

# Endline Evaluation

**Terms of Reference, August 2024**

**Responsible Peruvian Gold**

**Programme timeframe: 2021-2024**

**Endline timeline:** September 2024 – January 2025

## Background

The objectives of the *Responsible Peruvian Gold* (RPG) programme was to work with Artisanal and Small-scale Mining Organisations (ASMOs) from Puno, South Peru; supporting them to formalise their operations and providing them with the technical and financial capabilities required to export into premium export markets.

RPG aimed to address the disconnect between the performance of ASMOs in Puno and the requirements of international market partners and financiers. RPG targeted mines in the ‘middle-ground’ of legality. Whilst legally registered and recognised by government bodies, they largely fail to meet the due diligence requirements of international buyers, as a result of informal practices. For the same reason, these mines fail to receive lines of credit from formal lenders (e.g. banks), meaning they are less able to upgrade their production methods.

This project supported target ASMOs to achieve Fairtrade certification and export Fairtrade certified gold. ASMOs were supported to operate legally and formally, enabling them to access finance from formal lenders, uptake more responsible and productive mining practices, and access international markets on Fairtrade terms.

The project’s desired impact was for ASMOs to offer decent, productive and safe working conditions whilst protecting the environment in Puno, South Peru. The project aimed to achieve this impact through five outcome areas:

- Mines comply with Fairtrade Standards
- Mines access finance from formal lenders
- Mines use more responsible and productive mining practices
- Mines sell gold into premium export markets
- Good practice is absorbed within and beyond target supply chains

## Scope of Work

The purpose of the assignment is to carry out research in Peru to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of the Responsible Peruvian Gold project. The following research questions are proposed to align the evaluation with the project outcome indicators:

1. Have mines been able to comply with Fairtrade Standards?
2. To what extent have mines been able to access finance from formal lenders?
3. What changes in mining practices have taken place since the start of the project?
4. What volume of gold have mines been able to export, and into which markets?

The consultant will develop the methodology in consultation with Fairtrade Foundation and CNCJ-PE (Fairtrade's national office in Peru), but this should include data collection with approximately 100 individuals across three sites, as well as interviews with management and community stakeholders.

Other data sources available to the evaluators will include project documentation and secondary data sources such as Flo-Cert audit information. However, while a baseline study was planned, this baseline never took place and therefore baseline values will not be available to compare against for the indicators in the logframe. This will need to be considered in the methodology with retrospective or backward-looking techniques used to overcome this lack of baseline data and understand the impacts of the programme. Programme outcome monitoring has taken place throughout the duration of the programme and this data will be available to contractors to inform the evaluation.

## Deliverables

The following deliverables are expected from the consultant:

- a. Inception Report - with details of data collection methods, tools, and a work plan.
- b. Regular updates during data collection
- c. Validation workshop with key partners
- d. Final consolidated report and summary report
- e. Raw data

The consultant shall submit a final report in electronic copies along with all survey data (in Excel), transcripts of any focus group discussions or interviews, photographs and ethical approval etc. The draft report is expected from the consultant before final report.

## Study Timelines

Below is an outline of the anticipated timeline of the endline study but this will be agreed and discussed with the selected consultants. If the baseline can be completed in shorter timeframe then this is welcomed.

Topic	Additional information	Projected Timelines
<b>Recruitment</b>	Endline ToR launched and interviews conducted	August-September 2024
<b>Contracting and start-up</b>	Contracting of selected consultancy team.	September 2024
<b>Co-design</b>	Review of existing data, and co-design with Fairtrade Foundation, CNCJ-PE, and EPRM of the methods and approaches to be used in the endline.	October 2024
<b>Data collection</b>	Collection of data from ASMOs and other project stakeholders.	November 2024
<b>Data cleaning and analysis</b>	Quantitative and qualitative analysis aligned to the programme indicators.	December 2024
<b>Write-up and presentation of results</b>	Data tables, report/slide-deck and presentation of results to project stakeholders including ASMOs and miners.	January 2025

## Skills and Experience

We are looking for a consultant/team of consultants that can provide the services outlined in the ToR, with the following skills and experience:

- Team leader having a minimum of a Master’s Degree in social studies or any other developmental field (economics, agriculture, international relations, development studies) or comparable professional experience .
- Proven experience in conducting quantitative and qualitative research and analysis
- Native Spanish speaker with experience of conducting research or MEL activities in Peru or Latin American region.
- Excellent working knowledge of English and excellent report writing skills
- Professional and demonstrable experience working with artisanal and small scale mining communities or within the mining sector will be desirable. Experience of working in this sector within this region of Peru would be particularly advantageous.
- Committed to inclusive MEL approaches and willing to challenge the way data is collected and shared in the context of development sector dynamics.

## Inclusive MEL Approaches

The MEL team at Fairtrade Foundation has outlined principles towards an inclusive and anti-racist MEL approach. We have committed to our own reflection and learning on how MEL processes can be more beneficial to the people, farmers and miners we work with. Some of principles adopted include ensuring accountability towards farmers, miners and communities; embedding anti-racism in evaluations; ensuring equity in research teams; and methods for joint or producer-led data analysis. Applicants should be able to demonstrate their own commitment to inclusive MEL practices and how they can contribute to Fairtrade’s inclusive MEL commitments.

## Data Protection

The protection of project participants' data is non-negotiable, and we expect applicants to be aware of and compliant with relevant data protection laws in the UK and Peru.

## Budget

The maximum budget is €25,000. The consultant should submit the total budget in the proposal along with a detailed breakdown.

## Proposal Process and Deadline

The deadline for proposals is 05/09/2024. Applications should be sent to [john.vivian@fairtrade.org.uk](mailto:john.vivian@fairtrade.org.uk) with the subject: '*Proposal for RPG endline evaluation*'. Your proposal should include the following sections:

- Functions and composition of the consulting team, including resumes of those involved, and how the team meets the criteria set out under the Skills and Experience section, including related relevant consultancy experience.
- Proposed methodological approach to the assignment.
- A financial proposal based on the activities listed in this ToR detailing the costs for activities and time of consultants. Please include all expenses associated with the consultancy.
- Initial proposed work plan and schedule (which may be further developed through the application and co-design stages)
- Statement and policies for safeguarding and data protection.
- Declaration of organizational capacity (free format)
- References of similar works

For any queries, please contact John Vivian, MEL Manager at Fairtrade Foundation at [john.vivian@fairtrade.org.uk](mailto:john.vivian@fairtrade.org.uk)

## Annex 1: RPG Theory of Change

