

Narrative Analysis Report

Description: Reporting summary that provides analysis of qualitative and quantitative data captured during the collection period. Data collection partners are expected to provide summary of key points and if applicable: quotes, photos and research limitations for biweekly reporting period.

Reporting Period: July 31

Reporting Method: A reporting survey will be created in Kobo toolbox to be completed by research partners.

Date of Reporting:	07/31/2020
Data Collection Partner (Organization):	Pact
Individual Completing Report (Full Name, Title):	Peter Mugai Munyi, Mr
Geographic Context (Country, Subnational)	Kenya
How many mine site level respondents are you synthesizing information from? [Integer]	15
What were their roles? Select all that apply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Owner of tunnel/pit/hill (license holder) - State agent (government-affiliate) - Buyer (purchaser of mineral) - Exporter (sale of goods out of country) - Customary authority - Civil Society - Non-governmental organization - Private Business - Other, specify 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mine site level respondents in Taita Taveta County
Relevant minerals in key informant interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Colored Gemstone (if yes, specify) - Diamond - Gold - Sand - Stone Aggregate (Gravel) - Tin (Cassiterite) - Tantalum (Coltan) - Tungsten (Wolframite) - Other, specify 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gemstones (tourmaline, green garnet)

Synthesis of Key Informant Response

Of all key informants interviewed during this period, provide a summary of key insights for each research category based on key informant questions.

Health & Safety	
<i>Note any prevalence of COVID-19 in mining communities</i> <i>ASM operators compliance with government restrictions & practices to limit spread.</i> <i>Any key gaps, needs and risks in COVID health response</i>	No Covid-19 case was reported although there is increased fear of infection as buyers from Nairobi and Mombasa are starting to visit the mining areas. Free movement in and out of the two cities (which are considered the Covid-19 hotspots in Kenya) is a major concern to the miners.

	<p>The number of Covid-19 infections in the county is rising which is also worrying.</p> <p>Water shortage continues to be a big hindrance to hand washing guideline and the ASM operators also reported difficulty in getting sanitizers and new face masks.</p> <p>Health social workers and churches (which have been reopened for meetings) are helping in educating and creating awareness about Covid-19.</p> <p>The ASM operators also requested for continued education about Covid-19 from health officials.</p>
<p>Gender</p> <p><i>Note any changes to men & women's roles in ASM sector and any emerging vulnerabilities</i></p>	<p>Effects on men:</p> <p>Most men mine green garnet which is mostly found deep and in hard rocks. The mining operations hence require financing (for food, water and equipment like compressors and blasting materials) since it takes time to find quality stones. Reduced/lack of financing is pushing many men out of the mining sites since they don't have any finances left to sponsor themselves and financiers are not available. Financiers are unable to sustain mining operations due to poor markets.</p> <p>Most men are now forced to work on their own, with many turning to mine tourmaline.</p> <p>Low price for the available gemstones is also discouraging them from mining tourmaline. For those still working, the number of workers per mining site has been reduced (to comply with social distancing guideline), which is leading to low production.</p> <p>Effects on women:</p> <p>Low prices for tourmaline (which is mostly mined by women because it's easy to mine) is a major challenge to women. International buyers have not resumed operations due to ban in international flights and local buyers who have been stockpiling are running out of capital. Most women are forced to continue mining tourmaline selling it at very low prices for survival.</p> <p>Available financiers and employers overlook women since they believe that men are more productive in manual work.</p> <p>Most women who had been laid off from work when mining operations were temporarily</p>

	<p>stopped had not been recalled as employers just recalled few workers (mostly men) as they try to restart operations.</p> <p>The responsibility to take care of children (who are not going to school) is also slowing down the effectiveness of women in mining.</p>
Human Security	
<i>Note any changes and emerging risks in ASM mining communities related to human security</i>	<p>Security was generally reported to be good around the mining sites and across the mining communities. The night time curfew and increased surveillance by local administration is helping to boost security levels.</p> <p>Low/lack of income was noted as a security risk in future.</p>
Food Security	
<i>Note any changes and emerging risks in ASM mining communities related to food security</i>	<p>Food shortage is worsening among the mining communities with most of them unable to afford 3 meals a day. Lack of good markets for their gemstones has decreased the purchasing power for food. Low rainfall over the last planting season reduced food production in the area hence food is less available and prices for most food commodities are still inflated.</p> <p>1kg of maize that used to be sold for Ksh. 15 early this year is now selling for Ksh. 35 – 40.</p> <p>Lack of water is also another major challenge; 20 liters of clean water is selling for Ksh. 35 – 50, which is quite high for ASM operators.</p> <p>There is urgent need for interventions in provision for relief food and water.</p>
Service Delivery & Government Engagement	
<i>Note any government & non-government responses to COVID and existing gaps and needs related to services</i>	<p>No additional responses were noted during the data collection. ASM operators requested for continued training and awareness about Covid-19 especially now that there is free movement in and out of Nairobi and Mombasa.</p> <p>The water tanks provided by the government often run out of water and it's a challenge to get water hence need for water provision in the areas.</p> <p>There has been no response to contain food shortage which is worsening; government and other players should focus on this urgently.</p> <p>Some ASM operators need financial help to restart their operations since they lack capital after being out of operations for many months.</p>

Markets & Supply Chains	
<p><i>Note any changes in mine site activity and supply chains and how COVID is directly or indirectly linked</i></p>	<p>Some ASM operators reported slight improvement in prices as buyers from Nairobi and Mombasa started to collect gemstones around the mining areas. In most cases though the miners reported no improvement at all. Most traders even in major towns were reported to be buying at low prices (especially for tourmaline) claiming lack of access to international markets due to travel restrictions. Foreigners and most international buyers (who are the best gemstone buyers) have not resumed hence ASM operators are forced to sell to local buyers at prevailing prices for survival. Most local buyers and brokers are finding it difficult to get dealers with capital to trade and are mostly trading among themselves. There is hope that with gradual resumption of international flights (from 1st August 2020), foreign buyers will be able to travel back and international markets will be accessible, which will boost mine-site level prices. During the data collection period, high quality green tourmaline that used to be sold for Ksh. 35,000 – 50,000 per Kg is now being bought at Ksh. 4000 – 10000 per Kg. High quality green garnet (good shape, color and clarity) that used to be sold for around Ksh. 70,000 – 100,000 per gram is now being bought for Ksh. 15,000 – 30,000 per gram. Collection of small pieces of low quality green garnet (locally known as ‘lot’) that used to be sold at Ksh. 2000 per gram is now being sold at Ksh. 200-300 per gram.</p>

Summary

Note three key insights that stood out or were important from this data collection period.

1. Number of people in working in the mine sites was reported to be gradually increasing as some companies/minesites that had been closed started to open up. However most of them are working for less number of hours/days since they working in shifts to avoid overcrowding.

2. The ASM operators are living in extreme fear of spread of Covid-19 in the mining areas as a result of interactions with buyers from Nairobi and Mombasa who have started to access the area for trade. Some miners are avoiding travelling to the nearby towns of Mwatate and Voi

where cases of Covid-19 have been reported. One ASM operator reported that a buyer from Nairobi who was supposed to visit the mining areas for trade tested positive for Covid-19 on arrival in Voi and was hospitalized (shows the risk of spread of Covid-19 during trade).

3. Water and food shortage continue to be a big challenge in the area. Many households are still struggling to afford 3 meals a day. Low income is the main caused by lack/poor markets for gemstones is the major cause for this. Low rainfall over the last planting season resulted in poor harvest, reducing the food security further.

Notes: Registration and issuance of artisanal mining permits has still not kicked off and the county artisanal mining committee responsible for the task has not been gazetted yet.

Quotes

Note any key quotes from any of the interviews conducted. Quotes help to bring the date to life and help the participant’s voice and story be captured and heard in their own words.

1. “Our biggest problem is lack of markets for gemstones, even if you get a good stone, there are no buyers available to buy and we are forced to sell to local buyers at very low prices” miner from Taita Taveta County
2. “If we get financing, we would be able to continue with mining operations because sites to mine are numerous but it is difficult to mine on hard rock using hand-tools. We need support in getting blasting materials and other equipment like compressors” miner from Taita Taveta County.
3. “If we get financed and help in getting good markets and licenses required, we shall be fully equipped in mining and we’ll be able to help ourselves and the society around us” sorting and grading operator from Taita Taveta County.

Photos & Other Media

Not any photos or other media that you would like to be included in the reporting update. Include photo caption and credit below and attached photo when sharing report. Photos will be reviewed and published to Delve with permission.

Photo File Name	Caption	Photo Credit

Research Limitations

Note any issues encountered in gathering information and recommendations for filling any additional information gaps.

I was able to finish the last round of data collection in time without major challenges. Scheduling of calls with the ASM operators was effective although I experienced network connectivity challenges with a few respondents.
