

Global Diamond Output to Drop This Year – Analyst

2018/2/6

Source: Rough & Polished

An independent diamond analyst Paul Zimnisky said that global natural diamond production is projected to decrease this year, both in volume and value terms.

He told a mining conference in Cape Town that production by volume was expected to marginally drop by 2 percent to 146 million carats in 2018.

Global natural diamond output for 2017 had been projected to rise by 7 percent in volume to 148 million carats.

Zimnisky also estimated that output to fall by 4 percent in value to \$15 billion during the same period under consideration.

He said major miners continue to be expected to curtail supply to market if necessary to restore supply/demand balance.

Zimnisky also said that global polished diamond demand was projected to grow by about 4 percent to \$27 billion, while global demand for diamond jewellery was seen at \$83 billion this year.

Diamond prices, he said, were now driven more by market forces, resulting in increased volatility, he said, adding that price volatility had made for more challenging operating environment for mid-stream segment.

