

Report: Mining Sector Can Help Achieve Sustainable Development Goals

- Report will help the industry to map its roles, responsibilities and opportunities across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- Pioneering atlas demonstrates how the mining industry can ensure that social and economic benefits of mining are widely shared and environmental impact minimized
- The report maps the relationship between mining and the SDGs by using examples of good practice in the industry and existing knowledge and resources in sustainable development

New York, USA, 19 July 2016 – Large-scale mining has the potential to play a critical role in helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in resource-rich countries, according to a new report published today on the occasion of the UN High-Level Political Forum in New York. The report, *Mapping Mining to the Sustainable Development Goals: An Atlas*, is a joint effort of the United Nations Development Programme, the World Economic Forum, the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, endorsed by all UN member states in 2015, represent the world's plan of action for social inclusion, environmental sustainability and economic development. Meeting the SDGs by 2030 will require unprecedented cooperation and collaboration among governments, non-governmental organizations, development partners, the private sector and communities. It will require all sectors and stakeholders to incorporate the SDGs into their own practices and operations.

“Congratulations to the United Nations Development Programme, World Economic Forum, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment and Sustainable Development Solutions Network on this invaluable report,” wrote Jeffrey Sachs, Special Adviser to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Assistant Director-General, Millennium Development Goals, United Nations Millennium Project, New York. “The mining industry has an enormous role to play in sustainable development, and this report will help the industry to map its roles, responsibilities and opportunities across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Not only is this a key tool for the mining industry; it is a model for other sectors of the economy as they search for ways to align their activities with the SDGs.”

UNDP Director for Sustainable Development Nik Sekhran stated: “Implementing the SDGs requires the full engagement of the private sector alongside all other societal actors. This pioneering atlas demonstrates how the mining industry can take practical action to ensure social and economic benefits of mining are widely shared and environmental impacts are minimized. We hope the report will stimulate wide dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders to make mining a driver of sustainable development. UNDP stands ready to support in this pursuit.”

The atlas maps the relationship between mining and the SDGs by using examples of good practice in the industry and existing knowledge and resources in sustainable development that, if replicated or scaled up, could make useful contributions to the SDGs. Mining companies, their staff, management and boards are the primary audience for the atlas. The atlas is also intended to advance the conversation on how mining companies can work collaboratively with governments, communities, civil society and other partners to help achieve the SDGs.

The atlas includes a chapter for each of the SDGs, focusing on the contribution the mining industry can make to that goal through its business operations and identifying opportunities for mining companies to collaborate with other stakeholders. Each chapter also includes case studies on which to draw in building innovative, systematic and sustained collaborative efforts.

Some of the conclusions to stimulate action, further debate and research include:

- The mining industry has the potential to positively contribute to all 17 SDGs
- While the mining industry is diverse, the scope and nature of typical mining activities highlight some SDGs where mining can have a particularly significant impact
- The mining industry must ramp up its engagement, partnership and dialogue with other industry sectors, government, civil society and local communities to address the challenges of the SDGs

To access the report, please visit: <http://unsdsn.org/resources/publications/mapping-mining-to-the-sustainable-development-goals-an-atlas>

Contact information:

- UN Development Programme, New York: Casper Sonesson, Policy Adviser, Extractive Industries, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, casper.sonesson@undp.org
- World Economic Forum: Gillian Davidson, Head, Mining & Metals Industries, gillian.davidson@weforum.org or Yann Zopf, Public Engagement, +41 79 204 1610, yann.zopf@weforum.org
- Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment: Lisa Sachs, Director, lisa.sachs@law.columbia.edu
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network: Lauren Barredo, Manager, lauren.barredo@unsdsn.org

Websites:

UNDP: <http://www.undp.org>

WEF: www.weforum.org

SDSN: www.unsdsn.org

CCSI: <http://ccsi.columbia.edu>



UNDP: <https://twitter.com/UNDP>, @UNDP

WEF: <https://twitter.com/wef>, @wef

SDSN: <https://twitter.com/UNSDSN>, @UNSDSN

CCSI: https://twitter.com/CCSI_Columbia, @CCSI_Columbia



UNDP: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDP>

WEF: <https://www.facebook.com/worldeconomicforum>

SDSN: <https://www.facebook.com/UNSDSN>



UNDP: <https://www.youtube.com/undp>

WEF: <https://www.youtube.com/WorldEconomicForum>

SDSN: <https://www.youtube.com/UNSDSN>

The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world – is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation.

The Forum engages the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas. (www.weforum.org).



World Economic Forum, 91-93 route de la Capite, CH-1223 Cologny/Geneva
Tel. +41 (0)22 869 1212, Fax +41 (0)22 786 2744, <http://www.weforum.org>