

Meet Ikingo Gombo, the trusted guardian at Geita Gold Mining Limited.

Join us as we explore his story of professional growth and trust-building in accounting.



Travelling by car from Mwanza to Geita takes 3 hours and 32 minutes, covering a distance of 130 kilometres. The mine is located in a protected forest reserve with a beautiful landscape full of wildlife. Marabou storks soar overhead, casting huge shadows, while baboons scamper around with a mischievous glint in their eyes.

A short walk up the stairs to the main reception, as you open the doors it is not hard to miss the large gold embossed sign behind the reception counter that reads “AngloGold Ashanti”, and a warm reassuring smile, which belongs to Ikingo Gombo.

Introduction:

Imagine the thrill of working in an environment where gold is the mainstay, and the responsibility of managing its cash flows lies in your hands. This is the everyday reality for Ikingo Gombo, the Senior Manager, Finance and Supply Chain at Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti. Ikingo’s journey from a fresh graduate to a respected figure in Tanzania’s accounting sector is a testament to his dedication, hard work, and the value of trust-building. In this article, we will delve into Ikingo’s professional life, exploring his unique

journey, the challenges he has faced, and the lessons he has learned along the way.

The Early Days:

Ikingo Gombo’s story begins in 2004, when he graduated from the Institute of Accountancy Arusha with an Advanced Diploma in Accountancy (ADA). His ambition did not stop there; he went on to pursue professional qualification through writing the Certified Public Accountant - Tanzania (CPA(T)) examinations which are examined by the Tanzania National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA), graduating in November 2005. His determination to excel in his field led him to join GGML in 2006, where he started as an Assistant to Management Accountant but was recruited as an Accounts Payables Officer.

Climbing the Ladder:

It has been a journey of steady growth and promotion for Ikingo at GGML. After 10 months, he was promoted to Management Accountant, demonstrating his commitment to learning and professional development. In 2008, he was again promoted to Superintendent, a role that further expanded his responsibilities and expertise and from 2011 to 2019 as the Chief Accountant.

The Defining Moment:

In July 2019, Ikingo’s hard work and dedication paid off when he was appointed as the Senior Manager, Finance following the departure of his predecessor. This promotion was a turning point in his career, as he was now responsible for managing the company’s financial resources and ensuring the integrity of its accounting practices.

The Power of Trust:

Ikingo’s success at GGML can be attributed to his ability to build trust with his colleagues, superiors and business partners. His dedication to his work, honesty and commitment to upholding the company’s values have earned him respect and recognition within the organisation. Emphasising the importance of trust in the workplace, Ikingo says, “Accounting is indeed a job with various challenges, while honesty is the main pillar of the job,” and for Ikingo this situation has built him up to the point where business people want to know who Ikingo Gombo is.

Mentoring the Next Generation:

Beyond his role as Senior Manager, Finance and Supply Chain, Ikingo's influence extends far beyond the company. He is a mentor to many at GGML, inspiring and guiding them to reach their full potential. His leadership style is characterised by mutual respect, discipline and the belief that hard work should speak for itself. He encourages his colleagues to evaluate themselves daily, set goals and strive for continuous growth.

Under Ikingo's tutelage, there are a number of staff who have grown professionally and are doing very well. Ikingo has a keen eye for identifying potential within the team. He skillfully selects individuals for development, a testament to which can be seen across the Finance function. Numerous team members have advanced significantly under his guidance, and many are actively progressing through their training journey.

A Vision for the Future:

Ikingo has outlined a retirement plan that involves investing in various ventures that do not require a significant time commitment or interfere with his work commitments. He also considers angel investing as a potential retirement plan, allowing him to contribute to the growth of the company while still having a defined exit strategy.

Conclusion:

As we celebrate Workers' Month, a time to recognise the contributions of workers in various industries, Ikingo Gombo's story is a tribute to the power of dedication, hard work and building confidence to achieve professional success. His journey from fresh graduate to Senior Manager, Finance and Supply Chain at GGML Ikingo's journey at Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) not only illustrates his personal and professional growth, but also highlights the company's progressive workplace practices that prioritise employee well-being and career development. It is also a source of inspiration to many, demonstrating that with the right attitude and commitment, one can overcome challenges and achieve great heights in one's career. Ikingo's emphasis on the importance of confidence and personal growth serves as a valuable lesson for both aspiring and established professionals in the accounting sector and beyond.

