

# **ASM and the MDGs**

## **Getting children out of mining and into school**

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# Setting the scene

## What is economic impact of ASM?

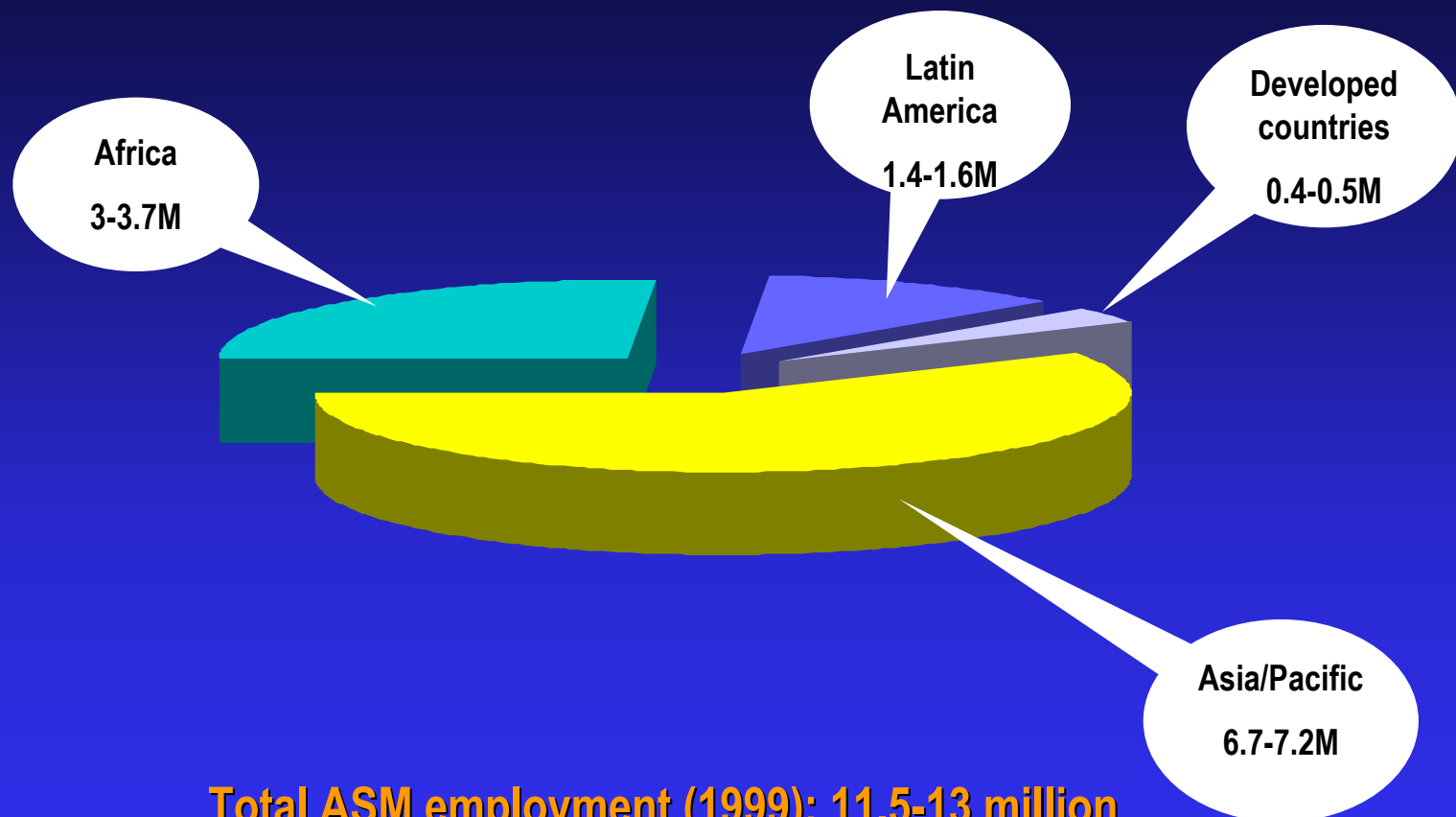
- **Employment:** 11.5-13 million  
(1 million children)
- **Dependence:** 80-100 million
- **Production:** 20-25% non-fuel minerals  
~700 Mt of coal
- **Annual value:** ~\$2 bn gold & gems in Africa  
>\$200 m gold in >6 countries  
~15% of all diamonds (\$1.2 bn)



● **But ASM is poverty driven**



# Employment in ASM



**Total ASM employment (1999): 11.5-13 million**

**Dependence 80-100 million**

**About 1 million children under 18; one-third under 12**



# What does most ASM lack?

- \$\$
- Training
- Literacy
- Infrastructure
- Political clout
- Awareness
- Safety regulations
- Adequate equipment
- Legal framework
- Enforcement

**Sustainability**



# Special considerations

- **More accidents than in large mines**
  - But fewer fatalities
- **But some safety risks are less**
  - Less machinery, electricity
- **Health often more important than safety**
  - Including in the community
  - But is generally ignored
- **Special problems in small coal mines**
  - Gas, dust, ventilation
- **Child labour is common**
  - Direct and indirect
  - Over 600,000 under 15



# Hazards

- **Dust**
- **Chemicals**
- **Mercury**
- **Exertion**
- **Heat**
- **Humidity**
- **Lack of ventilation**
- **Lack of light**
- **Ergonomics**
- **Harassment**



**Young people are disproportionately affected**

# What to do?

- **Bring ASM under regulations**
- **Use ILO handbook on OSH in ASM**
- **Provide technical & admin. support**
- **Provide training**
- **Recognize legitimate self-interest of ASM**
- **Ensure technology works**
- **Demonstrate cash benefits**
- **Involve all stakeholders**
- **Ensure “ownership”**
- ***Eliminate child labour***
- **Make ASM a sustainable activity**
- **Keep it clear and simple**



# Who should be involved?

- **Governments**
- **Donors**
- **IGOs (ILO, World Bank, UN, etc.)**
- **CASM**
- **Large mining companies (ICMM)**
- **Trade unions (ICEM)**
- **NGOs**
- **Local community**

● **All the “stakeholders”**



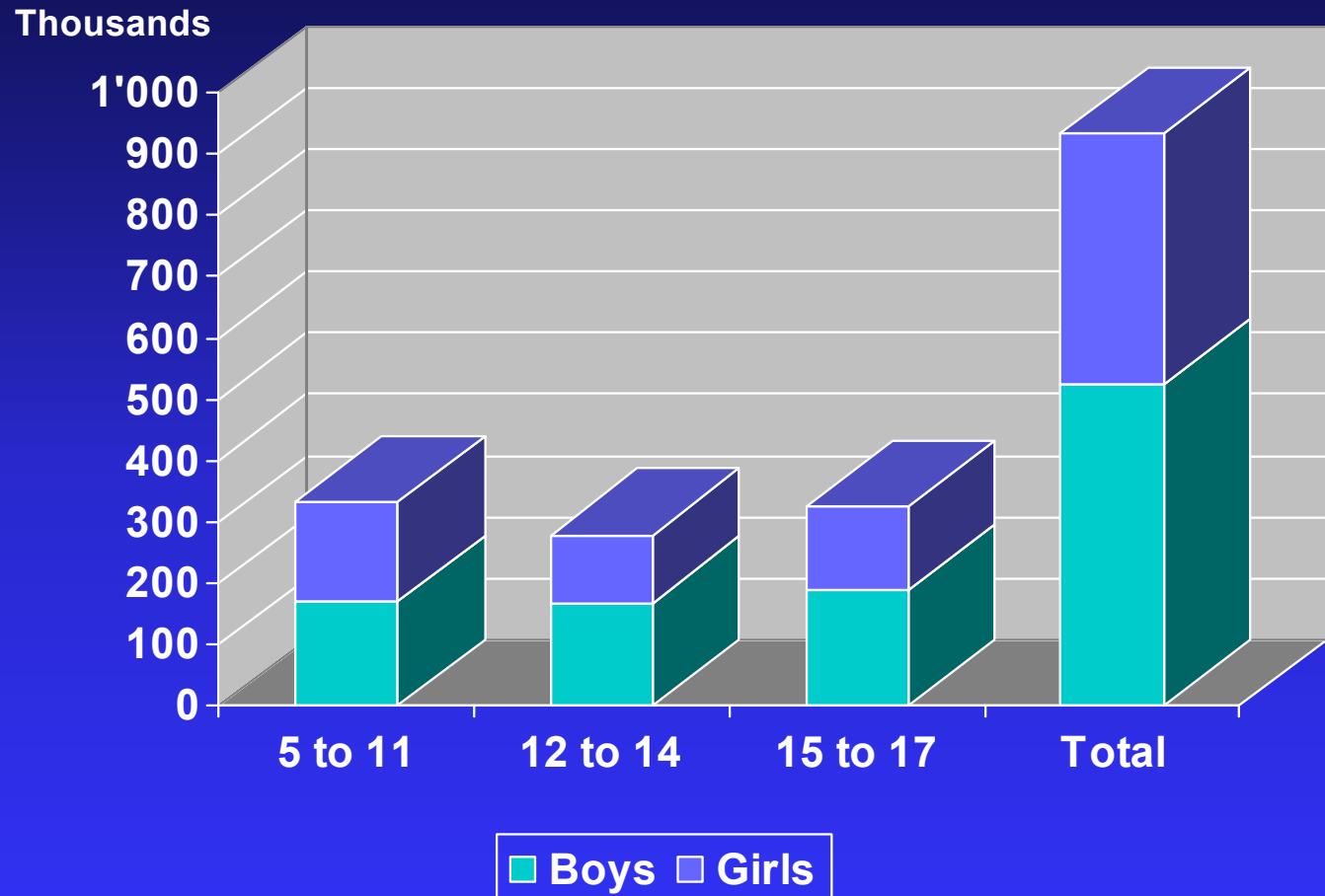


# Why?

- **So ASM can be a source of Decent Work in a sustainable environment**
  - **Freely chosen**
  - **Rights respected**
  - **Social protection**
  - *No child labour*
  - **Reasonable earnings**
  - **Safe & healthy**
  - **Organized**
  - **Sustainable communities**
  - **Move ASM to SME**
  - **Decouple it from poverty**



# Child labour in mining

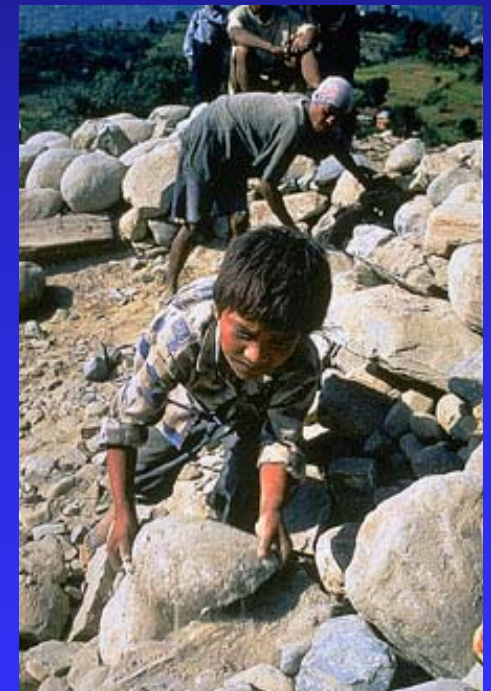
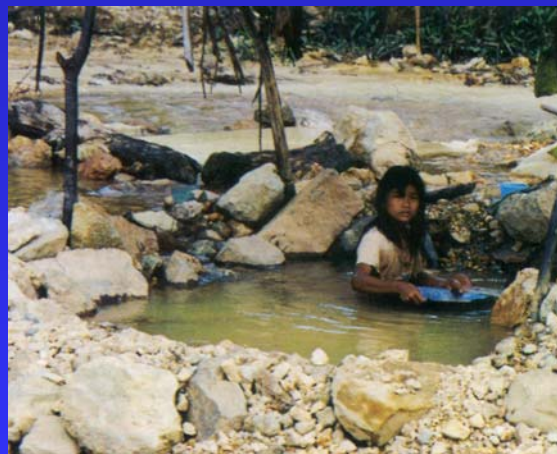


# Child labour in ASM is unacceptable

- Mining is dangerous
- Mine sites are dangerous
- Mine work is hazardous to children
- Mine work falls under C182
  - Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention
- Children should not work in and around mines
  - But 1 million do
- They should be given a better opportunity



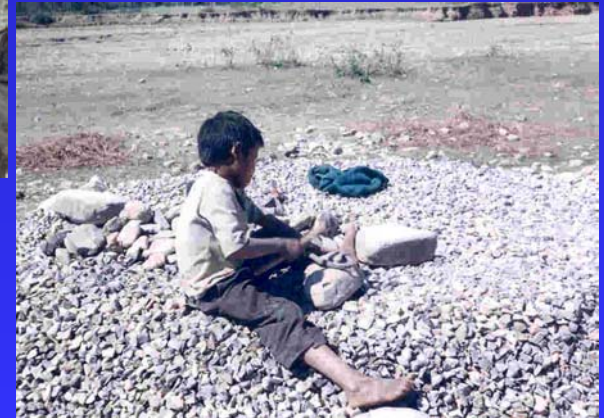
# ● No child labour



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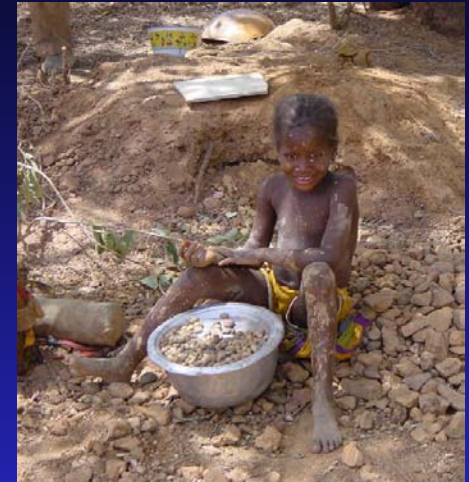
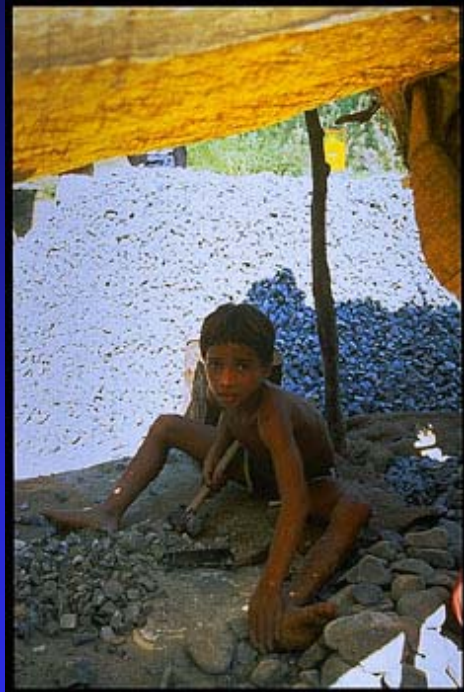
# ● No child labour



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# ● No child labour



● Not even if it looks OK



# IPEC

(International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour)

- **Projects to eliminate child labour in small-scale mines and quarries in:**
  - India, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines
  - Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru
  - Kenya, Ghana, Madagascar, Niger, Tanzania, Zambia
- **Projects being developed elsewhere too**
- **Funded by partner governments**
  - Collaboration with CASM



# The bottom line

- **ASM can be**
  - **Profitable**
  - **Productive**
  - **Safe**
  - **Healthy**
  - **A contributor to sustainable livelihoods**
  - **A source of decent work**
  - **Environmentally acceptable**
  - *Child labour free*



# How?

- Mobilize will and \$\$ for a sustained programme of:
  - Education, Training,  
Demonstration, Surveillance, Follow-up
- Provide incentives for continuation
- Appeal to self-interest
  - More productive and profitable without child labour
- Answer “What’s in it for me
- Look at the community side
  - Focus on sustainable livelihoods
- Prepare for a long haul
- Engage all the stakeholders
- Sensitize donors
  - ASM is the MDGs in miniature



# A load too heavy

- **Child labour in ASM is “a load too heavy”**
- **Together we can lighten this load**
  - By providing a sustainable alternative to hard labour
    - ◆ Education, training, employment
  - By making ASM profitable without child labour
- **Today’s children will benefit**
  - And their children
- **The mining industry will benefit**
  - Improved reputation
- **Communities will benefit**
  - Sustainable small business will develop
- **Governments will benefit**
  - Reduce loss of revenue
  - Stable, sustainable communities



# No more child labour in ASM?

- **Remove 1 million children from ASM and quarrying**
- **A concerted ten-year effort by ILO**
  - With the support of all the “stakeholders”
  - The task is not insurmountable
- **ILO (IPEC), CASM, donors, the mining industry and other partners can succeed**
  - By demonstrating and replicating success
  - By persevering
  - By working together
- **Set the scene for the downstream sector**



# 2005 World Day Against Child Labour

- **Pledges of support for an ILO-led strategy to eliminate child labour in mines and quarries from:**
  - **13 member States**
    - ◆ **Governments, Employers, Workers**
  - **Donors**
  - **Mining industry (ICEM & ICMM)**
  - **CASM**
- **Call for action launched in Geneva and elsewhere**



# Time-bound programme

- **Develop and implement a **ten-year** programme**
  - To *eliminate* child labour in mining and quarrying
  - To *sustain* child-labour free mining by:
    - ◆ Working closely in other areas with CASM, etc. on:
      - OSH, working conditions, productivity, environment, legal aspects, credit, market access, representation, governance
  - **With support from those pledging assistance**
    - ◆ Especially important “on the ground”
      - Surveillance and support



**Children out of mining and into school**

# Next steps

- **Raise awareness of new initiative**
  - Nationally and internationally
- **Focus on six countries**
  - Develop country-specific approach
    - ◆ Step-by-step
  - Encourage Government-industry links
  - Take stock of good practice
- **Capitalize on ICEM/ICMM agreement**
- **Work with CASM network**
- **Mobilize resources**
- **Set priorities**
- **Aim for start-up in November**





# Lift the “load too heavy”

- **Take children out of mines**
- **Give them an education**
  - **And a chance for a better life**
- **Make ASM more productive and profitable**
- **ASM becomes sustainable**
- **Children not needed in mining**
- **MDGs achieved**
- **Everybody wins**

**We know it can be done**

