Ghana is the second-largest gold producer in Africa. While it also produces bauxite and manganese, the gold industry contributes more than 90 percent of total mineral revenues. The extractive sector accounted for 56 percent of exports in 2011, up from 12 percent in 2010 due to oil discoveries. However, its overall contribution to state revenues is relatively small, leading the government to reform the mining fiscal regime in 2011.

Oil production began in 2011. Oil revenues are projected to surpass mining receipts in the near future, but it is too soon to assess transparency in the oil industry. Ghana’s RGI scores apply only to the mining sector.

Ghana’s Performance on the RGI

Ghana received a “partial” score of 63, ranking 15th out of 58 countries. It scored particularly well on the Institutional & Legal Setting and Safeguards & Quality Controls components.

Institutional and Legal Setting
(Rank: 12th/58, Score: 79/100)

Ghana earned a “satisfactory” score of 79, the product of substantial disclosure policies and an evolving legal framework.

In 2012 the Ministry of Minerals, Lands and Natural Reserves announced reforms to introduce competitive auctions for mineral licenses. Environmental impact assessments are required prior to licensing, but the results are confidential.

Safeguards and Quality Controls
(Rank: 13th/58, Score: 73/100)

Ghana received a “satisfactory” score of 73, the product of substantive anti-corruption policies but a lack of assertive govern-
Inadequate resources mean that legislators rarely fulfill the requirement to ratify all mining contracts. Members of parliament from the ruling party are often appointed to the boards of mining companies, giving legislators a personal stake in the industry despite laws prohibiting conflicts of interest.

The Ghana Audit Office reviews government agencies’ financial statements and reports to parliament, but audit mechanisms are weak and no reports specific to extractive revenues are published.

**Enabling Environment**
(Rank: 13th/58, Score: 59/100)

Ghana received a "partial" score of 59, reflecting less-than-satisfactory rankings on measurements of government accountability, transparency, and the rule of law.

**Subnational Transfers**
(Rank: 11th/30, Score: 69/100)

The central government transfers resource revenue to local authorities, but only after merging them with other revenues in a Common Fund for Local Authorities. Information on distributions from the common fund is published in local government budgets, available by request from local governments or the Interior Ministry. However, the rules that determine the allocations are not available.