Sustainable Development Framework: ICMM Principles

Revised 2015
ICMM members recognise that they have a significant role to play in creating a safer and more sustainable mining and metals industry. Through their commitments they work together, alongside governments and local communities to improve quality of life beyond the provision of the minerals and metals that sustain modern living.

All member companies are represented on ICMM’s council by their CEO.

**Our members**

African Rainbow Minerals
Anglo American
AngloGold Ashanti
Antofagasta Minerals
Barrick
BHP Billiton
Codelco
Freeport-McMoRan
Glencore
Goldcorp
Gold Fields
Hydro
JX Nippon
Lonmin
Mitsubishi Materials
MMG
Newcrest Mining
Newmont
Orano
Polyus
Rio Tinto
South32
Sumitomo Metal Mining
Teck
Vale
Sustainable Development Framework
ICMM Principles

Membership of ICMM requires a commitment to our ICMM 10 Principles. These serve as a best-practice framework for sustainable development in the mining and metals industry.

Established in May 2003 the principles respond to the key challenges identified by the Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development Project’s (MMSD) agenda for change. MMSD was a research project looking at how the mining and minerals sector could contribute to the global transition to sustainable development.

We expect all member companies to implement the principles in full and to transparently report on performance.

To ensure their robustness, the principles have been benchmarked against leading international standards. These include: the Rio Declaration, the Global Reporting Initiative, the Global Compact, OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, World Bank Operational Guidelines, OECD Convention on Combating Bribery, ILO Conventions 98, 169, 176, and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.

1

Apply ethical business practices and sound systems of corporate governance and transparency to support sustainable development

- Develop and implement company statements of ethical business principles, and practices that management is committed to enforcing.
- Implement policies and practices that seek to prevent bribery and corruption.
- Comply with or exceed the requirements of host-country laws and regulations.
- Partner with governments, industry and other stakeholders to achieve appropriate and effective public policy, laws, regulations and procedures that facilitate the mining, minerals and metals sector’s contribution to sustainable development within national sustainable development strategies.

2

Integrate sustainable development in corporate strategy and decision-making processes

- Integrate sustainable development principles into company policies and practices.
- Plan, design, operate and close operations in a manner that enhances sustainable development.
- Implement good practice and innovate to improve social, environmental and economic performance while also enhancing shareholder value.
- Encourage customers, business partners and suppliers of goods and services to adopt principles and practices that are comparable to our own.
- Provide sustainable development training to ensure adequate competency at all levels among our own employees and those of contractors.
- Support public policies and practices that foster open and competitive markets.
3

Respect human rights and the interests, cultures, customs and values of employees and communities affected by our activities

- Ensure fair remuneration and work conditions for all employees and never use forced, compulsory or child labour.
- Engage constructively with employees on matters of mutual concern.
- Implement policies and practices designed to eliminate harassment and unfair discrimination in all our activities.
- Ensure all employees, including security personnel, are provided with appropriate training and guidance on cultural issues and human rights.
- Minimise involuntary resettlement, and compensate fairly for adverse effects on the community where resettlement cannot be avoided.
- Respect the culture, customs and heritage of local communities, including indigenous peoples.

4

Implement effective risk-management strategies and systems based on sound science and which account for stakeholder perceptions of risks

- Consult with interested and affected parties to identify, assess and manage all significant social, health, safety, environmental and economic impacts associated with our activities.
- Regularly review and update risk-management systems.
- Inform any parties potentially affected by significant risks from operations and spell out the measures that will be taken to manage such risks effectively.
- Develop, maintain and test effective emergency response procedures in collaboration with potentially affected parties.

5

Pursue continual improvement in health and safety performance with the ultimate goal of zero harm

- Implement a management system focused on continual improvement of the health and safety of employees, contractors and people in the communities where we operate.
- Take all practical and reasonable measures to eliminate workplace fatalities, injuries and diseases among employees and contractors.
- Provide all employees with health and safety training, and require employees of contractors to undergo the same training.
- Implement regular health surveillance and risk-based monitoring of employees. Rehabilitate and reintegrate employees into operations following illness or injury, where feasible.
6

**Pursue continual improvement in environmental performance issues, such as water stewardship, energy use and climate change**

- Assess positive and negative, direct and indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of new projects – from exploration to closure.
- Implement an environmental management system of continual improvement to review, prevent, mitigate or ameliorate adverse environmental impacts.
- Rehabilitate land disturbed or occupied by operations in accordance with appropriate post-mining land uses.
- Provide for safe storage and disposal of residual wastes and process residues.
- Design and plan adequate resources to meet the closure requirements of all operations.

7

**Contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and integrated approaches to land-use planning**

- Respect legally designated protected areas.
- Disseminate scientific data on and promote practices and experiences in biodiversity assessment and management.
- Support the development and implementation of scientifically sound, inclusive and transparent procedures for integrated approaches to land-use planning, biodiversity, conservation and mining.
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ICMM Principles continued

8

Facilitate and support the knowledge-base and systems for responsible design, use, re-use, recycling and disposal of products containing metals and minerals

- Advance understanding of the properties of metals and minerals and their life-cycle effects on human health and the environment.
- Conduct or support research and innovation that promotes the use of products and technologies that are safe and efficient in their use of energy, natural resources and other materials.
- Develop and promote the concept of integrated materials management throughout the metals and minerals value chain.
- Provide regulators and other stakeholders scientifically sound data and analysis regarding our products and operations on which they can make regulatory decisions.
- Support the development of scientifically sound policies, regulations, product standards and material choices that encourage the safe use of mineral and metal products.

9

Pursue continual improvement in social performance and contribute to the social, economic and institutional development of host countries and communities

- Engage at the earliest practical stage with all likely affected parties to discuss and respond to issues and conflicts concerning the management of social impacts.
- Ensure that appropriate systems are in place for continual interaction with affected parties; ensure that minorities and other marginalised groups have equitable and culturally appropriate means of engagement.
- Contribute to community development from exploration to closure in collaboration with host communities and their representatives.
- Encourage partnerships with governments and non-governmental organisations to ensure that programmes [such as community health, education, local business development] are well designed and effectively delivered.
- Enhance social and economic development by seeking opportunities to address poverty.

10

Proactively engage key stakeholders on sustainable development challenges and opportunities in an open and transparent manner. Effectively report and independently verify progress and performance

- Report on economic, social and environmental performance and contribution to sustainable development.
- Provide timely, accurate and relevant information.
- Engage with and respond to stakeholders through open consultation.
ICMM Principles

**Sustainable Development Framework**

**ICMM Position Statements**

ICMM has developed a series of position statements to augment our ICMM 10 Principles for sustainable development. These statements are endorsed by our council and include a number of mandatory requirements that members must implement.

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ICMM is an international organisation dedicated to enabling a safe, fair and sustainable mining and metals industry. Bringing together 25 mining and metals companies and over 30 regional and commodities associations we strengthen environmental and social performance. We serve as a catalyst for change; enhancing mining’s contribution to society.