

Extractives and Development Newsletter

Information on current topics and trends in the extractives sector

A service of GIZ project Extractives and Development

The approximate reading time of this issue is 8 minutes



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Editorial: Spotlight on Gender Equality in Mining

Dear Readers,

Mining is often associated with physical labour and a predominantly male workforce. Yet **women play a much greater role in the sector than is commonly assumed.**

They account for an estimated 30–50% of the workforce in artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) and around 10% in large-scale mining (LSM). Despite their contribution, they are still **less likely to benefit from the sector's economic opportunities** and are disproportionately **affected by its social and environmental impacts**. Mining therefore remains one of the least gender-equal industries worldwide.

As demand for critical raw materials continues to grow, so does the responsibility to ensure inclusion in the mining sector. This requires moving beyond commitments towards concrete action: **better participation, equal opportunities and due diligence processes that identify and address gender-specific risks**. A recent **OECD publication** reinforces this message, showing that supply chain risks are not gender-neutral and that conventional due diligence processes often fail to identify or address the specific risks faced by women (more in chapter Supply Chains & Regulation).

At our own events, we witness that discussions on gender equality continue to attract **strong interest and lively debate**. Most recently, the session **Building Equity: Advancing Gender-Responsive Due Diligence in ASM (LinkedIn)**, organised with the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF), Women's Rights and Mining (WRM) and the European Partnership for Responsible Minerals (EPRM) at the EPRM Balancing Interests Conference in Amsterdam (more in chapter Past Events), highlighted the demand for practical approaches. To support companies on this journey, we also continue to promote our **E-Learning Module** on gender equality and disability inclusion in the extractives sector.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Best regards,

Editorial authors: Linda Weber and Benjamin Halstenberg

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Governance

Liberia Advances Digital Governance in the Mining Sector

The Mining Cadastre Administration System (MCAS) has been successfully integrated with the Liberia Integrated Tax System (LITAS) through the joint efforts of the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Liberia Revenue Authority, the Revenue Development Foundation, and the GIZ-implemented Resource Governance (ReGo) project. The integration enables fully digital licence management, seamless online payments, automated invoicing, and real-time payment updates, strengthening transparency, efficiency, and the ease of doing business in Liberia's mining sector.

[Learn more on LinkedIn](#)



Local Value Addition

New DERA Study on Raw Materials Trade and Value Creation

DERA has published a new study, Raw Materials Trade and Value Creation, analysing how raw

materials move through global supply chains, from extraction and processing to manufacturing and recycling. By linking trade data to individual stages of the value chain, the study provides new insights into supply dependencies, supply chain risks, recycling structures, and global value chains. The methodology supports evidence-based strategic raw materials policymaking and decision-making.

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

New BGR Study Highlights Brazil's Rare Earth Potential

A new BGR study underscores Brazil's growing importance in diversifying global rare earth supply chains. With an estimated 21 million tonnes of rare earth resources, the world's second-largest reserves, the country has significant potential. Particularly for heavy rare earth elements, as an alternative supplier to China. The study also highlights that investments in processing capacity and infrastructure will be essential to build resilient and sustainable supply chains.

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



Supply Chains & Regulation

GIZ Integrated Company Report: "A European Answer to the Raw Materials Question"

Securing critical raw materials requires more than reliable supply chains – it requires sustainable partnerships. As part of GIZ's Integrated Company Report, published in early July, an interview with Kristian Lempa, formally Director of GIZ's Global Policy, Governance and Cities Division, explores how GIZ supports responsible raw materials extraction. The article also provides an overview of GIZ's activities across the extractives sector, from strengthening governance and transparency to supporting local value creation and responsible supply chains. It highlights how a European approach can reduce dependencies while ensuring that resource-rich countries benefit from their raw materials sector.

[Read the interview](#)

[Read GIZ's Integrated Company Report](#)

OECD Case Study: Why Gender Matters in Due Diligence

A new OECD case study highlights why gender-responsive due diligence is essential for responsible mineral supply chains. As risks and impacts are not gender-neutral, traditional due diligence often fails to identify issues disproportionately affecting women. The publication outlines practical approaches, including the use of gender-disaggregated data, targeted engagement with women and context-specific measures to address structural inequalities. It reinforces a key message: integrating gender into due diligence is essential for effective risk management and responsible business conduct.

[Access the case study](#)

For a Sustainable and Responsible Lithium Sector in Bolivia

In May 2026, a BMZ-funded Study and Expert Funds (SFF) measure was launched in Bolivia to support the sustainable development of the lithium sector. The two-year project strengthens institutional, technical, and regulatory capacities, promotes Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE) technologies, and enhances value chain integration. It develops regulatory frameworks, training in environmental and social assessments, and a strategic roadmap, reducing risks, boosting transparency, and positioning Bolivia as a role model for responsible lithium production and thus unlocking its vast potential.

[Access the project factsheet \(Spanish\)](#)

GBA Annual Impact Report 2025: Building Momentum for Sustainable Battery Value Chains

The Global Battery Alliance (GBA) has published its Annual Impact Report 2025, showcasing progress towards more sustainable, responsible and circular battery value chains. The report highlights advances in the Battery Passport, stronger collaboration across industry, governments and producing countries, and the growing importance of trusted sustainability and traceability data. It also outlines the Alliance's next steps to scale implementation and strengthen collective impact across the battery and critical minerals sector.

[Access the Annual Impact Report](#)

EU Launches Digital Product Passport

On 19 July 2026, the European Union began the phased rollout of the Digital Product Passport. The initiative aims to provide standardised digital information on materials, CO₂ emissions, and supply chains throughout a product's lifecycle. Mandatory implementation will begin in 2026 and 2027 for batteries and selected product groups, including textiles, electronics, and furniture. Companies will need to harmonise and digitally manage product data to meet the new requirements.

[Learn more about the Digital Product Passport](#)



Economic Development

Future Technologies to Drive Critical Raw Materials Demand

A new study by Fraunhofer ISI and Fraunhofer IZM, commissioned by DERA, finds that emerging technologies such as electric mobility, renewable energy, hydrogen production, AI, and data centres could significantly increase demand for critical raw materials by 2045. The study identifies lithium, iridium, scandium, platinum, and heavy rare earth elements among the most affected materials and

calls for diversified supply chains, increased recycling, and strategic raw materials policies to prevent future supply bottlenecks.

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



Geopolitical Developments

Germany Launches South-North Commission on Development

The German government has established the South-North Commission on Development to strengthen international partnerships and foster cooperation with countries in the Global South. The Commission will bring together leaders from politics, business, academia, international organisations, and civil society to develop solutions to global challenges. Its work will help shape future international development cooperation and contribute to discussions on the post-2030 global development agenda.

[Learn more about the South-North Commission on Development](#)

EU weighs Stricter Rules to Reduce Critical Supply Chain Dependencies

According to Reuters, the European Commission is weighing new measures to strengthen the resilience of critical supply chains by reducing reliance on single suppliers, particularly China. Under the proposal, companies would be required to source critical inputs from multiple suppliers, with no single supplier accounting for more than 30–40% of a key component. The initiative aims to enhance supply security for strategic industries, including machinery, chemicals, and semiconductors, and reduce risks from export restrictions and geopolitical tensions.

[View the Reuters article](#)

New Study Highlights the Geopolitical Importance of Mineral Processing

A new study by Deberdt et. al. on midstream geopolitics argues that the processing of critical raw materials is becoming a key arena of geopolitical competition. It highlights how refining and processing capacities for minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements increasingly shape supply chain resilience and strategic dependencies. The study finds that countries including the EU, the US, and China are competing to strengthen domestic processing capacities and reduce vulnerabilities through onshoring, reshoring, and friendshoring strategies.

[Access the study](#)

G7 Strengthens Cooperation on Critical Minerals

At the 2026 G7 Summit held in Évian, France, in June 2026, leaders adopted a declaration to strengthen resilient and diversified critical minerals supply chains. Key measures include expanding processing and recycling capacities, reducing dependencies on single suppliers, improving transparency and traceability, increasing strategic stockpiles, and promoting circular economy approaches. The declaration also establishes the new G7 Critical Minerals Resilience and Production Alliance to coordinate international cooperation, investment, and supply chain resilience among G7 members and partner countries.

[Read the G7 Declaration](#)



Past Events

Mining Forum

At this year's Mining Forum, which took place from 18 - 19. June, 2026 in Berlin, GIZ Sector Programme "Extractives and Development" contributed to two sessions on international cooperation and sustainable mineral value chains:

Together with BMZ and the UNIDO Global Alliance, GIZ co-hosted the session **"Sustainability Standards as a Cornerstone of a Just Transition"**, highlighting the role of sustainability standards in supporting a just energy transition.

The following day, GIZ Sector Programme "Extractives and Development" contributed to the session **"Brazil's Critical Minerals – Opportunities for Brazilian-German Cooperation"**, which aimed to shape discussions on strengthening bilateral partnerships in the critical minerals sector.

EPRM Balancing Interests Conference

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the European Partnership for Responsible Minerals (EPRM) brought together over 220 representatives from governments, industry, civil society and artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), on 09. June 2026 in Amsterdam. Discussions highlighted how inclusive, multi-stakeholder approaches can strengthen responsible mineral supply chains.

[Learn more about the EPRM Balancing Interests Conference](#)

The interactive session **"Building Equity: Advancing Gender-Responsive Due Diligence in ASM"**, organised by GIZ Sector Programme Extractives and Development, IGF, EPRM und Women's Rights and Mining explored how formalisation, mechanisation and due diligence can better address the realities of women in ASM, reinforcing that inclusive supply chains require inclusive solutions.

[Learn more about the session "Building Equity: Advancing Gender-Responsive Due Diligence in ASM" \(LinkedIn\)](#)

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Sustainable Lithium Governance in Bolivia

In May 2026, GIZ Bolivia participated in a multi-stakeholder dialogue on sustainable lithium governance organised by KAS Bolivia in Uyuni. Parliamentarians, representatives from the respective ministries and the EU met with local indigenous communities and civil society to discuss the socioecological challenges and opportunities of lithium extraction. During a joint visit to the lithium carbonate plant, working sessions, and different exchange activities, the participants addressed issues like water security, the protection of the Salar, community participation and an integral sustainable development of the sector.

[Read the Factsheet SF Lithium \(Spanish\)](#)

EITI Global Conference

08. – 09. October, 2026, Brussels

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (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. [Further information](#)

SAVE THE DATE: GIZ Side Event to the EITI Global Conference

06. October, 2026, Brussels

The GIZ Sector Programme "Extractives and Development" will host a side event during the EITI Global Conference in Brussels.

Further information, including the agenda and registration details, will be available on our [website](#) soon. If you have any questions, please contact us at rohstoffe@giz.de.

IGF Annual General Meeting

12. – 14. October, 2026, Geneva

The Annual meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) will take place in Geneva. Participation by Sector Programme Extractives and Development. [More information](#)

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