

The Harvest and Adyabo Projects of Northern Ethiopia; Exploration, discovery, resources

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The Harvest and Adyabo Projects are located in the southwestern section of the Neoproterozoic Arabian Nubian Shield of Ethiopia. This section of the shield comprises north northeast trending structural blocks that, in the project area, includes predominantly greenschist facies metavolcanic and metasedimentary assemblages. With deposits such as Bisha, Hassai, and Sukari present in this region of the shield, the favourable implied prospectivity, combined with rapidly improving infrastructure in Ethiopia, create a strong incentive for exploration.

Requirements at Harvest and Adyabo mandated that completion of exploration work and resource definition were needed in order to retain the ground and move forward to mine licencing within six and five year periods respectively. Gold, copper, silver, +/- zinc resources have now been delineated at each project. Both projects initially presented with a large number of surficial targets needing qualification and prioritization. The wide array of targets developed through initial review and prospecting required a mechanism for rapid assessment and a zeroing in mechanism. Through systematic assessment using geology, geochemistry, and geophysics, model-driven key target areas were identified and advanced. The cost/time effective utilization of such tools as field Niton pXRF soil sampling aided greatly in advancing work by creating a vast spatial dataset for vectoring to mineralization and target generation.

Successive exploration campaigns, with sufficient time for requisite review, helped establish that prospective precious metal rich VMS and orogenic gold target areas were present for further on-ground assessment, and eventual resource delineation, at both projects. Continued prospectivity remains as funding limitations necessitated the drilling out of core footprint resources in a tight timeframe, leaving abundant room for expansion work in all deposit areas. Additional targets remain for further assessment.