

Colombia To Host World Emerald Symposium in October

October 13th-15th



Colombia is to hold the first gathering of the world emerald industry, and is inviting all emerald producing countries to take part in the event in Bogota from October 13 to 15. The conference will be followed by a visit to the famous Muzo emerald mine.

The countries invited to attend the conference include Zambia, Brazil, Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Madagascar. In addition, all relevant players are being invited, including governments, the private sector, civil society and all sectors of the emerald mining and manufacturing industry.

The conference will provide a comprehensive analysis of all elements of the emerald industry, including geology, mining, resource management, laws and regulations, manufacturing, treatments, marketing, nomenclature, labs and certification, education, origin and traceability, harmonization of the sector at the global level, relations with consumers, jewelry, branding and overall supply chain integration from mine to market.

The issues will be addressed by high-level experts from governments and the gemstone industry from a range of relevant countries, and there will also be discussions and working groups looking at the promotion of emeralds and addressing industry challenges.

The official program of events, debates and discussions is due to be released shortly. The overall aim of the conference is to boost the image of emeralds as a valuable stone and to deal with a wide range of issues, including safety in mine production and transport and emeralds as a leading global precious gemstone and store of value and to enable the global emerald industry to have a common language and unified approach.

An organized visit of delegates to the emerald mine in Muzo and surrounding area will take place on October 16.

The official organizers of the conference are: the Ministry of Mines of Colombia; Agencias Nacional e Minería ANM (National Mining Agency); Fedesmeraldas (the Colombian Emerald Federation); ACODES (the Emerald Exporters Association); APRECOL (the Colombian Emerald Miners Association); and ASOCOESMERAL (the Colombia Emerald Dealers Association).

Gemstones and Jewelry Action Plan Implementation:

Priority Issues: The most critical priorities for this sector relate to 1) reduction of royalty payments and export duties to enhance participants' ability to compete internationally, 2) simplification of registration and licensing procedures for ASM operations so miners can legally operate, and 3) upgrading the capacity of Afghan firms to process gemstones to international standards.

Proposed Activities: The MOMP had encouraged ABADE to conduct a *pilot project to facilitate the registration of ASM operations* in one mining area, including securing participation and acceptance by local stakeholders. This activity is dependent upon prior approval of lower royalty rates and export duties and approval of simplified requirements for registering and licensing ASM operations. There has not been much progress from the MOMP on this since January.

As forward movement on this first activity is dependent upon factors outside of the project's control, a second activity to deliver a *training programs for firms involved in processing gemstones can occur sooner*. Rather than simply organizing one-shot training programs, we propose to develop and implement a strategy for creating institutional and business partnerships to provide training and business development support on a longer-term, sustainable basis.

Next steps to be carried out during Q3 of Year3 will involve providing technical support to help develop institutional and business partnerships between the Afghanistan Gemstones and Jewelry Association and its members and technical institutes and companies in India, Sri Lanka, or other countries to in order to foster to support sustainable development of the Afghan gemstones and jewelry sector. We will then work with such partners to identify trainers and deliver training and business development services to help local companies upgrade their gemstone cutting and polishing skills and develop business linkages to support increased exports of Afghan gemstones and jewelry.

The services of an experienced international consultant will be required for 25 days to identify potential international partners working in the gemstones and jewelry sector and help establish partnership agreements with Afghan firms and organizations to provide technical and business development support to the Afghan gemstones and jewelry industry. As part of this assignment the consultant will also conduct training and advisory sessions with local gemstones processing companies to: 1) assess their current processing techniques and technologies; 2) deliver company-specific recommendations on steps they need to take to improve their capacity to produce stones which meet international standards, including investing in more modern equipment and processing technologies; and 3) advise firms on how to develop linkages with international equipment suppliers and potential business partners to support expansion of their businesses. The consultant will also identify international trainers that could be supplied by international partners to conduct subsequent training programs for local gemstones and jewelry companies.

The initial 25 day consulting assignment will be carried out during the May-June time period. Subsequent training programs for gemstones processing firms would be carried out as a joint activity with C2 during the 4th Quarter of Year 3.

[Sri Lanka ICA](#)

Event Description

ICA 2015, 16th Congress of the International Colored Gemstone Association is going to be organized between 16 May, 2015 and 19 May, 2015.

The Congress venue will be Cinnamon Grand Colombo.

ICA 2015 is known as the astounding Congress that will cope with the topics of Precious Stones, Gemstones and Jewelry and a lot more.

16th Congress of the International Colored Gemstone Association is organized biennially.

Official Event Web Site

ICA 2015 will be organized by International Colored Gemstone Association.

International Colored Gemstone Association

ICA was founded in 1984.

Official site of ICA: <http://www.gemstone.org>

ICA AIMS

Represent the international gemstone *industry*; work to increase the understanding, appreciation and sales of coloured gemstones worldwide; develop a common language and consistent standards to improve communication between gemstone producing countries and gemstone consuming countries.

ICA Contact Information

Main address: Main Office: 19 W 21st St, Suite 705, 10010, New York NY, USA

Tel: (1 212) 620 0900

Fax: (1 212) 352 9054

E-mail: ica (at) gemstone.org

URL: <http://www.gemstone.org/>

EXHIBITION PACKAGE APPLICATION CONTRACT
參展申請合約

Mineral & Gem Asia
亞洲礦物及寶石展

27 - 30 June 2015

二〇一五年六月廿七至三十日

AsiaWorld-Expo • Hong Kong

亞洲國際博覽館 • 香港

Mineral & Gem Asia will take place at **Hong Kong, June 27-30, 2015, AsiaWorld-Expo** (Hall 3 & 6). **Booth #3B23**

GeoVision, Inc – Booth #3B23

Daisy Cui
Project Manager, Sales
UBM Asia Ltd
1983 Marcus Ave, Suite 250
Lake Success, NY, 11042
Tel: 516-562-7872
Email: daisy.cui@ubm.com

