Key lessons learned in formalization approaches based on experiences in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Lina Villa Córdoba, Executive Director
Alliance for Responsible Mining, ARM
UNEP (2012) Analysis of Formalization Approaches in the artisanal and small scale mining sector based on experiences in Ecuador, Mongolia, Peru, Tanzania and Uganda.

http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/ArtisanalandSmallScaleGoldMining/FormalizationoftheASGMSector/tabid/79426/Default.aspx

ARM (2011) ; Barreto, Laura. Analysis for Stakeholders on formalization in the artisanal and small scale gold mining sector based on experiences in Latin America, Africa, Asia.

http://www.communitymining.org/en/resources/arm-publications
The levels and causes of informality are highly complex and interrelated.

- Although cyclical, nothing indicates that ASM will disappear in the short term.
- Deep open access situation.
- Particular social, economic and technical realities.
The type of mineral deposits that ASM extracts allows for a simplification of a mining cycle. ASM can be undertaken by almost anyone who is willing to work heavily and in difficult conditions with relatively low costs, minimal technology and immediate returns.

**Small Scale Mining Cycle Diagram**

- **Recognition**
  - Miners carry out field work that leads to identification of superficial deposits.

- **Production**
  - Miners carry out simultaneous exploitation and processing, with ongoing discovery.

- **Reclamation**
  - When reclamation occurs, miners carry out activities alongside production activities.

**Large Scale Mining Cycle Diagram**

- **Geoscience**
  - Geoscience surveys provide critical information to encourage exploration investment.

- **Exploration**
  - Exploration carried out by prospectors and companies leads to discoveries of valuable deposits.

- **Discovery**
  - Discovery depends on field work, investment and quality geoscience to bring exploration to the development stage.

- **Development**
  - Development includes feasibility, geoscience and engineering studies, raising capital and construction.

- **Production**
  - Production includes extraction, milling and processing to produce coal, metals, industrial minerals and aggregate.

- **Reclamation**
  - Reclamation of sites begins during operations and continues after closure until the land is once again productive.
ASM must be understood as an economic manifestation of a country’s geological reality.
Formalization, as a process that brings ASM into the formal economy, can only be achieved if programs and public policy deal with the different dimension of ASM activities simultaneously and in an integrated way.
The heart of realistic public policy in this sector is the recognition of different categories of ASM.

- Simplification without compromising standards.
- Use of titles and licenses as policy instruments. (e.g., the duration of title, removal and transfer of rights, environmental instruments for impact evaluation and management, closure obligations, etc.)
- Long term vision of the sector… stability.
Ethical market initiatives in the sector have emerged as potential drivers of positive change.

For those initiatives targeting ASM it is fundamental that they promote genuine understanding of the sector to avoid the risk of creating more problems than solutions.
FAIRMINED is an ARM led initiative that enable miners to deliver certified gold to markets.
Jewelers direct source FAIRMined gold

Pioneering jewelers make artisanally mined gold available
Metalsmiths organizes first of its kind gold buy.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cincinnati, OH, September 4, 2013

Miners, jewelers and a US refiner join certification standards as a consortium with artisanal mining communities in Peru, responsible, artisanally mined gold into the skilled hands of pioneering US jewelers for the first time.

Rosa Reyes, President of AURELSA, for Peru, leads her 86 member cooperative into production of artisanally mined gold into the skilled hands of pioneering US jewelers for the first time. Jewelers, organized by non-profit organization Earthworks (EM), are using this premium gold to create jewelry.

“The goal for responsible sourcing is to lessen the negative impact of our industry on the planet, and to bring a more durable, sustainable and beautiful material to our customers,” said EM president Lisa Taylor.

“FAIRMined gold is a respectful connection to the people who build and maintain the greatest works of art our world has ever known; it is an extension of their spirit and hard work,” said Reyes.
Responsible mining: Ethical sourcing gets green light on the Cannes red carpet

By Maria Doulton

It may have looked like yet another celebrity on the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival, grabbing three minutes of prime time in the full glare of the world’s media.

French actress Marion Cotillard stepped out of her gleaming black to tread the red carpet for the premiere of Blood Ties, she was making a big statement; and it was not about herself.