

CONFERENCE

Recovery of Secondary Raw Materials from Mining Residues and Waste, case studies and best practices

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Call for case studies on materials recovery from mining residues, resource assessment, and classification

MINEA (Mining the European Anthroposphere) is an EU-funded COST Action that is addressing the knowledge gap between the availability of secondary materials and their potential recovery from anthropogenic deposits. Traditional mining shifts raw materials from the geosphere to the anthroposphere - the part of the environment that is made or modified by humans. These materials end up in anthropogenic deposits, which offer a potential resource from the secondary materials of tomorrow.

Workshop scope

MINEA Working Group 2.1 (http://www.minea-network.eu/working_groups.php?g=7) is working on the creation of a comprehensive knowledgebase for mining residues deposits (waste rock, tailings and metallurgical) to allow for the classification and reporting of material resources/reserves.

There are inventories of geogenic deposits (mineral resources) and economically extractable shares (reserves) that provide information on the future availability of primary materials.

In contrast, there is a lack of information on the availability of secondary materials. Even though the quantity of materials in the anthroposphere has risen dramatically in the last few decades, the resource potential in anthropogenic deposits has not been adequately explored. This means that it is impossible to:

- compare resources/reserves of primary and secondary materials;
- assess the recovery potential of raw materials from mining residues;
- provide integrated information on the availability of materials for future commodity markets.

The workshop, held immediately after the Raw Materials Summit (<https://eitrawmaterials.eu/raw-materials-summit-2019/>), provides an opportunity to present and discuss the state-of-art and case studies on resource assessment, classification and recovery potential.

Call for case studies

We are inviting experts and organisations to share experiences in materials recovery from mining residues, with a focus on resource assessment and classification.

In the context of MINEA:

- resource assessment includes the process of defining the project and conditions under which recovery may take place, characterising the quantity and quality of the material, and evaluating the feasibility of recovery in terms of the technical and economic recoverability, environmental soundness, market and socio-political acceptable and legal compliance;
- resource classification includes the tools, approaches and methodologies adopted to characterise and communicate anthropogenic resource availability (e.g. United Nations Framework Classification).

We are also interested to collect lessons learnt, barriers, knowledge gaps, threats opportunities, etc.), in order to foster the widespread adoption of mining residues as a source of raw materials.

We will use these evidences to share good practices across the European Union and beyond, and highlight any barriers or knowledge gaps to Policy Makers and Regulators.

If you are interested in presenting a case study please complete the short template overleaf and email it to teresa.carvalho@tecnico.ulisboa.pt by 22nd April 2019. The accepted presentations will be notified before 1st May 2019.