



# International Conference and Workshop **Traceability of gold**

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**Traceability of artisanal gold mining in Côte d'Ivoire: application of the geoforensic passport to the kokumbo site**

Presented by:

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# 1. Context of the project

- ✓ In Côte d'Ivoire, gold is extracted in two modes (**industrial and artisanal**).
- ✓ Industrial production has been estimated at **41.8 tonnes in 2021**;
- ✓ In contrast, the production of gold coming from artisanal sector and its trading **are not regulated in Côte d'Ivoire**.

# 1. Context of the project

However, gold consumers are attentive to the conditions in which gold is produced (**illicit or against human rights**).

So, to facilitate the integration of artisanal gold production into a **legal gold supply chain and access to international sales and refiners directly, this project was initiated in Kokumbo city.**

## 2. Project objectives

The objective of this project is to legitimise gold mining at the Kokumbo city.

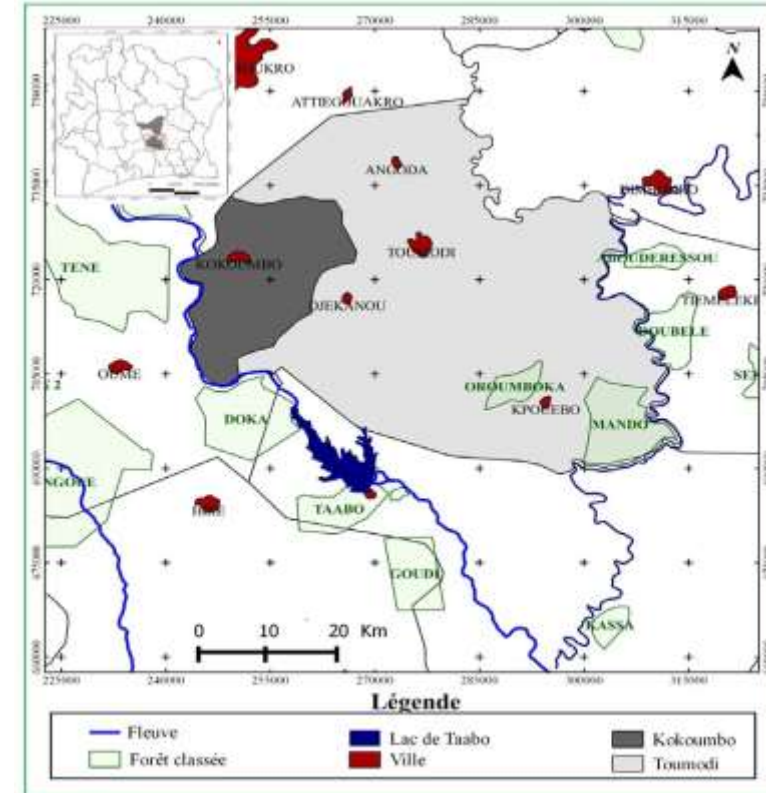
Specifically, it will:

- ✓ **formalize Kokumbo gold mining sites;**
- ✓ **establish scientific traceability of gold production to guarantee its origin.**

# 3. Project site

Kokumbo is a town, located in **the central part** of Côte d'Ivoire:

- ✓ It is one of the oldest gold mining towns in Côte d'Ivoire;
- ✓ Gold production has been going on informally for **a century**,
- ✓ This production provides a little profit but **essential for a large part of the population**;
- ✓ **this mining activity destroyed the environment and created social change in Kokumbo.**



### 3. Project site

#### Problems identified in the mining sites in Kokumbo

<b>Conflict</b>	Kokumbo site is subject to an exploration permit belonging to an industrial mining. Artisanal miners are therefore being expropriated from their land and deprived of their subsistence: It's a source of conflict between the young people and the Ivorian authorities
<b>Children work</b>	Children work like workers in the mining. So, the rate of education is very low.
<b>Using Cyanide/Mercury</b>	Artisanal miners are using mercury or cyanide in their activities.
<b>Sale of gold on the illegal market</b>	Gold is sold on the illegal market at a much lower price than on the legal market.



Method of gold detection



Destruction of vegetation cover



Surface water pollution



Presence of dangerous wells

Illustration of the situation of the environment

## 4. Expected results

Opening of an artisanal mining corridor for young people from Kokumbo

Increasing the education rate of children in order to fight against child workers

Create facilities to fight the using of mercury/cyanide to produce "ethical" gold that respects environmental standards and human rights

Development of safety and environmental knowledge in mining and mineral processing.

Development of local expertise for the traceability of artisanal gold produced in Côte d'Ivoire.

### 1. Formalisation of gold mining in Kokumbo



## 4. Expected results

### 2. Implementation of the geoforensic passport

Determining the supply chains of the products to be formalized

Setting up a reliable analytical protocol

Identification of an institution or person able to make quality chemical analysis

## 4. Expected results

### 3. Legitimation of gold production

The use of national and international standards with the "Geoforensic Passport" will establish a legal gold supply chain

Mining activity will be legal and will not be fought by the industries

Local socio-economic development and the living conditions of gold workers will be improved

## 5. Collaborations

Collaboration is needed for this project:

Administratif	University
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ the Sub-Prefect</li><li>✓ The Chief of Akoukro village</li><li>✓ The Municipal Mayor</li><li>✓ Kokumbo miners' cooperative</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ University of Félix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, Côte d'Ivoire</li><li>✓ University of Lausanne, Switzerland</li></ul>

**Mining Ministry of Côte d'Ivoire is the focal point.**

## **6. Conclusion**

**The population of Kokumbo is waiting impatiently for the realisation of this project in order to be one of the city of Côte d'Ivoire that has produced artisanal ethical gold.**

**We wish to assist this population that has only known the exploitation of gold like work.**

**THANK YOU.**