BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Gold Value Chain in Africa



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Introduction

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of the gold value chain in Africa, covering the journey from geological exploration and mining through processing, refining, trading, export, and investment. It examines the economic, operational, regulatory, and commercial factors that influence the African gold sector, with practical examples and case studies from major gold-producing countries.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the complete gold value chain from exploration to final markets.
- Evaluate gold exploration, mining, processing, and refining activities.
- Understand the role of artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Africa.
- Analyze gold pricing, trading, export, and supply-chain structures.
- Identify investment opportunities, risks, and value-creation opportunities within the African gold sector.
- Understand responsible sourcing, ESG, governance, and regulatory considerations.
- Assess practical challenges and opportunities across different African gold markets.

Course Outlines

Day 1 - African Gold Industry and the Gold Value Chain

1. Overview of Africa's gold industry and major producing regions.
2. The complete gold value chain: exploration, mining, processing, refining, trading and investment.
3. Geological fundamentals and gold exploration methods.
4. Major African gold-producing countries and their market characteristics.
5. Case study: Mapping the gold value chain of a selected African country.

Day 2 - Gold Mining and Production

1. Open-pit and underground gold mining operations.
2. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining ASGM in Africa.
3. Mining methods, production planning and operational challenges.
4. Cost structures, productivity and factors affecting mine profitability.
5. Case study: Comparing industrial and artisanal gold production models.



Day 3 - Gold Processing, Refining and Value Addition

1. Gold ore processing and recovery fundamentals.
2. Crushing, grinding, concentration and gold recovery processes.
3. Refining, doré production and quality considerations.
4. Opportunities for local processing and value addition in Africa.
5. Case study: From mine production to refined gold.

Day 4 - Gold Trading, Supply Chains and African Markets

1. Gold pricing, international markets and key market participants.
2. Gold purchasing, aggregation, trading and export processes.
3. Supply-chain structures from mine to international market.
4. Responsible sourcing, traceability, compliance and supply-chain risks.
5. Case study: Building a transparent and commercially viable African gold supply chain.

Day 5 - Investment, Regulation and Future Opportunities

1. Gold mining investment fundamentals and project evaluation.
2. Investment risks: geological, operational, financial, regulatory and market risks.
3. Government policies, licensing, taxation and regulatory frameworks.
4. ESG, responsible mining and sustainable development in Africa's gold sector.
5. Case study: Evaluating an African gold project and identifying opportunities across the value chain.

Why Attend This Course? Wins & Losses!

Wins

- Gain a complete understanding of the African gold value chain.
- Connect technical mining activities with commercial and investment considerations.
- Understand where value is created and lost across the gold supply chain.
- Develop a broader perspective on African gold markets and investment opportunities.
- Apply practical concepts through industry case studies.

Losses if You Don't Attend

- Limited understanding of the complete gold value chain.
- Difficulty identifying commercial and investment opportunities.
- Increased exposure to supply-chain, regulatory and market risks.
- Missed opportunities for value addition and improved gold-sector development.



Conclusion

The course provides participants with an integrated view of Africa's gold industry, connecting exploration and mining with processing, refining, trading and investment. Through practical examples and case studies, participants will gain the knowledge needed to understand, evaluate and participate more effectively in the African gold value chain.

Frequently Asked Questions FAQ

1. Is this course only for mining professionals?

No. It is also suitable for professionals in government, finance, investment, regulation, trade and related sectors.

2. Does the course cover artisanal and small-scale gold mining?

Yes. ASGM and its economic, operational, regulatory and supply-chain role are covered.

3. Will the course cover gold processing and refining?

Yes. The course introduces the main processing, recovery, refining and value-addition stages.

4. Does the course cover gold investment and trading?

Yes. Gold pricing, trading, export, investment evaluation and related risks are included.

5. Will African case studies be used?

Yes. The course uses practical examples and case studies from African gold-producing markets.

Course Structure

A well-structured 1-week programme, delivered by one instructor, with 4 hours per day, combining technical concepts, commercial considerations, practical examples and African gold-sector case studies.

