

Global Agenda Council on Responsible Mineral Resources Management 2012-2014



Understanding/Context

The development of mineral resources is a key driver of global economic growth and provides unparalleled opportunities for resource-rich countries. The importance of creating a responsible approach to mineral development has never been clearer, as projects face mounting opposition, from Conga in Peru to Oyu Tolgoi in Mongolia. While the role of mining in economic development is increasingly recognized, there is still debate over how mining should be conducted and a general lack of trust between stakeholders.

Shaping the Agenda

For a number of years, the World Economic Forum and the Global Agenda Council on Responsible Mineral Resources Management have been leading the Responsible Mineral Development Initiative (RMDI), which is examining stakeholder engagement and how the extractive industry can create shared value, and recently published the Responsible Mineral Development Initiative 2013 report. Council Members also helped design the concept of mineral value management and presented their key findings at the private RMDI meeting at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2013 and at other meetings, including two of the largest mining conferences in the world.

The Council is now examining what the Forum's Mining & Metals community should work on after it concludes the RMDI initiative. It is working with the Forum's Mining & Metals team to create four papers to be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2014, examining critical topics for the industry:

- How industry can interact and work better with NGOs
- New models of infrastructure investment in the mining and metals sector

- Downstream (value chain) challenges and opportunities in the sector, including responsible sourcing and greater calls for transparency, for both conflict minerals and more traditional minerals
- The industry's role in economic competitiveness and contribution to a future sustainable economy

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The Council is also establishing a “hot topics” process to inform the Forum's Mining & Metals Governors of new and important developments in the area of mineral resources.

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