
VISION OF QUIRAMA FOR RESPONSIBLE ARTISANAL SMALL SCALE MINING.

ASM is a formalized, organized and profitable activity, that uses efficient technologies and is socially and environmentally responsible; it progressively develops within a framework of good governance, legality, participation and respect for diversity; it increases its contribution to the generation of decent work, local development, poverty reduction and social peace in our nations, stimulated by a growing consumer demand for sustainable minerals and jewellery.

Specific Principles for Artisanal Small Scale Mining:

The Millennium Development Goals and Declaration on Sustainable Development

In developing these standards, ARM's technical committee declares its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and to the following specific principles for responsible Artisanal and Small-scale mining:

Human Rights

The standards for Fair Trade Gold are based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and on later UN declarations regarding the cultural, social and economic rights of individuals. The rights of artisanal and small-scale miners must be respected, and their violation, denounced. Responsible community based artisanal and small-scale mining organisations must respect the human rights, as well as the social, economic, cultural, and labour rights of each and every person involved as fundamental principles. The rights of women, disadvantaged groups and individuals, including migrant workers, are specifically included.

Decent Work

The standards for Fair Trade Gold are based on the concept of decent work of the ILO. Work in community based artisanal and small-scale mining is to be performed in conditions of freedom, equality, safety, and human dignity, allowing the access of small producers, workers and their families to a decent standard of living.

Quality of Life and Sustainable Human Development for ASM Communities

Community based fair trade artisanal and small-scale mining organisations should contribute to the sustainable human development of their communities. Therefore, fair trade labelling of ASM gold and associated precious metals should improve the quality of life of men and women workers, their families, and the community that hosts ASM endeavours, respecting the conceptions and priorities of each community.

Legality

The legalization of the Artisanal and Small-scale Mining is a condition that is fundamental and necessary, yet not sufficient, for achieving social and environmental responsibility in a sustained manner. Only gold produced at legal operations will be certified as Fair Trade Gold. Where possible, ARM will lobby with governments for better policies for ASM miners' organisations interested in committing to the proposed fair trade standards.

Environmental Stewardship

Responsible Artisanal and small scale mining should contribute to environmental protection, human health and ecological restoration in its operations and communities. In organizations and mining operations where toxic substances are used, where tailings are dumped into water bodies, and where biodiversity is negatively affected by mining operations, measures should be taken to identify, manage and mitigate negative impacts.

Gender Equality

In the organizations and initiatives of responsible Artisanal and Small-scale Mining, equality should exist among men and women in all rights, access to resources, the use of earnings, and participation and incidence in decision-making processes. In organizations, processes and aspects where there is no equality, measures and actions shall be taken in order to attain it.

Multicultural Nature

Artisanal and Small-scale Mining often develops in contexts of ethnic and cultural diversity. Where indigenous peoples or other ethnic groups are owners of the territory and are different from the miners themselves, ASM organisations will undertake consultations based on respect for local cultural practices in order to reach agreements with the local traditional authority and community, with regards to the impacts and benefits of mining operations and trading in that indigenous territory.