

MINATURA2020 final conference

PRESS RELEASE | Brussels | 10 November 2017 – Stakeholders have gathered in Brussels on 10 November 2017 to discuss the approach for defining Mineral Deposits of Public Importance (MDoPI) proposed by the EU-funded MINATURA2020 project.

Nearly 50 participants from the project's consortium and advisory board, but also stakeholders from the European Institutions, public research bodies and industry have gathered in Brussels, on 10 November 2017, for the MINATURA2020 final conference organised in the framework of the European Commission's Raw Materials Week.

The EU-funded MINATURA2020 project has been launched, in February 2015, with the aim of developing a concept and a methodology for safeguarding European non-energy "Mineral Deposits of Public Importance" (abbreviated as MDoPI) to ensure their best use in the future.

MINATURA2020, a consortium of 24 partners from 19 European countries, is focusing on the key issue of competing land-uses. It seeks to contribute to the improvement of planning processes with a view to integrating spatial and mineral planning so as to avoid the sterilisation of nationally, internationally and locally important minerals by other development, thereby safeguarding present and future access to mineral resources or expediting its extraction to allow other land-uses to follow. MINATURA2020 aims thus to contribute to providing Europe's society with a policy framework supporting the sustainable supply of mineral raw materials that are extracted within the EU.

Malwina Nowakowska, Deputy head of Unit for Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials at the European Commission's DG GROW, stressed in her contribution to the round table discussion that the second pillar of the European Commission's *Raw Materials Initiative* focusing on a sustainable domestic supply of raw materials is indeed becoming more and more important because the access to raw materials from third markets is getting complicated for different reasons. She also underlined the high expectations the European Commission has for the MINATURA2020 project to provide a comprehensive framework for the definition of Mineral Deposits of Public Importance.

Parts of the methodology to be used to define MDoPI are currently still under discussion within the project consortium and the audience was invited to provide its opinion. Stakeholders were also invited to contribute through an electronic survey available on the project website ([here](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13523850)) and via the project's discussion forum (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13523850>).

MORE INFORMATION

<http://minatura2020.eu>



CONTACT

Coordinator – MinPol (Austria)
office@minpol.com

