

IRMA Overview

Mining is a complex and intensive process that causes environmental and social change no matter where it occurs. The Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) envisions a world in which the mining industry respects human rights and the aspirations of affected communities; provides safe, healthy, and respectful workplaces; avoids or minimizes harm to the environment; and leaves positive legacies.

Founded in 2006 by a coalition of nongovernmental organizations, affected communities, mining companies, trade unions, and businesses using minerals and metals in their products, IRMA has developed a set of standards and an independent third-party verification system to measure social and environmental performance at mine sites.

In June 2018, following two global public consultation periods on earlier drafts, IRMA released the *Standard for Responsible Mining*. The IRMA Mining Standard is a comprehensive document with 26 chapters covering issues under the broad categories of business integrity, planning for positive legacies, and social and environmental responsibility.

In late 2019 and early 2020, IRMA-approved independent auditors carried out the first assessments of mines against the IRMA Standard.

Terms of Reference

IRMA seeks a Brussels-based consultant experienced in outreach to the European Parliament with capacity to engage with policymakers, NGOs, labor unions, academics, investors, and purchasing companies to advance IRMA's mission. The consultant should be familiar with the EU Green Deal, EU regulatory framework for batteries, and due diligence regulations. The consultant will be familiar with the corporate sustainability due diligence directive, critical raw materials strategy, and EU taxonomy legislation in development.

Scope of Work

The consultant will assist the Executive Director and Senior Policy Advisor with outreach to policy makers in the EU and integration of IRMA into EU strategies and legislation. The consultant will also work in direct communication with policymakers and diverse sectors represented in IRMA.



Responsibilities will include:

- Consider ways the requirements in the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* can be integrated into EU law and policy.
- Assess ways that the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* (actively in practice, first scheduled update of requirements therein commencing May 2022), Mineral Processing Standard (currently in draft, final expected late 2022), and Chain of Custody Standard (currently in draft, final expected late 2022) could be aligned with EU law and policy.
- Communicate with EU policymakers to integrate IRMA and IRMA requirements into strategies and policies, including the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence directive, critical raw materials strategy, EU taxonomy legislation, and EU sustainable products legislation currently under development. This includes creation of presentation and other outreach materials, reaching out to new and existing contacts, and building new relationships.
- Represent IRMA in strategic meetings, panels, and other events to raise awareness about IRMA and IRMA standards, including the *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining* as well as standards under development.
- Develop collaborative partnerships with companies, NGOs, affected community leaders, labor unions, investors, academic institutions, and others to advance IRMA's mission and further the objectives above.
- Assist IRMA staff in communicating EU opportunities and progress to the IRMA Board of Directors and Members.
- Other work as appropriate, opportune and of interest to consultant and IRMA staff.

The position will start as a part-time contract position, averaging 10 hours per week, from May or June 2022 to October 2022, with the potential for extension/expansion if mutually agreeable to consultant and IRMA. Consultant and IRMA's Executive Director will schedule regular check-in meetings to evaluate how the work is progressing and make improvements as needed.

Consultant should be based in or near Brussels, Belgium.

The consultant may be asked to travel for this work during the term of the contract, subject to COVID-19 health and safety protocols. IRMA continues to approach travel with caution to protect Consultant, staff, and the wellbeing of all with whom we work. All approved travel costs will be covered by IRMA.

Qualifications

The qualified consultant will have the following attributes and expertise:

- Prior work with EU policymakers to inform policy development and outcomes
- Experience working on issues related to mining and extractive industries



- Knowledge of mining-related EU standards, laws, regulations, and policies and the EU legislative process
- Understanding of and commitment to adhere to IRMA's model of equal service, accountability, respect and value delivered to all stakeholder sectors affected by mining (civil society, organized labor, mining companies, and purchasers/finance sectors)
- Experience in standards development and/or work with certification systems and understanding of voluntary initiatives like IRMA as a tool to drive positive change
- Comfort with public speaking, developing and delivering presentations
- Proficiency in English (additional languages appreciated)
- Comfort using technology (email, Zoom, Word processing, PowerPoint; if training provided to support consultant if needed)

Applications

Please send a cover letter, CV, and list of three references (name, affiliation, email) to kvissers@responsiblemining.net by 25 May 2022.