



# Sustainable Mercury Reduction Practices

## Lessons Learned and the Way Forward

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# Outline of the Presentation

- 1 Lessons learned from pilot experiments in Senegal (2007-2009)
  - Achievements, bottlenecks
  - Lessons learnt and feedbacks
- 2 How the experience may be continued: a new project jointly executed by ARM and AGC
  - Dissemination of good practices
  - Ways toward sustainability
- 3 The crucial role of Governments
  - Incentives, legal framework, formalisation

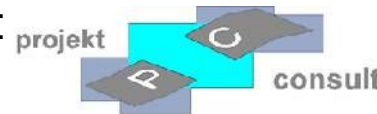


# Retort Service Pilot Project In Senegal (2007-2010)

- Adapt a tool to the expectations of the miners
  - Quick
  - Giving Good looking product
  - Low maintenance
- Disseminate good practices
  - Perform amalgam burning in a single place
  - Adopt standard operating procedure
  - Monitor performance and results



A Project funded by European Union and implemented by Projekt-Consult



Implemented under the direction of the Government of Senegal



# Approach For Appropriation of the Tool

- Involve the miners in the design of the tool
- Take into account their concerns
- Find cheap and low tech ways for maintenance and monitoring
  - Tool built locally
  - Monitor with standard scales used by buyers
- Include pilot experiment within a formalisation process
  - Access to mining authorisation
  - Improvement of organisation of the mine







## Achievements and problems

- Miners satisfied with quality of result and operation of tool
- Miners come the retorting service place
- ASMO management agrees to promote the use of the retorting centre
- Miners appreciate the recovery of mercury

- Not All of the miners use the service
- The ASMO is not successful in making the rule for amalgam burning
- Miners do not easily change habits
- Not an economically sustainable service





# Feedback From Field Experiments

- Lack of incentives to adopt good practices
- Poor internal enforcement of the rules => The role of organisation!
- No external source of information on the mercury issue
  - Mining and sanitary authorities are not playing a role
  - Poor access to technology and knowledge
- Need to adapt techniques to local situation
- Lack of easy means to detect Hg presence/pollution
- Informed miners are more sensitive to the issue
- Recovery if a good incentive



# Approach of a New Project in Western Africa

- Covering **Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal**
- Technical/formalisation processes in parallel
  - Specific approach on Hg issues
- Work with local NGOs
- Measurable improvement with certification
- Economic incentive with Fairmined bonus
- Enhance inter-relations amongst miners
- Holistic approach - interacting parameters

A Multi-donor project Monitored  
by UNIDO





# Specificity of the Fairmined Standard

- Strong economic incentive
- Knowledge transfer to local NGOs for a long term and local support to ASMOs
- Develop indicators with the ASMOs to measure progress
- Importance of the community development
  - Make more money => greater part of the income to the miners
  - Increase quality of life at the local level
- Develop relationships and organizations that organize the

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