



African Mining Legislation Atlas



## What is AMLA?

The AMLA platform is a free, online one-stop resource for African mining legislation.

In an easily-readable and searchable format, **AMLA** provides the public with all mining codes and regulations in over 53 African countries. The goal of the Atlas is to maximize mineral resource benefits by:

- 1 Promoting transparency, accessibility, and comparison of Africa's mining laws;
- 2 Facilitating the preparation, revision, and implementation of mining laws;
- 3 Providing a living database that will catalyze research and policy debates on legal and regulatory issues;
- 4 Promoting the development of local legal expertise on mining laws.

## How to use **AMLA**?

On the AMLA homepage, users can quickly and accurately determine the non-fuel minerals found in each African country, their dependency thereon, and their EITI Status.

Additionally, users can access the original mining code and primary regulation of all 54 African countries, in both PDF and plain text formats.

**The Guiding Template** is a mining law drafting and reference tool that provides guidance to countries in their preparation or revision of domestic mining laws. The Template covers over 200 topics, each of which is described and supported by sample legislative provisions and detailed annotations.

**The Country Comparison Feature** offers the ability to compare national legislation based on a specific, common taxonomy. Users can compare two countries' legislation at the same time, across nearly 100 topics.



## AMLA as a Capacity Building Tool

To develop specialized expertise on the continent, the project has established the Legal Research Team (LRT). The LRT is made up of advanced law students selected from various African universities, representing all five regions of the continent. The role of the LRT is to populate the AMLA platform by locating mining and related legislation, and conducting comparative research on specific topics across different countries' mining legislation, under the guidance of the quality review team comprised of mining specialists in the sector.

The experts working to strengthen the Guiding Template formulate the Guiding Template Review Committee (GTRC), which includes representatives from a broad range of institutions including: The Africa Union Commission (AUC), The ALSF, The World Bank, The International Senior Lawyers Program (ISLP), The International Bar Association (IBA), and more.

## AMLA as a Resource Repository

Government officials intending to draft or amend their mining legislation can refer to the Atlas' Guiding Template for an enhanced understanding of all the factors at play and a comparison with different African countries. AMLA also provides access to primary mining codes and regulations, and facilitates their comparison across nearly 100 topics throughout 53 separate legal jurisdiction.

Legal practitioners (in-house lawyers, local and international law firms) and Companies interested in investing in the mining sectors in Africa can immediately access all the mining legislation in different African countries.

Research and academic institutions, civil society organizations and NGOs can use AMLA's robust comparative features to study the diverse approaches taken by African governments to mining legislation.

## Success Stories

"The vast mineral wealth of Africa has not been transformed into capital wealth. This is due to region-wide gaps in knowledge, finance, and technology, all of which must be imported from abroad. As a result, African governments have to negotiate with foreign companies and investors, often to their disadvantage. The AMLA platform levels the playing field by providing contemporary examples of African mining regulation, contracts, and laws."

**- Dr. Fallou Samb, Special Advisor to the President of Senegal**

"If you don't have the capacity to negotiate well, if you don't have the information about what foreign investors are doing elsewhere, if you're not speaking to natural partners in neighbouring countries, you are bound to fall into a trap. We want to ensure that a baseline exists, below which no countries will go in their negotiations of mining concessions"

**- Professor Melaku Geboye Desta, African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)**

## Quotes & Testimonials

"The importance of creating and adopting model mining legislation in Africa is to ensure that international investors and mining companies cannot establish terms which are disadvantageous to the country in question. If we can establish standards to which all parties must adhere, it will be to the benefit of everyone."

**- Limaryn Leané Louw, AMLA Legal Research Team member from the University of Pretoria**

"Often times, mining activities do not generate direct employment or direct benefits for the local economy. But with the help of model mining laws [such as the AMLA Guiding Template], African governments will witness a growth in the dividends paid by any mining activities they embark upon."

**- Deisy Ribeiro, AMLA Legal Research Team member from the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane**





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