



## STRADE Newsletter – 01/2016

June 2016

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### About STRADE

The “Strategic Dialogue on Sustainable Raw Materials for Europe” (STRADE) addresses the long-term security and sustainability of EU raw-material supply from European and other sources.

STRADE holds environmental and social sustainability as its foundation in strengthening the security of the European Union mineral raw-material supply and enhancing competitiveness of the EU mining industry.

Over a three year period (Dec 2015 – Nov 2018), the STRADE Consortium of 7 partners, funded by the Horizon 2020 Programme of the European Union, shall bring together research, practical experience, legislation, best-practice technologies and know-how in the following areas:

1. European cooperation strategy with resource-rich countries
2. Sustainable international raw-material production & supply
3. The strengthening of the European raw-materials sector

Seven partners have joined together in the STRADE consortium to address the challenges concerning EU’s raw-material supply:

- [Oeko-Institut e.V.](#) (Germany)
- [SNL Financial AB](#) (United Kingdom)

- [Projekt-Consult GmbH](#) (Germany)
- [University of Dundee – Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy \(CEPMLP\)](#) (United Kingdom)
- [DMT Kai Batla](#) (South Africa)
- [GEORANGE](#) (Sweden)
- [The University of the Witwatersrand](#) (South Africa)

Providing guidance and insight to the project, the STRADE Advisory Board of renowned experts from raw materials governance meets annually and contributes to the publication review process.

Communication and dissemination are core elements of STRADE. In addition to holding workshops and publishing policy briefs, presentations and reports, STRADE members will be active on [goxi.org](http://goxi.org), an online platform to support best practice in all areas of raw materials. We encourage you to join our discussions.

### Dialogue areas

STRADE engages in three areas:

#### 1.1. European Cooperation Strategy with Resource-Rich Countries

The STRADE team analyses EU and non-EU countries’ engagements with raw materials-producing countries, with the aim to revitalise the EU’s mineral engagement strategy.

Recognising the importance of collaboration and cooperation, STRADE engages with international partners, particularly in resource-rich countries, to explore the following questions:

- Q1: What can we learn by evaluating past EU initiatives in raw-materials diplomacy, particularly in technical and financial assistance?
- Q2: What are the priorities and concerns of resource-rich partner countries, and how should the EU and EU-based stakeholders respond to those concerns?
- Q3: What can we learn from international best practices in shaping a dialogue-based EU engagement strategy?

## 1.2. Europe's role in responsible mining practice

The STRADE team seeks to promote strong EU engagement in global responsible mining practices and to initiate international stakeholder dialogue on the foundation of such an engagement. Based on this, STRADE will recommend approaches to successfully implement certification and due-diligence schemes along with the EU's contribution in this process. It will also discuss the global and institutional context of sustainable mining and explore the conceptual foundation of an International Resource Governance Alliance with the EU's contribution. The following questions are of particular importance to this area:

- Q1: What is responsible raw-material production and what are the major environmental and socio-economic criteria for assessing mining and processing sites?
- Q2: What is the position of the EU and resource rich countries on sustainability criteria and their application?
- Q3: How can certification and due diligence schemes contribute to positive outcomes and what role should the EU adopt?
- Q4: How can an International Resource Governance Alliance (IRGA) be created that contributes to responsible mining and what is the EU's role in such an institution?

## 1.3. Strengthening the European Raw-Materials Sectors

Ensuring the continued competitiveness of the EU mining industry, both inside and outside the region, STRADE shall generate an objective and data-driven analysis of the EU mineral raw-material industry's international competitiveness. The project will assist in securing raw-material supplies by addressing investment from EU and non-EU actors into the EU's mineral raw-materials sector and EU companies' participation in exploration, investment and technology supply in non-EU countries. The following questions are of particular importance to this area:

- Q1: How do EU-based mining operations compare on productivity and Member States on mining policy, across the global mining sector?
- Q2: How can the EU support increased investments into its mining industry, while maintaining its sustainable development agenda?
- Q3: How can the EU better support its private sector through diplomacy and engagement with partner governments, industry and civil society in other countries and international institutions?

## Policy brief No. 1 on "European Union's Approach to Raw Materials Engagements: A Review of Engagements with Third Countries"

In a series of policy briefs, research articles and reports, the project will offer critical analysis and recommendations on EU raw materials policy. This policy brief reviews previous and current EU raw materials engagements with resource-rich countries, with the aim to categorize the nature of such engagements. The brief is available for download [here](#).

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STRADE is funded by the Horizon 2020 Programme of the European Union.



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