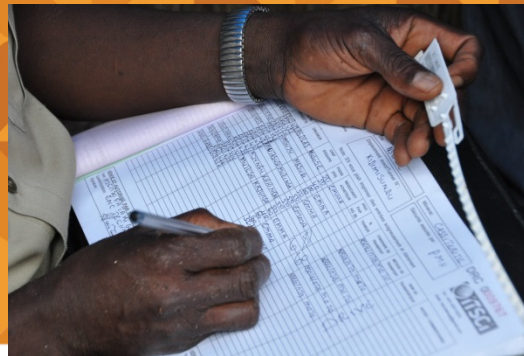




# **“Strengthening Artisanal Mining Communities in Rural Ethiopia” Project**

**By Yared Antonious  
ASM Programs, Team Leader**



# Why does Pact work on mining?

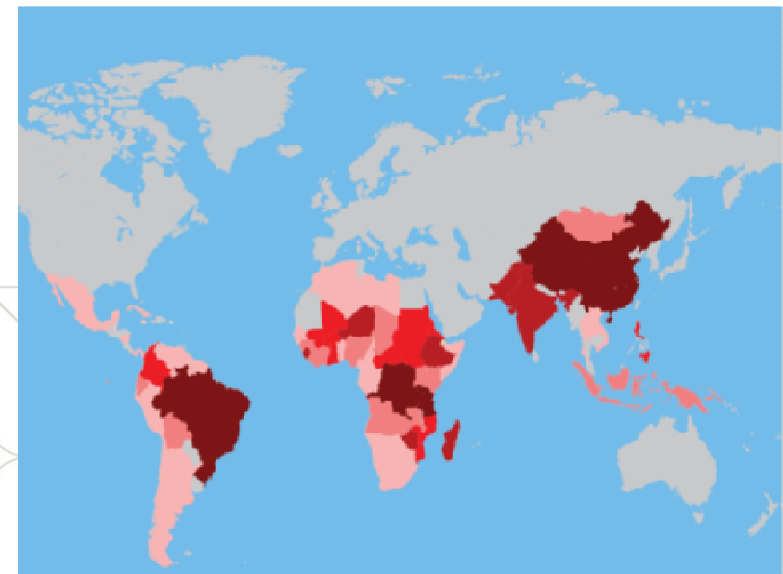
- Our work is consistent with our **livelihoods improvement & natural resources management** portfolio
- To meet our promise of a world where resource-dependent communities gain **lasting benefits** from the sustainable use of the natural resources around them.

Mining is a “**moment in time**”. It can be an opportunity where a non-renewable resource to have **lasting benefits** for communities and nations.

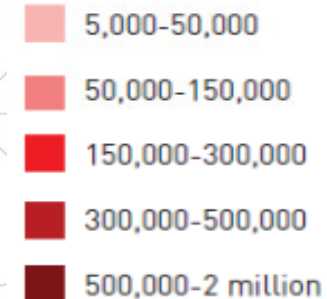


# Who are artisanal miners in the Ethiopian context? **(Project Specific)**

- Estimated to range from 500,000 – 1 million miners.
- 62.5% are men and 37.5% are women
- 87.0% of women and 77.1% of men have already been in mining business for more than 6 years.
- Men miners 57.8% do extraction; Women miners 19.1% are service provider, 28.2% do a mix of all activities in the mining sites
- 51.2% of miners have learned through employment as a daily labourer and 44.2% have learned through coaching of a family member



Estimated Number of ASM per country



pact



# Continued....

- 63.4% of miners reported doing mining throughout the year
- 43.2% of miners do farming; 25.8% have no other livelihood options
- 24.6% felt they do get reasonable income that compensate their efforts
- Children are also practicing mining- Amhara regional state has the highest number ----
  - **poor academic performance, absenteeism , prone to addiction, short sighted**
- Less women participate in mineral transaction:
  - **31% due to cultural reasons, 16% household chores, 10% lack of capital, 10 not interested and 12% for all the combined purposes**
- “Artisanal” miners in Africa are often (but not always) seasonal. Cost & dangers mean that they are often idle in the rainy season.

# Continued....

- Minimal knowledge on health challenges of their life
- Only 0.3% of mining sites have access to pipe water
- 62.7% don't know how to treat water or the importance of it
- only 9% of mining sites were reported to have latrines



*Photo credit: SuDCA Development Consultants*

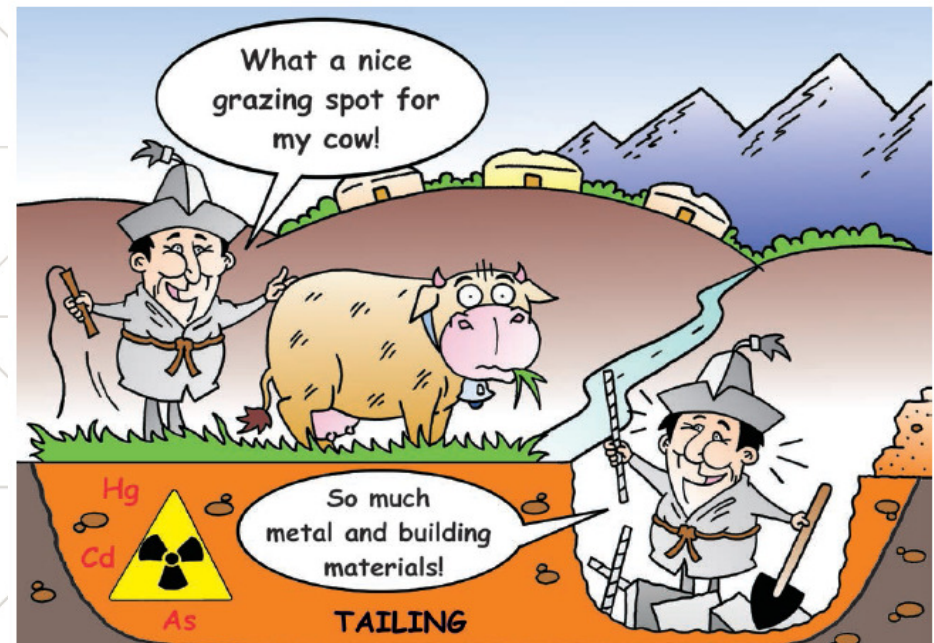
# Continued....

- Recurrent diseases like malaria, TB, Asthma are common
- 61.8% of accidents relate to poor mining practices or collapse of tunnel/shaft
- Health facilities are located min. 5 kms far from these areas
- Income information is extremely difficult to gather



# Environmental Impact:

- Due to poor extraction techniques huge environment degradation and poor rehab practices
- Typical impacts are: deforestation, top soil removal, use of chemicals, disruption of chemicals in soil, changed hydrology of rivers



# The ASM “poverty trap”:

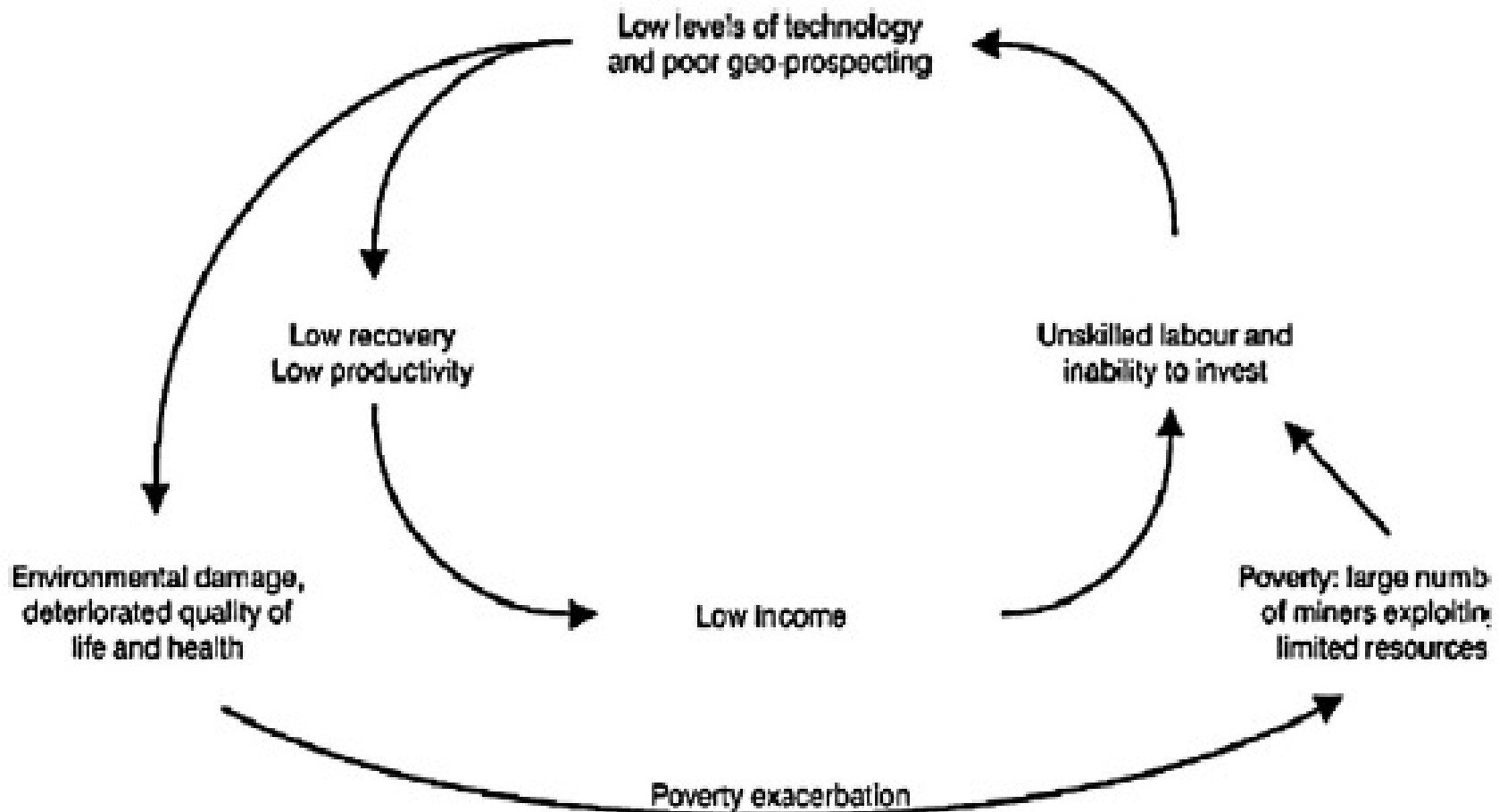


Fig. 1. The ASM poverty trap.  
Source: Hilson and Pardie, 2006.



# Progress to date:

- Project agreement has been signed with regional bureaus
- ASM communities has been selected
- Project launching and familiarization carried out at each target level
- Project target cooperatives are identified
- Women ESG and established
- Socio-economic assessment to understand the dynamics between these communities finalized
- TOT on Health/WASH and BCC has been provided to communities
- Project PMP has been developed
- Draft SGP manual has been developed and submitted for review

# Pact visit to opal mining sites in June 2014





# Can we afford to ignore ASM?



- ASM is the biggest part of the mining sector.
- Artisanal & small-scale mining: 10% of world output, 90% of mining workforce (30-50 million miners in 70 countries) **other operations don't produce jobs for low-skill workers**
- ASM produces: 15-25% of all gold, 15% of all diamonds, 80% of all colored gemstones.

They are the world's

**“hidden suppliers”**





# Middle-ground for all stakeholders:

- BCC in ASM to improve health & safety on ASM sites
- Skill building and professionalization
  - Improve efficiency/production
  - Understand the full potential of their local geology
  - Provision of business skill
  - Access to financial institution
- Developing markets (local & international) so that they grow to a bigger contributors of Ethiopia's economy
- Integration of ASM mined stones into local tourist markets products

# Cont....

- Development of ‘ethical markets’ in country for Ethiopia’s gems
- Incentivize responsible production
- Training for small-scale miners to become tomorrow’s industrial mine workers
- Training & opportunity building for today’s small-scale miners to become suppliers for tomorrow’s industrial mines



building  
local  
promise.

# Questions?





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**Thank you!**