

## MINATURA2020 – Mineral Deposits of Public Importance

**PRESS RELEASE | Brussels | 12 June 2015 - A new EU project entitled MINATURA2020 – Developing a concept for a European minerals deposit framework, funded within the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Programme, was launched in the beginning of 2015 as a response to social needs to safeguard mineral deposits of public importance for the future.**

The exploitation of indigenous mineral deposits in Europe is essential if we are to ensure that the needs of European society can be satisfied in a sustainable manner. To achieve this objective, society needs to ensure that effective access is provided to enable the exploration and exploitation of such mineral deposits, without compromising the needs of current or future generations. Accordingly, the potential of exploitable mineral deposits (including abandoned and historic mining sites) needs to be evaluated specifically and in relation to other land use and environmental objectives. The deliberation between mineral exploitation and other land uses objectives is a challenging arena which requires informed evidence.

In response to this challenge MINATURA2020, a new EU project funded within the scope of the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Programme for Research & Innovation (R&I), was launched in February 2015. The overall objective of this three-year project is to develop a **concept and methodology for the definition and subsequent protection of "Mineral Deposits of Public Importance" (MDoPI)** in order to ensure their best use in the future with a view to being included in a harmonised European regulatory, guidance or policy framework. Providing a policy-planning framework that comprises the sustainability principle for mineral exploitation, as it exists for other resource/land use sectors, is thus the key driving force behind MINATURA2020.

Led by MinPol, the Agency for International Minerals Policy (Austria), MINATURA2020 benefits from the extensive experience and strength of an international consortium of 24 partners from 16 EU member states (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom) and three non-member states (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia). All project partners have a demonstrated record of accomplishment of projects at national, international and commercial levels and are active players in the international raw materials community.

Particular emphasis will be given to the **pan-European application and synergies** of the project. The consortium aims therefore to include as many European countries as possible in its deliberations. In this sense, **stakeholder workshops** will be organised in many European countries in 2016 in order to collect broad input on the topic of Mineral Deposits of Public Importance.

### MORE INFORMATION

<http://minatura2020.eu>



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