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Geoscience Data in Africa – Lesotho

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Geoscience data dissemination remains to be a limitation towards the mineral infrastructure development and growth in African States. A system should be introduced to enhance administrative, exploration and mining activities as to create productive interactive platform between the Ministry of Mining and Public as a whole.

Data availability and accessibility in African states have proved to be outdated, in non-digital format and inappropriately organised. Mineral Resource management without proper facilitation tools and technologically advanced software systems have resulted in indistinct geoscientific information which has resulted in minimal progress in the quest to probe investment in the mining and minerals exploration sector.

The system should aim at proper management and dissemination of geological information and mineral data production information. Administrative components which includes mineral rights acquisition (exploration, prospecting and mining rights) and monitoring of Environmental surface rights. Regulatory frameworks such as Mines and Minerals Act, Environmental Act, Mineral rights guidelines will be introduced into the system to give accessibility and transparency of information to interested parties.

Fundamental benefits to be obtained from such a system will include efficient revenue collection, compliance of mining companies with legislation, platform for public to extract mining law and regulations, validation of applications and renewals, and investor confidence.