

# Les minerais stratégiques de l'Afrique

19–20 septembre 2023

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  
et en ligne via Zoom

# Africa's strategic minerals

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African countries could be crucial for diversifying global supply chains of strategic minerals. However, despite this mineral potential, Africa as a continent receives low levels of exploration expenditure compared to global competitors due to perceptions of political risk, weak institutional and legislative environment, and infrastructure deficits. Furthermore, there are marked differences in stakeholders' expectations of the energy transition.

The responsibility of ensuring African countries truly benefit from the green commodity boom is shared between African governments and policy makers as well as investors and companies. Governments must create attractive investment environments, built on strong institutions that ensure participation of all stakeholders, and in the transparent and accountable allocation of resource rents.

International and local partnerships with key allies and organizations will be vital in delivering 'win-win' outcomes to companies and civil society. This will include bi-lateral partnerships on regional value chains, PPPs with companies to secure benefits, and broad partnerships with consumer countries to secure skills and knowledge transfers. As International government and companies put increasing attention on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria, there is space for greater African determination of what their own priorities are. The global drive for environmental protection should not come at the cost of worsening social and governance in producer countries.

## Day 1 | Tuesday, 19 September

09:00 – 09:15

### Welcome remarks

**Dr Stefanie Brinkel**, Resident Representative and Director of the Regional Programme Political Dialogue West Africa (PDWA), Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

**Anja Berretta**, Head of the Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

**Tighisti Amare**, Deputy Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

09:15 – 10:00

### Opening keynotes

**Hon Mamadou Sangafowa Coulibaly**, Minister of Mines, Petroleum and Energy, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

**Dr Vanessa Ushie**, Director, Natural Resources, African Development Bank

10:00 – 11:15

### Session 1 – The geopolitics of strategic and critical minerals

- *What are the implications for Africa of the demand for metals and minerals required for the global green transitions?*
- *What are international partners key critical mineral strategies?*

**Sheila Khama**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

**Dr. Melanie Müller**, Senior Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs

**Francesca Di Mauro**, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

**Samuel Gahigi**, Acting General Director, Rio Tinto Guinea

Chair: **Christopher Vandome**, Senior Research Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

11:15 – 11:45

Coffee Break

11:45 – 13:15

### Session 2 – New demand, new opportunities? An outlook on international cooperation in the sector of critical minerals

- *What are the opportunities and priorities for national and regional critical mineral strategies?*
- *What are the potential priorities and opportunities for diversifying critical mineral supply chains?*
- *What is the significance of international collaboration and resilient partnerships in ensuring critical mineral supply chains?*
- *Where do the greatest African opportunities lie in the drive for critical minerals?*

**Peter Handley**, Head of Unit - DG GROW, European Commission (*virtual*)

**Prof. Dr. Hubertus Bardt**, Managing Director, German Economic Institute (IW)

**Dr Brendan Vickers**, Adviser and Head, International Trade Policy Section, Trade, Oceans and Natural Resources Directorate, The Commonwealth Secretariat

**Annika Schröder**, Policy Advisor Economy, Trade and Climate, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Chair: **Anja Berretta**, Head of the Energy Security and Climate Change, Sub-Saharan Africa programme, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

13:15 – 14:30

Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00

### Session 3 – Regional value chain development

- *What are the opportunities and outstanding obstacles to regional beneficiation programmes?*
- *To what extent will the MoU for the development of battery value chains boost regional green and digital transformation?*

**Sodhie Naicker**, Director at DMT Kai Batla, DMT Group

**Paul Atherley**, Chairman, Pensana (*virtual*)

**Ian Mwiinga**, National Coordinator, Zambia Secretariat, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

Chair: **Sheila Khama**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

## Day 2 | Wednesday, 20 September

09:00 – 10:30

### Session 4 – Overcoming perceptions of ESG risk

- *How can perceptions of ESG risk be effectively addressed when dealing with climate-sensitive mining in Africa?*
- *What are the industry priorities in ESG and how are initiatives being successfully implemented into company best practise?*
- *What are the challenges to engaging with ASM and how can companies ensure meaningful engagement?*
- *How can companies effectively collaborate to address environmental compliance issues?*

**Farai Nyabereka**, Partner, Manokore Attorneys

**Balbine Pascaline Makani Omgba**, President, Association of Women in Mining In Africa

**Vincent Obisie-Orlu**, Natural Resource Governance and ESG Researcher, Good Governance Africa

**Dr Alecia Ndlovu**, Lecturer, University of Cape Town

**Djariatou Traore**, Executive VP ESG and Supply Chain, Endeavour Mining

Chair: **Christopher Vandome**, Senior Research Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30

### Session 5 – Partnerships for just transition

- *What should the composition of regional and international financing for just transition policy look like?*
- *How should company and business development – including for SMEs – be better centred in regional and international just transition frameworks?*
- *How can it be ensured local content and community economic linkages are embedded within partnerships for just transition?*
- *What role can IFIs play in supporting just transition?*
- *How can it be ensured sector green energy needs are secured?*

**Rodrigue Djahlin**, Senior Operations Officer and Africa Regional Lead for IFC Sustainable Infrastructure Advisory, International Finance Corporation (IFC)

**Christine Logbo-Kossi**, Executive Director, Chamber of Mines of Côte d'Ivoire

**Dr Claude Kabemba**, Executive Director, Southern Africa Resource Watch

Chair: **Kidanua Abera Gizaw**, Senior Climate Finance Officer, African Development Bank

12:30 – 12:45

### Concluding remarks

**Anja Berretta**, Head of the Energy Security and Climate Change, Sub-Saharan Africa programme, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

**Christopher Vandome**, Senior Research Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House