



United Nations  
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Desertification



G20 GLOBAL  
LAND INITIATIVE

ROUNDTABLE REPORT

# Roundtable on Gender Issues in Post-mining Land Restoration

May 16-18, 2024  
Takoradi, Ghana





## OVERVIEW

A three-day Roundtable Discussion on Gender Issues in Post-Mining Land Restoration was organized in collaboration with the University of Mines and Technology (UMaT), Ghana. The Roundtable event took place in Takoradi, Ghana from the 16th to the 18th of May 2024. The G20 GLI partnered with other collaborators such as COLANDEF and Commissions' 7 and 8 of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG). 41 participants from 10 countries, brainstormed extensively on women's diverse roles, challenges and issues in post-mining land restoration with Ghana as a case study.

## BACKGROUND

Land degradation as a result of artisanal mining is a challenge to Small-Scale miners, particularly women, who sometimes lack the technical capabilities to undertake environmentally friendly mining operations or to fully restore spent mines at the expiration of their mining concessions. The Roundtable on Gender Issues in Post-mining Land Restoration was organized as a forum for dialogue on the interconnectedness of several gender issues such as women's land rights; women's access to land, women's empowerment; and gender perspectives within the context of mining induced land degradation and post-mining land restoration. By focusing attention on the skills and livelihoods empowerment opportunities that the restoration industry can give to women, strategies for meaningful engagement by women in land restoration can be promoted. The Roundtable allowed the exchange of insights, challenges, best practices, and ideas, on how to recognize and address gender issues, including livelihoods, in post-mining land Restoration.

## KEY OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the Roundtable were to:

- Identify the interconnectedness between gender issues such as Women’s Land Rights; Women’s Access to Land; Women’s Empowerment; and Gender Perspectives and their successful Implementation in Post-Mining Land Restoration Efforts.
- Develop a working document that addresses gender issues in post-mining land restoration to reduce land degradation and promote best practices restoration.

## ROUNDTABLE STRUCTURE

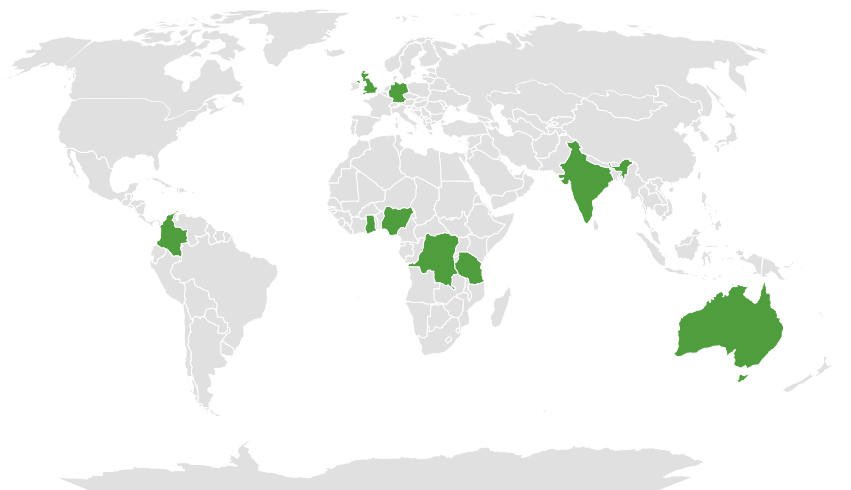
The discussions were facilitated by Professor Richard Kwasi Amankwah, Vice Chancellor of UMaT and Professor Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Dr Naa Dedei Tagoe and other subject experts. The event consisted of presentations at the plenary session and group discussions. The discussions centred on the place of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in Ghana’s economy, the level of environmental degradation it is causing and the urgent need to address it. The event also included the presentation of case studies and field visits to case study sites. Participants visited artisanal refining sites where they witnessed first-hand, the huge impact of unregulated and uncontrolled artisanal mining in Ghana on land, creeks, Rivers and the Atlantic Ocean. Participants also made presentations on group activity outcomes. Detailed structure appears in the Roundtable agenda.

## EVENT STATISTICS

### ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS

The roundtable event was organized as a regional roundtable with invited global representation to share experiences. Discussants were invited from the leadership of Women in Mining Associations in Africa and beyond. Although majority of the participants, including 10 self-funded participants came from Ghana, 25 percent of the participants came from 9 other countries as shown in Figure 1.

*Figure 1: Participants by Region*

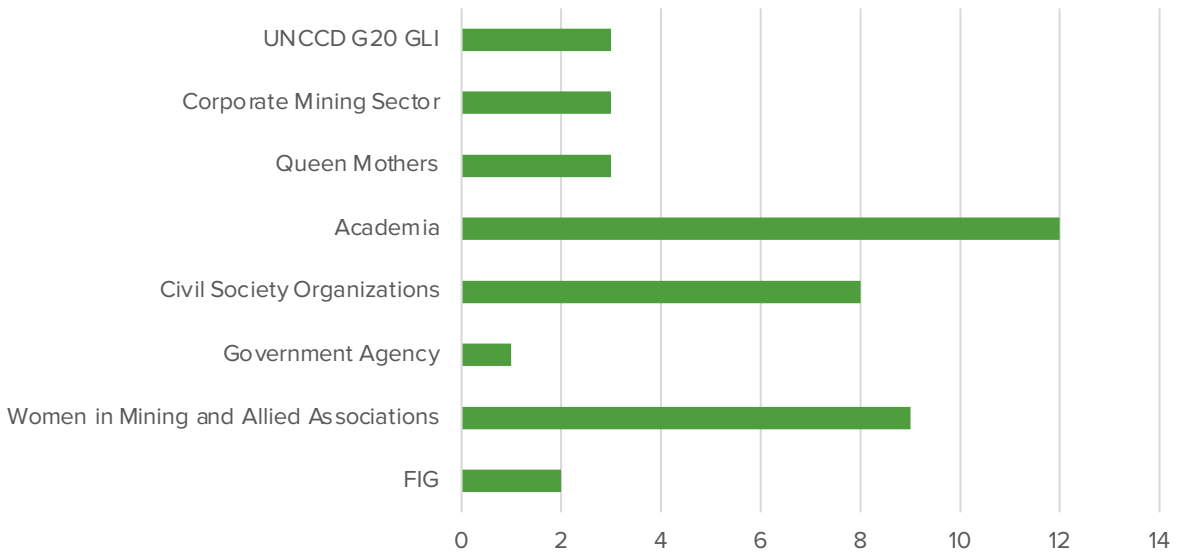


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## INDUSTRY AFFILIATIONS

Participants were selected from diverse sectors who had understanding in gender, mining, and post-mining land restoration including the academia, CSOs, government officials, corporate mining sector, and other sectors, as shown in Fig. 2.

**Figure 2 : Industry Affiliation of Participants**



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

The following were the key takeaways expressed by the participants:

- Post-mining land restoration is possible if the capacity of the women, particularly women in artisanal mining is developed to organise and implement it collaboratively.
- Restoration should be done concurrently with mining and since it involves many stakeholders, everyone must play their part.
- Dialogue is key, so we must dialogue with the unauthorized small-scale miners, particularly the women, as they are more likely to listen to dialogue instead of the use of force, to get registered.
- Developing tailor-made capacity building programs for women in artisanal mining is crucial.
- Post-mining land restoration is so complex, and gender issues are of great importance during the period.
- The need for concerted efforts of all stakeholders in addressing gender issues in land restoration after mining, as the issue surrounding the issues are multifaceted.
- Gender inclusion in post mining restoration is necessary because women who are actively engaged in authorized small-scale artisanal mining may lack the capacity for restoration and can be re-skilled.
- Women play a key role in environmental protection advocacy in their communities and are prepared to champion the cause for land restoration.



## PARTICIPANTS QUOTES

*“Grateful”*

*“Very fruitful”*

*“Male traditional authorities should also be invited to participate in the roundtable next time.”*

*“More of such events should be organised to help save the land.”*

*“Highly educative, knowledge filled and very insightful.”*

## CONCLUSION

Artisanal mining activities take place within local communities and there is a major role for traditional leaders in order to deal with these issues and promote land restoration. A few suggestions are:

- The National House of Chiefs must receive targeted education on the importance of integrating gender perspectives in the restoration of lands post-mining and emphasise the critical role that gender-responsive strategies play in achieving sustainable and equitable land restoration outcomes.
- By understanding the unique contributions and perspectives of women, male chiefs can foster more inclusive decision-making processes, ensuring that restoration efforts benefit all community members and promote gender equality.
- A comprehensive blueprint for restoration approaches and methods should be developed to guide stakeholders in the reclamation efforts. This blueprint should outline standardised procedures, best practices, and innovative techniques tailored to the specific conditions of the post-mined lands.

# ANNEXURE

## ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

DAY / DATE	MORNING SESSION 09.30 AM - 12.00 PM	AFTERNOON SESSION 01.00 PM - 04.30 PM
<b>DAY 1</b> (16 May 2024)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Registration</li><li>2. Inauguration</li><li>3. An overview Ghana's Mining Industry</li><li>4. Working Paper on Gender Issues in Post-Mining Land Restoration</li><li>5. Artisanal mining and Gender economic empowerment in Ghana</li></ol> <p><b>Trainers:</b> Stephen Boateng, Prof. Richard Kwasi Amankwah, Prof. Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Hon. Kwabena Okyere Darko Mensah, Hon. George Mireku Duker, Prof. Yakubu Issaka, Dr. Naa Dedei Tagoe, Prof. Grace Ofori-Sarpong</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. Gender Issues and Mining and Land Management</li><li>7. An overview of Post Mining Land Restoration</li><li>8. Women's Land Access and Land Restoration</li></ol> <p><b>Trainers:</b> Kate Fairlie, Georgette Barnes, Sola Olaniyi, Natalia Slyva Palacio, Balbine Pascaline Makani Epse Omgba, Judith Karangi, Dorothée Masele Mwewa, Dennis Eapen Pulimittathu, Charles Atakora</p>
<b>DAY 2</b> (17 May 2024)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Field Trip - University of Mines and Technology</li></ol> <p><b>Trainers:</b> Prof. Yakubu Issaka, Dr. Naa Dedei Tagoe, Dennis Eapen Pulimittathu, Stephen Boateng</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. Employment, Training/Capacity Building and Financing of Gender-Responsive Post-Mining Land Restoration</li><li>3. Policy and Institutional Considerations for Gender Inclusion in Post Mining Land Restoration</li></ol> <p><b>Trainers:</b> Nana Ama Yirrah, James Michael Grabham, Nana Abena Kunaadjoa, Abdul Razak Alhassan, James Michael Grabham, Prof. Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Kate Fairlie</p>

DAY / DATE	MORNING SESSION 09.30 AM - 12.00 PM	AFTERNOON SESSION 01.00 PM - 04.30 PM
<p><b>DAY 3</b> (18 May 2024)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussion on Gender-Responsive Monitoring and Evaluation</li> <li>2. Summary of key insights, findings, and recommendations from the discussion</li> <li>3. Overview of Rehabilitation of a Large Scale Mine</li> <li>4. Priority areas for action and follow-up activities</li> <li>5. Closing formalities and networking</li> </ol> <p><b>Trainers:</b> James Michael Grabham, Prof. Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Kate Fairlie, Dr. Wordsworth Odame Larbi, Prof. Grace Ofori-Sarpong, John Adingelah, Prof. Richard Kwasi Amankwah, Ms. Apoorva Bose</p>	

