



CONSERVATION GEMSTONES: CREATIVELY OVERCOMING THE CHALLENGE OF ARTISNAL MINING IN PROTECTED AREAS?

Saleem H. Ali

Director and Professor, Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining,
University of Queensland, Australia

Adjunct Professor, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural
Resources, University of Vermont, USA

Idea Collaborators: Laurent Cartier and Vincent Pardieu

E: saleem@alum.mit.edu
 [@saleem_ali](https://twitter.com/saleem_ali)

The Challenge



GEMSTONES – CHALLENGING BEAUTY

INFORMAL

LARGE LIVELIHOOD FOOTPRINT

COMPLEX SUPPLY NETWORK



WHAT % of GEMSTONES SOLD IN A YEAR ARE MINED AND SOLD FOR THE FIRST TIME?

~2% (Estimates from GIA, Asia)



THE SAD STORY OF TSAVORITE



ORIGIN MATTERS

AND CHEMICALLY
TRACEABLE TO ORIGIN



RESTORATION IS POSSIBLE



ENDURANCE WITHOUT END



A \$10-15 billion annual sales market – Even a 0.1% voluntary levy for conservation could raise up to millions!

