



Extractives and Development Newsletter



Information on current topics and trends in the extractives sector
A service of GIZ project Extractives and Development

Dear readers,



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Welcome to the English issue of our extractives newsletter!

With our newsletter, the GIZ Sector Programme Extractives and Development sends you a selection of articles and links that may be of interest to you. We would like to inform you about key developments in the sector and draw your attention to new findings. If you find additional topics interesting or have event information for us, please do not hesitate to let us know so that we can include them in our newsletter!

Sincerely,
Your GIZ Sector Programme Extractives and Development

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- » 62nd EITI Board Meeting

DID YOU KNOW...?



IEA Publication - Recycling of Critical Minerals



Recycling of Critical Minerals

Strategies to scale up recycling and urban mining
A World Energy Outlook Special Report



© IEA

The International Energy Agency (IEA) published a report about the importance of recycling of critical minerals in November 2024. According to the report, recycling was indispensable to the security and sustainability of critical minerals supply for clean energy transitions. It reduces reliance on new mines and enhances supply security for countries importing minerals. Moreover, it emphasises the value-added in environmental terms, as it prevents waste from end-use technologies ending up in landfills, as well as mitigating the environmental risks of new mines. However, the report finds the insufficient use of recycled materials so far. IEA calls for policy incentives to increase investments in raw materials recycling globally.

Germany addresses biodiversity decline with a new National Strategy

The German cabinet has adopted the National Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (NBS) to counteract the overall decline in biodiversity. It builds on the 2007 National Strategy for Biological Diversity, aligning with the global [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) and the [EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030](#). The NBS foresees a two-phase approach to achieve 64 goals across 21 fields, including urban nature, climate change, renewable energy expansion, and health. Key measures include designating protected areas; enhancing habitat connectivity; reducing daily land use increase; developing soil biodiversity monitoring; increasing areas of natural, structured, and climate-resilient forests; and the reduction of primary raw materials extraction.

[Access the NBS \(German\)](#)

ASGM in South Africa: Formalisation as a path to enforcing standards and decent work

As part of its Sustainable Global Supply Chains Report 2024, the Research Network Sustainable Global Supply Chains published a chapter exploring the challenges to decent work in South Africa's artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. It raises awareness of the risks of organized illicit mining due to inadequate closure of old mines, ranging from environmental damage, health implications and corruption. According to South African official data, the informal economy is estimated to cost the country around 1 billion EUR in formal revenue annually. While highlighting the disparity between public due-diligence standards and the lived realities of the workers, the chapter calls for capacity-building programmes focused on the promotion of best practices, health and safety training, and knowledge transfer. Moreover, it directs responsibility to consumer countries to support the formalisation of the sector, particularly considering the potential increase in ASM activity around critical minerals.

[Access the full report](#)[Read the chapter](#)

A joint European raw materials agency? - A study of IGBCE

Supply security of critical raw materials for the energy and mobility transition becomes increasingly important on the national and EU level. After having adopted the EU Critical Raw Materials Act in 2024, debates propose the establishment of a European network of all member states' agencies concerned with raw materials or a European raw material agency itself. The study of the Industrial Union of Mining, Chemistry, and Energy (IGBCE) explores the opportunities and challenges of a joint raw material agency. Therefore, the agency could be responsible for data management of ESG due diligence and the coordination of raw material activities within the EU. Moreover, it could take on operational tasks such as investment and circular economy management, as well as offer support in procurement and stockpiling management or research and development (R&D) activities. Although IGBCE foresees long-term advantages for European supply security, it notes challenges in the administration and financing of such agency that need to be clarified. Moreover, one of the main challenges would be the inclusion of all stakeholders in decision-making processes, having to accommodate several contrary interests on the matters discussed. Hence, IGBCE proposes a multistakeholder advisory board within the agency.

Rohstoffe für Europas Zukunft

Gestaltung einer EU-Rohstoffagentur



© Foundation for Labour and Environment of the Trade Union IGBCE

[Access the study \(German\)](#)



New Publication: "Synergies between Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) and Mineral Sector Governance"



Voluntary sustainability standards are playing an increasingly important role in the extractive sector. The exchange with partner countries shows that cooperation between standards and local authorities can be beneficial for resource governance on the ground. The analysis 'Synergies between Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) and Mineral Sector Governance' is dedicated to questions relating to these possible mutual benefits.

The central question is how companies, state actors and voluntary sustainability standards can benefit from closer cooperation in order to more effectively address risks in the extraction of raw materials.

The study was commissioned by the GIZ sector programme Extractives and Development and conducted by Levin Sources. The publication was officially announced by Levin Sources' CEO and Founder Estelle Levin-Nally on 4 February 2025 at the Mining Indaba in Johannesburg, South Africa, while debating on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles in critical mineral supply chains.

[Access the study](#)

AMLA celebrates 10th anniversary

The World Bank established an initiative called African Mining Legislation Atlas (AMLA) in 2014 to help countries across the African continent establish skilled local capacity in the extractives sector and make sure that their mining operations are built on sound legislative frameworks. These efforts aim at ensuring that the mining activities and revenues can ultimately lead to growth and shared prosperity across the continent. Since 2014, the AMLA Workshop has provided training in mining laws and regulations to over 280 young lawyers from all five regions of Africa. This year's workshop took place at the University of Pretoria from December 1-9, 2024, and recorded 100 participants, including law students from 17 countries and 26 universities (of which 53% were women), program alumni, academic institution representatives, law firms, and mining companies.

[More information](#)

[AMLA Website](#)

Updates from D-EITI

D-EITI payment reconciliation pilot becomes EITI standard procedure

The process of the risk-based quality assurance of payment flows in the extractive sector, which was piloted by D-EITI in 2020 and has been successfully implemented ever since, has gained international attention: In October 2024, it was introduced by the EITI Board as a new standard procedure for EITI-implementing countries. In this regard, D-EITI has made significant contributions to the further development and strengthening of the EITI as a global transparency initiative.

[More information](#)

D-EITI reporting on time

At the end of 2024, the German Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) has published all mandatory EITI reporting content and data on the extractive sector in Germany on the D-EITI reporting portal (www.rohstofftransparenz.de) on time, following the approach of systematic disclosure.

D-EITI fosters international interest

In 2024, the German MSG strengthened the exchange with international EITI colleagues: At the beginning of the year, D-EITI welcomed representatives of the Dutch MSG to Berlin for a joint exchange among MSG members. In October, representatives of the civil society and private sector

from the British and German MSGs met to exchange ideas and experience on renewable energy reporting.

More information



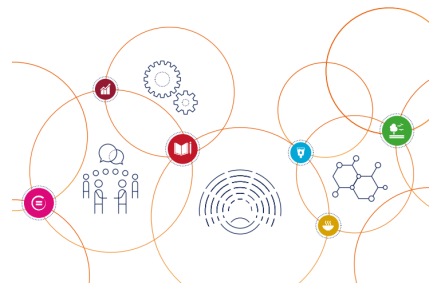
New Publication: Gender Equality in Multi-Stakeholder-Partnerships

Partnerships thrive on diversity and equal cooperation. But how can multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) promote gender equality – especially in times of polarizing discourses and political instability? The new guidance note from Partnerships2030 and the Sector Programme on Extractives and Development “Gender Equality in Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships” offers key insights.

This publication identifies typical challenges in implementing gender equality and provides crucial guidance for the successful implementation of measures for each phase of an MSP. Various examples by MSPs show how these measures can be put into practice, one being the Women’s Rights and Mining MSP, which is supported by the Sector Programme.

Partnerships
2030
The Platform for
Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships

In Focus:
Gender Equality in Multi-Stakeholder
Partnerships (MSPs)



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Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

[Read the full guidance note](#)

Inclusion of Women in the Mining Sector: Challenges and Opportunities Through Education

A recently published article by Castañeda-Burciaga et al., published in the Special Issue Gender and STEM Education, illuminates the challenges and opportunities through education for women in the mining sector: Several efforts have been and are being made at the international level to encourage girls to become leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). However, progress in equality is still slow, especially in masculinized work contexts such as mining. Women remain to face several limitations due to from personal, family, social or labor aspects. These results stem from an academic article published in January 2025.

The study used a sample of more than 50 companies distributed throughout the Mexican Republic, with a total of 316 female workers in the mining sector, of whom the majority holds a professional degree. This indicates that access to this sector is primarily possible through a bachelor's or graduate degree. The study also concludes that the women's perception of how their work in mining impacts the aspects above is directly correlated with their educational level. Therefore, the authors call for a more inclusive education, which promotes the active participation of women and allows them to develop professionally just as much as their male counterparts.

[Access the full article](#)



European and Latin American Counterparts Discuss ways to Strengthen the Collaboration to Promote Responsible Mineral Value Chains Benefitting Both Regions



© Simon Pugh Photography

GIZ co-organised a side-event at the Raw Materials Week in Brussels on the 12th of December. The event entitled “Raw Materials for a Just Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean” highlighted Latin America’s important role in producing minerals such as copper and lithium to advance the energy transition. Latin America produces 25 of the 34 critical minerals identified by the EU. Furthermore, 24% of EU critical mineral imports came from the region in 2023.

Representatives from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) reflected on the lessons learned from the decade long BMZ-ECLAC collaboration to promote responsible mining practices in the Andean Region through the MinSus project. The Director of the National Mining Agency of Brazil and ECLAC outlined the needs of mineral producing countries in Latin America to add value domestically and transform the mineral wealth into sustainable economic development. In turn, the European Commission representatives highlighted that the EU Critical Minerals Act seeks to work with like-minded partners to develop mineral value chains with high standards and value addition, while helping the EU to diversify its critical mineral imports.

The parties agreed to work together on a new regional mining initiative that will start in 2025 and will benefit both regions. Activities will be closely coordinated with the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB), which was also represented on the panel to outline the activities it seeks to implement to supports mineral producing countries in Latin America in the coming years.

[Access the full report and pictures](#)

[Subscribe to MinSus Newsletter](#)

Mercedes-Benz Raw Material Report 2024

In late 2024, Mercedes-Benz Group (MBG) published its “Raw Material Report 2024”, analysing 24 critical raw materials with the focus on human rights and environmental risks. The findings comprise systemic risks as well as specific risks identified within MBG's supply chains. In its report, MBG repeatedly emphasises its corporate philosophy of “empowerment before withdrawal”. This means the company attempts to mitigate risks in its supply chains but reserves the right to terminate business relationships with critical partners in case its activities do not take effect. The report presents various flagship projects through which MBG is already working to mitigate negative impacts caused by the extractives sector. These include the “[Just Transition](#)” [corridor programme](#) in the Brazilian Amazon, the opening of the MBG [battery recycling plant](#) in Kuppenheim, Germany, and the [Responsible Lithium Partnership](#) with Chile. The latter is coordinated by GIZ International Services. By 2028, suitable measures to prevent, mitigate or end harmful practices are to be defined for all risk-bearing raw materials.

[Access the full report](#)

BDI calls for strengthening national supply security

In November 2024, the Federation of German Industries (BDI) held its 8th Raw Materials Congress on the topic “Daring More Raw Material Sovereignty”. It focused on Germany's competitiveness and the reduction of import dependencies. The conference underlined that investments in domestic raw material extraction and processing, as well as in the expansion of circular economy efforts, are urgently needed. Progressive examples from the private sector were highlighted; among them the opening of Europe's first battery recycling factory by Mercedes-Benz and [Europe's largest recycling plant](#) for rare earth magnets by Heraeus Remloy. Additionally, the government's financial support of one billion euros to the [Raw Materials Fund](#) of the German Government was welcomed. Its aim is to strengthen the German economy and its raw materials supply.

[Read the full article \(German\)](#)



Past Events

HSC 2024: Securing Responsible and Circular Battery Supply Chains

Around 1,600 participants from more than 100 countries took part in the first Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) in October 2024. More than 15 agreements were reached between governments, academia, civil society organisations and the private sector. These included the New Alliance Talk “Securing Globally Responsible and Circular Battery Supply Chains” organised by the BMZ and the Global Battery Alliance (GBA), which resulted in Serbia, Germany, and Zambia announcing to join the GBA as the first representatives of national governments.

The next HSC will take place in Hamburg on **2-3 June 2025**.

A full reflection on the HSC can be found [here](#).

Raw Materials Summit

The Raw Materials Summit was held on October 10 in Berlin, gathering civil society, policy makers, worker's unions, and academia to discuss the social and environmental challenges in mineral supply chains. The Summit was organised by AK Rohstoffe. At the Summit, there was agreement on the need for higher environmental standards, a reduction in the consumption of raw materials and the promotion of the circular economy. In conclusion, the interplay of measures for the procurement of primary and secondary raw materials will also become increasingly relevant for German raw materials policy.

GBA Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Global Battery Alliance (GBA) took place in Shanghai in the beginning of November. The event focused on the advancement of the Battery Passport, a digital tool for sustainability data in the battery supply chain. The GBA presented the second phase of the Battery Passport pilots: 10 consortia from various member companies shared data along their supply chains for seven raw materials (aluminum, cobalt, copper, graphite, iron phosphate, lithium, and nickel), spanning all five continents. Key topics also included the potential of greater local value addition for raw material-producing countries, circularity, and China's role within global battery value chains and innovative financing models for sustainable batteries. Moreover, attendees visited CATL's facilities in Ningde.

[Find out more](#)

20th Annual General Meeting IGF 2024 - Redefining Mining: Balancing the need for minerals with protecting people and the planet

At the 20th Annual General Meeting taking place in Geneva, 800 participants discussed how to balance mineral demand and environmental and human rights risks. Innovative solutions revolved around mining and processing efficiencies, recycling, and reprocessing tailings and waste rock. While exploring the role of trade and investment agreements in the extractives sector, the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) announced the renewal of their joint agreement. The collaboration is built on an established partnership and includes a variety of IGF member priorities such as gender equality, social inclusion, local value creation, and mine closure.

EU Raw Materials Week

In December 2024, the EU Raw Materials Week took place in Brussels Belgium. It is the largest policy event on raw materials, organised by the European Commission since 2016. Over 1,000 participants from industry, administration, civil society, research and academia took part, including representatives from GIZ. Discussions included debates that focused on the future of EU raw materials policy, desrisking raw materials projects, technology and innovation through digital and

cutting-edge solutions, strengthening domestic supply, maintaining social and environmental standards, amongst further topics.

[Find out more](#)



Upcoming Events

Mining Indaba - Future-Proofing African Mining, Today!

03.-06.02.2025, Cape Town, South Africa

This year's Mining Indaba will be held from February 3 to 6 in Cape Town, South Africa under the guiding theme "Future-Proofing African Mining, Today!". The theme is anchored on seven key content pillars: (1) industrialising Africa, (2) future-proofing our communities, (3) delivering effective net zero & Just Energy Transition strategies, (4) maximising on Africa's critical minerals endowment, (5) giving a voice to future generations, (6) adopting game-changing technologies and (7) prioritising health & safety. Panel discussions range from various country showcases, the role of innovative technologies and government policies to Africa's infrastructure, the continent's industrial transformation, and more.

Together with IGF, GIZ is organising an event on how responsible sourcing can empower Africa's local economies.

More information can be found [here](#).

62nd EITI Board Meeting

11.-14.03.2025, Arusha, Tanzania

The Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) holds two to four Board meetings per year to decide on priorities for the organisation and evaluate countries' progress in meeting the EITI Standard. Since X+D supports the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in its work as Board member, the sector programme will join the 62nd Board Meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, in person. The focus will lie on the preparations for the EITI Global Conference in 2026 which is held every three years.

More information can be found [here](#).



Did you know...?

...that copper was one of the first metals to be unearthed? Scientists discovered a copper pendant, dating back to 8,700 BC, in what is now northern Iraq, leading them to believe it is one of the first metals to be unearthed. For nearly five millennia, copper was the only metal known to humans and was, thus, used for all metal applications.

[Source](#)

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Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36
53113 Bonn, Germany
T +49 228 44 60-0
F +49 228 44 60-17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5
65760 Eschborn, Germany
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15

E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

Registered at

Local court (Amtsgericht) Bonn, Germany: HRB 18384
Local court (Amtsgericht) Frankfurt am Main, Germany: HRB 12394

VAT no. DE 113891176
Tax no. 040 250 56973

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Thorsten Schäfer-Gümbel (Chair)
Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven (Vice-Chair)
Anna Sophie Herken

In charge of this newsletter:

Tim Schloesser, tim.schloesser@giz.de
Mayely Müller, mayely.mueller@giz.de

Editor(s):

Mayely Müller, mayely.mueller@giz.de

With contributions from:

Charlotte Winkler, charlotte.winkler@giz.de

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