Press Release

GGM Says Large Rice-Storage Project for Local Farmers Nears Completion

(News Release – Geita) Geita Gold Mine (GGM) said today that construction of a 30,000-ton rice-storage warehouse to improve the ability of local Geita region farmers to take advantage of higher market prices for their crops, is nearing completion.

The largest, modern warehouse, near Saragulwa Village, will not only provide an invaluable storage facility for local farmers, but will also allow them to time crop sales to coincide with higher prices, rather than being compelled to sell soon after the harvest. GGM invested about Tshs 330,000,000 in the building of the warehouse, which lies about 15km from the Geita mine site. A tractor has also been acquired for use at the facility.

“We appreciate support from GGM in building this warehouse,” Mr. Yuda Ng’hindí, Chairman of the Saragulwa village and member of the NYABUSAKAMA Cooperative Society, said. “We are now very sure to have good space for storing our produce.”

The rice-storage project is a continuation of the sustained support that GGML has been providing to rice farmers for the past three years. When this initiative started in 2015, crop yields of the region’s paddy farmers were 9 bags per acre, and now, with the help of GGM’s interventions, the farmers now enjoy yields of 30-36 bags per acre, a growth of more than 300%. This success in an important area of the local and regional economy necessitated the building of the warehouse.

In keeping with Geita Gold Mine’s commitment to procure goods and services locally, Tanzanian-owned Exact line Engineering Company was awarded the construction contract for the warehouse, where more than 30 people were recruited from surrounding villages (Nugwe and Saragulwa) during the construction phase. The warehouse is 95% complete, and is awaiting repair of minor items and scheduled to be handed over by September 15.
“It’s all systems go,” said Mr. Athuman Chande, chief executive officer of Geita-based Exact Line Engineering. “We are on track to complete this work on schedule.”

Consistent with its core value of providing the Geita community with sustainable economic development that outlast mining activity, GGML has a comprehensive programme of direct investment in the local Geita community through a series of projects including water supply, education and economic development activities in the agriculture, construction and service sectors. Since starting production almost two decades ago, GGML has been operating its business with an unwavering commitment to its local patrons and stakeholders. This is set to continue as GGML plans to spend $53 million on community projects over the next 14 years, with local suppliers, contractors and employees all set to benefit.

“We aim to leave a legacy of enduring value for our Geita and Tanzania stakeholders through our direct investments, through the jobs we create, through the export revenue we generate and through the taxes we pay,” said GGML Managing Director, Richard Jordinson. “We are proud of this contribution and will continue to work with all stakeholders to ensure sustained economic development benefit continues to flow from our mining activities.”

In 2015, GGML also started support for Sunflower farming, specifically for the NYABUSAKAMA cooperative society in the Bugulula, Kasota, Nyansalwa, Manga and Nyakabale villages. In the same year, the company extended its support by funding paddy farming in Saragulwa Village, which also falls under NYABUSAKAMA cooperative society.

Ends
Editor’s Note:

About Geita Gold Mine

AngloGold Ashanti’s indirect subsidiaries, Samax Resources Limited and Geita Gold Mining Limited (the subsidiaries) are parties to a Mine Development Agreement (MDA) in relation to the development and operation of the Geita gold mine in Tanzania (Geita Mine), which governs the relationship between the subsidiaries and the Government of Tanzania in relation to Geita Mine.

Geita Gold Mine is a world-class asset in Tanzania, contributing 1% towards the country’s Gross Domestic Product and prioritising communal development and job security. Geita Gold Mine strives to be a responsible corporate citizen that works with the government and all stakeholders, while abiding by the laws and regulations of the country, to meaningfully contribute to a robust Tanzanian economy.
About AngloGold Ashanti
AngloGold Ashanti is one of the most important African investors in Tanzania. AngloGold Ashanti is a Pan-African champion and the largest producer of gold on the continent with operations in Tanzania, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Ghana and South Africa.

For more information visit: www.anglogoldashanti.com