



ASPASA

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER
2025

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FROM THE ASPASA DIRECTOR'S PEN

Waste Stream - Meeting Outcome

Following our meeting on 23 September 2025, it was agreed to initiate the project with two member mines that have already submitted the required information. The aim is to develop a case study that demonstrates how operational synergies can be effectively achieved.

It is essential to consider the entire waste stream, including by-products such as dust and water, to ensure a comprehensive and sustainable approach.

Letisha van den Berg
ASPASA Director
 **ASPASA**
Small surface mine association



MPBIASA

Minerals Processing & Beneficiation Industries Association of Southern Africa

With over a decade of experience in promoting sustainable industrialization, MPBIASA has been at the forefront of the minerals processing and beneficiation industry, advocating for responsible practices. Our team comprises industry experts who are dedicated to fostering local partnerships and driving innovation that benefits both business and community.

ASPASA met briefly with MPBIASA to determine how we can work together.

I recommended they present to members two of their key services related to min rehabilitation and training and development.

Research participation Small Surface Mines Dr Manie Kriel through Minerals Council of South Africa

I met with Dr Manie Kriel to partake in the research on small scale mining driven by the Minerals Council of South Africa.

There was research conducted in 2019, but multiple factors changed, and new developments created opportunity to redo the research for up-to-date outcomes.



Purpose of the research:

1. Current sector assessment with regards to size, activity level, economic impact
2. Socio-Economic Impact and job creation
3. Growth impediments
4. Funding and investment landscape
5. Developing/Sharing Case studies
6. Doing an international comparison

ASPASA submitted factual information from our Economic report conducted by Quantec as the basis of our input. We also ensured the MQA risk-based approach is submitted to drive a proper risk based approach to classify mines in Type A,B,C or D mines.

The historic DMPR tables was also submitted, and the work Minerals Council did on defining micro, small, medium and large mines.

It was again confirmed that ASPASA member mines fall into micro to small operations. Not one, not even the corporates fall in the medium bracket.

Dr Kriel interviewed 13 CEO's from small to medium mines and four items stood out so far:

- Regulatory challenges
- Financial models for investments
- Criminality – illegal mining
- Community expectations of small budget mines

We look forward to the outcome of the research.

DMPR CloM and Deputy CloM visit

ASPASA presented member mine WIM programmes and industry technologies already adopted and utilised in the small surface mine industry. We could not have done this without the help of members collating information and preparing the presentations. Bareng Mngomezulu assisted in contacting mines through the MHSC WIM Committee to get excellent statistics and programmes across all regions. Rikus Potgieter with Albertina Maluleke and Neil Joubert supported us in obtaining all the relevant technologies utilised in our industry.

We take note of the following information and suggestions from DMPR:

1. DMPR encourage engagement with stakeholders and request ASPASA members to invite DMPR to events to foster a healthy relationship
2. Regional visits must be conducted by ASPASA with each PI
3. Any unhappiness with Inspectorate should be brought to the attention of the Region and then National level
4. MHSC also encourage engagement with stakeholders and request ASPASA members to invite MHSC to events
5. **Health must receive equal attention as Safety matters (ISHE audit statistics to be provided at next engagement)**
6. MHSC Summit milestones are aligned to ASPASA strategy and feedback must be given on progress (ISHE audit statistics provided at next engagement)
7. Dust and Noise over exposures should be managed
8. DMPR is flooded with Blasting complaints, not all mines follow the MHSA in this regard
9. **Contractor management (ISHE audit statistics provided at next engagement including health stats)**
 - a. Are they part of the safety and health programmes
 - b. Do contracts stipulate following Labour Relations Act and Basic Conditions of Employment requirements
 - c. Non Communicable Disease management
10. **Change Management implemented at ASPASA member mines (ISHE Audit statistics provided at next engagement)**
11. Commemoration for those who passed on the Other Commodity sector
12. **Mental health focus (ISHE Audit statistics provided at next engagement)**
13. **ASPASA to indicate compliance towards the COP for WIM PPE and Guidance note on GBVF**
14. **ASPASA to provide WIM statistics on development, promotions and percentage WIM in membership**

15. ASPASA to provide statistics of WIM injuries

16. Technology – research topic to be submitted to MHSC on lithium battery fire suppression

ASPASA is committed in driving positive relationships with all DMPR Inspectorate and drive zero harm in our membership.

We look forward to our next engagement to give feedback on the bolted items. And showcase our statistics from the audit processes.



MHSC – MRAC MOSAC dissemination Road and Rail COP

The dissemination session was attended by the drafting committee and clarity sourced from the specialists in rail and road. It is very important to read the COP in context; the scope defines area of responsibility.

Small surface mines must not overcomplicate the process. Use your TMM COP, Traffic Management procedure and risk assessments and include the additional items where it falls short on access roads.

If you followed the MOSH traffic management process properly you would have covered your access road and external vehicles entering the mine.

If you need assistance, please contact us. We do have a draft COP available to look at. It is still in a rough format but gives you some idea on how to practically pull all relevant information together for implementation.

SANS 1083 Seals and Asphalt

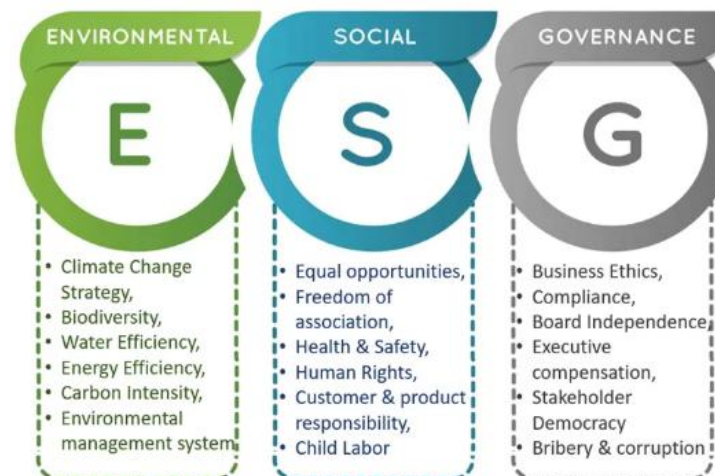
ASPASA engaged with SABITA, SANRAL and other stakeholders on the SANS 1083 Seals and Asphalt products.

We will circulate the document for comments, the next formal session is 21 October 2025.

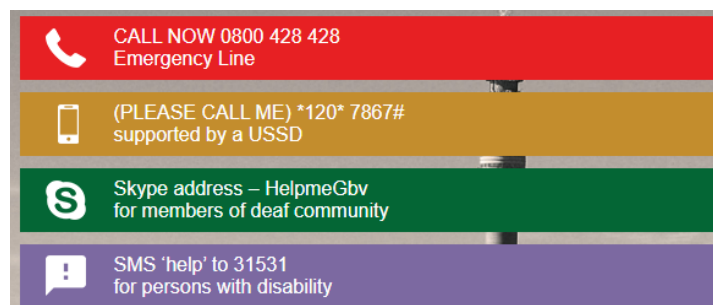
GBV-H Technical workshop

The biggest take away from this technical workshop is that one must look at GBV-H holistically.

The Constitution of South Africa, MSHA Employer and Employee duties and the ESG principles



There is a legal obligation whether the GBFV happened outside the workplace. The case law presented was very clear on the matter. Late reporting of such events must be considered and investigated; it cannot be ignored. Who performs criminal backgrounds on possible perpetrators?



CEO hour of learning



ASPASA member Afrisam was asked to present at the Minerals Council of South Africa Board hour of learning meeting on 1 September 2025.

Vernon Brown presented Afrisam's Safety Statistics and their controls. We need to voice our industry on these platforms as our hazards and risks are very different to the larger mines in relation to what causes fatalities. Brilliant work Afrisam, guiding the CEO's of the large mines on our industry safety drives.

Technical



Barry Pearce

The commentary from ASPASA is now complete & a meeting has been set up for 21st Oct with the bituminous materials committee to put together both committees' inputs into a draft doc for submission to SABS.

Ongoing issues are being raised related to COTO. The commentary has been compiled based input from ASPASA members who attended the various workshops led by Ronnie Koen.

These comments will be reviewed at a meeting to be planned for the end of 2025 with Ronnie to compile the input on behalf of ASPASA.

No quality assessments have been held in the 2nd half of 2025. Still not getting satisfactory traction on this quality initiative with ASPASA members.

The ballast specifications are in the final stages of being prepared for discussion with the working committee. A meeting is planned for 27th Oct'25.

The submission of the revised FI method has been finalized with SABS & is in process. No other ASPASA relevant SANS methods have been published since the last newsletter.

The NLA-SA Testing & Measurement Conference was held on 15-17 Sept at CSIR conference center in Pretoria.

The feedback on the material testing training videos is still outstanding & feedback will be provided on the way forward once the feedback has been received & reviewed.

Road Pavement Forum Save the date 26 November 2025

Barry Pearce: barry@learningmattersetc.co.za

KZN visits Afrimat Ridgeview, Afrisam Verulam, Afrisam Coedmore, Afrimat Tongaat, Minrite, WIM event, Minrite

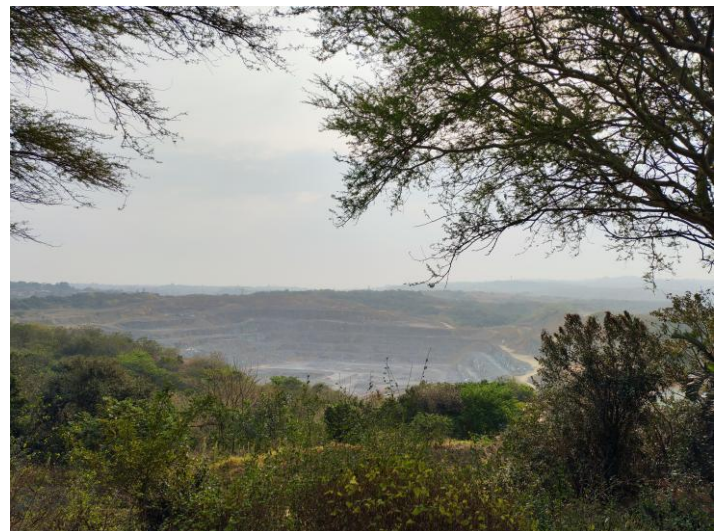
I was invited to speak at the KZN WIM event and decided to make it an economical trip and visit a few more KZN mines while in the area.

Afrimat Ridgeview



The GM Pieter Gruve took me for a quick drive through the two pits and the plant, it was clear he understood every challenge and opportunity of his operation.

He left the viewpoint for last and I know why, it is really a perfect overall quarry and plant view. I also spent a short while with Emmanuel Abraham the 3.1(a) Manager to touch base on how ASPASA can improve our services.



The realisation of the benefit of the ISHE and Environmental Compliance Audits was a definite positive with each interaction.

We will focus a bit more on how to manage Section 54 and 55 processes.

Afrisam Verulam



Nkomkosi Mtembu is the 3.1(a) at Verulam Quarry, with my visit she called her team together for us to discuss the ASPASA services and I gave them a run through of what is new in health and safety. I had to see Baldwin Ngubane, he was the Primary Plant Operator, Shop steward and H&S Representative at the time I worked there.

He gave me such a hard time by refusing to translate safety talks and actions on pre-start check lists. What he did develop in me is different ways to approach safety at operations. Winning the hearts and minds of different cultures, listening to obstructive attitudes – what is really behind it.

I also saw the late Glyn Lewis's dream come true, the old and new quarries connected. The geology is very interesting and as a young rock engineer, this is a pit to get slope stability training at. The variety is just amazing and challenging.



Afrisam Coedmore



Lloyd Maringa is the 3.1(a) Manager at Coedmore Quarry and what is beautiful about his story is, that he started as an Engineering Intern at Afrisam when I was Construction Materials H&S Manager. To see the youth develop in great leaders and industry lovers is fantastic.

In that very quarry pit, I did my first few blast charges and still utilise scrambler bikes. We had fun and worked hard.

The late Hendry Terblanche taught me what I know of blasting today. Standing at the view point we missed the breakfast braais early morning at the top of the pit watching the sunrise.

It was amazing to see the pit expanded so much, one unique pit below sea level.



Afrimat Tongaat

As I drove off the tar road onto the gravel road you drive between sugar cane fields. A gentle reminder of where our food supply comes from, agriculture and mining living in unity. But what I also noticed the devastating damage the tornado did on 4 June 2024.

A day Simphiwe Mngomezulu the 3.1(a) Manager remembers vividly. And I quote: "No one can prepare you on what to do when a tornado hits your plant" A Day of the grace of God or whoever you belief in from a religious point of few.



The tornado hit the plant at 16:20, the employees clocked out at 16:00. The Security and Diesel Mechanic called Simphiwe reporting the approach of a storm they have never seen before.

He instructed them to stay in the security hut and the Diesel Mechanic to remain in his car. The storm did not touch the security hut or the vehicle, you can still see the emotion of thanks and disbelief on his face when he tells the story.

When we drove through the plant and quarry the storm damage is still visible everywhere in nature, but it is amazing to see nature fixing itself.

Before the mine attended to their own devastation, they first assisted the community with basic needs and clean up.

The moral of this story is: do you know the different storms, what they look like when they approach and the best action to take?

Take some time to do this because climate change is not predictable. Never say it will not happen at your operation.

KZN WIM Event

Zamangwane Zikode is the KZN WIM Chairperson and put together an unforgettable WIM programme. Covering GBVF guidance note, MHSC milestone reporting, Mental health, WIM motivation and DMPR WIM encouragement. It was a beautiful event, and I hope the women attending took something back and implemented it at their operations.

The MC was fantastic keeping us on our toes and the best icebreaker session was the poems created on the spot. We will share this soon.



Looking forward to future events.

Junior Exploration Leadership Forum

RMA is now ready to roll out their prevention programme to small mines, Jessica Hutchings presented to framework. They are now looking for pilot mines, we briefly met after the session to see how ASPASA members can get involved.

MPRDA comments from Minerals Council of South Africa was also submitted and it did include some of our comments. This assists in broadening our voice with the legislators.

Greenhouse Carbon Tax Budget and Implementation plan input session



Thank you to Justin Dell from Idwala making another complex law understandable, also thank you to those who dialled in to understand the implication and confirm that we are addressing the pertinent items.

We are ready to submit ASPASA input, we distributed it one final time to members to ensure we did not miss important information. The final comment process is due 29 September 2025.

MHSC dissemination Change Management

Amos Mphephu presented the core principles of change management. The document is not prescriptive in what methodology is utilised at the mine.

The important process is to determine where you are in relation to change management maturity and start the process from the maturity level. The maturity matrix is included in the presentation we distributed after the session.

A key item is to ensure all levels are trained in change management principals at the required level. It does start with leadership at CEO or mine owner level incorporating the process into the business strategy.

A person must be assigned to lead the process at the operation to manage the implementation and maintain the process

Minrite

Jurgens Du Toit works at Minrite, a company exporting minerals. I popped in to see where the operation is.

A very neat setup with very little space but excellent traffic management and stacking and stirring of the product.

Always great catching up with a previous Quarry Manager staying close to the changes in industry and to see where and how some of the small surface mine products end up.



Social Compliance

Mpogeng Nkgadima assisted with the Committee and covered the following issues:

- DMPR audit preparation for SLP and Mining Charter

The document will be circulated to final input and updates before formalising as leading practice



- Raizcorp presented on practical community engagements and challenges with projects. The main challenge is the small surface mines are budget constraints and community needs



- Mintek presented on SMME opportunities within the Mintek portfolio



- MPRDA Section 52 and LRA Section 189 which comes first



We await RMA to inform us where we can start the prevention programme, we are very excited about this initiative to support small mines with resource. This will be for RMA members only, if you are not RMA yet, please reach out to consider the benefits.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

1–31 October 2025 - Global



October marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month — a time to raise awareness, honour those affected, and strengthen our commitment to equitable care and improved outcomes.

Every diagnosis carries a unique story of strength and hope. Breast cancer impacts individuals and families in diverse ways, and every journey deserves empathy, dignity, and support. October highlights the importance of inclusive, timely, and quality care for all, regardless of location or background.

Important Actions:

- **Early Detection:** Encourage awareness of symptoms and prompt medical attention.
- **Timely Diagnosis:** Promote accessible and efficient diagnostic services.
- **Comprehensive Treatment:** Advocate for quality care for all patients.

What we want to achieve:

- Increase awareness and encourage early detection.
- Advocate for better access to care.
- Honour those with lived experiences.

Results we want:

1. Promote health education, early detection, and timely diagnosis linked to effective treatment.
2. Build partnerships across sectors to enhance impact.
3. Support equal access to quality healthcare services.

NATIONAL SUPPORT NUMBER

0860 283 343

THE BREAST HEALTH FOUNDATION OFFICES

Netcare Rehabilitation Centre
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Auckland Park, Johannesburg,
2006, South Africa

BREAST CLINICS

Eastern Cape

Free State

Gauteng

KwaZulu-Natal

Western Cape

Cancer so limited...

It cannot cripple LOVE
It cannot shatter HOPE
It cannot corrode FAITH
It cannot destroy PEACE
It cannot kill FRIENDSHIP
It cannot suppress MEMORIES
It cannot silence COURAGE
It cannot invade the SOUL
It cannot steal eternal LIFE
It cannot conquer the SPIRIT
- Anonymous



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Liaising with Government and Industry bodies, to be the voice for small scale mining. Support small scale mines with relevant information and legal updates. Supporting the supply chain of small-scale mining by meetings, introductions to members and logo/brand visibility.

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