**Reducing Mercury Use in Artisanal Small-Scale Gold Mining**

**Why is mercury used in artisanal and small-scale gold mining?**
- Miners are not aware of sources of financing.
- Investors are not aware of miners' unique needs.

**Why is the ASGM sector often informal?**
- Miners operate in remote areas.
- Mining legislation is not adapted to this sector.
- Land ownership is a source of conflict with mining companies.
- Little or no enforcement of legislation because of Governments' lack of capacity.
- Land use is a source of conflict with farmers.

**Supply chain challenges**
- Difficult to put in place due diligence across the supply chain because gold is a fungible commodity and difficult to trace.
- Miners have limited or no access to international gold market.
- Gold buyers do not know how to buy gold directly from the sector.

**Alternatives to mercury**
- **Gravimetric separation**: separating the gold from the ore using panning, sluicing, centrifuges.
- **Chemical extraction**: of the tailings by the small-scale miners or through external service providers.

**How will the PlanetGOLD Programme transform artisanal small-scale gold mining?**

**Reducing mercury use in artisanal small-scale gold mining**
- **Pilot access-to-finance options**
- **Demonstrate and share best practices on formalization**
- **Educate gold consumers on the social and environmental benefit of cleaner gold**

**Why is mercury used in artisanal and small-scale gold mining?**
- Markets for mercury.
- Availability of low cost equipment.
- Little or no awareness of the risks of mercury.

**How will the Minamata Convention safeguard artisanal small-scale gold mining sector?**
- Article 7 and Annex C of the convention provide binding obligations on ASGM.
- Show the benefits of more efficient and cleaner non-mercury techniques.
- Provide mining communities with direct access to international gold markets and/or remove barriers across the value chains.

**Lack of access to finance**
- Investors view the sector as high risk.
- Establish inventory of the sector.
- Establish strategy for formalizing the sector.
- Set targets for reducing mercury pollution.

**Governments to ban worst practices**
- Governments to promote best practices.

**Governments to transform artisanal small-scale gold mining**
- Provide mining communities with direct access to international gold markets and/or remove barriers across the value chains.
- Show the benefits of more efficient and cleaner non-mercury techniques.
- Educate gold consumers on the social and environmental benefit of cleaner gold.