

MINING IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS



EIT RawMaterials Vision & Mission

Europe is home to world leaders in manufacturing, game changing innovative technologies and an entrepreneurial infrastructure that can boost the transition to a resource-efficient and sustainable society. A sustainable supply of raw materials is vital for both this transition and for Europe's industrial activity.

The vision of EIT RawMaterials: *'To develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe'* will be realised by integrating knowledge from industry, higher education and research and by engaging stakeholders from the entire raw materials value chain. EIT RawMaterials will promote increased resource efficiency and the improvement of processes and products, support the introduction of new, innovative technologies and rethink our current linear economic model to move towards a circular approach. Further focus areas are to increase human capital in the raw materials sector and promote entrepreneurial education at all levels.

We see a Europe with industrial strength built on a foundation of efficient, secure and sustainable supply and use of raw materials. In this vision, products, processes and solutions are geared towards the closure of closely interconnected material cycles. These dynamic and rapidly changing material cycles will attract new investments, enhance the innovation capacity for competitiveness and incite the interest of talented, skilled, entrepreneurial employees. The aim is for society as a whole to appreciate the value of raw materials and perceive the sector as innovative and attractive.

The mission of EIT RawMaterials is to enable sustainable competitiveness of the European minerals, metals and materials sector along the value chain by driving innovation, education and entrepreneurship.

Innovative Technologies for Intelligent and Sustainable Mining

Throughout its existence, humanity has depended on the earth for its survival. The surface provides water, crops, fruits, grazing for livestock and more, but below the surface there is a diverse quantity of raw materials that are vital for today's modern day living and that we need to use sustainably without jeopardising supplies for future generations.

Europe faces great challenges in securing raw materials in a sustainable way due to high reliance on imports, increasing consumption and decreasing quality and availability of resources.

Exploration and mining activities forms the initial part of the raw material value-chain. Mining in Europe needs greater support in order to secure and sustain this vital part of the value chain. The industry is facing surmounting challenges today, such as, deeper mining, social licence to operate, access to land, higher production rates, but at a lower cost and more challenging environments, both underground and on surface. At the same time, the industry needs access to a new highly skilled generation of entrepreneurial mining professionals and a better wider-society understanding and acceptance of the whole industry.

To meet these challenges, new innovative mining technologies, research and education are required through bridging of business, research and education, to enable a sustainable, efficient and successful mining industry now and in the future.

Europe is the birthplace of modern exploration technologies and mining. Through its vision 'To develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe', EIT RawMaterials aims to build up Europe's mineral extraction industry, providing opportunities through the development of innovative, smart and efficient technologies, specialist higher education with an added focus on entrepreneurship, and integration of the entire raw material value chain.