



# Towards a responsible mining industry

## The environmental dimension

Doreen Fedrigo  
EU Policy Unit Coordinator



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# Presentation

- EEB
- Sustainable / responsible mining
- Framework for Responsible Mining
- What more is needed?



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# The EEB

- The largest European federation of environmental citizens' organisations
- Created in 1974 to represent its members' interests vis-à-vis the EU institutions, and to help them monitor and respond to EU policies
- More than 145 member organisations in 30 countries with over 15 million members and supporters
- Aim to protect and improve the environment of Europe and to enable the citizens of Europe to play their role in achieving this goal
- Topical policy work: e.g. Air Pollution, Biodiversity, Chemicals, Natural Resources, Soil, Waste, Water, etc.
- 'Horizontal issues': Sustainable Development, 6th Environmental Action Programme, Sustainable Consumption and Production,
- Governance (democracy and public participation): Aarhus Convention
- Enforcement (= implementation and application of EU legislation)

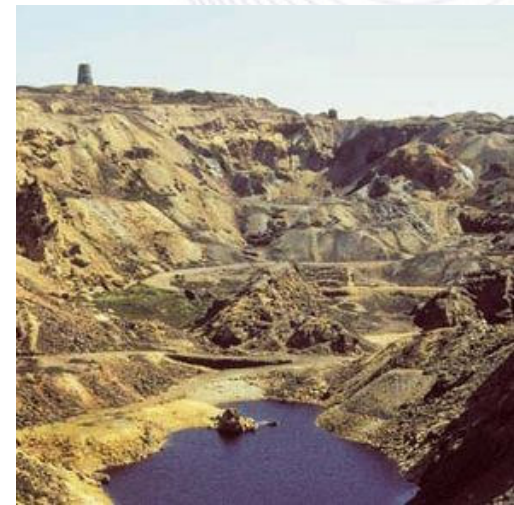


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# Sustainable / responsible mining

- **Socially** responsible and acceptable
- **Environmentally** conscious and minimising negative impacts
- **Economically** transparent, responsible and feasible



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# Sustainable / responsible mining

- Environmental impacts: biodiversity (loss of habitats, green spaces, species loss), creation/expansion of road network, waste, 'environmentally active' metals / minerals
- Societal impacts: local communities (both positive and negative)
- Mining (natural resources) has not had the same level of political / policy focus as other sustainability issues (eg. climate), but this does not mean it is not an important sustainability issue



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# Mining agreements

- Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) (FR, DE, IT, NL, ES, UK)
- Kimberley Process (blood diamonds) (EU)
- Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development (MMSD)
- International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) (RO, UK)
- Framework for Responsible Mining
- Transparency: (government and industry) – financial and factual
- Stewardship (accountability, responsible behaviour)
- Stakeholder involvement - governments and their agencies, companies, service companies, financial organisations, investors, and NGOs



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# Framework for Responsible Mining

- Initiative involving: World Resources Institute, WWF, Centre for Science in Public Participation
- Builds on MMSD, ICM
- ***Deciding whether a mine is an appropriate use of land.***  
The need to preserve ecologically and culturally significant areas and to weigh land and resource use options.
- ***Ensuring environmentally responsible mine development.***  
Once a decision to mine has been made, certain environmental provisions should be in place to avoid negative outcomes and capitalise on benefits. This chapter details the environmental issues that need to be addressed at each stage of mine development.
- ***Ensuring that mine development results in benefits to workers and affected communities.***  
This includes issues related to free, prior, and informed consent of communities for mining, health and safety provisions, capturing benefits more broadly, and developing consent agreements with communities.
- ***Ensuring that appropriate corporate governance structures are in place.***  
Includes broader corporate or national governance provisions to ensure transparency in revenue payments between governments and companies, and reporting company progress made toward implementing responsible practices.



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# Framework for Responsible Mining

- *Deciding whether a mine is an appropriate use of land.*
- **(1) Mining should not occur in IUCN I–IV protected areas or in any marine protected areas (categories I–VI).**
- **(2) Mining should not occur in Ramsar sites that are categorized as IUCN I–IV protected areas.**
- **(3) A multistakeholder process should be used to identify additional areas of high conservation value that qualify as “no go” zones.**
- **(4) Companies should ensure that their projects provide net conservation benefits that are consistent with maintaining the biological resources and ecosystem services on which local communities depend.**



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# Framework for Responsible Mining

- *Ensuring environmentally responsible mine development.*
- **Exploration**
- **Environmental Impact Analysis**
- **Water contamination and use**
- **Air**
- **Energy Consumption**
- **Noise**
- **Waste management**
- **Cyanide**
- **Reclamation and rehabilitation**
- **Financial guarantees**
- **Post-closure**



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# Framework for Responsible Mining

- *Ensuring that mine development results in benefits to workers and affected communities.*
- **Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent**
- **Participation in Decision Making/Consultation**
- **Access to Information/Disclosure**
- **Consent-Benefit and Compensation Agreements**
- **Recognizing Women's Rights and Addressing Gender-Related Risks**
- **Recognizing Labour Rights and Addressing Worker-Related Risks**
- **Resettlement/Relocation and Compensation**
- **Security Issues and Human Rights**



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# Framework for Responsible Mining

- *Ensuring that appropriate corporate governance structures are in place.*
- **Reporting**
- **Accountability**
- **Transparency**
- **Corporate governance**

# What more is needed?

- *“Many of the issues outlined in this framework will require government involvement and buy-in. The establishment of voluntary standards is not sufficient to ensure that mining maximises benefits and minimises costs to the environment and local communities.”*
- Mining company implementation
- EU and national (regional) level government buy-in
- Involvement from society – local communities, NGOs, trade unions, consumer organisations



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# Thank you !

Contact details:

Doreen Fedrigo

Email: [doreen.fedrigo@eeb.org](mailto:doreen.fedrigo@eeb.org)

Tel: +32 2 289 13 04



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