

the mercury/gold mining issues at ASGMs? Why might miners find this a viable option as opposed to switching to non-mercury-using methods?

- 5) Some of the benefits of ASGM are that it is more energy efficient, releases lower amounts of greenhouse gasses, and produces less tailings and waste rock for each unit of gold produced in comparison to large-scale gold mining. However ASGM may release 40 times more mercury for each unit of gold as compared to large-scale gold mines. Why is mercury a problem for humans? In what ways is mercury an issue at ASGMs?

Telmer, K. 2011. "Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Mining:, Existing Solutions and International Experiences in Reduction Efforts." Presentation at Mercury and Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining: The Path Forward. Downloaded from http://www.artisanalmining.org/casm/sites/artisanalmining.org/files/publication/tehmer_gold_mercury.pdf