

Extractives and Development Newsletter

Information on current topics and trends in the extractives sector

A service of GIZ project Extractives and Development

Editorial – What's New in the EU Batteries Regulation



Rosalie Seppelt
Advisor



Mimosa Fetahi
Legal Trainee

© GIZ/ Liliane Hoffmann

Dear Readers,

Welcome to a new edition of the Extractives and Development Newsletter — our refreshed format features more concise updates and a thematic deep dive at the beginning of each issue. As always, you receive the latest publications, project updates from German development cooperation, and news from the global extractive sector.

In 2025, the European Union **adopted the “Omnibus IV” package**. As a result, the implementation of **due diligence obligations** has been **postponed by two years** to 18 August 2027. In addition, the EU plans to raise the turnover threshold for companies subject to due diligence requirements from EUR 40 million to EUR 150 million.

These changes reflect the EU's effort to reconcile ambitious sustainability standards with concerns over industrial competitiveness. Covering the entire battery value chain and targeting the **four raw materials nickel, cobalt, natural graphite, and lithium**, the EU Batteries Regulation continues to set important expectations for environmental and human rights due diligence in global supply chains. From a **development cooperation perspective**, it will be essential to ensure that current political dynamics and shifting policy priorities **do not weaken due diligence** provisions and that ambitious standards along the battery value chain remain a central focus of international discussions.

Against this backdrop, the GIZ Sector Programme “Extractives and Development” has published an **updated FAQ on corporate due diligence under the EU Batteries Regulation**. More details can be found in the section “Supply Chains & Regulation”.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Best regards,

GIZ Sector Programme Extractives and Development

Editorial authors: Rosalie Seppelt and Mimosa Fetahi

GOVERNANCE

- » EITI Progress Report 2025
- » New Study Explores the Future of Digital Traceability in Critical Mineral Supply Chains
- » Sustainable Development and Africa's Critical Minerals: A Multi-Framework Approach

LOCAL VALUE ADDITION

- » Leveraging Copper for Economic Transformation: Policy Choices for Value Addition in Zambia
- » Global Race for Critical Minerals Reinforces Inequalities Between North and South

SUPPLY CHAINS & REGULATION

- » Updated FAQ Regarding EU Batteries Regulation
- » Weak Supply Chain Governance Continues to Drive Human Rights Risks in Critical Minerals
- » Background Note: Gender Responsive Due Diligence in Global Supply Chains
- » Competence Centre for Human Rights Due Diligence Up and Running

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

- » Unlocking South Africa's Green Hydrogen Potential: The Role of Critical Raw Materials
- » Volkswagen Group Responsible Raw Materials Report 2025

GEOPOLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

- » New IDOS Study: Critical Raw Material Trade Patterns Reveal Strong Dependencies and Need for Diversification
- » EU and US Launch Strategic Partnership on Critical Minerals

PAST EVENTS

- » Mining the Depths, Undermining Development? Joint Webinar on Socio-Economic Implications of Deep-Sea Mining
- » Mining Indaba 2026 - GIZ Side Event
- » CAMMA 2026 Intersessional Meeting Advances Regional Agenda for More Sustainable Mining
- » EPRM Conference | Balancing Interests: ASM's Role in Reliable and Responsible Value Chains

UPCOMING EVENTS

- » Technology Mission to Germany to Drive Mining Innovation in Latin America
- » EITI Global Conference

Governance

EITI Progress Report 2025

The new Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Progress Report shows how 55 countries are strengthening transparency and accountability in the extractive sector. It highlights progress from detecting illicit transactions to improving due diligence and assessing project potential, underscoring the growing importance of effective governance amid shifting global demand and geopolitical pressures.

[Read the report](#)

New Study Explores the Future of Digital Traceability in Critical Mineral Supply Chains

A new GIZ-commissioned study by IPIS and Levin Sources examines the scalability and governance implications of digital traceability in critical mineral supply chains. Analysing 27 systems and producer-country case studies, the report highlights the need for interoperable, inclusive, and producer-country aligned approaches to support responsible sourcing and sustainable development.

[Read the study](#)

Sustainable Development and Africa's Critical Minerals: A Multi-Framework Approach

The new publication "Sustainable Development and Africa's Critical Minerals: A Multi-Framework Approach", explores how Africa can harness rising demand for critical minerals for inclusive and sustainable development. Drawing on case studies from the DRC, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, it highlights governance gaps and proposes a Six-Pillar Governance Framework for a more just and participatory energy transition.

[Access the publication](#)



Local Value Addition

Leveraging Copper for Economic Transformation: Policy Choices for Value Addition in Zambia

A new IGF report, supported by GIZ Sector Programme "Extractives and Development", highlights Zambia's role as a leading copper producer while noting the risks of reliance on raw exports. It explores how processing and manufacturing could boost resilience, diversification, and jobs if key constraints are addressed, and outlines opportunities, challenges, and policy recommendations for sustainable development.

[Read the report](#)

Global Race for Critical Minerals Reinforces Inequalities Between North and South

In its focus issue on critical minerals, Development & Cooperation examines how the accelerating global demand for critical minerals is reshaping geopolitical and economic relations between industrialised and resource-rich countries. While it highlights opportunities for Global South countries to move beyond raw material exports and capture more value along supply chains, it also underscores persistent structural inequalities. These include unequal bargaining power, weak local value addition, and environmental and social risks that continue to concentrate in producing regions.

[View the article](#)



Supply Chains & Regulation

Updated FAQ Regarding EU Batteries Regulation

GIZ Sector Programme "Extractives and Development" on behalf of BMZ, has released a revised FAQ on corporate due diligence in the EU Batteries Regulation. Reflecting updates from the EU Commission's Omnibus IV and VIII packages, it summarises key amendments and clarifies obligations for companies.



Background Note: Gender Responsive Due Diligence in Global Supply Chains

A new OECD background note explores how companies can strengthen gender-responsive due diligence across supply chains. Drawing on OECD standards, expert consultations, and discussions at recent OECD Forums, it highlights structural drivers of gender-related risks and provides practical guidance for integrating gender perspectives into responsible business conduct processes.

[Access the background note](#)

Weak Supply Chain Governance Continues to Drive Human Rights Risks in Critical Minerals

A new Amnesty International analysis highlights ongoing human rights risks across global raw material supply chains, including forced labor, unsafe working conditions, and environmental harm in mining regions. It emphasises that voluntary commitments alone are insufficient and calls for stronger corporate due diligence and binding regulatory frameworks. The report stresses that without systemic change, the expansion of clean energy and digital technologies risks being built on continued exploitation in producing countries.

[Read the analysis](#)

Competence Centre for Human Rights Due Diligence Up and Running

Launched in March, the new Competence Centre for Human Rights Due Diligence supports trade unions in promoting fair working conditions in global supply chains. The centre facilitates the exchange of knowledge on human rights standards, legal requirements and best practices, and provides training for trade union representatives.

Since April, pilot programmes have been underway with unions in the garment and critical minerals sectors. The first workshop of the centre's Critical Minerals Pilot Programme has been held in Lusaka, Zambia. Trade unionists from South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe discussed how the German Supply Chain Act (LkSG) and the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) could strengthen the rights of local workers in the mining sector.

[Learn more about the Competence Center](#)



The “Impact Analysis of Critical Raw Materials’ Mining and Use for the Green Hydrogen Economy in South Africa” study (GIZ) assessed economic, environmental, and social impacts associated with increased demand for critical materials, highlighting both the opportunities and risks. Value chain development is important as South Africa has historically exported raw or minimally processed minerals, capturing limited value from its natural resources.

[Read the study](#)

Volkswagen Group Responsible Raw Materials Report 2025

The latest Responsible Raw Materials Report outlines how Volkswagen is advancing its due diligence systems to better manage environmental and human rights risks across complex global supply chains. Key priorities include improving traceability, strengthening risk assessment processes, and increasing transparency with suppliers. The report reflects growing expectations on the automotive industry to ensure responsible sourcing of critical inputs and to align supply chain management with international sustainability and human rights standards.

[Access the report](#)



Geopolitical Developments

New IDOS Study: Critical Raw Material Trade Patterns Reveal Strong Dependencies and Need for Diversification

A new IDOS study uses a gravity model approach to analyse global trade flows of critical raw materials, providing detailed insights into existing dependencies and market structures. The findings show that trade patterns remain highly concentrated, with limited diversification in many supply chains. The study highlights the importance of strategic policy responses to reduce vulnerabilities, strengthen resilience, and support more balanced and development-oriented participation of resource-rich countries in global markets.

[Read the study](#)

EU and US Launch Strategic Partnership on Critical Minerals

On 24 April 2026, the EU and US signed a Memorandum of Understanding and agreed on a joint Critical Minerals Action Plan to strengthen supply chain resilience and diversification. The partnership focuses on coordinated trade measures, common standards, investment, innovation, and rapid response mechanisms to address growing geopolitical and economic challenges in critical mineral supply chains.

[Learn more](#)



Mining the Depths, Undermining Development? Joint Webinar on Socio-Economic Implications of Deep-Sea Mining

As part of the [Deep Sea Conservation Coalition's \(DSCC\) 2026 Briefing Series](#), GIZ, DSCC and WWF convened experts to discuss potential impacts of commercial deep-sea mining (DSM) on economies, livelihoods, investments, equity and long-term development – particularly in countries reliant on marine ecosystems and land-based mining. Dr. Maila Guilhon presented results from an upcoming BMZ/GIZ study. Key takeaway: high risks and uncertainties linked with DSM call for a precautionary and inclusive approach.

Watch the webinar [here](#). More information [here](#).

Mining Indaba 2026 - GIZ Side Event

At Mining Indaba 2026, the GIZ Side Event brought together stakeholders from policy, industry, and civil society to discuss due diligence, transparency, governance, and local value addition in mineral supply chains. Across five sessions, participants highlighted the importance of inclusive partnerships, responsible sourcing, and effective regulation for resilient and sustainable mining development.

[More details](#)

CAMMA 2026 Intersessional Meeting Advances Regional Agenda for More Sustainable Mining

On the sidelines of PDAC 2026 in Toronto (1–4 March), the Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Mining of the Americas (CAMMA) brought together representatives from across the region to strengthen cooperation on sustainable mining. Key outcomes included the approval of CAMMA's 2026–2028 Action Plan and renewed dialogue on critical minerals and the just energy transition.

EPRM Conference | Balancing Interests: ASM's Role in Reliable and Responsible Value Chains

At the EPRM 10-year anniversary Balancing Interests Conference in Amsterdam, participants reflected on a decade of progress towards responsible mineral supply chains and the challenges that remain. Discussions highlighted the need to strengthen the voice of ASM miners, address structural barriers faced by women in mining, and advance more inclusive and resilient mineral supply chains.

[Learn more](#)



Upcoming Events

Technology Mission to Germany to Drive Mining Innovation in Latin America

13 - 20 June, 2026, Germany

From 13–20 June, 2026, a technology mission to Germany under the PERUMIN Hub programme will bring innovators and government representatives from Chile and Peru together to advance sustainable mining solutions. Supported by the Chilean-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the mission promotes exchange and collaboration on innovations in AI, automation, water treatment, and tailings monitoring.

08 - 09 October, 2026, Brussels

The EITI Global Conference will be co-hosted by the Government of Belgium and the European Commission, bringing together governments, companies, civil society organisations, investors and development partners from across the EITI community and beyond.

More information: [EITI Global Conference](#)



[Contact](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Recommend this newsletter](#)

www.giz.de



**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
(GIZ) GmbH**

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

Chairperson of the Supervisory Board

Niels Annen, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development

Management Board

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

In charge of this newsletter

Tim Schloesser, tim.schloesser@giz.de
Liliane Hoffmann, liliane.hoffmann@giz.de

Editor(s)

Liliane Hoffmann, liliane.hoffmann@giz.de

Photo Credits

Editorial image: © GIZ / Liliane Hoffmann

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please click [here](#).