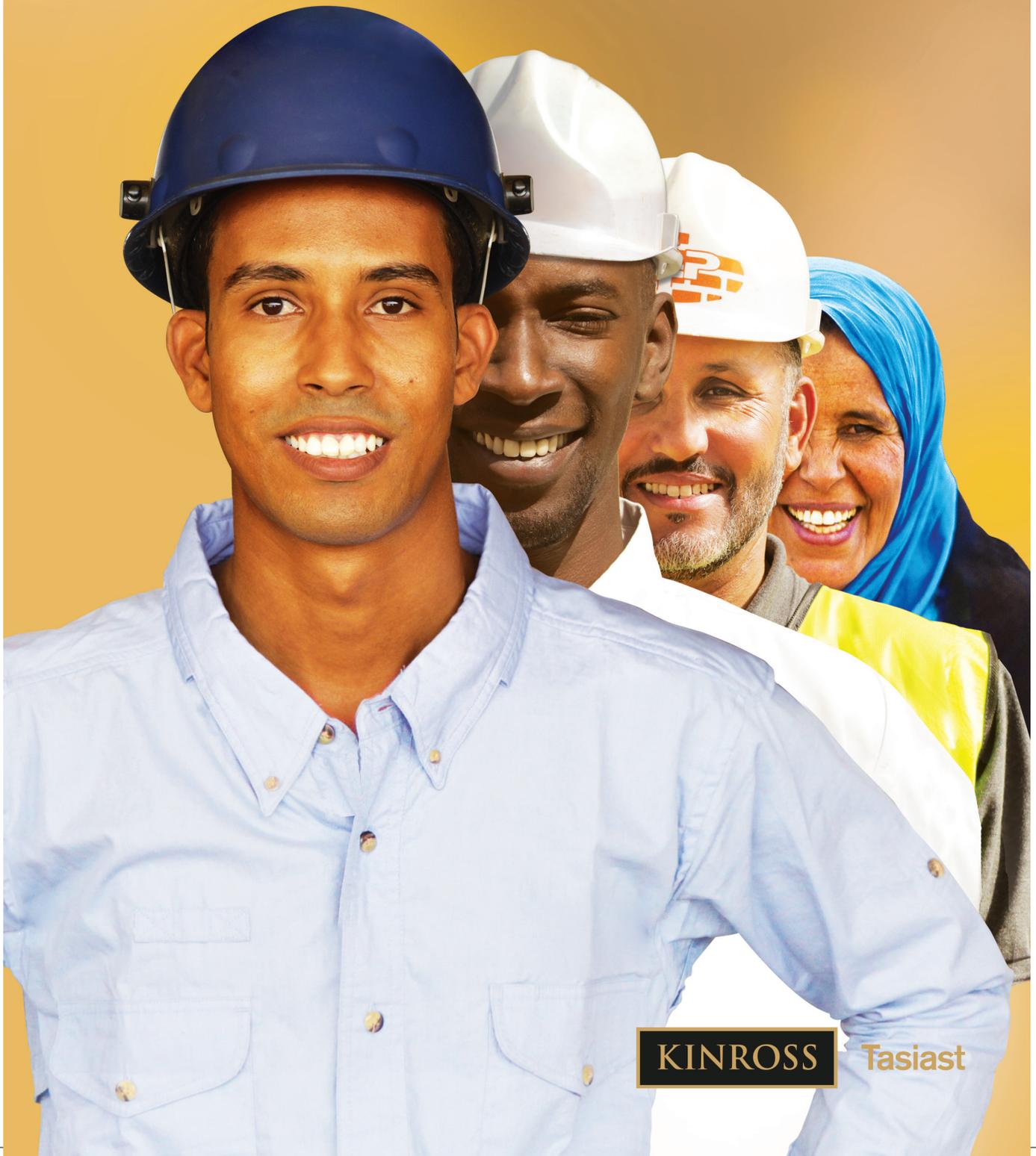


# TASIAST

A responsible mining  
operator in Mauritania



**KINROSS**

**Tasiast**

## THE TASIAST MINE

The Tasiast mine, located in the north-western region of Inchiri in Mauritania, 300 kilometers from the capital, Nouakchott, is one of the country's largest mines. Kinross acquired the mine in 2010 and has operated it since through its subsidiary Tasiast Mauritania Limited S.A. (TMLSA).

Kinross has invested more than **600 million USD (210 billion MRO)** in major infrastructures at Tasiast to make it a world-class mine.

Tasiast is an important contributor to the social and economic development of Mauritania and employs approximately **2400 Mauritanians** through TMLSA and its contractors.



## TASIAST KEY FACTS

- Open pit mine.
- Estimated proven and probable gold reserves of approximately 8.2 million gold ounces (about 230 tonnes).
- Mine life is expected to be until 2030.
- Modern and industrial mining methods are required at Tasiast to reach the ore deposit which is increasingly deep with all surface gold deposits mined out. The ore body contains average grades of 1.9 grams of fine gold particles per tonne of ore.
- In 2015, Kinross produced **220,000 ounces**, equivalent to 6.2 tonnes of gold.



## TASIAST EXPANSION PROJECT

• **On March 30th 2016, Kinross announced it will go ahead with the expansion project.**

• The expansion project is necessary for Tasiast's future, as it is expected to increase production and lower costs to make the mine viable and sustainable in the long term. It is a financially prudent and strong project suited for the Tasiast mine.

• The expansion is planned in two phases:

- **Phase One** is expected to increase mill throughput from the current 8,000 tonnes per day (t/d) of gold-bearing ore to 12,000 t/d. Approximately 300 million USD (106 billion MRO) is expected to be invested for Phase One, most of which will be for additional equipment to increase the treatment capacity of the mill. Full production capacity for Phase One is initially scheduled for the first quarter of 2018 and may be extended to the second quarter.

- If approved, **Phase Two** could further expand ore treatment capacity to 30,000 t/d, with development costs estimated to be approximately 620 million USD (220 billion MRO).



# HOW GOLD IS PRODUCED AT THE TASTIAST MINE?

Modern industrial gold production is a long, complex and costly process that requires significant investments in infrastructure and a well-trained labour force with specialized and specific skills. The Tasiast mine contains an average of 1.9 grams of fine gold particles per tonne of ore.

There are two major steps to produce gold at Tasiast:  
 1/ Mining the ore out of the pit.  
 2/ Processing the ore to extract the gold.

The first step is to drill holes on a delimited area at the bottom of the pit to allow artificers to place explosive charges in the deposit. These hole patterns are then loaded with explosives that have energy capacity to break the rock.

Then the artificers detonate charges to break the rock containing the ore and ensure its transportation. This operation is performed daily at Tasiast. Soil stability is constantly monitored by geologists to avoid any risk.

Higher grade ore is first crushed and then ground in huge mills to reduce the ore to fine particles. Water is added to the mills which produces a slurry pulp with the fine particles.

The blasted ore is then loaded on trucks by excavators. The largest trucks carry an average of 200 tonnes of ore per load.

The very fine particles of gold are extracted from the pulp by using chemicals through the leach and the elution circuits in the CIL plant. After several treatments, gold particles are contained in an enriched solution.

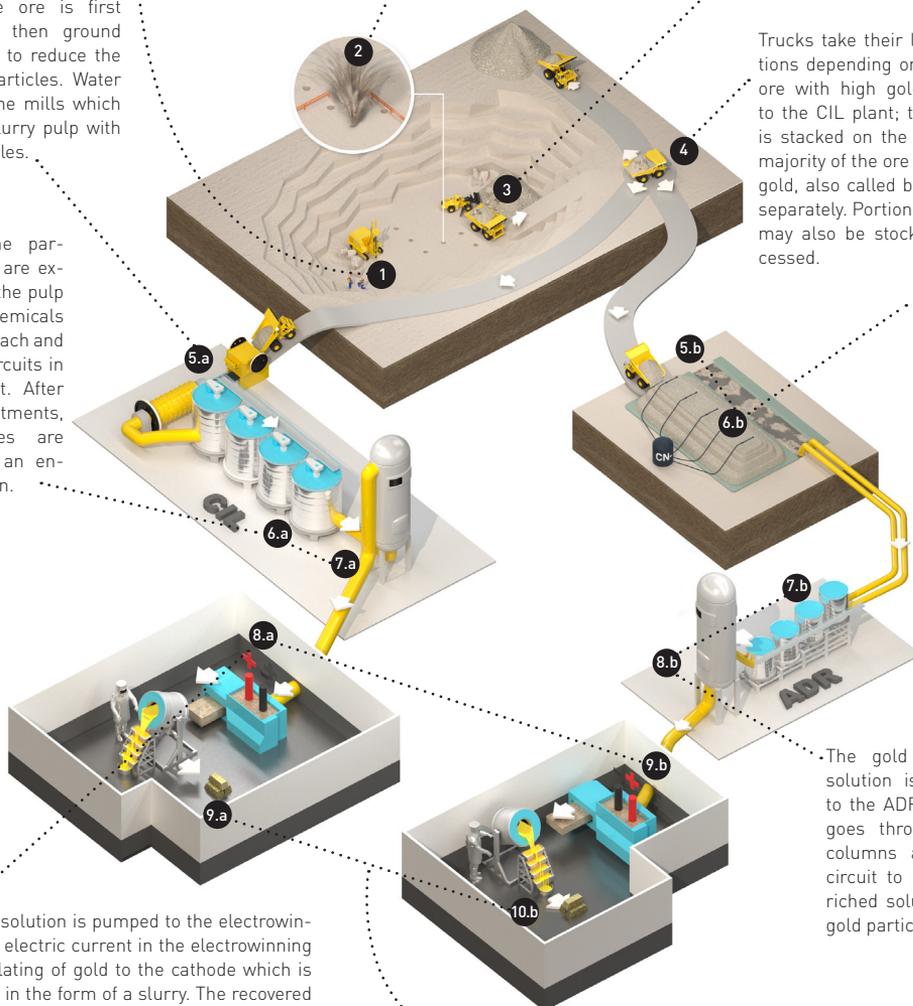
Trucks take their loads to different locations depending on the grade of the ore: ore with high gold content is delivered to the CIL plant; the low-grade gold ore is stacked on the dump leach pads; the majority of the ore which does not contain gold, also called barren ore, is deposited separately. Portions of ore containing gold may also be stockpiled to be later processed.

The low-grade ore is stacked on a leach pad. It's then irrigated with solution containing cyanide to dissolve gold from the ore and produce a "pregnant liquor" containing gold. The pregnant solution is collected by flow to a pond.

The gold bearing leach solution is then pumped to the ADR plant where it goes through adsorption columns and an elution circuit to produce an enriched solution containing gold particles.

The enriched solution is pumped to the electrowinning cell. The electric current in the electrowinning cell causes plating of gold to the cathode which is then removed in the form of a slurry. The recovered slurry is filtered and dried to thereafter be smelted to bullion.

Fluxes are mixed with the dried sludge before charging into the melting furnace, the temperature is raised to nearly 1200 degrees. The charge is melted to produce ingots of gold.



## A KEY CONTRIBUTOR TO THE MAURITANIAN ECONOMY

Wherever it operates, Kinross strives to be a reliable development partner to the host country and local communities. To do so, we seek to align our business plans with the development goals of the country and region around the mine so that our partnership

with the country and local communities is mutually beneficial leading to sustainable outcomes.

Kinross, through its subsidiary Tasiast Mauritania Limited SA (TMLSA), has become a major economic partner for Mauritania.

**From 2011 to 2015, TMLSA has spent over 1.7 billion USD (512 billion MRO) in Mauritania:**

### 163 million USD

(49 billion MRO)

of direct contributions to the State budget (taxes, royalties and other payments).

### 230 million USD

(69 billion MRO)

paid in salaries and compensation to employees.

### 1.3 billion USD

(391 billion MRO)

of contracts with Mauritanian suppliers.



## ONE OF THE MAIN JOB PROVIDERS IN MAURITANIA

TMLSA is one of the largest job providers in the private sector in Mauritania with over **2400 national workers** employed by the Company and its subcontractors.

More than **89% of TMLSA employees are Mauritanian**, which includes senior management positions.

**Over the next four years, TMLSA will implement a “Mauritanization Plan”** that is expected to increase the number of skilled local workers at Tasiast. Numerous expatriate positions are expected to be filled by Mauritanians who will be trained and mentored to develop the appropriate knowledge and experience needed to occupy these positions.

**Since 2010, TMLSA has invested more than 20 million USD (7 billion MRO)** to train its Mauritanian employees and to develop a pool of skilled in-country professionals to support the future development of Mauritania’s mining industry.

The Company has also provided significant support in the creation of the National Mining School. Every year TMLSA also welcomes students for internships at Tasiast.

**The health and safety of all employees at Tasiast is Kinross’ number one priority.** All TMLSA employees and subcontractors at Tasiast are trained to ensure they are able to work safely. The Company ensures a safe working environment through comprehensive training, providing appropriate

protective equipment, performing regular checks and implementing corrective actions when necessary. It has also constructed a health clinic and employs an emergency response team to effectively manage potential accidents and to help ensure the well-being of its employees.

## CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Maintaining a social license to operate is an essential part of TMLSA's work in Mauritania. In close collaboration with the Government and local stakeholders, the Company's goal is to ensure its presence generates long-term benefits for the country and its people, and more specifically, for the communities in the region around the Tasiast mine.



TMLSA has developed a strong community relations strategy, implemented by a dedicated Community Relations team that engages closely with the communities surrounding the mine. Essential components of this strategy include listening to, understanding, and supporting the communities' description of their development needs, plans and goals. In addition, Kinross' cor-

porate responsibility strategy takes a life-of-mine perspective of community interaction so that social programs and projects are focused on generating sustainable community outcomes which serve the community long after the eventual mine closure. This strategy is implemented through the Company's Site Responsibility Management system.

Through its dedicated CR strategy, **TMLSA has invested over 8 million USD (2.4 billion MRO) in social projects since 2011 in order to provide real tangible benefits.** Key projects includes social initiatives for education, access to health services, and the development of income generating activities:

- **A partnership with local NGO ECODEV** to fund income generating activities that helped create 45 new micro businesses.
- **A Mobile Clinics Program** that offers free access to specialized health services and medicine for the 16 localities in the region. Almost 4000 patients from the surrounding localities of the Tasiast mine have benefited from the program.
- **3.6 million USD (1.1 billion MRO) of vital medical equipment and supplies** donated since 2012 to nearly 30 health facilities and hospitals across Mauritania thanks to a partnership with the US NGO Project CURE and the Mauritania Ministry of Health.
- **Veterinary programs** for camel, sheep and goat herds, as animal husbandry is the main source of income for the communities surrounding the mine.
- **Water supply program** for the local communities. As the word Tasiast means "the land of thirst," in Berber, water is the most needed service of the communities around the mine.



At the international level, Kinross has been recognized for its high standards in social responsibility. In June 2016, for the seventh consecutive year, Kinross Gold was named one of Canada's Best 50 Corporate Citizens, placing it first among gold mining companies for the second year in a row.



## ENVIRONMENT

TMLSA operates in compliance with national and international environmental standards in order to minimize its environmental footprint. The TMLSA environmental management plan strictly complies with the International Environment Standard ISO 140001.



## WASTE MANAGEMENT

TMLSA reduces waste through the 4R system:



Since 2010, Kinross has invested more than 60 million USD (17 billion MRO) in modern infrastructure for water treatment and solid waste management at the Tasiast mine.



Kinross is an original signatory to the International Cyanide Management Code for the Manufacture, Transport, and Use of Cyanide in the Production of Gold (ICMI). TMLSA is currently engaged in the validation process to be certified under ICMI.

## TRANSPARENCY

Kinross is committed to the highest standards of corporate governance and ethical conduct. As part of Kinross, TMLSA actively monitors developments in best practices and applicable laws to ensure that the Company meets that commitment.

In 2010, Kinross became a participant to the United Nations Global Compact - the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative with over 6,500 business and non-business participants across 135 countries.



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Kinross endorses the Principles and Criteria of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Our operations in Ghana and Mauritania report into those countries' reporting systems, which have been determined by EITI to be fully compliant with its Principles and Criteria.



## ABOUT KINROSS

Founded in 1993, Kinross Gold is a senior gold mining company with a diverse portfolio of 10 mines located in 3 core regions: Africa, Americas and Russia.

In 2015, Kinross was the fifth largest gold mining company in the world, with 73,5 tonnes of gold produced.



### Mines owned

#### WEST AFRICA:

- Tasiast mine in Mauritania
- Chirano mine in Ghana

#### RUSSIA:

- Kupol and Dvoynoye mines in Russia

#### AMERICAS:

- Paracatu mine in Brazil
- Fort Knox, Round Mountain, Bald Mountain, and Kettle River-Buckhorn mines in the United States
- Maricunga mine in Chile

Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Kinross employs approximately 9,100 people worldwide. The Company is focused on delivering value through operational excellence, balance sheet strength, disciplined growth and responsible mining.

Kinross's way of operating is rooted in four core values that inform how we work and guide us in managing the responsibilities that come with being a global mining company:

#### Putting People First

#### Outstanding Corporate Citizenship

#### High Performance Culture

#### Rigorous Financial Discipline

Kinross is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (symbol: K) and the New York Stock Exchange (symbol: KGC).



**KINROSS** Tasiast

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