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Adelaide Ruiters Mining And Exploration (Pty) Ltd
Transforming Mining



Interview with Adelaide Ruiters CEO and Founder of Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration (PTY Ltd, also known as ARME. ARME is developing the Zandheuveld Phosphate Mine and Beneficiation Plant in Saldanha Bay Western Cape, the world's only women owned Phosphate mine(and the first) and I'm hoping to inspire other women to go into mining and Phosphates as well.





INSPIRATIONAL WOMAN IN MINING



Adelaide Ruiters & Phuluso Nkhumeleni

How long have you been running the company?

I have a very interesting story, I established the company in 2013 "Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd" At that time I was already awarded a prospecting right in my personal capacity which I have not obtained through a company, but on my Identity document. I'm also the first person in South Africa who have obtained prospecting rights on an identity document and not through a company. There were however individuals, who obtained Mining Permits on the ID's before me.

If you look at my journey, where I started with minimal resources to where I am today, being the owner and the founder of the world's first women owned Phosphate Mining company, my tenacity and my perseverance is drawn from our government's ability to create an enabling set of legislation to empower women so that we can have a choice and we can become whatever we want in the mining sector. I give my gratitude to The DMR – Department of Minerals & Energy for believing in us as women. Furthermore,

I obtained old drilling records pertaining to my phosphate project from the Council for Geoscience, and this information enabled me to save millions in terms of my exploration costs. The Council for Geoscience has a wealth of information available relating to mineral deposits, and I hope, I am able to inspire other women to go there and look for such deposits, especially industrial minerals.

I've built an international presence as a woman in mining and was asked to speak various international platforms amongst others recently, The London Geological Society where I presented on diversity and mining in South Africa. I was intrigued by the absence of legislative and policies aimed to regulate the development of women in senior positions and representations on board level in other international jurisdictions. I then realised that South Africa has the best policies to empower women and I'm proud to be a woman in mining here in South Africa.

Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration was build through **HARD** work, through **Difficulties** and we faced many **CHALLENGES** in the process. Finance has been the most difficult challenge, but I'm also grateful to have a professional team working with me, the likes of Ms Phuluso Nkhumeleni, who graduated from Wits University with a BSc in Geology and an Environment degree. She is the product of the Department of Minerals Resources and sponsored by Anglo American to complete her studies. She is currently doing Geology, Environmental, Technical Administration, Document Control, Finances, contractual and legal agreements in her position at ARME. I am exposing her to every aspect of running a mining company, says Adelaide, and Phuluso is loving it. "My ultimate goal is to eventually mentor a group of young women and assist them through life challenging times specifically in the mining sector" says Adelaide



Adelaide Ruiters





I would like to acknowledge the work and the contribution of the Industrial Development Corporation (The)IDC in my journey not forgetting Anglo Sefa Mining Fund who played a positive role in my business to date. I just recently successfully completed a Due Dilligence by the IDC whereby the IDC approved to acquire 25% equity in ARME to further develop my mining project. Since 2012, even before my prospecting right was granted, the IDC through Mr Kevin Hodggers provided me with the much needed advice on how to successfully develop a project that would ultimately qualify for funding at the IDC. The Anglo Sefa Mining Fund provided me with my seed capital in 2016 to successfully complete my Exploration phase . From 2013 to date, two individuals Mr Jan van der Merve and Dr Gert van der Linde has played a key role to enable me successfully develop my project so that it could successfully be considered by Anglo Sefa Mining Fund for funding.

Another highlight on my journey was, I was asked to be the keynote speaker at a International women's day event in Addis Ababa at the Africa Union. Being the only woman owned Phosphate mine in the world has taught me the values of embracing change and maintaining a professional image in this male dominant sector. I owe my success to people who believe and work with me throughout my challenging times

I do have a highly competent professional team. Vbkom are my project managers (Mine Engineers and Geologists) Exigo are responsible for my environmental management, and GEOSS are my Water Engineers. I also work with AZMET (Process Engineers) and Maelgwyn(Metallurgists.



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Transformation as the key driver for success in the mining sector.

It's a challenge to own a mine as woman, you face many challenges and discrimination based on your gender. Not to mention in the Fertilizer Industry. I have learned the art of communicating with my male counterpart. I have grown and able to translate negatives into positive and managed to create a good business relationships throughout my journey.

Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd (ARME) is a 66 Black Women Owned Mining and Exploration Company focusing on the Exploration, Mining and Beneficiation of sedimentary Phosphates and Limestone in the Saldanha Bay Area, Western Cape. The company will be producing a Direct Application Fertilizer for the Agriculture Industry

ARME is currently conducting a Bankable Feasibility Study for its Zandheuvel Sedimentary Phosphate Mine and Beneficiation plant on the farms Zandheuvel 126, a certain portion of Zandheuvel 124, Witteklip 123 Portion 61 and Yzervarkensrug 127 Portion 2 in Saldanha Bay

