



# Annual Report 2023





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*FADev encouraged women miners to diversify into additional ventures, such as running small shops, to boost their skills and economic stability*

## 1 AT A GLANCE



### ACCESS TO FINANCE



**3** ASM miners received loans from NBC bank.



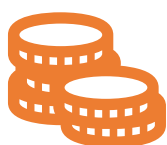
### Engagement with State and Non state actors



FADev has gained recognition as a leading organization in supporting and empowering small-scale miners at the National Mineral Exhibitions in Geita.



### WOMEN IN MINING



**21** Women's groups, consisting of 401 members, received a total of USD 31,291 in seed grants UpToDate.

**10**

Engagements with ASM stakeholders Including policy engagement with Ministry of Minerals.

**1**

Baseline survey on the impact of cultural beliefs and traditions on women in ASM



### RESPONSIBLE MINING PRACTICES



**850**

Miners received training in responsible mining practices, financial literacy, leadership and entrepreneurship.



Opened region office in Geita, Tanzania, to streamline field activities





*FADev's Capacity building session*



*FADev promoting the use of PPE among miners*



## 2 OVERVIEW OF FADev

### 2.1 Vision Mission And Values

Foundation for ASM Development (FADev) is an independent non-Governmental Organization (NGO) registered in July 2019, in the United Republic of Tanzania, under the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2002 with registration No. 00NGO/R/0251 and with its head office in Dar es Salaam and regional office in Geita.

We strive to contribute to sustainable development by promoting responsible mining practices and improving environmental and social outcomes



**OUR VISION:**

**To attain a responsible, inclusive and sustainable Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM) sector.**

**OUR MISSION:**

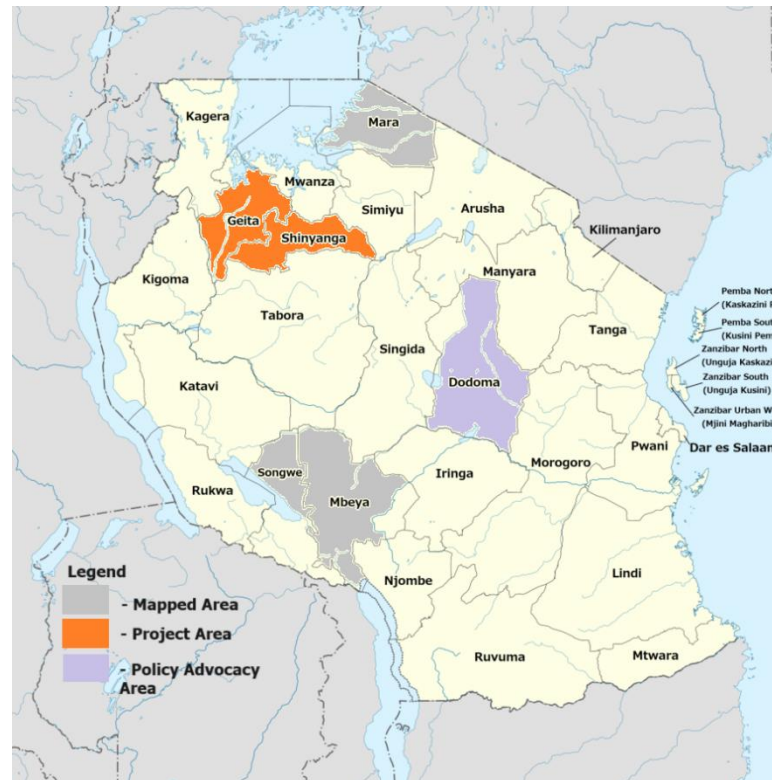
**Promoting responsible, inclusive and sustainable Artisanal and small-scale mining through empowerment, connecting and policy reform**

**VALUES**

**Integrity, Equity, Accountability and Inclusion**

Knowledge sharing

### FADev thematic areas



## 3 PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES' IMPLIMENTATION

As we continue working with artisanal and small-scale miners and their communities, we are excited to highlight the significant progress and initiatives undertaken by FADev to foster sustainable development in the Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM) sector. Our multifaceted approach aims to not only improve mining practices but also to empower communities and influence policy for the betterment of the sector.

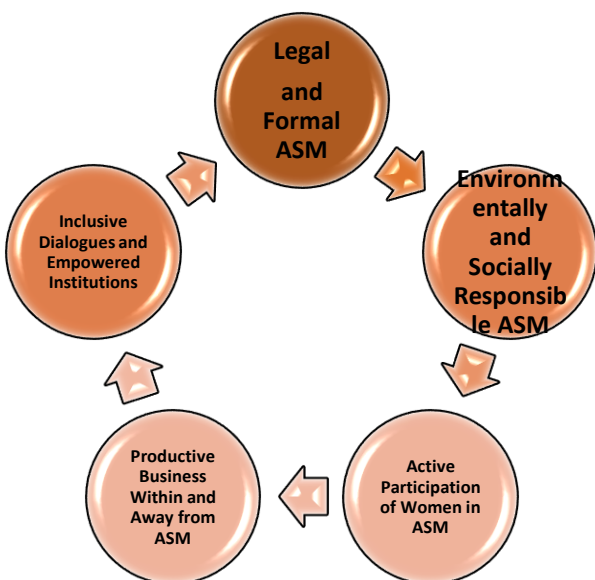
### 3.1 Our Program Model

FADev's programme model, dedicated to the artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM)

sector, is multifaceted and inclusive, focusing on sustainable development and empowerment. Our primary objective is to engage policymakers to improve sector policies, ensuring they are inclusive and beneficial for all stakeholders, especially the artisanal and small-scale miners who are often marginalized.

### **FADev's programmatic pillars:**

Our model centers on providing technical training to artisanal and small-scale miners, focusing on advanced techniques that boost efficiency and prioritize environmental



sustainability. By enhancing their skills, we empower miners to operate more effectively and safely, increasing both productivity and income.

We place a strong emphasis on the active and meaningful engagement of women in the ASM sector. Our targeted training

ensures that women's participation is impactful, leading to their economic empowerment and leadership within the community.

Our commitment to safety is unwavering. We offer comprehensive training on environmental and occupational health and safety to minimize risks and ensure safe mining practices, protecting both miners and the environment.

Financial inclusion is also a key aspect. We connect miners with financial institutions, providing access to credit and other services, complemented by entrepreneurial training to help them manage and grow their businesses.

Finally, we facilitate stakeholder dialogues, creating platforms where miners, policymakers, financial institutions, and community members collaboratively address challenges and opportunities in the ASM sector. These dialogues

## **3.2 Improved Mining and Business Standards in the ASM**

### **Revolving Loan disbursement to ASM**

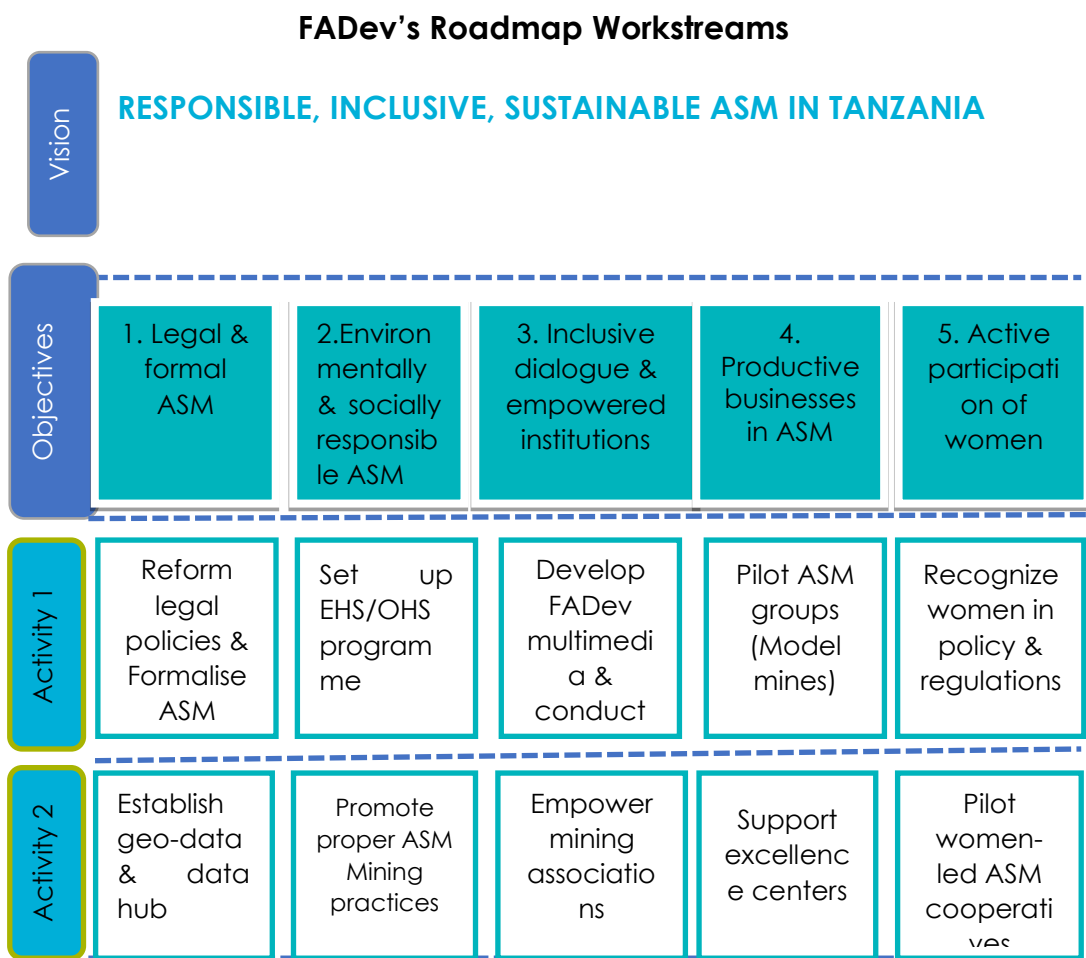
Due to the informality nature of the ASM sub sector as well as lack of geological data and low productivity in recovery of minerals, association with negative environmental

and health impact it has been difficult for ASM operators to access financing from financial institutions. This have left the operators in the ASM sector in Tanzania to the mercy of opportunistic business people who offer financing and equipment to the ASM individual operators in exchange for produce at a throw-away price.

It is from this angle that FADev aimed to establish ASM Development Fund as a financing facility that will provide loans to small scale miners at low cost of interest to allow ASM miners to access capital to acquire and install equipment at their operations and therefore improve their level of production and also reduce, better

manage or eliminate the volume of mercury used in the recovery of gold aligning with National Action Plan on Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (NAP-ASGM 2020-2025). With improved production and higher incomes miners can invest further their mining operations and to obtain personal protection equipment (PPE) and expand their operations.

In march 2023, FADev in collaboration with National Microfinance Bank (NBC) disbursed loans worth Tzs. 50,000,000/- to three ASGM groups, one in Geita and two in Kahama. The loans are expected to increase level of production and capital to invest more in



effective environmentally friendly technologies.

### **Baseline Study on Impact of cultural beliefs and tradition on women**

The historical perception of women's role in the mineral sector, rooted in domestic responsibilities, further exacerbates gender disparities. Most women's concerns and ideas are not well captured since they can't air out openly their concerns in front of men. This study was conducted to assess how socio-economic condition of women in ASM is hindered by cultural beliefs and traditions, and how this can be addressed.

### **3.3 Legal and formal ASM**

#### **Consultative Engagement with Ministry of Minerals.**

FADev conducted an advocacy meeting with the Ministry of Minerals, which was attended by relevant departments. The aim of the meeting was multifaceted, namely:

- i. to introduce the organization to the newly installed Mining Commissioner.
- ii. to share with the Ministry of Minerals and its department heads what FADev is doing and the milestones achieved, and
- iii. discuss how best to work with the Ministry in improving the ASM landscape in the country.

### **3.4 Active Participation of Women in ASM**

FADev has been working with women groups in ASM for almost 3 years now from 2020 to 2023 and has planned to reach out for more women in ASM sector to enable them achieve their full potential in economical and leadership aspects of life. FADev has implemented diverse activities making sure that women are fully involved in ASM sector. All the project activities carried out within 2023 covered areas that hit ground on the political, leadership and livelihood aspects of day-to-day life endeavour.

The following are the main project objectives:

- i. Technical Support to Women-led groups in ASM.
- ii. Sensitization and awareness creation on Women leadership in the ASM.
- iii. Providing small grants to women groups in ASM areas for the establishment of small businesses.

Hereunder are interventions undertaken by FADev to promote active women participation in ASM.

#### **Participated in IWD Commemoration**

Early March 2023 FADev through Gender Project on the commemoration of



International Women's Day invited 8 women groups representatives to Participate on the Shinyanga IWD commemoration which was regionally held at Kishapu District. Groups that were represented included Pamoja Kwa Umoja, Tujjenge, Imani Akina Mama, and Kina Mama na Maendeleo. The women leaders from their groups learned, and explored a lot during the IWD and were really grateful for the opportunity to participate in 2023 IWD commemoration as it exposed them to new information of opportunities for their groups.

### **Identification of New Women Groups**

FADev continued to work with Key stakeholders including women miners and Local government authorities and in year 2023 FADev identified 15 women groups in the ASM areas to be supported on technical knowhow of the ASM sector. Groups were identified through collaboration with Community Development Officers of respective Districts and wards with the assistance of VEOs and WEOs. FADev identified 4 women groups from Geita District Council and 11 women groups from Msalala-Kahama District Council making a total of 15 groups. The 15 women groups were then shortlisted to have 11 women groups which were further reduced to 7

women groups to be facilitated with seed money for the year 2023.

### **Training of the New Women Groups**

The groups were identified, their details were verified, were shortlisted and only 11 women groups were qualified to the stage of business plan development. After developing business plans groups were capacitated on group leadership and record keeping a training which was conducted at village levels to enable more group members to participate. Total of seventy-seven (77) participants were trained from 4 clusters as follows, Magenge Cluster 11 participants (10 group members from 2 groups and VEO), Lwamgasa Cluster 20 participants (18 group members from 2 groups, VEO and WEO), Bugarama Cluster 23 participants (20 group members from 4 groups, CDO-Bugarama, WEO-Bugarama and CDO-Bulyanhulu) and 20 participants in Chela cluster (17 group members from 3 groups, VEO-Mhandu, VEO-Chela, CDO-Chela and WEO-Chela).

### **Provision of Grants to Women Groups**

Until September 2023, newly identified, verified and trained women groups were not yet given grants for establishment of the businesses identified in their business plans developed.

### Engaging with LGAs on Gender promotion activities

As part of engaging with Local Government Authorities, FADev through its Field Officer based in Geita participated in various meetings that aimed at preparation for IWD and Minerals Exhibition in Geita for 2023. Also, during the M&E FADev made sure that it paid courtesy call before starting field work that involved SWISSAID team in June and Mid Term Evaluation Team in August 2023. FADev have also shared its organizational profile with the Geita District Council and Shinyanga regional office indicating activities implemented in the Gender Project from 2020.

FADev involved LGAs in identification of new women groups to create sense of ownership and sustainability plan for the Gender Project. LGAs participation in identification and justification made the process effective and efficient.

### 3.5 Environmentally and Socially Responsible ASM

Technical training and Support of ASM

The purpose of the training was to continue promoting responsible mining and enable ASM Organizations improve production and reduce or eliminate health, safety and

environmental risks. Also, FADev provided technical Support for 7 ASGM Groups.



The group discussion during training in Kahama

### Support with working equipment and materials.

To ensure that Miners could put what they learn into practice, and to enable the ASMOs which FADev is working with to get used to using personal protective equipment (PPE), PPE for specific uses were acquired, branded and distributed to 7 ASGM groups in Geita and Kahama.



An ASM miner, uses PPE from FADev, showcasing safe mining practices

### 3.6 Institutional Strengthening of FADev

#### Extraordinary Governing Council Meeting (April 2023)



An extraordinary meeting was held virtually to discuss and approve the 2022 financial audit report. After the Auditor reported that the audited financial statement for the year ended 31st December 2022 was true and fair.

The Governing Council resolved that, the audited financial statement for the year ended December, 2022 was approved by the Governing Council members.

### **The 9th Governing Council Meeting (May 2023)**

The 9th Governing Council meeting was held as stipulated in article 19 of the FADev Constitution in to discuss and approve plans, physical and financial implementation reports. Among other things the Governing Council meetings deliberated on the following:

- the well-being of FADev
- the implementation of the organization's strategic plan
- the effectiveness of the ASM Development Partners' meeting series
- resource mobilization
- approval the auditor's report for 2022

### **The 10th Governing Council Meeting (Nov 2023)**

The 10th Governing Council meeting was held in Dar es Salaam on 14th November 2023. During the meeting members were briefed on progress made during 2023.

Presented the meeting by the Secretariat for deliberations were:

- Extractive Project Narrative report for January- October 2023
- Opening of the Gaita Office
- Participation in different forums and meetings
- Gender Project Narrative report for January – October 2023

Discussions dwelt- mainly on the overall performance of the Organization which was commended and the proposed Agenda for the 5th Annual General Meeting.

### **The 5th Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The 5th Annual General Meeting was held in Dar es Salaam. The meeting discussions among other things focused on:

- Progress on what was resolved during the 4th AGM
- Approval of audited accounts for 2022
- Appointment of the Auditor

## **3.7 Other Strategic Engagement**

### **Geita National Minerals Exhibition**

FADev participated in the 6th National Minerals Technology Exhibition in Geita and was awarded 2nd place for supporting Artisanal and Small-scale operations in the Lake Zone.

### **Extractive conference**

FADev Participated in the 2023 extractive conference (Jukwaa la Uziduaji), an annual event organized by HakiRasilimali. Jukwaa la Uziduaji is HakiRasilimali flagship conference aimed at bringing the extractive sector's key stakeholders (i.e., Civil Society Organizations, Government officials, Parliamentarians, the media, relevant private sector actors, extractive industry host communities, and development partners) to effectively engage in in-depth discussions on the issues within the extractive industry.

Executive Secretary was one of the distinguished panellists on the panel titled "Gender and Extractives Industry: An Overlooked Opportunity to Transform the Sector".

### **Engagement with Barrick Gold Corporation – North Mara Gold Mine Limited**

FADev attended a meeting organized by Barrick Gold Corporation – North Mara that brought together different non-state actors together to discuss how Barrick North Mara engage with ASM.



*Some key Participants in the extractive sector*

Jukwaa la Uziduaji allows stakeholders to share experiences and explore ways to form and strengthen strategic collaborations. During the Jukwaa la Uziduaji Eng. Theonestina Mwasha who is the FADev



*Participants in the engagement with Barrick North Mara, Aug 2023*

### **NGO Forums (NaCoNGO, Geita and Shinyanga)**

FADev staff participated in a forum which was coordinated by the Regional Authorities, the forum was called as a way to foster collaborative discussions on the proper adherence to laws and guidelines in the implementation of various activities.



Additionally, it provided an opportunity for the regional government and stakeholders to gain insights into policy achievements and challenges, as well as receive input from diverse stakeholders. Summary report appended.



*Participants arriving at the 2023 NGO forum in Shinyanga*

FADev representatives participated in Geita region yearly Forum which involved all NGOs that operates within Geita Region, the Forum was organized by the Geita Regional Commissioner's office. The Forum addressed the contribution of NGOs in the Geita region as well as legal and ethical guidelines, with the slogan saying "Our NGOs, Our Values, Our Nation".

### **Annual Retreat**

In December 2023, FADev held its annual retreat in Bagamoyo to review the progress of its activities under the 2021-2025 strategic plan. The retreat focused on team building, reflecting on the organization's strengths and weaknesses, and celebrating key milestones achieved during the year.

### **3.8 Monitoring and Evaluation**

Project monitoring is a critical part of the management of Projects and a key component of the organization's accountability framework. It enables an organization to systematically assess progress made toward achieving the targets of the Projects, verify the accuracy of results reported, and provide assurance of SWISSAID- funded assistance to women groups that have developed business plans and signed funding agreements.

This year, FADev and SWISSAID jointly conducted Monitoring and Evaluation for 7 ASGM groups and 14 women groups in ASM areas from 22nd to 28th June 2023 aimed at assessing opportunities, obstacles and identifying necessary corrective actions to be taken.

- SWISSAID aimed at verifying FADev's progress in delivering project outputs and activities, checking the use of resources as per the projects' budget, and verifying partners' internal monitoring and reporting accuracy.
- Seeking feedback from beneficiaries and verifying the beneficiaries' targeting process.
- Triangulating information collected through monitoring and other means,

identifying gaps and trends in livelihood and economic empowerment interventions, as well as reflecting on best practices and lessons learned.

- Using findings and recommendations for results management, risk mitigation, and stakeholders' information.
- Strengthening partnership and coordination between FADev, SWISSAID, local authorities, and beneficiaries in the Gender Project.
- M&E agreed that groups that have faced challenges and are experiencing a shortage of working capital, especially Tunaweza Musasa, Mshikamano Musasa, Tunaweza Wanawake Lwamgasa, Juhudi Ililika, and Pamoja kwa Umoja should be given quick support for quality performance.

## 4 CHALLENGES, LESSONS & SUCCESS STORIES

### 4.1 Selected Stakeholders' Testimonials

#### A Life-Changing Impact

Eden Sherembi, in his testimonial, attested that the majority of miners toiled without any awareness of the existence of PPEs, underscoring the immense value of gaining access to such essential gear.

*"I was employed in the mine site since 2017 in the crusher processing department. Honestly, it is a very dusty area, and for all this time, we did not have PPEs. We have been experiencing health problems such as inhaling dust into our chests."*

- Eden Sherembi, Miner – Nsangano Gold Mine

#### Addressing Health Issues

Josephina John attested in her testimonial that the majority of ASM miners were unaware of the health risks associated with inhaling silica dust from rocks.

*"It is true, in our line of work, dust has been a problem because we did not have PPEs. We are glad that FADev came first to train us about PPEs so that we understand their use and importance."*

- Josephina John, Miner - Mgusu Mine

### 4.2 Success Stories

- Engagement with different government and large-scale mining companies Distributing PPE to ASGM groups in Geita and Kahama
- Recognition at the 6th National Minerals Technology Exhibition in Geita and being awarded 2nd place for supporting Artisanal and Small-scale operations in the Lake Zone



- Increased financial awareness among partnering ASGM groups as they are now getting loans from commercial banks and repaying the loans according to schedule.

#### **4.3 Challenges in Carrying Out the Program**

In 2023, FADev has encountered several challenges such as follows.

- The project activities have been conducted and series of monitoring and evaluation visits have been made, however group requests, recommendations, risks mitigations and corrective actions suggested during M&E have not been properly and timely executed. This can negatively impact projects outcomes and lower the success of the project.
- Continued group members drop out particularly in women groups is still affecting project activities and this has impacted groups success and sustainability.
- Less cooperation from some of the artisanal and small-scale miners reached by FADev interventions. Some ASM are just not ready to walk the talk, thus the knowledge gained is not truly translated to actions and improved mining activities. To encounter these challenges,

FADev strengthens its monitoring capacity to continue working with miners that are ready to transform. While this does not mean a complete disregard of the rest of the miners, it means concentrating the resources where they can impact positive changes.

#### **Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

- During groups formation it is better to involve members who have already established permanent residence in the village.
- A need for fund allocation during planning that will help in backstopping and remedy activities identified during M&E.
- All groups being qualified for funding must be engaging themselves in S&L scheme before being given grants as way to reduce group members drop outs.
- Diversification of economic activities is the best way to enable ASGM groups achieve their economic targets in establishment of small business within and away from the ASM sector activities.
- All trainings related to groups leadership, record keeping and business planning sessions must be done at village level to enable all or many group members to participate. All groups' members should

benefit from these trainings through direct participation and not through cascading approach.

- Relevant project officer should be involved in planning and budgeting sessions for gender project.
- A need for equipment facilitation for some groups directly involved in gold extraction activities
- A need for having agricultural and entrepreneurship capacitation for groups involved in agricultural and businesses
- A need to have a learning event for LGAs officials in the implementing districts, wards, and villages.
- A need for awareness and sensitization interventions in the implementing communities as men's inclusion strategy in the project.
- A need for a well-defined strengthening plan for existing groups before identification of new women groups. There should be budget to support and strengthen groups capacities to fruition.





The photos showcase predominantly women miners trained by FADev, who have diversified into various entrepreneurial activities to enhance their income.

# FADev

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