

**EXPLORATION MODELS:  
YOU CAN FLIRT WITH A MODEL ... YOU SHOULDN'T MARRY ONE**

Ken Maiden  
SMEDG  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**ABSTRACT**

Models, both conceptual and empirical, are used to generate exploration targets and develop exploration programs. But if the selected models are wrong or too limited, exploration programs are likely to be ineffective.

The Kalahari Copperbelt of central Namibia has copper occurrences and prospects over hundreds of kilometres of strike. But exploration over many years has failed to result in a single significant copper discovery. Is this because the deposits are not there? Or has the problem been the exploration models?