



FORAM

TOWARDS A WORLD FORUM
ON RAW MATERIALS

TOWARDS A VISION ON GLOBAL RAW MATERIALS COOPERATION

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Context.....	4
Values	6
Vision.....	7
Communication	8
Bibliography.....	9
Annex 1: Communicating the vision.....	10



Deliverable D.3.2

Vision Document

Project:	Towards a World Forum on Raw Materials
Acronym:	FORAM
Grant Agreement:	730127
Funding Scheme:	Horizon 2020
Webpage:	www.foramproject.net
Work Package:	3
Work Package Leader:	European Federation of Geologists (EFG)
Deliverable Title:	Vision Document
Deliverable Number:	3.2
Deliverable Leader:	European Federation of Geologists (EFG)
Involved beneficiaries:	MinPol, LPRC, WRFA, EGS, UNU
Dissemination level:	Public
Version:	2.0
Status:	Final
Authors:	Vitor Correia, Isabel Fernandez (EFG)
Reviewed by:	Mathias Schlupe (WRFA), FORAM Management Committee
Approved by:	WRFA
Date:	19 July 2017



FORAM

Disclaimer

The contents of this document are the copyright of the FORAM consortium and shall not be copied in whole, in part, or otherwise reproduced (whether by photographic, reprographic or any other method), and the contents thereof shall not be divulged to any other person or organisation without prior written permission. Such consent is hereby automatically given to all members who have entered into the FORAM Consortium Agreement, dated 20.10.2016, and to the European Commission to use and disseminate this information.

This information and content of this report is the sole responsibility of the FORAM consortium members and does not necessarily represent the views expressed by the European Commission or its services. Whilst the information contained in the documents and webpages of the project is believed to be accurate, the author(s) or any other participant in the FORAM consortium makes no warranty of any kind with regard to this material.



Introduction

The project Towards a World Forum on Raw Materials (FORAM) is developing and setting up an EU-based platform of international experts and stakeholders that will advance the idea of a World Forum on Raw Materials, strengthening international cooperation among G20 Member countries as well as other third countries active in the extraction, processing and recycling of mineral raw materials.

The project will thus play a key role in fostering international cooperation on raw materials, supporting the implementation of the Raw Materials Initiative and the Strategic Implementation Plan¹ of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials, in particular in terms of “*establishing and maintaining strong and sustainable relationships with relevant international organisations and countries*”, as described in the project’s Grant Agreement.

The project is comprised of a consortium of twelve international organizations with expertise in setting and fostering international dialogues in the field of non-energy abiotic raw materials. The project includes the definition of a long term vision and strategic positioning for a future World Forum on Raw Materials. This Vision Document (D3.2) is an outcome of Work Package 3, detailing the future forum’s overarching values and aspirations that will draw stakeholders in.

Context

A secure supply of mineral raw materials for industry is necessary to ensure global economic sustainability and to improve the quality of life of all citizens. In the last decade a structural change has taken place in global mineral markets. The old rule of thumb – 20 percent of the world population in Europe, USA and Japan consuming more than 80 percent of the total minerals production – is not valid any more (Wagner and Huy, 2005). With the integration of India, the People’s Republic of China and other populous emerging countries like Brazil and Russia into the world economy, today more than half of the world’s population claims an increasing share in raw materials. Thus the global demand for raw materials stands at the bottom of a new growth curve and it is assumed that by 2030 the worldwide need for raw materials will have doubled (World Economic Forum, 2010). This will impact the raw materials sector (the extractive industries and all the corresponding value chains, including recycling and substitution), and will call for an enhanced, integrated, global governance of raw materials.

The increasing demand for raw materials, associated to population growth, is boosted by technological advances, creating products that use a wider range of raw materials. Some of these

¹ “Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP)”. European Commission. Accessed June 18, 2017.
<https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/eip-raw-materials/en/content/strategic-implementation-plan-sip-0>

materials are scarce (e.g. rare metals) and are available only as by-products of the mining and processing of other elements. The social acceptance of mining is lower, and this has been pushing up social and environmental standards. Mineral deposits that still exist are smaller, with lower grades, often located at bigger depths.

The extractive sector faces now many constraints, and a quick scan shows that the drivers of change affecting this sector (World Economic Forum, 2014) can be clustered in three groups: 1) socio-economic and political systems; 2) technology; and 3) environment and climate change.

The EU socio-economic and political values support market principles, and the EU aims at developing into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy. These three mutually reinforcing principles are intended to support the EU and its Member States to achieve high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. In this context, seven flagship initiatives were presented as new engines to boost growth and jobs². Two of those initiatives have relevance to FORAM: “*An Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era*” and “*A resource-efficient Europe*”.

An Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era sets out a strategy that aims to boost growth and jobs by maintaining and supporting a strong, diversified and competitive industrial base in Europe offering well-paid jobs while becoming less carbon intensive. The core message of the Communication is that industry must be placed centre stage if Europe is to remain a global economic leader. Coordinated European policy responses are needed, looking at the whole added value chain, from raw materials to after-sales service. Only a European Raw Materials Policy targeting competitiveness and sustainability at international level can muster the critical mass of change and coordination needed for success.

A Resource-Efficient Europe is intended to support the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon economy to achieve sustainable growth. The initiative underlines that EU economy and quality of life are based on the availability of natural resources. Their efficient and sustainable use is necessary to secure economic growth and jobs for Europe. Resource efficiency for Europe needs technological improvements and significant changes in the fields of raw materials research, recycling, energy, industrial production and transport systems.

² “Europe 2020 – Flagship initiatives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth”. European Commission. Accessed June 15, 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/europe-2020-in-a-nutshell/flagship-initiatives/index_en.htm.



The EU ongoing efforts to achieve high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion explain why the sustainable and unhindered access to raw materials, through free trade, is one of the pillars of the EU's strategy for raw materials³.

Alongside socio-economic and political systems, technology has been, and will continue to be, a main driver of change. Technology defines military influence, and technological breakthroughs are the main source of competitive advantage in the liberal world. Understanding (and predicting, whenever possible) the impact of technological advances is essential for informed policy making. And because new technologies often rely on (sometimes scarce) new materials, understanding the link between technological developments and raw materials' needs and demand is crucial.

Climate change is already affecting some countries severely, and it has the capacity to disrupt national economies, costing communities and countries dearly in the near future. To address climate change 193 countries adopted the Paris Agreement at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015, setting a limit to the rise of global temperatures. Countries also adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals⁴. Many of these goals can be directly linked to limits of linear consumption of resources (World Resources Forum, 2013 and Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2012), and contributions on this subject provided by a global authoritative forum is expected to have resonance in policy making groups and in other key stakeholders.

Advancing a World Forum on Raw Materials is, in the context described, instrumental to establishing multilateral dialogues aiming to minimise trade distortions and avoid trade barriers, promoting better and informed raw materials global governance and enforcing long term sustainable practices along the mineral raw materials value chain.

Values

The core values of the EU, as stated in the Lisbon Treaty⁵, are respect for human dignity and human rights, freedom, democracy, equality and the rule of law. These values sustain a fundamental belief that, an economy that is based on market principles where individual economic and political freedoms are guaranteed, is the most effective system for ensuring future prosperity, encouraging competitiveness and ensuring longer-term employment (European Commission, 2014).

³ "Trade in raw materials". European Commission, DG Growth. Accessed June 15, 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/raw-materials/specific-interest/trade_en.

⁴ "Sustainable Development Goals". United Nations. Accessed June 15, 2017. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

⁵ "The Lisbon Treaty". European Commission. Accessed June 18, 2017. <http://www.lisbon-treaty.org/wcm/the-lisbon-treaty.html>

In the context described above, the ultimate goal of a World Forum on Raw Materials propelled by the EU implies a construction founded on the following set of values:

1. International cooperation;
2. Free trade;
3. Sustainable development;
4. Rule of law;
5. Pluralism (and equality before the law); and
6. Tolerance.

These values are fundamental for the positioning of a forum where open informed discussions, integrity, criticism and self-correction, rational procedures and individual freedom shape and foster international cooperation on raw materials, *“establishing and maintaining strong and sustainable relationships with relevant international organisations and countries”*.

Vision

Advancing the idea of a World Forum on Raw Materials requires a participative and structured discussion involving different stakeholders. To ensure this process is guided by a common understanding of the purpose, general aims and future role of the forum, it is paramount to craft a vision statement.

Vision statements express fundamental aspirations (why an organisation exists and what it is meant to be), and are impressed by the fundamental beliefs of people in the organisation.

For the establishment of a World Forum on Raw Materials, a future-based clear definition of its aspirations will inspire stakeholders who will advance its concept, and will provide a framework for the development of a Strategic Plan.

The organisational purpose and the vision statement were developed with the contribution of FORAM project consortium and advisory board members, in open discussions and exchange of ideas.

The **purpose** of the World Forum on Raw Materials is to enhance international cooperation between all key-stakeholders (e.g. governments, industry, academia, NGOs) on raw materials policies and governance.

The **vision** of the World Forum on Raw Materials is to become an authoritative, independent and neutral organisation that supports cooperative actions to safeguard a sustainable use, as well as a fair and reliable global supply of mineral resources.

Communication

Communicating the vision is fundamental to inspire stakeholders to engage in the process towards a World Forum on Raw Materials.

The vision statement will be disseminated to actual and prospective stakeholders, using key information and infographics to highlight the importance of setting a large collaborative effort addressing raw materials provision and governance on a global level. This information should focus, with a simple message, on the FORAM project, the corresponding overall context, the purpose of a World Forum on Raw Materials and its vision (see Annex 1).

Bibliography

Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2012. *Towards The Circular Economy*. Retrieved January 18, 2017 from <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/assets/downloads/publications/Ellen-MacArthur-Foundation-Towards-the-Circular-Economy-vol.1.pdf>

European Commission (Directorate-General for Communication), 2014. *How the European Union works: your guide to the EU institutions*. Luxembourg: Publications Office.

Wagner, M., Huy, D., 2005. *Theses for a raw material policy. Does structural change in demand create a new dimension to the world commodity markets*. Facts – Analyses - Economic Background information. German Ministry of Economy, Berlin.

World Economic Forum, 2010. *Mining & Metals Scenarios to 2030*. Retrieved January 18, 2017 from http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Scenario_MM2030_2010.pdf

World Economic Forum Mining & Metals Industry Partnership in collaboration with Accenture, 2014. *Scoping Paper: Mining and Metals in a Sustainable World*. Retrieved January 12, 2017 from http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_MM_MiningMetalSustainableWorld_ScopingPaper_2014.pdf

World Resources Forum, 2013. *Resource Efficiency, Governance and Lifestyles*. Meeting Report October 2013, Davos, Switzerland. Retrieved May 14, 2017 from <https://www.wrforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/WRF2013-MeetingReport.pdf>

Annex 1: Communicating the vision

Towards a World Forum on Raw Materials: example of infographic and corresponding structure.

The project	<p>THE PROJECT</p> <p>FORAM sets up an EU-based platform of international experts and stakeholders that advances the idea of a World Forum on Raw Materials.</p>
The context	<p>THE CONTEXT</p> <p>Source: World Bank. http://datatopics.worldbank.org</p> <p>Increasing global demand for raw materials</p> <p>Source: European Commission, DG Growth. https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/raw-materials/specific-interest/critical_en</p>
The purpose	<p>THE PURPOSE</p> <p>The World Forum on Raw Materials will enhance international cooperation between all key-stakeholders on raw materials policies and governance.</p>
The vision	<p>THE VISION</p> <p>The World Forum on Raw Materials will become an authoritative, independent, neutral organisation that supports cooperative actions to uphold a sustainable, reliable, and affordable global supply of mineral resources.</p> <p>WWW.FORAMPROJECT.NET</p>

