



# International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits

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## IUGS-IAGOD SPONSORED WORKSHOP: AFRICAN ORE GENESIS RESEARCH NETWORK IN NAIROBI, KENYA

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025, IAGOD sponsored the “*African Ore Genesis Research Networks: Building Pan-African Collaboration*” workshop at the 30th Colloquium of African Geology (CAG 30) in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop was convened by Dr. Christine Omuombo (Technical University of Kenya) and brought together academics, postgraduate students, and early-career researchers from across Africa to share insights on regional metallogeny and establish frameworks for future cooperation. The workshop facilitated knowledge exchange across the African geological provinces through three key sessions: Research Landscape Mapping, Synergy Discovery, and Collaboration Framework Development.

### Session 1: Research Landscape Mapping

The workshop opened with a comprehensive overview of East African ore occurrences by Prof. Daniel Ichang'i (retired professor, Kenya). He emphasized Africa's emerging potential despite historically being overlooked as a major mining area. He identified the critical success factors including adequate policy formulation, facilitative governance, proper exploration planning, and cross-sector networking.



Dr. Christine Omuombo introducing the IAGOD Pan-African Ore Genesis Research Network workshop outlining objectives for building sustainable collaborations across African Institutions.

Dr. Lenka Baratoux (research scientist, IRD-France) presented findings from the West African eXploration Initiative (WAXI - <https://waxi4.org/>). Her presentation on copper-gold deposits in the West African Craton correlated mineralization types and episodes across multiple countries: volcanic arc-related copper mineralization in Burkina Faso (2140–2100 Ma), polyphase volcanic-hosted gold mineralization in Ghana (2191–2158 Ma), and granite-related gold deposits in Mali (2070–2050 Ma). These findings demonstrate the complex orogenic history and mineral endowment of the West African region.

Dr. Abner Ngoongoloka (Geological Survey of Namibia) explored sediment-hosted copper deposits in Namibia. The main subject of his recently concluded PhD research on the Omatapati and Epunguwe prospects revealed stratiform syngenetic-diagenetic Cu-Co±Au mineralization overprinted by epigenetic Cu-Ag veins and supergene enrichment. The work highlighted important similarities to the Damara and Katanga supergroups, suggesting a westward extension of the African Copperbelt into the Kaoko Belt of Namibia.



Workshop participants from across Africa at the IAGOD-IUGS sponsored workshop on Pan-African Ore Genesis Research Networks.

Mr. Martin Nyakinye (State Department for Mining, Kenya) presented research on the Kamwango gold prospect in Kenya's 2.8–2.7 Ga Rongo Greenstone Belt in the Tanzania Craton. Gold mineralization took place in shear zones, quartz veins, and sulfide replacements in banded iron formations, showing similarities to major deposits at Geita and Kilimapesa.

### Session 2: Synergy Discovery

Interactive sessions allowed participants to identify complementary expertise and develop research interests across institutions and countries. Discussions revealed significant opportunities for collaborative projects on the common challenges in African ore genesis research.

### Session 3: Collaboration Framework Development

The workshop concluded with the development of strategies for sustained collaboration. Key recommendations were (i) establishing research teams with complementary expertise across African regions, (ii) holding regular inter-institutional meetings, (iii) creating African laboratory facilities, (iv) developing industry-student partnerships for project financing, (v) establishing regional geological survey facilities and sample repositories, and (vi) implementing standardized data management protocols with provisions for public data sharing.

The workshop led to a new Pan-African Ore Genesis Network with regular virtual meetings and an annual in-person symposium, pursuing funding opportunities through international agencies and industry partnerships to support collaborative projects, student exchanges, and working with national geological surveys to improve data accessibility and laboratory infrastructure. IAGOD welcomes continued engagement with the African geological community and looks forward to supporting future research initiatives in the region.

**Christine A. Omuombo and Lorna N. Chege**  
The Technical University of Kenya &  
State Department for Mining (Kenya)

