

Artisanal Scale Gold Mining in SE Senegal

Progress towards a formalised ASGM in Senegal

9 September 2009 – CASM – Maputo



IX^e FED – 9 ACP SE 009 – VOLET C – APPUI À L'ORPAILLAGE

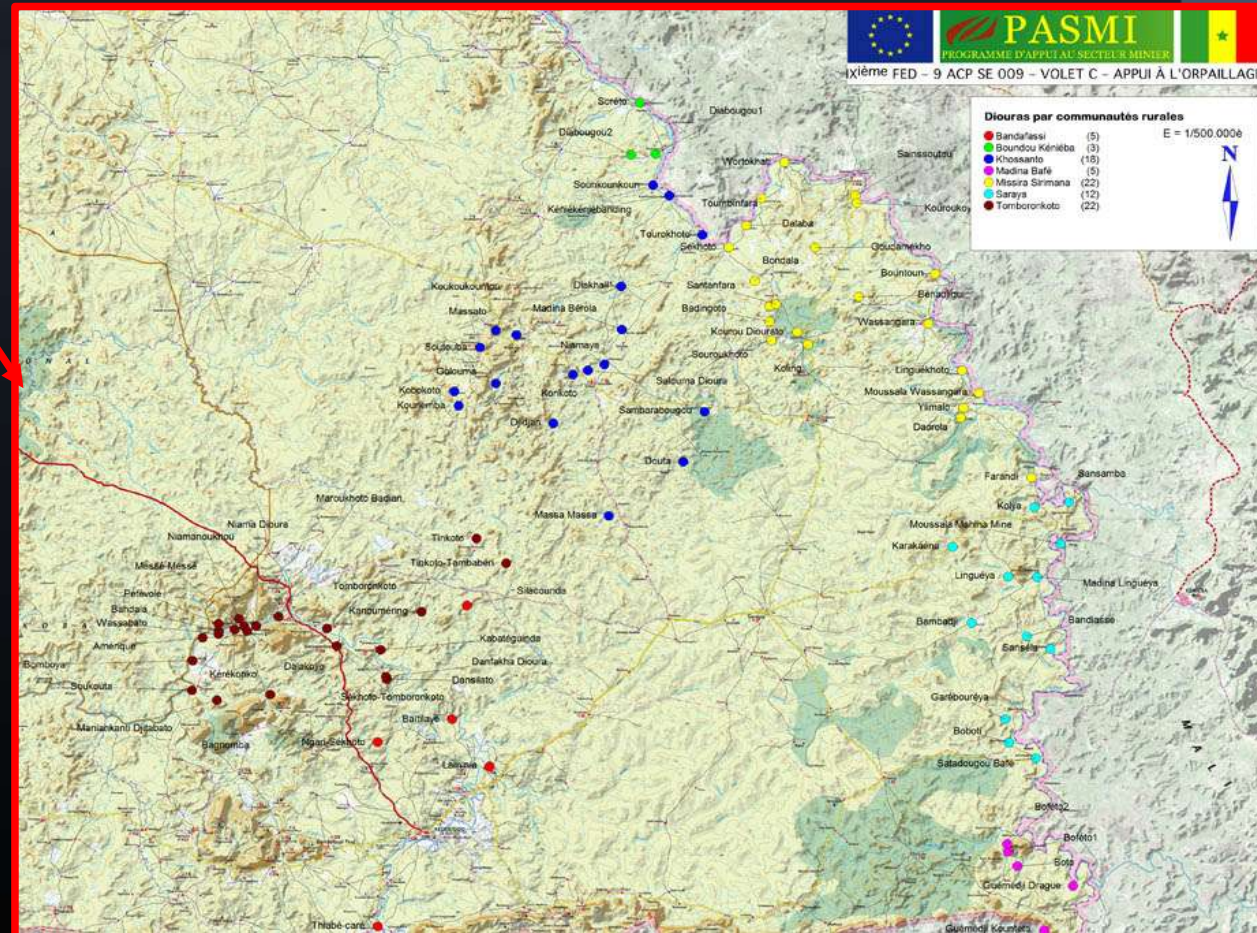
Implemented by



and



Localisation of the mining area



The Current Situation

- 10-20000 miners in the Kedougou Region, 100% informal and coming from Senegal and surrounding countries
- A secular activity (several centuries) that has become vital in the latest years
- An active Governmental strategy for large scale industry development
- The gold bearing area is covered by 15 large scale Research authorisations, covering 90% of the territory
- Very basic mining and processing techniques used by the ASGM, with high OSH and environmental risks
- No financial, neither technical support to the sub-sector

The Legal Framework

- No recognition of an individual status for the ASM
- The “Autorisation d'Exploitation Artisanale” introduced in the 2003 mining code is made with a classic industrial approach, not adapted to the ASM situation
- Demands are only processed in the Capital City, and authorisations are also delivered from Dakar
- The cost for a 2-year permit is about 2300 €
- The process to declare activity is also costly and painful



The Answer from Government

- A technical assistance project aiming at **improving ASGM livelihood in a sustainable way**, by
 - Making available better mining techniques (quality and quantity)
 - Improving legal environment for groups and individuals
 - Facilitating access to formalisation process
 - Trigger a change in the relationships between Government and target groups, and among different parties in the mining sector (LSM, local administrations, etc.)



Expected Outcomes from the Project

- Obtain a global development scheme of the ASGM sub-sector development
 - Income improvement
 - Progressive integration in the formal economy
 - Set up transparent and win-win relationships between actors
 - Foster better environment and OSH mining conditions



Specific Actions Regarding Formalisation of ASGM

- Integrated pilot experiments for testing locally made processing tools
- Implement studies and specific actions regarding:
 - The legal status of the individual ASM and the access to licenses
 - The management of conflicts among stakeholders and development of a new policy regarding relationships
 - Analyse the bottlenecks towards formalisation of community groups and support the existing ASM companies/co-operatives
 - Evaluate the microfinance potential and foster possible agreements between microfinance institutions and ASGM communities => Associations, Federations?
 - Health and environment problem definition and the ways to reduce their impact

Legal Status

- Work done

- Find a global agreement (all actors) on the necessity to create a specific status for ASM
- Propose an ensemble of amendments based on the result of a workshop gathering all concerned parties
- Discuss these proposals with more than 50 representatives of mining sites and ASGM villages, and later with the Mining Authority
- Report to the Mining Authority the results of the discussions

- Accepted proposals

- Individual Gold Miner Card, allowing to work in the ASM areas
- Part of the card fee is going to local communities
- Control In/out of the ASM by local authorities
- Facilitation of the access to the Artisanal mining authorisations

- Next step

- Introduce these changes in the Mining Law

Formalisation

- Work done

- Implement a workshop on the problems experienced by ASM in formalising
- Help on the administration point of view the communities willing to create formal community and private structures (14 up to date)
- Support to build demand files for mining authorisations (10 up to date)

- Next steps

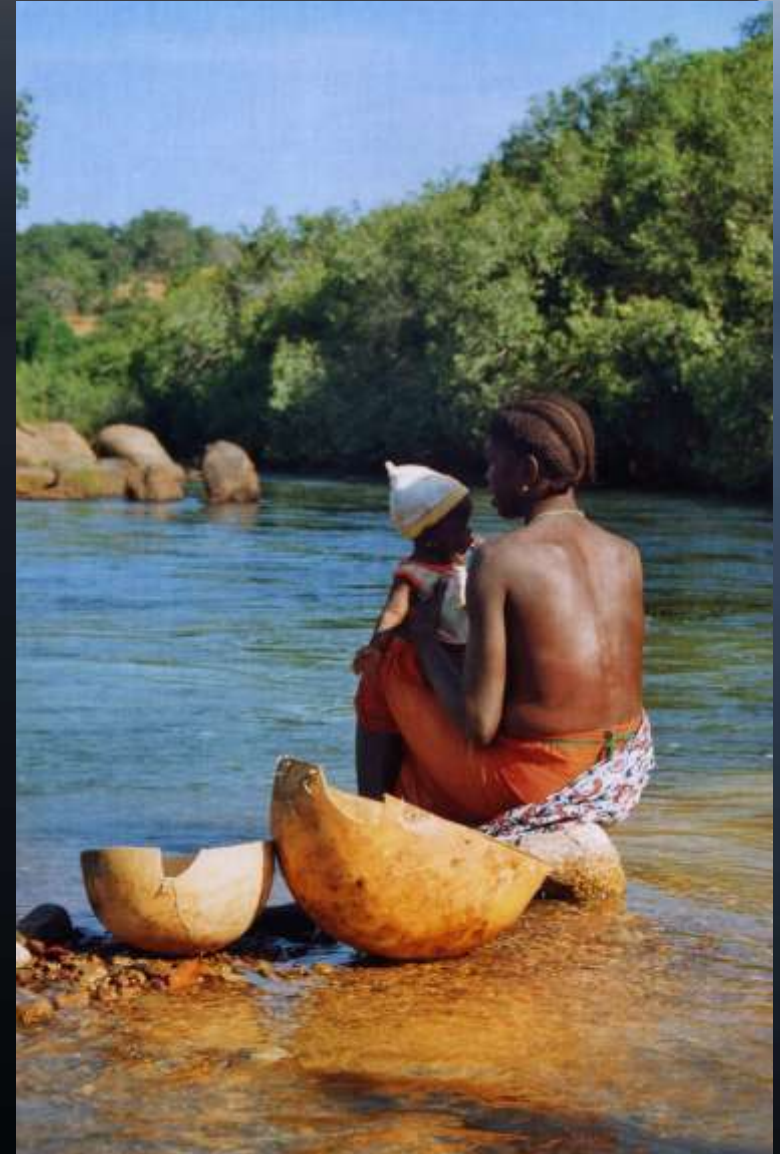
- Support the creation of a ASM Federation, in order to conclude global agreements with microfinance institutions (for instance) and beneficiate support from other administrations (training)
- Continue the effort regarding holding of mining authorisation that give right to use mechanised tools (following the current legal framework)

The Relationships Field

- Work done
 - Creation of a trustworthy environment by the great field work of the team project
 - A baseline study has been performed on the relationships between LSM and ASM, and the existing and potential conflicts in the area
 - From there, a global policy is proposed to trigger win-win agreements between LSM and ASM
 - Contact is established between ASGM from Kedougou and neighbouring Mali, where they are already organised in a national federation
- Next steps
 - Support the creation of permanent administrative positions fully dedicated to assist and control ASM sub-sector
 - Continue to provide tools to Administration for conflict resolution

Access to funds

- Work done
 - A baseline study on microfinance potential in the area
 - Support for the signature of agreements between microfinance and funding institutions and ASM groups (formalised..)
 - Collaboration with NGOs willing to support village initiatives for the acquisition of mechanical tools developed in the frame of the project
- Next steps
 - Support the first funding agreement
 - Create a good environment to welcome private local funding



Locally Developed Tools

- Work done

- Create locally (technical school) 4 different tools with the help of communities that
 - Are adapted to their needs
 - Are accessible compared to their income
 - Improve their production and the quality of it
 - Reduce dramatically the painfulness of work
 - Are locally maintainable and reproducible

- Next steps

- Develop financing schemes that make it possible for communities to purchase the tools
- Provide building know-how to local artisanal industry through training provided by the technical school
- Design new tools that respond to ASM specific needs (hammer mill adapted for tailings, for instance)

The processing tools



What's next?

- Continue to improve the tools and show the direct benefit to the ASGM communities by training and letting them test these type of tools
- Develop on the long term a service of administrative assistance and simplify the demand for a mining authorisation
- In the relationship field, launch long term relations between administration and ASGM communities
- Promote agreements between LSM and ASM, and define a co-ordination platform for discussion
- Provide long term assistance and support via dedicated and local administration personnel, specifically trained
- Provide training courses adapted to the emerging needs and the ASM (mechanics, etc.)



Thank you for your attention

