



The role of voluntary sustainability standards for mineral raw materials in catalysing responsible mining practices: Case study of IRMA Implementation at Anglo American Platinum

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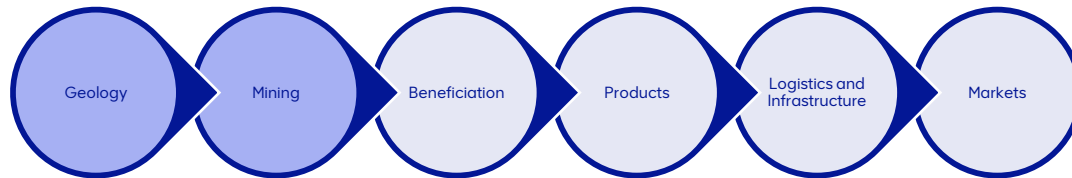
Setting the scene – The case for product provenance



The case for product provenance

Why do we mine?

- Sustainable development : development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (Brundtland commission, 1987)
- Minerals and metals have long played a key role in underpinning current and future civilizations (Giurco and Cooper, 2012) placing them at the centre of modern living
- Mining occupies a primary role in the beginning of a resource supply chain (ICMM, 2012)



The case for product provenance

Where does this all come from? Where does this all go? How do I know that that has been done well?

- While indispensable for modern life, mining is plagued by the impacts it has on natural environments and societies. :

"...Some mining operations have been linked to exploitation of children and child labor, while other enterprises have evicted communities or dispossessed them of their land."



Environmental degradation and human rights

One of the most direct impacts of irresponsible mining is environmental degradation. Poorly managed mining operations can lead to deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution of local water bodies. As toxic chemicals such as mercury and cyanide are often used in mining processes, these can leak into rivers and groundwater if not disposed of appropriately. This contamination not only poisons the local flora and fauna, but also poses a significant health risk to human communities relying on these water sources for drinking, agriculture, and fishing. Naturally, this is extremely dangerous for local communities, but the pollution can also spread across the world.

Canadian Mining Company Settles Decadelong Lawsuits Over Human Rights Abuses at Former Guatemalan Mine

Neither the company, Hudbay Minerals, nor lawyers for the 13 Mayan plaintiffs would say what prompted the settlement after so many years. Terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

October 10, 2024 at 03:33 PM

3 minute read

Litigation

By Gail J. Cohen
Canada Correspondent

Lawyer Richard Spoor adds class action for coal mineworkers

Sikonathi Mantshantsha

news24

On May 3, 2023, Mighty Earth's Senior Director of Forest Commodities Amanda Hurwitz testified before the United States Trade Representative about the impacts of nickel mining on the island of Kabaena. The testimony below shares the story of Kabaena's people and their fight for justice.

to

Comments

Gift article

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Mining is necessary for the green transition. Here's why experts say we need to do it better

Mining impacts affect up to 1/3 of global forest ecosystems, and tipped to rise with increased demand for metals

Published April 10, 2024

A new WWF report, 'The Green Transition: Unravelling the role of mining-related deforestation as a driver of global deforestation', sheds light on the impacts of mining, currently the third largest driver of deforestation.



Vale's catastrophic dam failure highlights industry shortcomings

Mining executives must ramp up efforts to enforce standards in order to restore trust



The dam at Vale's Corrego do Feijão mine near Brumadinho pictured in a satellite image before its collapse © Reuters

Justice, say civil society groups, trade unions

By Sherree Bega



Mining company was given permission to blast Juukan Gorge cave, which provided a 4,000-year-old genetic link to present-day traditional owners



Catholic Church in South Africa helps sick miners to launch class action lawsuit against a mining giant, Anglo American Group

Nine mining companies owned by the Anglo American Group face legal action for miners' diseases.

Over half of global mines and their impacts are undocumented: Paper

Authors advocate for comprehensive inventory of mine sites and exploration zones to assess social & green impacts



Neighbors of Bitcoin Mine in Texas File Nuisance Lawsuit Over Noise Pollution

The incessant humming sound from thousands of fans cooling off computers that mine Bitcoin has enraged the community.

By Keaton Peters

October 4, 2024

Responsible Mining Standards as a responsible sourcing mechanism



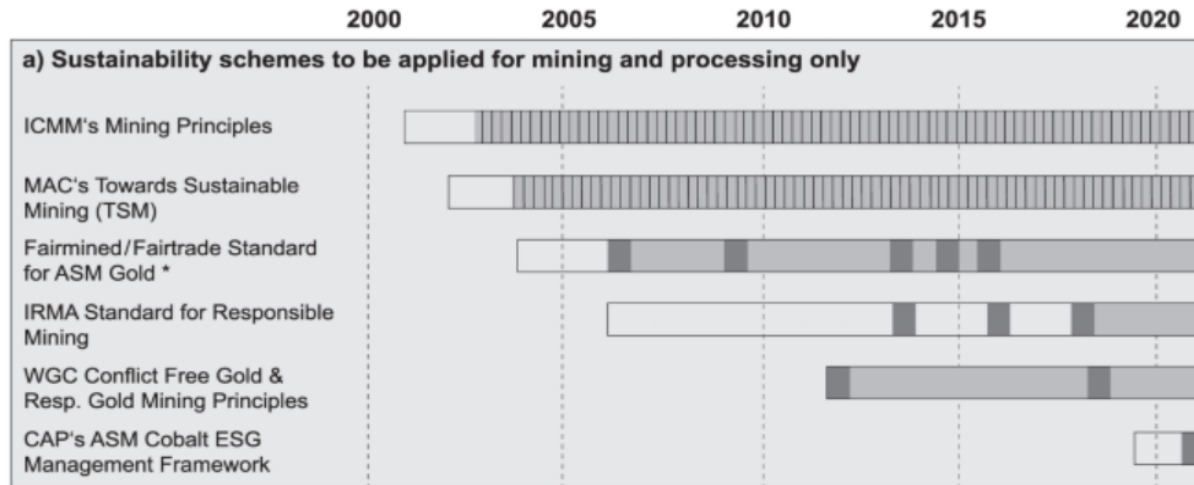
Mining standards as a responsible sourcing mechanism

Why do we need mining standards?

- The negative news headlines and lack of trust in the mining industry have not gone unnoticed
- Responsible mining standards (Responsible sourcing mechanisms) analyse sustainability performance by interrogating how sustainability risks are being managed at the mine and across the mining value chain
- Mining industry has lost credibility to self-report therefore these standards provide external verification/ independent assurance to stakeholders (government, civil society, investors, customers/ end consumers)

Evolution of mining standards

Voluntary Sustainability Standards: standards specifying requirements that producers, traders, manufacturers, retailers or service providers may be asked to meet, relating to a wide range of sustainability metrics including respect for basic human rights, worker health and safety, environmental impacts of production, community relations, land use planning and others (Axel et al., 2022)





RESPONSIBLY
PRODUCED
COPPER



ICMM

IRMA Initiative for Responsible
Mining Assurance



TOWARDS
SUSTAINABLE
MINING



RESPONSIBLE
JEWELLERY
COUNCIL



Responsible[™]
Steel | standards &
certification

Method



Case study: IRMA Implementation at Anglo American

Anglo American has a commitment to assure all operations against a recognised responsible mining standard by 2025

Healthy Environment



Trusted Corporate Leader



Thriving Community



2021: 11 operations

being assured against recognised responsible mine certification systems

2025: all operations

to undergo third-party audits against recognised responsible mine certification systems¹⁶

Aim: unearth lessons learnt during the implementation of mining standards

Method: Case study, review three (3) Anglo American Platinum mining operations that have undergone IRMA audits

Case Study: IRMA Implementation at Anglo American Platinum

IRMA Audit Process

Self-Assessment

Stage 1 Assessment

Stage 2 Assessment

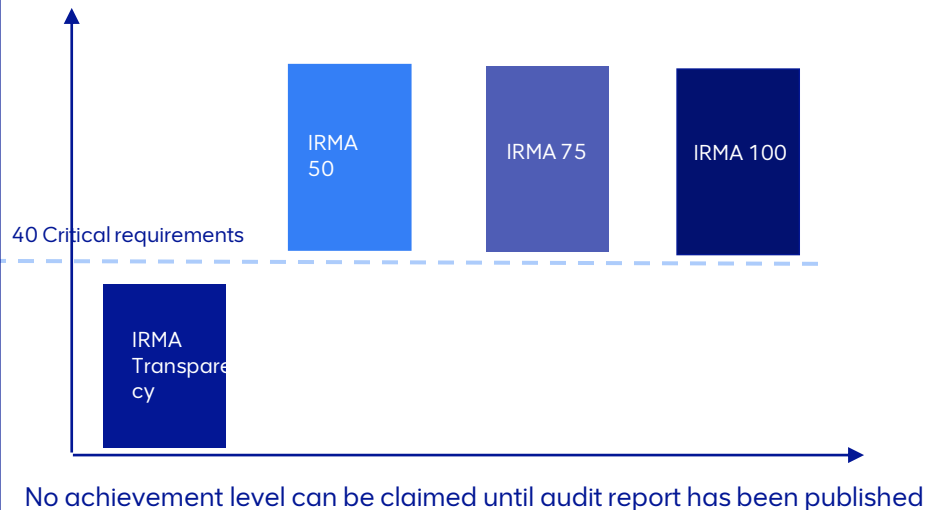
Corrective Action (optional)

Surveillance



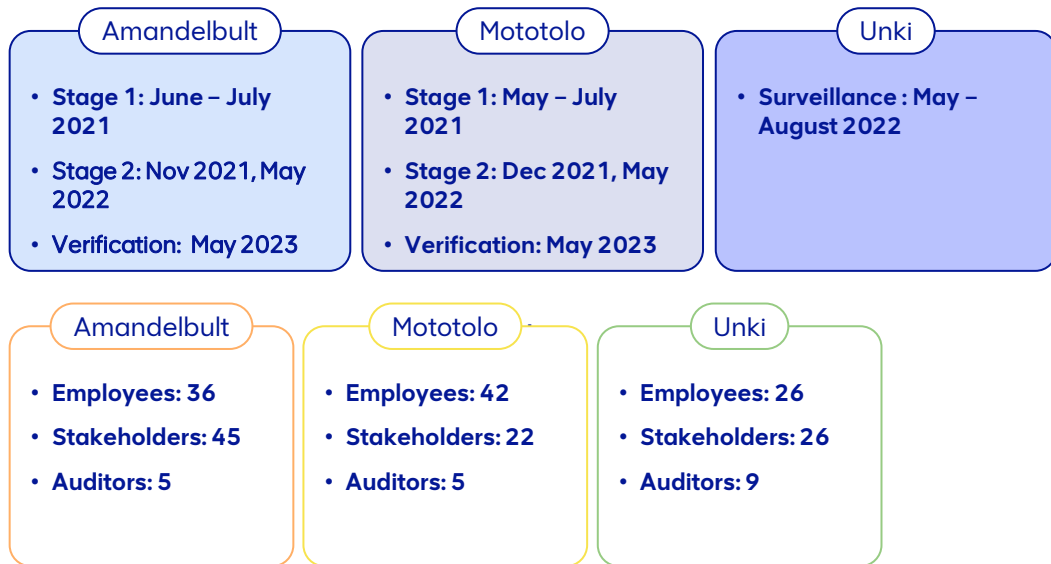
Audit report publicly released

IRMA Achievement levels



Case study: IRMA Implementation at AAP

Anglo American Platinum IRMA Progress (YTD)



Unki, Mototolo,



Amandelbult

Stakeholder stats are for stage 2 audit and verification audit

Case Study: IRMA Implementation at Anglo American Platinum

Data Analysis

- Thematic framework for analysing lessons learnt from the lived experience of implementing IRMA audits

Lessons Learnt theme	Target audience that can benefit
Implementation process learnings	Mining companies considering similar audits
Audit report findings	Various stakeholders interested in the sustainability performance of mining sites
Release of audit results	Various stakeholders interested in understanding impact of audits on downstream companies

Results



Lessons Learnt

From the framework described in the methodology,, findings are presented thematically from each 'step' in the audit process

Implementation Process

Leadership buy-in

Opportunity for peer learning

Inter-operability of standards

Capacity building

Audit report findings

Identification of best practice

Better risk management for the mining sites

Compels mining companies to go beyond legal compliance

Lessons Learnt

Release of audit report

Higher degree of transparency on operational performance

Encourages building better relationships with stakeholders

Opportunity for regional business development

Traceability across supply chain

Consolidated view of mine's responsible mining practice beyond the reported ESG reports, ratings

Limitations

Standards alone are not enough

Audit results are a snapshot of your performance at a point in time

Balance between current vs future states

Historical operations face a significant challenge

Consideration of local context

Assumption that all stakeholders act in good faith

Conclusion

-  Has helped us identify best practice
-  Help us identify opportunities for improvement
-  Elevated inputs of some stakeholders we did not adequately reach in our processes
-  Greater understanding of mismatches between initiatives and on the ground impact, beyond risk management
-  Difference in scores at sites held to the same standards highlight nuances in context and therefore performance
-  Demonstrated that the most rigorous standards are feasible to implement but the role of state remains critical in driving responsible mining practice



Thank you

Questions