The Millennium Development Goals and Small-scale Mining: A Conference for Forging Partnerships for Action

Objectives and Expectations

Goal:

To increase donor interest and investment in the artisanal and small-scale mining sector generally and in CASM.

Objectives:

- to build a strategy for increasing donor interest in ASM and in the CASM Secretariat;
- to provide a forum in which members of the ASM community will learn about the Millennium Development Goals and other issues which donors prioritise (such as conflict mitigation, prevention and reconstruction);
- to provide a forum in which people working on issues directly related to the MDGs and donors' priorities will learn about the relevance of ASM for achieving progress in these issues.

Output:

- a report produced by the Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability, which will be made publicly available on the CASM website, in which the following will be outlined:
 - o a summary of each presentation in session one;
 - a summary of donors' priorities for action, donors' timelines and cycles, donor organisations' working frameworks and expectations, reasons why donors shy away from ASM, and other related issues which are raised in the donor discussion in session two;
 - a summary of stakeholders' priorities for action, how these priorities match the global agenda, the challenges stakeholders have faced in executing their priorities, and lessons learned from stakeholder engagement with donors in relation to ASM;
 - a summary overview of compatibilities between the MDGs, donors' priorities and stakeholders' priorities and the relevance of CASM to helping achieve these common goals, as presented by Anwar Ravat;
 - o a list of the common priorities amongst the ASM stakeholders;
 - o a list of the common priorities between the ASM stakeholders and donors;
 - a list of existing projects and programmes which might provide opportunities for engaging donors;
 - a summary of how to build a campaign to promote ASM to donors (based on the presentation given by FESS);
 - a detailed account of the message, and the media for delivering it in the short-term and long-term in terms of:
 - the most important and most marketable facts to take to donors (the message);

- the means of communicating these (the toolkit, including examples of success stories so far, materials which already exist or are in the making e.g. the CASM baseline survey toolkit, desirable materials, existing or desirable indicators etc.)
- the choice pickings, i.e. the potential projects where high gains can be achieved in a short time;
- o detailed report of the strategy for delivering this message in terms of:
 - which donors should be targeted;
 - how they should be targeted;
 - which types of collaboration would be most productive and between whom (e.g. through knowledge sharing, project implementation, networking etc.);
 - which resources would be necessary for effectively reaching donors (and which of these do we already have, which do we need?);
 - roles, responsibilities, and commitments for action by participants in implementing this strategy;
- o summary of what the role of CASM should be in effecting this strategy.

Expected outcomes:

- improved understanding within the ASM community (and within CASM) of the donor priorities;
- improved understanding within the donor community of how investment in ASM can respond to their interests;
- the development of partnerships or potential areas of synergistic collaboration between participants;
- a more coherent direction for the ASM community in producing the materials necessary for competing with other sectors for donor resources;
- a more coherent direction for CASM in terms of putting together a feasible and productive strategy for improving donor interest in the secretariat as well as in the sector;
- legitimisation of the CASM strategy based on this participatory process of strategising with members of the ASM community;
- the eventual commitment of sufficient money to CASM to ensure the perpetuity of the secretariat so that it might continue to serve the people who depend on ASM as a daily or exceptional strategy of coping with poverty and improving their livelihoods.