



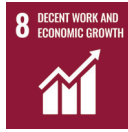
# Developing a Comprehensive Mining Sector: Smelter Pathway

FIFTY EIGHT



Partnership Against  
Child Exploitation

## Sustainable Development Goals



## OECD Due diligence actions

2. IDENTIFY & ASSESS ADVERSE IMPACTS IN OPERATIONS, SUPPLY CHAINS & BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS
3. CEASE, PREVENT OR MITIGATE ADVERSE IMPACTS
6. PROVIDE FOR OR COOPERATE IN REMEDIATION WHEN APPROPRIATE

## Africa Mining Vision

Derive maximum value from mineral extraction on the continent

Community participation in mineral revenue management

Equitable revenue allocation to mining communities

Promote environmental sustainability and respond to climate change

Equipping the private sector to tackle child labour in supply chains is one of the key outcomes of PACE. Our recommendations focus on a multi-stakeholder approach, where industry actors engage and collaborate within and across industries, with government bodies and civil society organisations to achieve a collective aim of improving the lives of children in supply chains. Our research demonstrates that child labour is most prevalent and a higher risk in commodity origin countries, where efforts and resources should be primarily focused to address it.

These recommendations centre on increasing value for mining communities, particularly through the development of a comprehensive mining sector within source countries, so that communities already involved in mining can access safer and better paid jobs. A strategic roadmap towards building Tantalum smelting capabilities around

the mining communities in Eastern DRC, could incorporate the necessary educational, Research & Development functions, and the provision of training and education for local people to access the jobs it can create. Achieving a comprehensive mining ecosystem will require building the required infrastructure to facilitate it, including clean water and sanitation, transport, electricity, energy, and internet access, prioritising solar and other renewable energy sources.

While the recommendations below are drawn directly from PACE's research of the Tantalum value chain; they can be adapted to apply to all other mineral extraction industries, from 3TGs to diamond, cobalt, and copper. They also support global obligations to the Sustainable Development Goals, the OECD due diligence guidance and the African Union Commission's African Mining Vision.

The recommendations are coded to signify the key stakeholders that must be engaged to ensure any alternative pathway programmes are well researched, designed, effective and sustainable. See the key at the footer of each page.

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



Form industry-wide and cross-industry coalitions to tackle child labour by developing a comprehensive mining sector in DRC. Shift the focus within the sector from reducing risk of child labour towards positively improving the lives of children and young people who work in mining. The central aim of coalitions should be to retain maximum value for mineral extraction and production within DRC, ensuring that most newly created jobs go to local people or DRC nationals - prioritising higher pay and safer working conditions. Key roles within coalitions should comprise of:



**Investors and Investment Groups** can help coordinate coalitions of businesses throughout the industry to include industry bodies, civil society organisations and miner representatives. These coalitions can design the necessary incentives for the Congolese government to allocate mining tax revenues to the regions of DRC appropriately. Global investors can use their influence to help reform methods of due diligence, within both the Tantalum and broader mineral extractives industries, focusing efforts and resources on improving safety and livelihoods in source countries.



Partner with one or more **Tantalum Smelter(s)** who recognise the value of establishing a local presence in the region and are invested in offering their expertise to inform the building and effective operation of a local smelter ecosystem.



**Industry Bodies and Research Groups** should facilitate primary representation of artisanal mining communities at international conferences, to provide grass roots insights into how the industry needs to change to effectively meet the needs of the origin community.



**Civil Society Organisations** and miner representatives have the knowledge and experience to help plan and deliver projects on the ground. They should develop a network of in-country contacts who can run vocational training and higher education courses to meet the skills and knowledge needs of a broader mining infrastructure.

### Sector Partners

Local governance



National Government



Investors



Civil society organisations



Business





**Local and National Government** agencies should set strategic goals and invest resources in the tantalum mining sector, engaging with the coalitions to advise on building infrastructure, educational establishments and research and development functions within the mining areas. Steps should be taken to formalise the mining sector, starting with digitisation of mining licenses and similar requirements, enabling effective distribution of tax revenue to the regions. National Government should introduce minimum wage, employment rights, and child protection legislation and properly resource enforcement.



**International Businesses** is well placed to provide knowledge, expertise, and financial support in the development of projects that support a broader mining sector in DRC. Those with expertise in particular fields of the mineral refining process can help to build on the knowledge and experience of miners by developing industry-specific training programmes for artisanal mining communities.

The provision of work experience and mentorship for trainees, and job opportunities in safer and better paid parts of the industry is essential to further boost local employment. Prioritising the awarding of contracts to people and companies in source countries is recommended by trusted partners, such as local CSOs, miner representatives and long-term supply chain partners.



**Local Business** should pool resources to address infrastructure issues, including repair and maintenance of roads, development of renewable energy sources, and digging wells for clean water. Wherever possible, local contractors and businesses should be prioritised to carry out development work on infrastructure projects, vocational and entrepreneurial training, and local research.

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<b>Stakeholder Benefits</b>	
<b>Community Livelihoods</b>	<p>Developing a range of professional career paths for Congolese young people to aspire to - earning higher income, in safer working environments</p> <p>Infrastructure investment designed to benefit local communities alongside businesses</p>
<b>Government</b>	<p>A modernised mining industry that benefits local people with world-leading standards</p> <p>More value retained in-country, boosting local economies and national prosperity through maximisation of natural resources</p>
<b>CSOs &amp; Organisations</b>	<p>Consistent long-term project direction and ownership</p> <p>Stronger partnerships with the private sector to strengthen programme sustainability</p> <p>Broader sector knowledge and expertise utilised to help children participate in improving their own prospects</p>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<p>Promotion of a systemic, whole-industry approach to improving the lives of children in the supply chain</p> <p>Stronger public profile, evidencing an industry-wide approach that can effectively improve livelihoods and add value within origin communities.</p>



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See more recommendations and research at [valuechains.pace-consortium.org](http://valuechains.pace-consortium.org)