



In cooperation with:



Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in Uganda

The Challenge

Uganda holds significant deposits of critical raw materials such as nickel, copper, and cobalt—key resources for the global shift to renewable energy. As demand for these minerals grows, Uganda’s mining sector is gaining importance as a driver of socio-economic development. However, challenges persist, particularly due to the dominance of Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM), which often lacks efficient extraction methods, regulatory oversight, and responsible mining practices. Weak enforcement limited geological data, and restricted access to finance further hinder the sector’s potential. Additionally, environmental and social concerns contribute to host community resistance, complicating efforts to expand mining operations sustainably.

To address these challenges, the Government of Uganda has taken steps to formalize and regulate the sector, notably through the 2022 Mining and Minerals Act. This legislation aims to integrate ASM into the formal economy and maximize its contribution to national development. However, further efforts are needed to strengthen governance, attract investment, and enhance value addition to ensure Uganda’s mining industry becomes a sustainable and globally competitive sector.

The Objective

The project increases the attractiveness of Uganda’s mining sector through enhancing the overall conditions for doing business, thereby ensuring a positive impact on economic and social development. To get there, it strengthens the contribution of diverse actors along the mineral supply chain to the sector’s sustainable economic development in accordance with national, regional, and international standards and good practices.

Project Name	Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in Uganda
Commissioned by	Co-funded by the European Union Delegation to Uganda (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project Budget	EUR 6,250,000
Project Country	Uganda
Lead Executing Agency	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD)
Duration	01.01.2025 – 30.09.2027

Our Approach

As part of the regional project *Cooperation on Peace, Security, and Responsible Resource Governance in the Great Lakes Region*, efforts focus on harmonizing supply chain due diligence and value addition standards in line with the OECD, EU, and ICGLR. By working closely with national and regional partners, the project fosters economic integration, cooperation, and trust among Great Lakes states. A demand-driven, multi-level capacity development approach ensures that stakeholders along the supply chain can actively contribute to the growth of Uganda’s mining sector.

Implementation is carried out in collaboration with key Ugandan institutions, including the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), the Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines (DGSM), the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), the Uganda Chamber of Mines and Petroleum (UCMP), and the Uganda Association of Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (UGAASM). The project is also embedded within GIZ Uganda’s Energy and Climate Cluster, leveraging synergies with MEMD and national stakeholders to enhance coordination and impact.



Expected Results & Impact

Enhanced transparency and accessibility of information for investors will fast-track the development of the mining sector.

Enhancing services for potential domestic and international investors—through investment guides, digitally accessible exploration data, and dialogue events—will empower them to make well-informed investment decisions, unlocking the potential of Uganda’s mining sector and accelerating its development.

Formalisation of artisanal and small-scale miners to boost social-economic development.

Strengthening oversight and improving tax revenue collection will promote decent working conditions, enhance compliance with social and environmental sustainability standards, and help reduce inequalities.

Advanced mineral processing and value addition will professionalise the mining sector.

Promoting national mineral processing and value addition capacities aims to professionalise the mining sector, increasing revenue from local enterprises and contributing to social and economic development from another angle.

Digitalisation of systems will improve the governance of the mining sector.

Strengthening regulatory oversight through enhanced digital monitoring systems, will ensure the compliance with national, regional and international requirements for responsible sourcing, thereby enforcing relevant legislations and strengthening the integrity of the mining sector.



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