials and skills development for youth.

<div>Research and knowledge sessions</div> <div></div> <div>to raise knowledge and awareness about low-carbon minerals at global and regional fora</div>	<div>Trainings in mineral processing and value addition skills</div> <div></div> <div>to produce eco-bricks in Cameroon, Guinea, Burkina Faso and Republic of Congo</div>
<div>Explored and tested productivity-enhancing, affordable technologies</div> <div></div> <div>for artisanal and small-scale mining enterprises in Tanzania and Zambia</div>	<div>Supplier development initiatives</div> <div></div> <div>in Cameroon and Zambia for SME development in Development Minerals sector</div>
<div>Sustainable sourcing and pilot production initiatives</div> <div></div> <div>for low-carbon building materials in Fiji and Cameroon</div>	<div>Training for artisans</div> <div></div> <div>and empowering inner-city communities in Jamaica and traditional communities in Fiji</div>



Crafting artisanal art at the “Hands in Clay” studio in Jamaica



Traditional clay pottery makers in Fiji

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Contact us



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Abbreviations and acronyms

AMDC African Minerals Development Centre

ASME Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining and Mineral Processing Enterprise

ASM Artisanal and Small-Scale Miner or Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining

ESG Environmental, Social and Governance

SEBs Stabilized Earth Bricks

About the Programme

The ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme is an initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), coordinated by the Secretariat of the OACPS, financed by the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and implemented by UNDP.

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