

Resources, Actors, Strategies: Studies about Artisanal and Small-scale Mining in Contemporary Africa

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In recent years, there has been a proliferation of studies by social scientists about contemporary artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) in various African countries. Although there are differences concerning the political, legal and economic conditions as well as the local contexts of mining in each country, there are also a number of issues that deserve a comparative approach in order to explore similarities both within and beyond Africa. This paper provides an overview of some recent studies on gold mining with special regard to the actors involved and the strategies they mobilize in order to benefit from mining.