

Terms of Reference

Contract Scope of Work

CONTRACT RATIONALE

The work under this contract will contribute to planetGOLD's outreach to SRI funds and associated research into barriers to investor engagement.

BACKGROUND

The Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) supplies about 15-20% of the world's gold. It is an important source of employment for 10-20 million miners in over 80 countries, mostly in the developing world. It also indirectly provides economic support for approximately 100 million women, men, and children through the secondary economy. Many artisanal and small miners use mercury to extract gold from ore. This inexpensive yet toxic technique has long-lasting costs: mercury exposure can result in direct health impairment, including neurologic damage to miners and their families, and can unleash the poisonous element into soil, waterways, and the atmosphere.

According to UN Environment, artisanal and small-scale gold mining is the largest global source of anthropogenic mercury releases into the environment, representing about 35% of total global air emissions. Scientists estimate that nearly all of the mercury used in the ASGM sector is released into the environment. Mercury emissions can travel long distances around the globe, entering water ecosystems and contaminating fish consumed by millions. In 2016, the GEF Council approved a \$45 million global program, with \$135 million in co-financing, to address the mercury pollution from the ASGM sector. For additional information please see: <https://www.artisanalgold.org/> and <https://www.planetgold.org/>.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The recent research report *Engaging Socially Responsible Investors in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining* will serve as a basis for outreach efforts to SRI funds and to form a comprehensive understanding of barriers to investment into the ASGM sector. This understanding will be leveraged to form a list of potential SRI fund targets that appear amenable to changing their viewpoint on ASGM investment and guide subsequent discussions with SRI funds. These outreach efforts and group discussions will be used to create a strategy focused on changing socially responsible investor's perception of ASGM investment resulting in tangible change through modification of their fund mandate statements.

Information and outcomes from this project will support the overall objectives of the planetGOLD project at a global level and at a country level in addition to providing guidance for the designing of other advocacy activities, tools and outreach materials.

DELIVERABLES

The deliverables will comprise of a final report and accompanying excel file database. They will include:

- Generation of a list of target SRI funds based on *Engaging Socially Responsible Investors in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining* as well as a list of potential investment products that are suitable to these funds given our understanding of their mandates with input from the AGC.
- Formation of an outreach plan for the SRI funds identified (delivered by September 30, 2022).
- Facilitation and documentation of group discussions with SRI funds and stakeholders.
- Proposing approaches to SRI funds as to how ASGM investments can be incorporated into their portfolios given their mandates/vision statements.
- Final report summarizing the findings from outreach efforts as well as adjustments to strategies to render future outreach efforts more effective in changing fund mandates and facilitating direct investment into ASGM projects (delivered by December 31, 2022).

TIMELINE & WORKPLAN

COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY ("D" = Deliverable)	2022											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Output 1.3	SRI able to invest in ASGM												
Activity 1.3.2	Conduct sensitization and outreach with members of the SRI community to identify potential partners											D	
	Create updated list of relevant SRI community members and potential financial instruments to discuss with investors												
	Create an advisory group to discuss the barriers to financing and find ways to overcome them.												
	From SRI group, identify selected members and plan further engagement on championing policy changes.												
Activity 1.3.3	Elaborate a strategy that be incorporated into SRI governance												

COMMUNICATION & REPORTING

- The research will be undertaken in communication with the AGC finance lead of the planetGOLD Global project who will apprise country level finance managers of progress. Direct communication with plantGOLD country finance managers will be ad hoc as required. Communication may include email, occasional conference calls, and input regarding the names and contact details (if known) of domestic SRI's where necessary.
- Video kick-off meeting with AGC (Scott Gryba) and plantGOLD (Susan Keane) representatives.



- Periodic calls or other communication to garner feedback and input from AGC (Scott Gryba) once a month.
- Feedback and input from NRDC (Susan Keane) solicited as required.
- Written reporting as outlined.
- Please email Scott Gryba at sgryba@artisanalgold.org for more information.