



UNLOCKING AFRICA'S MINERAL WEALTH

& Alternative Financing
for Exploration

Dr. Steven Blessing Ackah
of Ghana addresses the Global Mining Industry at
**Monaco International
Investment Forum.**

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GHANA
MINING EXPO
FOUNDATION

MONACO
INTERNATIONAL
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FORUM

Monaco International Investment Forum | Yacht Club of Monaco

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Setting the Stage



Africa's Vast
Mineral Resources



Strategic Investment
in Exploration



Inclusive Local
Participation

Ghana's Mineral Opportunity

Ghana, a nation endowed with abundant mineral resources, has long been a key player in the global mining industry.

From gold to bauxite and beyond, the country's rich geological landscape presents a lucrative opportunity for economic growth.

To fully capitalize on these resources, there is a pressing need for strategic investment in exploration activities.

The establishment of an exploration fund under MIIF becomes paramount — to spur economic development, address historical challenges, and ensure inclusive participation.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Ghana's Mining Narrative

#1

Gold Producer
in Africa

#4

Gold Producer
in the World

Centuries of Gold

Ghana's gold resources have fueled its economy for centuries, making mining central to the national economic narrative.

Limited Local Ownership

Despite vast wealth, Ghanaians have historically faced barriers to ownership and benefit-sharing in major mining ventures.

Local Content Imperative

Foreign entities must recognize the critical importance of local content and ensure Ghanaians hold meaningful stakes in the industry.

THE EXPLORATION FUND IMPERATIVE

A \$1 Billion Commitment to Africa's Future

Financial Catalyst

Enables local individuals and entities to actively participate in exploration activities.

Stakeholder Creation

Ghanaians become stakeholders in early-stage mining projects, gaining a direct share of economic benefits.

**\$1B
Needed**

Regulatory Environment

Clear policies, transparent licensing, and strong environmental safeguards attract investors.

Risk & Equity Sharing

Exploration companies prefer to invest in national funds to share risk and equity structures.

LITHIUM RESERVES AROUND THE WORLD

Source: CIC ENERGIGUNE | Key Countries with Identified Lithium Reserves

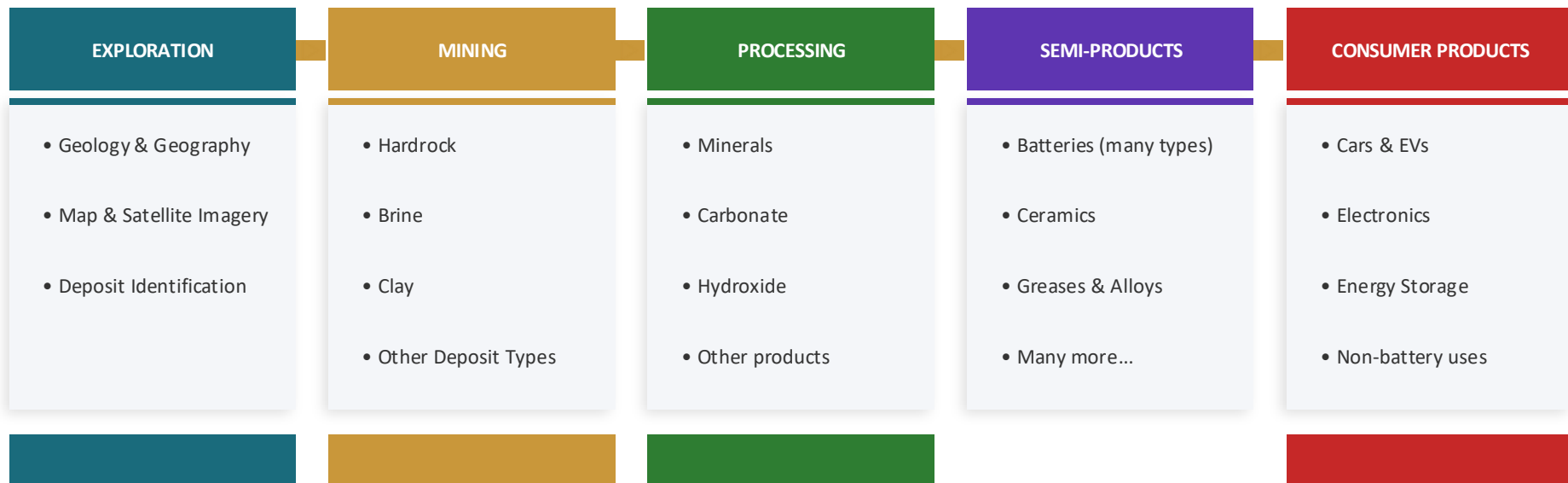


★ Ghana is highlighted as one of Africa's strategic lithium-bearing nations — a key opportunity for continental investment.

Atlantic Lithium has received Ghana's **1st mining lease in 2024** with plans to build the mine by 2025, signaling Ghana's growing prominence in the global lithium sector.

LITHIUM: MINE-TO-MARKET VALUE CHAIN

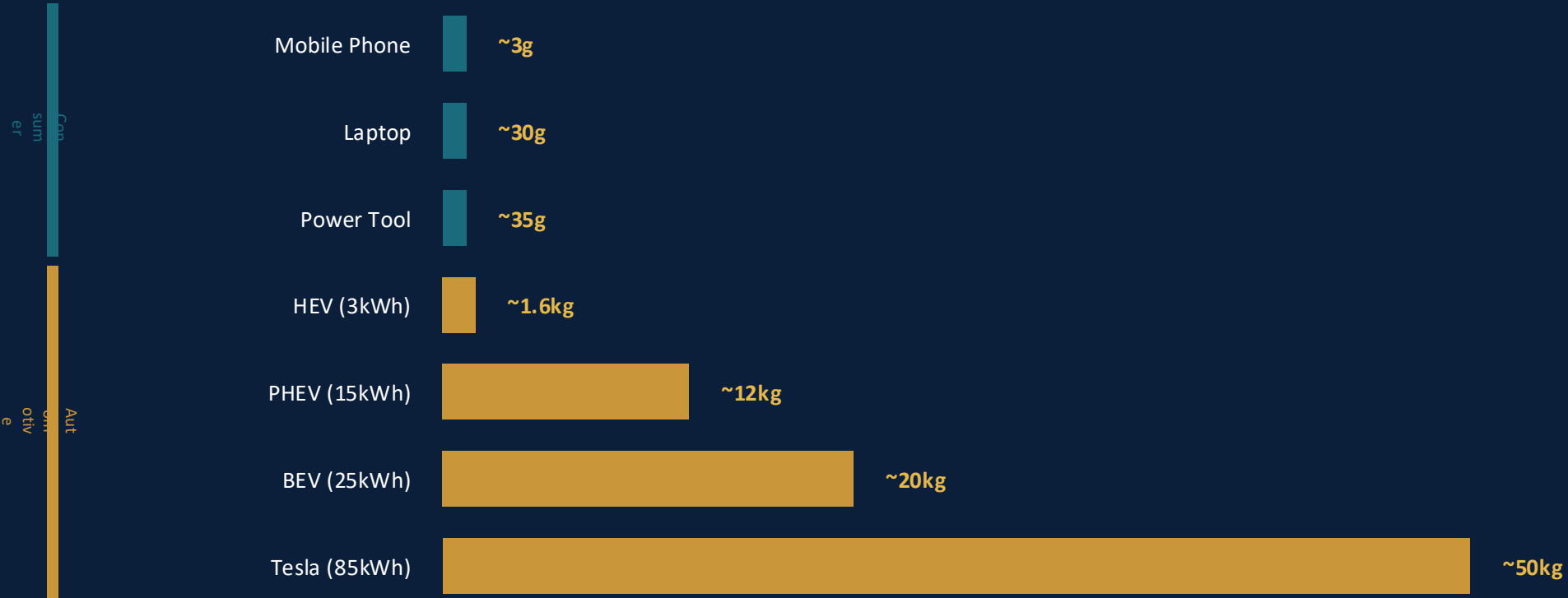
Linking Geology and Economics in the Lithium Industry



◀ GEOGRAPHY DIMENSION ▶

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY: APPLICATION SCALE

LCE (Lithium Carbonate Equivalent) Content by Device — demand is shifting toward automotive



Lithium-ion consumption is in flux — switching from consumer applications to automotive and energy storage.

LITHIUM 2024: PRICING & GLOBAL MARKET DYNAMICS

What's in Store for Lithium 2024?

41x

Projected surge in European lithium demand by 2040, driven by the green energy transition — placing Ghana at the centre of this global shift.

↓ PRICE

Global Glut & Price Pressure

Declining spodumene prices are impacting the industry. Companies explore cost-effective measures including ore prioritisation and temporary operational curtailments.

★ INDUSTRY

Industry Leaders

AKOSDWOMO Mining and U2 SALT/LITHIUM Company unveil ambitious lithium plans for 2024–2030, with strategic partnerships to reshape Ghana's industry landscape.

✦ LEASE

First Mining Lease

Atlantic Lithium collaborates with Government and receives Ghana's first lithium mining lease, with mine development targeted for 2025.

○ GREEN

Green Minerals Strategy

Focus on reducing expenditure and aligning with new green minerals development agreements to build a sustainable long-term industry.

BENEFITS OF AN EXPLORATION FUND

01

Empowering Local Participation

Enables Ghanaians to invest in and own shares of exploration ventures, ensuring economic benefits are broadly distributed.

02

Technology & Skills Transfer

International collaboration facilitates transfer of cutting-edge mining technologies, positioning Ghana as an innovation hub.

03

Risk Mitigation

A carefully managed fund helps mitigate financial and operational risks for more stable, sustainable mining projects.

04

Economic Diversification

Expands the range of tapped minerals, safeguarding against commodity price fluctuations and building resilience.

05

Wealth Redistribution

Redistributes mineral wealth more equitably, mitigating social inequalities and contributing to poverty reduction.

06

Sustainable Development

Supports responsible mining with environmental and social standards, fostering inclusive and sustainable long-term growth.

CHALLENGES IN EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES



Financial Constraints

Exploration is capital-intensive. Many local businesses struggle to secure sufficient funding. An Exploration Fund would alleviate these constraints, enabling geological surveys and prospecting activities crucial for discovering new deposits.

Solution: Exploration Fund provides dedicated capital access.



Technological Gaps

Keeping pace with advancements in exploration technologies is essential. The fund could bridge these gaps through training programs and access to modern exploration tools, keeping Ghana competitive globally.

Solution: Fund-supported technology transfer & training programs.



Environmental & Social Responsibility

Exploration activities must adhere to environmental and social standards. The fund would support responsible mining initiatives, ensuring conservation priorities and respect for local communities.

Solution: Embedded ESG standards in all funded activities.

Each challenge is an opportunity — the Exploration Fund transforms barriers into pathways for inclusive growth.

GLOBAL & ECONOMIC DYNAMICS OF LITHIUM

In Summary: Key Takeaways for Investors & Governments



Rising Demand

Lithium demand is rising fast, driven by a wide range of battery applications — changing supply chain structure and raw material requirements.



Deposit Types

Brine salars and hard rock pegmatites remain dominant production sources; however, emerging sedimentary/clay deposits present new frontiers.



Ghana's Advantage

Spodumene pegmatites in Ghana are among the fastest-growing supply sources; long-term competitiveness depends on successful downstream battery-industry integration.



African 'Lithium Valley'

A 'Western Australian Lithium Valley' model is viable for Africa — leveraging the cluster effect of many minerals businesses, specialists, and students.



Green Challenge

The 'green' association of lithium presents a 'strategic coherence' challenge, impacting exploration decisions, investors, and leadership priorities.



Boom Caution

We are in an unsustainable lithium boom. Long-term industry growth requires structurally lower prices — and therefore structurally lower production costs.

CONCLUSION & CALL TO ACTION

- ✓ Establishing an exploration fund is a pivotal step in unlocking Ghana's full mineral wealth potential.
- ✓ Fostering local participation, mitigating risks, and embracing technology paves the way for inclusive prosperity.
- ✓ Plans are underway to bring 8 African Countries into one of Europe's finest Precious Stone and Exploration Funds.
- ✓ The fund is not merely an economic strategy — it is a commitment to inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development.

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