



Initiative for Responsible
Mining Assurance

IRMA STANDARD V2.0
2nd DRAFT VERSION

Public Summary Report on the IRMA Standard V2.0 First Public Consultation and Changes Made (2023-2025)

July 2025

What's inside this document

This document provides an overview of the ongoing development of version V2.0 of the IRMA Standard (for the Responsible Exploration, Extraction, and Processing of Minerals). It provides the following:

1. **Context on the review** of the IRMA Standard V1.0 to consider a revision.
2. The components of IRMA's **preparation** for releasing a 1st DRAFT V2.0 for consultation.
3. A summary of the **first public consultation** that took place over 2023-2024.
4. An overview of **key changes** captured in the first public consultation.
5. A summary of the **remaining and arising issues** that are included in the second public consultation.
6. Plans for the **second consultation** and how to engage.
7. Links to **online resources** that are relevant to both the 1st and 2nd public consultations, including more detailed summaries of the changes captured from the first consultation by Chapter, explanation of how each issue was considered, and a link to the full comments log with individual responses provided by the IRMA Secretariat.

Acknowledgments

IRMA would like to thank all those who provided comments and recommendations on the 1st DRAFT of the IRMA Standard V2.0. We would like to expand our gratitude to all the members and partners of IRMA, including Indigenous rights' organizations, mining-affected community organizations and associations, national and international NGOs, labor organizations and unions, exploration and mining companies, mineral processing companies, downstream purchasers, finance organizations and banks, standard-setting organizations, industry associations, consultants and practitioners, and others. The full list of IRMA members and partners is available on our [website](https://www.responsiblemining.net).

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About the IRMA Standard

The development of the IRMA Standard spans a period of 13 years, since the first literature review and workshops organized by IRMA in 2012-2013 to produce a zero draft.

IRMA Mining Standard: a journey



In June 2018, IRMA's equally-governed multi-stakeholder Board launched the first official version of the IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining (hereafter referred to as the "IRMA Standard"). The IRMA Standard now provides an internationally-recognized shared definition of what constitutes best practices in socio-environmental responsibility and accountability for mine sites of industrial scale. The IRMA Standard serves as the basis for a comprehensive system that is intended to create transparency into the risks and impacts of mining, and to improve practices across supply chains through independent third-party verification.

The IRMA Standard seeks to define best practices, consisting of a set of auditable requirements that reflect an equal multi-stakeholder consensus on the most effective way to achieve the agreed objectives of each Chapter of the Standard, given the current state of knowledge. The IRMA Standard is intended to specify levels of performance such that a site that is operating according to best practice could reasonably be expected to conform with all the requirements. These levels of performance are designed to ensure that sites that are still on the journey to best practices can also be measured according to their current status and receive recognition for transparent reporting and continuous progress.

Please note: The IRMA Standard V2.0 is new in its approach in that it now covers more phases of the mining and mineral supply chain, from exploration and development, through mining, closure, and mineral processing. IRMA also, separately, oversees a [Chain of Custody Standard](#) for tracking materials through the supply chain from mine-to-market end use products.

Stakeholders may use the IRMA Standard in the following ways:

- **Mineral Exploration, Mining, and Mineral Processing companies** can demonstrate through third-party assessments that they are improving practices over time, and differentiate their efforts to protect social and environmental values. This offers these companies improved relationships with the communities in which they are based and Indigenous rights-holders with historic relationship to the lands, improved wellbeing of workers, opportunity for preferred customer relationships, improved access to finance and insurance, improved relationships with governments and more.
- **Downstream Purchasers (those who buy mined materials for use into products down the supply chain all the way to the end consumer)** can get insight into the practices of their mineral suppliers and ask their mid-tier suppliers to give preference to minerals that come from operations that have been independently assessed and are performing at higher levels of responsible practices. This provides purchasers with confidence they are using their due diligence to understand and reduce harm in their supply chain, leverage their responsible sourcing to value improved practices, and meet their own company commitments to environmental and social responsibility.
- **Indigenous rights-holders, communities, labor unions, civil society organizations, and NGOs** can hold companies at all points in the mineral supply chain accountable and ask for third-party assurance and transparent reporting to build increased trust between the mining/processing operation and the communities in which they operate, and serve as a basis for setting shared priorities and informing constructive dialogue for improved practices. Indigenous Peoples may ask for IRMA audits as one tool in negotiating conditions under which they could give their free, prior, and informed consent, and in monitoring ongoing commitments and agreements.
- **Financial institutions and Investors** can use the IRMA Standard to assess practices at the asset level, improve lending policies, or signal an intent or interest to invest in more responsible mining companies. This triggers a positive feedback loop to encourage more responsible practices from the start of an operation and throughout all phases of development through responsible closure and reclamation.
- **Governments** can use conformance with IRMA Standards as a key metric in national mining indicator, and can draw upon the IRMA Standard and its requirements to improve their expectations for the mining sector and use it as a blueprint for improved regulation. As governments seek to realize benefits of mining and mineral processing – through jobs, infrastructure and revenue streams – while protecting fundamental rights and the environment, they can become known for being hubs of responsible mining and mineral processing.
- **Insurance companies** can leverage the IRMA Standard to assess environmental and social risks associated with exploration, mining, and mineral processing projects and operations, and integrate them into their underwriting processes, to enhance risk management. This triggers a positive feedback loop to encourage more responsible practices from the start of an operation and throughout all phases of development through responsible closure and reclamation.

1. Review of the IRMA Standard V1.0 to consider a revision

As part of IRMA's commitment to credibility and continual improvement of our Standards and independent audits, and using we reviewed the IRMA Standard V1.0 (2018) to consider if a revision was warranted. This review – and IRMA's Standard development processes – used the ISEAL Code of Good Practice as a reference, as well as the WTO Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations, and the UNECE Guidelines on Developing Gender-Responsive Standards. This review was based primarily on implementation experience and stakeholder feedback over five years (2018-2022), as well as additional information and lessons learned, such as:

- Findings from our initial third-party independent audits.
- Synthesis of evolving global expectations of, and references to, IRMA.
- Synthesis of evolving global expectations of responsible mining.
- Summary of emerging issues garnering international discussions about mining and the sector's sustainability outcomes.
- Review of unwanted accidents and catastrophes in the sector.
- Review of other standards and responsible mining initiatives with overlapping scope to assess whether alignment or complementarity could be strengthened through a Standard revision.
- Documented changes to relevant legislation, norms, and frameworks across the scope of the Standard and relevant to countries where IRMA assurance would take place.
- Comments received on other draft IRMA Standards (including the "IRMA Ready" Draft Standard covering exploration and development, and the Draft IRMA Standard on Mineral Processing); those standards were later integrated into the one consolidated 1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0 released for public consultation.
- Initial stakeholder feedback gathered from targeted engagement activities on specific topics.
- And feedback gathered from within IRMA Expert Working Groups convened, or reconvened, in 2022.

The review determined that a revision of Standard's elements related to both content and structure was necessary.

Through a robust and consistent process, IRMA's equally governed multi-stakeholder Board of Directors decided to carry out a revision of the Standard with the following objectives:

1. To ensure our multi-stakeholder shared definition of responsible mineral value chains **remains accountable** to all our governing houses and all stakeholders;
2. To ensure the IRMA Standard **remains up-to-date**, pertinent, and able to address current and emerging risks and impacts;
3. To **add clarity and consistency** throughout the IRMA Standard, wherever possible;
4. To offer a robust differentiation and market preference mechanism (for companies' transparency and improved performance) also to **exploration** projects, and stand-alone **mineral processing** projects and operations;
5. To **fill identified gaps** where consensus on best practice and/or science had made progress since 2018.

Main gaps identified during the review

In terms of potential gaps identified, the main issues were related to:

- Risks associated with climate change and of the actions needed to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption, and alignment of target with the Paris Agreement and other international frameworks.
- Remedy processes for harm resulting from past and current activities.
- Operationalization of continuous improvement and corrective actions.
- New expectations and norms for information-sharing and public reporting.
- Intersectional approaches to gender-related risks, and gender equity.
- Bribery, corruption, and conflict of interests.
- Responsible sourcing of minerals and supply chain due diligence.
- Operationalization of the "broad community support" concept.
- Historical land acquisition and displacement processes.
- Operationalization of the UN Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies and the Local Level (APELL) guidance.
- Working hours and break times, workers' wages, benefits, and housing.
- A "safe and healthy working environment" as newly-adopted fifth International Labour Organization's (ILO) fundamental principles and rights at work.
- Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs).
- Cultural Heritage, including Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples.
- Uncontacted Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Peoples Living in Voluntary Isolation or in Initial Contact.
- Management of Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs) and Mine Waste Facilities/Areas.
- Risks associated with radioactivity and radionuclides, in ore, waste, and equipment.
- Fungi as an aspect of biodiversity that needs to be considered.
- Land and soil pollution.

2. Components of the preparation for releasing the 1st draft for public consultation

Approach to developing the 1st consultation DRAFT

Before IRMA could carry out a revision of the IRMA Standard, we needed to prepare a consultation *DRAFT Standard for Responsible Mining and Minerals Processing V2.0* (hereafter called the “1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0”) based on the elements of the review, develop consultation questions on material issues, map stakeholders that could be affected by changes and would need to be informed and invited to provide feedback, and to develop mechanisms that would allow for comments to be received in a wide range of languages and channels.

The 1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0 was structured to invite a full range of questions, comments and recommendations to improve the Standard. The following were components for preparing and updating the document to be released for consultation:

- Ten (10) IRMA Expert Working Groups were convened over 2022 and 2023 to catalyze suggestions for solutions to issues that the review process had determined were most needing attention for this revision. Working groups were not tasked to come to consensus nor to make formal recommendations. Each working group was focused on a specific topic (see Box 1)
 - 140+ persons (42% women¹), representing more than 100 organizations from 23 countries participated in the working groups.
 - Working groups were cross-sectoral with civil society and organize labor working alongside corporate sector and academic experts.
- Topics were selected for these deeper discussions based on the most common questions and challenges that arose during the initial independent audits, as well where we found that best practices and stakeholder expectations were evolving beyond what was agreed when the IRMA Standard was published in June 2018 (V1.0).

Box 1: IRMA Expert Working Group Topics

1. Indigenous Peoples’ Rights and FPIC
2. Resettlement
3. Conflict Affected and High-Risk Areas
4. Occupational Health and Safety
5. Planning and Financing Reclamation and Closure
6. Waste and Materials Management
7. Water
8. GHG Emissions, Energy and Climate Change
9. Gender Equality and Gender Protections
10. Mining and Circularity

¹ We seek to show diversity of gender engagement but also recognize gender is not binary, and this was not a demographic we requested of our expert participants.

- The DRAFT was then prepared and further updated by the IRMA Secretariat based on:
 - the input of these subject-specific Expert Working Groups convened by IRMA in 2022-23,
 - the experiences from the first mines independently audited with the IRMA Standard V1.0,
 - the comments from twenty companies piloting the Draft IRMA Standards focused on exploration & development and minerals processing,
 - evolving expectations for best practices in mining, synthesized in-house from external stakeholder recommendations and comments received in letters, in-person and emails received since V1.0 had been launched, as well as from documents and publications publicly accessible (see Box 2)
 - evolving expectations as gleaned from hundreds of external references to IRMA in public documents such as in media articles, public-facing government and corporate policy documents, NGO publications or campaign materials, academic research publications, and more.
 - Elements of the IRMA system that fostered official 'recognition' in more than 50 statements or reports, across all categories of rights-holders and stakeholders (these are centralized on our website: '[Recognition of IRMA](#)'). These IRMA references were catalogued for where they mentioned IRMA and/or the IRMA Standards in terms of their added value, credibility, inclusivity, and/or results seen to date for reducing harm.

Box 2: Main documents and publications considered during the review

A log of the main documents and publications considered for the IRMA Standard review and revision is available on our website: [Log of main documents and publications](#).

With the intention of creating greater efficiencies while integrating updates that maintain alignment with a wide range of international frameworks and best practices, we found it practical to integrate the following three standards into one consolidated standard:

- IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining V1, published June 2018
- IRMA Draft Standard for Responsible Mineral Processing V1, draft published June 2021
- IRMA Draft Standard for Responsible Mineral Exploration and Development (IRMA-Ready Standard) V1, draft published December 2021

Combining these standards results in practical benefits including utility across a wider range of mining activities (e.g., mineral exploration, development, and processing), based on one common set of requirements. This simplifies capacity-building and implementation for operators that have projects and operations across multiple phases and types of operations (i.e., a company that runs both mining and exploration activities, or an integrated company with both mining and processing sites). This also facilitates transition across, and continuous improvement over, the lifecycle of a mine, offering a consolidated roadmap towards operational excellence and long-term viability from early exploration to closure and post-closure, all with one Standard. Finally, this unified Standard will also be subject to only one common periodic review that eases the burden on rights-holders and stakeholders engaging in review and comment processes.

Preparation for stakeholder engagement

Another key component of preparing for the first public consultation was to ensure that all rights-holders and stakeholders who could be affected by the implementation of the IRMA' Standard can comment, formally, during the revision process. The IRMA Secretariat undertook stakeholder mapping and planned a series of outreach activities to reach individuals and organizations reflecting the full range of stakeholders. This included setting stakeholder participation goals during the mapping exercise so that there would be clear participation targets and success criteria and that these would be exhibited across a balance of interests.

Finally, the 1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0 was developed with oversight from the IRMA equally-governed, multi-stakeholder Board of Directors. Some members of the IRMA Board of Directors took the opportunity to serve, or designate others to serve, as Technical Experts in the IRMA Expert Working Groups. Whether they served on an Expert Working Group or not, the IRMA Board of Directors reviewed the consultation draft and determined when it was ready to be published for the first public consultation period.

IRMA made clear that the DRAFT did not represent final content that had been endorsed by the Board of Directors. Instead, the DRAFT was released into the world by the Board to 'seek the wisdom and guidance' of all stakeholders to answer the questions posed by the DRAFT and inform the opportunity to improve the IRMA Standard.

3. Summary of the first public consultation

IRMA held a 90-day public consultation on the Draft IRMA Standard V2.0 which ran from October 26, 2023, to January 26, 2024. The consultation aimed to receive feedback from a wide range of members and partners of IRMA, and the diverse categories of rights-holders and stakeholders that IRMA serves and that would be affected by the changes to the IRMA Standard requirements. IRMA worked to ensure that all comments could be received in a wide range of languages and channels for communications, and we informed stakeholders that all comments would be considered carefully, objectively and equally. Comments could be sent using a diverse set of communication channels (emails, online platform, live webinars, letters, text messages via phones). Respondents could contribute in a confidential and/or anonymous manner.

The consultation offered people and organizations the opportunity to review the entire IRMA Standard for improvement, including the applicability of the Standard to the new stages consolidated into the 1st DRAFT:

- Mineral exploration and development
- Mineral processing

The 1st DRAFT also proposed three new chapters: gender equality and gender protections, physical stability, and land and soil. Improvements to several chapters were also highlighted in the consultation, and these were pointed out for stakeholders (see Box 3).

Finally, 124 specific “consultation questions” were pointed to during the consultation, to seek further inputs on more challenging areas, or areas on which IRMA was seeking creative innovations. Consultation questions were included in the following chapters:

1.1 Legal Compliance	2.4A Proposed Land Acquisition, Displacement and Resettlement	4.1 Waste and Materials Management
1.3 Human Rights Due Diligence	2.4B Historical Land Acquisition, Displacement, and Resettlement	4.2 Water Management
1.X Gender Equality and Gender Protections	2.5 Community Emergency Preparedness and Response	4.X Management of Physical Stability
1.4 Complaints and Grievance Mechanism and Access to Remedy	2.6 Planning and Financing Reclamation and Closure	4.3 Air Quality
1.5 Financial Transparency and Anti-Corruption	3.1 Fair Labor and Terms of Work	4.4 Noise and Vibration
2.1 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Management	3.2 Occupational Health and Safety	4.5 Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Consumption
2.2 Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	3.4 Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Area Due Diligence	4.6 Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Protected Areas
2.3 Obtaining Community Support and Delivering Benefits	3.7 Cultural Heritage	4.XX Land and Soil Management

There were also structural improvements to the standard, including clarifying language and adding guidance based on experience from the first mines and feedback from stakeholders. Stakeholders were also pointed to efforts to create more consistent terminology throughout the standard.

As the consultation proceeded, all procedures followed the *IRMA Standards Development Procedure* and sought to reflect the *Terms of Reference for the IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining and Minerals Processing*. These two core documents set procedures to ensure transparency, participation, inclusivity and fairness into the consultation; and set procedures to support the overall objectives, scope and desired outcomes of the IRMA Standard, respectively.

Box 3: Developed or Improved Chapters in the 1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0

New:

- **Gender Equality and Gender Protections** – requiring development of a gender policy and assessment, management, monitoring and reporting on gender-related risks and opportunities
- **Physical Stability** – including enhanced design, quality control, monitoring, maintenance and oversight of facilities with high risks (“critical facilities”) and characterization of emission sources; incorporating the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM)
- **Land and Soil** – integrated from the earlier DRAFT *IRMA Standard for Mineral Processing* to enhance requirements related to land and soil

Significantly Improved:

- **Financial Transparency and Anti-Corruption** – with more detailed procedures and communication and reporting requirements
- **FPIC and Indigenous Peoples** – offering revisions to address the provision of more detail on the identification and avoidance of Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation, clarifying requirements for existing mines related to FPIC (to address *prior* consent), and more detail on what should be included in FPIC or remedy agreements and validation of agreements, and addition of a grievance mechanism accessible to Indigenous Peoples and developed in collaboration with them
- **Land Acquisition, Displacement, and Resettlement** – offering a separate set of requirements that would apply to circumstances where resettlements happened in the past. This would be distinct from those requirements that apply to land acquisition that happened in the recent past and/or land acquisition proposed for the future.
- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Consumption** – bridging gaps identified across other relevant standards, and reflecting the urgent need for critical actions to limit warming to 1.5°-2°C and avoid the worst effects of climate change as those have continued to lag behind over the five years since IRMA’s 2018 Standard has been in effect.

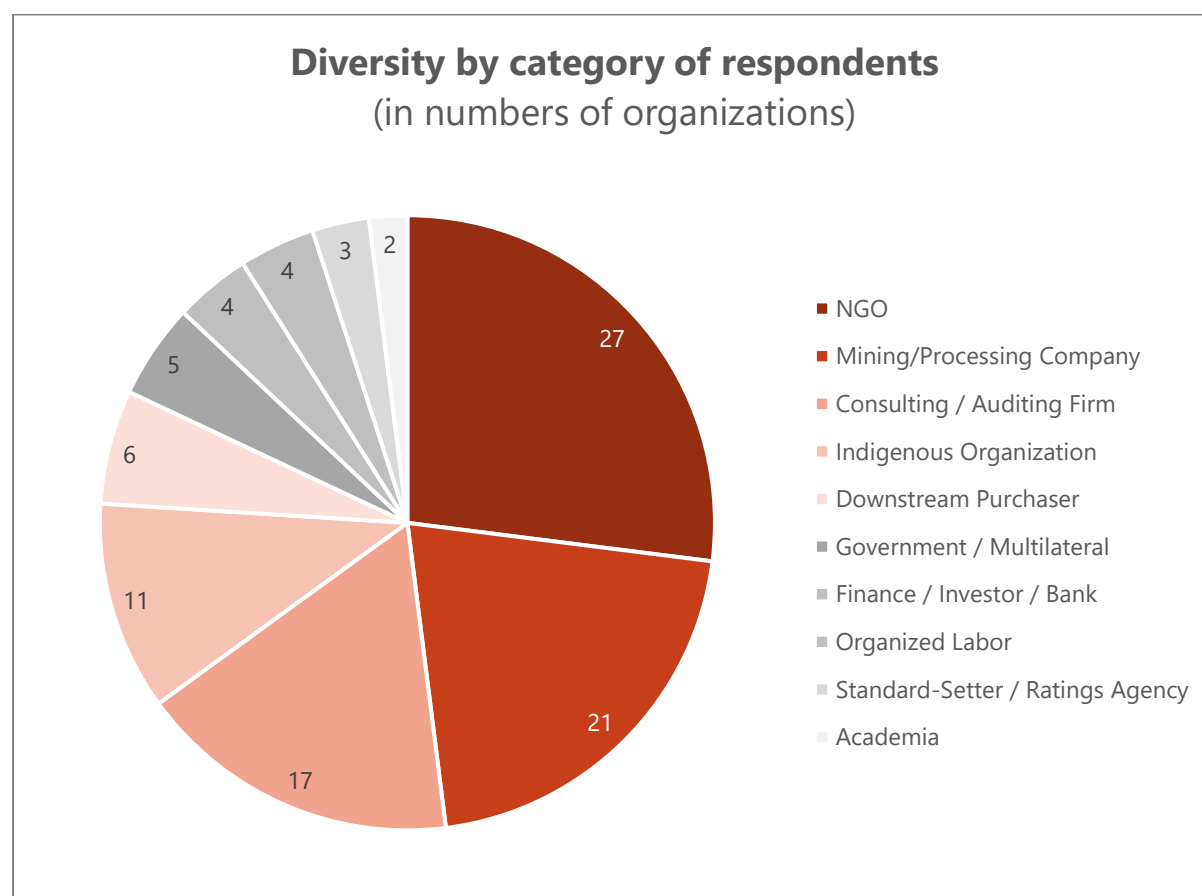
Feedback, engagement and analysis of comments

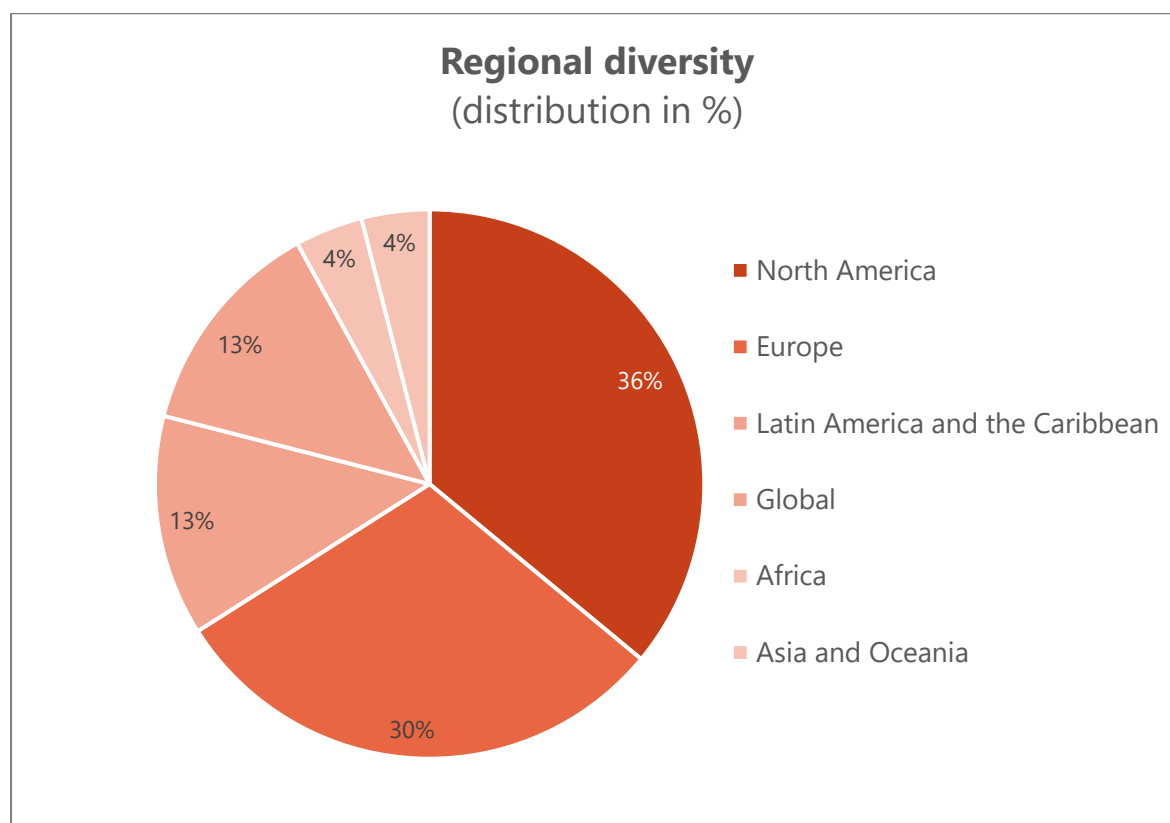
Feedback was received in multiple languages and through a wide range of feedback tools and mechanisms including live webinars, phone calls and online calls, emails, face-to-face meetings, and more. Although contribution via WhatsApp text messages or post was possible, IRMA did not receive any feedback via these two communication channels.

For the 1st DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0 public consultation which lasted 90 days, we received more than 2,500 points of comments from 82 organizations, including 2,487 as formal points of comments that can be found in the full log of comments (see 'Resources' at the end of the report).

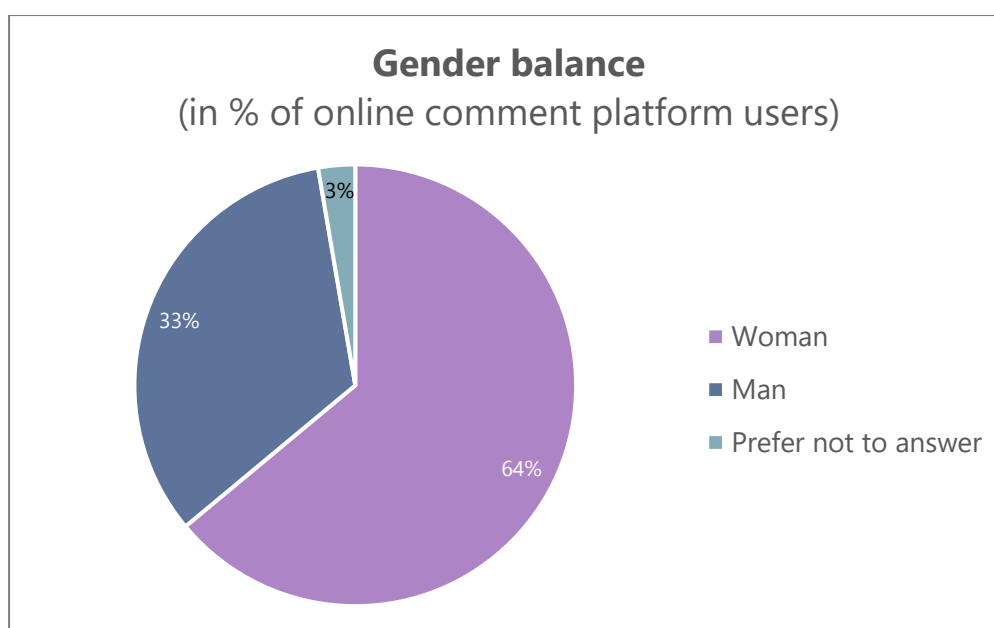
The most represented categories were NGOs and the mining/processing industry (companies and consultants), followed by Indigenous organizations and downstream purchasers. Additional comments came also from governments and multilaterals, finance, organized labor, other standard-setters, and academia. We were encouraged to see more than 10% of the organizations commenting were Indigenous organizations. In addition, more than 20% of the organizations were from the Global South.

Below are the full sector and geographic distributions of the 82 organizations that sent formal feedback:





Regarding gender diversity, many organizations involved multiple people or teams in preparing their submissions, and it is not possible for IRMA to know the exact gender distribution within these teams. We asked users of the online comment platform to provide information about their gender, and we noted a large majority of users who identified as women, but with the limitation mentioned above. In the online commenting form for the second public consultation, we have increased the number of options available and aligned the terminology with the latest *UNECE Guidelines on Developing Gender-Responsive Standards*.



Webinar recordings were shared publicly afterwards, as well as their respective slide decks. These were included in a dedicated consultation page, in IRMA newsletters, in the resource pages of the IRMA web site, and in IRMA blog posts. This led to an additional 960 views of the recorded versions of the IRMA introductory webinars and an additional 550 views of the recorded versions of the IRMA topic focused webinars.

Webinars were offered in various languages depending on time zones for specific regions. The introductory webinars had simultaneous translation available in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Russian and Indonesian.

Each webinar was 60 minutes and led by the IRMA Secretariat. Each webinar presented a few key guided questions where IRMA was especially seeking feedback but also encouraged any comments and sought to offer inclusive and collaborative spaces for discussion of the consultation draft. As the IRMA Secretariat sought to process the 2,500 comments, there was additional support offered, and engagements were held to ensure a high-quality process.

These included:

Box 4: Topic Consultation Webinars

- Water Management (2)
- Gender Equality and Gender Protections
- Occupational Health & Safety (2)
- Waste & Materials Management (including Tailings) (2)
- GHG Emissions and Energy Consumption (2)
- Indigenous Peoples and FPIC
- Management of Physical Stability (including Tailings) (2)
- Planning, Financial Reclamation and Closure
- Land Acquisition, Displacement and Settlement
- Land and Soil
- Sector Specific: Mining Companies
- Sector Specific: Mineral Processing
- Sector Specific: Exploration and Development

- Additional two-month extensions to organizations that asked for more time during the first public consultation (up to March 2024) to ensure all could contribute.
- Responses to requests for additional engagement, including holding phone calls and in-person meetings, from several organizations (across NGOs, Indigenous rights' organizations, mining companies, government agencies, and other industry actors). IRMA responded to all such requests, offering these engagements between April to November 2024.
- An in-person closed-door meeting with Indigenous leaders was also organized in Geneva in November 2024, following a request from Indigenous rights' organizations and Indigenous leaders. 14 Indigenous representatives from the 7 socio-cultural regions participated (most of them were not previously part of the Expert Working Group).

Key insights from comments received

- Many concerns seemed to arise from a general misunderstanding about the IRMA system and a persistent strong belief that sites can only be “certified” or nothing
- General agreement that assessment of implementation and effectiveness offers more meaningful information, yet is harder to audit.
- Demand for accessible entry levels for all companies while maintaining the full-achievement bar to the highest level.
- Critical requirements are a powerful tool to drive attention to some of the most important aspects while mitigating the risk of greenwashing
- Some people pointed the lack of clarity on the process for marking a requirement “critical”
- Some practitioners’ feedback warned us of potential ways to allegedly achieve IRMA50 at minimal effort with little incentives to demonstrate continuous improvement (initially and over time)
- Some issues resulted in a clear divide between industry and civil society (i.e. water, waste, biodiversity) while others received more heterogeneous responses across stakeholder groups (i.e. GHG, gender, OHS)
- Purchasers and finance demanded clarity on integration of/compatibility with relevant laws and regulations
- Large appreciation for added clarity and description, often asking for more (including from industry respondents).

4. Overview of key changes made to the 2nd DRAFT, informed by the 1st public consultation

In addition to integrating comments that resulted in some of the most significant changes in the new consolidated draft, the IRMA Secretariat also sought to process and address *all* contributions, no matter how small or detailed, and to ensure all were being adequately addressed.

We were also encouraged by the quality and length of many stakeholder contributions. However, these often required a longer processing time. To support the IRMA Secretariat, eight (8) specific subject-matter experts were retained to consolidate comments in their topic of expertise and to prepare possible solutions that the IRMA Secretariat could consider for the new consolidated draft.

After the IRMA Secretariat –supported by subject matter expert consultants– processed and integrated all the comments, a new consolidated draft was submitted to the IRMA Board of Directors on November 1, 2024, for a six-week review period.

The major changes made between the November 2024 version shared for Board review and their approval of an interim new draft in March 2025 are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary table of the major changes made following the Board review (November 2024-March 2025)

Issue	Major change made
Preamble	Removed the section that introduced a proposed new scoring system
IRMA Critical Requirements	Reduced the number of critical requirements to 63, developed a stronger rationale for their identification, and included a summary table at the beginning of the document.
Chapter 1.4 Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence	For Mineral Processing operations' responsible sourcing of input minerals, we replaced requirements to demonstrate conformance with a fixed list of external OECD-aligned audits (such as RMI/RMAP or CCCMC guidelines) with standard-agnostic requirements that transposes the OECD Guidance requirements.
Chapter 2.1 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Management	Removed the multiple requirements that were only duplicates of Sections found in social and environmental chapters of the Standard.
Chapter 2.2 Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)	Removed the proposed requirement that addressed situations where affected Indigenous Peoples do not wish to engage in a remedy process, or where no remedy agreement is reached.
Chapter 2.2 Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)	Adjusted the proposed requirements that address situations where a potential breach in FPIC agreement/s or new information that could change the outcome of the FPIC process/es is identified.

Chapter 4.2 Tailings Storage Facilities and Physical Stability Management	Removed a series of GISTM-aligned requirements that were redundant with (and less protective than) other Chapters of the Standard. <i>Multiple points of contention remained on this Chapter after the Board review.</i>
Chapter 4.3 Water Management	Removed the section on Mixing Zones.
Chapter 4.4 Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, and Protected and Conserved Areas	Removed the section on Biodiversity Offsets.
Chapter 4.6 Climate Action	Removed the section on Carbon Offsets.
Chapter 4.XX Land and Soil Management	Entire chapter removed.

The IRMA subsequently tasked a sub-group of Board members and IRMA members to work on a cross-stakeholder resolution of remaining points of contention related to the management of Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs) and other mine waste facilities/structures.

In early July 2025, all issues had been resolved, leading to the finalization of an official 2nd DRAFT of the IRMA Standard V2.0

The most significant changes compared to the IRMA Standard V1.0 (2018) made to this 2nd DRAFT finalized in July 2025 are summarized in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary table of the most significant changes made to the 2nd DRAFT (compared to the 1st DRAFT)

Non-chapter specific: General structure and content
- Critical requirements: Revised the list of critical requirements, focusing on those where failure to conform would likely result in immediate harm to people, ecosystems, or the environment. A set of 59 critical requirements is proposed in this 2nd DRAFT. - IRMA+: Introduced a new category of requirements that are optional and that will not affect the scores and achievement levels obtained by the entities choosing to be assessed against them. - Signaled requirements that still require higher attention, using the eye icon, across 12 Chapters. - At the beginning of each Chapter, added a table of the Key references that Chapter builds on, and/or aligns with. - Clearly defined the nature and scope of employees and contractors (including contracting firms and individual contractors). See Figure 1 for more details and greater clarity on the terminology adopted. - Major structural changes for greater auditability and consistency across the Standard. - Integrated applicability guidance to indicate which phase/stage of a project/operation each requirement is applicable to (using a color scale in the left-hand margin)
Chapter 1.1: Legal Compliance and Contractor Oversight
- Refocused the Chapter on legal and regulatory compliance, as conformity with IRMA requirements cannot be assessed within one or two ad-hoc and broad requirements (but through the 400+ requirements throughout the Standard).

- Added more details and specific metrics to the vetting and oversight of contractors.
- Clarified that this Chapter is also applicable to all (if any) relevant subsidiaries and joint-venture partners that may be involved in (and/or have a shared legal or regulatory responsibility for) the management of the project/operation and associated facilities. Special audit's contractual arrangements and scoping may be necessary to address a project/operation with a complex corporate structure.

Chapter 1.2: Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- Ensure identification of (potentially) affected Indigenous Peoples take place upfront within this Chapter (including to help determine whether Chapter 2.2 will be applicable or not) (see 1.2.1.1.d. and e.).
- Added a new sub-requirement to ensure identification of artisanal and small-scale miners and/or mining operations take place upfront within this Chapter (including to help determine whether Chapter 3.5 will be applicable or not) (1.2.1.1.f).
- Strengthened visibility and explicit expectations regarding inclusion of, and accessibility for, affected rights-holders and stakeholders with sensory disability and/or impairment.

Chapter 1.3: Human Rights Due Diligence

- Added a new policy requirement related to the protection of human rights, land, environmental, and labor Defenders.
- Moved the identification of affected Indigenous rights-holders to this Chapter, to ensure all entities systematically adopt this lens when identifying affected rights and rights-holders. This also ensures better robustness of Chapter 2.2 dedicated to Indigenous Peoples (and robustness of the process for indicating it "not relevant" to a given site).
- Similarly, the identification of whether any of the ENTITY's activities may be the cause of, or may take place in a conflict-affected or high-risk area has been moved to this Chapter, for clarity and robustness.
- Included specific requirements and points of verification related to environmental harms, strengthening the linkages between human rights and environmental due diligence, informed by the recommendations of the 2024 UNDP guidance 'Human Rights due Diligence and the Environment: a Practical Tool for Business' and 2023 OECD Handbook on Environmental Due Diligence in Mineral Supply Chains.

Chapter 1.4: Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence

- Created this new Chapter to fill gaps.

Chapter 1.5: Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Area Due Diligence

- Moved the Chapter under Principle 1 to better reflect the close relationship with Human Rights Due Diligence and Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence.
- Removed all requirements seeking external certification against the OECD Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals as those are only designed for mineral processing operations sourcing input minerals. This aspect is now fully, and more robustly, addressed under Chapter 1.4, see in particular Section 1.4.4–Mineral Supply Chain Controls and Transparency.
- This Chapter used to be modelled after the OECD Guidance which, as mentioned above, was not fit for the broader scope and outcomes sought. This chapter has been substantially revisited to align with key steps and recommendations of the 2022 UNDP's Guide on Heightened Human Rights Due Diligence for business in conflict-affected contexts.

Chapter 1.6: Grievance Mechanism, Whistleblowers, and Access to Remedy

- Several requirements from the 2018 Standard have been combined to become the critical requirement in the chapter - this was done in response to feedback received on Consultation

Question 1.4-01, and feedback stating that the previous approach - i.e. having as critical only the one requirement that simply required that a grievance mechanism exist - was insufficient.

- Moved proposed whistleblower requirements from Chapter 3.1 (where they were in the October 2023 draft) to Chapter 1.6. See section 1.6.2.

Chapter 1.7: Anti-Corruption and Financial Transparency

- Restructured the Chapter to address corruption first, and then financial transparency; to better reflect the fact that expectations and regulations around financial transparency in the extractive sector have emerged as a result of corruption risks and cases. This also offers a flow of Sections that is more consistent with the rest of the Standard (formalized policy, risk assessment, mitigation measures, public reporting).

Chapter 2.2: Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)

- Strengthened language and approach with regard to Uncontacted Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Peoples Living in Voluntary Isolation or in Initial Contact, to ensure prevention of all harm and protection of these extremely vulnerable Indigenous Peoples whose lives and way of life is being threatened. Removed use of "voluntary isolation" term. The two relevant requirements are now critical requirements (as non-conformity would risk immediate harm).
- New requirement added to ensure that general stakeholder-engagement or public-consultation processes are never considered as an acceptable process for engagement with affected Indigenous Peoples unless Indigenous Peoples expressly and explicitly agree to that process.
- New requirement added with regard to the need for a dedicated process for affected Indigenous Peoples to determine how, when and in what formats information will be communicated to them, aligned with similar requirement for general community and stakeholder engagement (Chapter 1.2).
- Split Section 2.2.4 into two distinct Sections (one for remedy processes (2.2.5), and another for FPIC processes (2.2.6)) to increase clarity and auditability.
- New requirements on joint investigation and resolution where a potential breach in FPIC agreement/s or new information that could change the outcome of the FPIC process/es is identified (2.2.6.7 and 2.2.6.8). They addressed situations when, under very specific conditions, affected Indigenous Peoples could withdraw their consent. This reflects latest guidance from SIRGE and is aligned with the UN FAO Guide on FPIC (2016) and the 2024 IFC's Approach to Responsible Exit.

Chapter 2.3: Gender Equity, and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

- Changed title to "Gender Equity, and Sexual- and Gender-Based Violence" (SGBV) to reflect focus on equity and prevention of SGBV.
- Moved Chapter under Principle 2-Planning for Positive Legacies as chapter integrates a dimension around promotion of gender equity and empowerment that go beyond 'business integrity'.
- Added a new section for Baseline Data collection, as this was retrospectively expected within the management plan, but not laid out upfront.

Chapter 2.4: Obtaining Community Support and Delivering Benefits

- Proposed to move away from the concept of obtaining and maintaining "BCS" to instead create an entirely new set of requirements that are not only auditable, but also hopefully lead to positive changes on the ground. Our proposed approach is based on the premise that all sites

should demonstrate that they understand the level and causes of support (and opposition) in affected communities and that they use this information to make efforts to continuously improve relationships so that support is strengthened over time. These are reflected in the new proposed Section 2.4.2 below.

- Removed requirement for minimum standards for suppliers of goods and services, as this is now covered in Chapter 1.4–Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence, requirement 1.4.2.1, however, included in this Chapter monitoring requirements related to the supplier Code of Conduct mentioned in 1.4.2 (2.4.4.2.c) and reporting on compliance in 2.4.6.2.c.

Chapter 2.5: Land Acquisition, Displacement, and Resettlement

- Removed former Section 2.4A.9 relating to ENTITY responsibilities in government-led resettlements, instead indicating at the outset of the chapter ENTITY obligations in these cases.

Chapter 2.6: Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

- Integrated preparedness and response to spill and leaks, which was previously included under Chapter 4.1-Waste and Materials Management.

Chapter 2.7: Concurrent Reclamation, Closure, and Post-Closure

- Emphasized the need for concurrent reclamation and explicitly included “post-closure” throughout language of Sections and Requirements.
- Clarified pathway and requirements regarding financial assurance arrangements for Entities operating in jurisdictions where the country of operation does not offer any State-managed instrument for reclamation, closure and post-closure, in the form of cash deposit or trust fund (or equivalent), that is hosted and overseen by the State (2.7.3.1*).

Chapter 3.1: Fair Labor and Terms of Work

- In alignment with changes to Chapter 1.1, we are providing more specificity concerning the range of requirements that Entities must ensure their suppliers and / or contractors are meeting. A number of requirements in Chapter 3.1 now specify that entities are required to ensure, through controls, oversight, and / or contractual clauses as appropriate, that contracting firms also adhere to the IRMA requirements.
- Proposed to mark ‘critical’ the policy requirements related to anti-discrimination and disciplinary actions, for consistency, given the fundamental human rights pertaining.
- Separated out the primary child / forced / trafficked labor requirements into multiple separate requirements each.
- Separated out employee grievances and contractor grievances, and also separated whistleblowing-related requirements (that should be available to all workers indistinctly as noted by commenters). The whistleblower requirement (3.1.9.6) now cross-references the more detailed whistleblower section in Chapter 1.6 (see 1.6.2).
- Strengthened language around accessibility and disabled workers (text and endnotes), and proposed one optional requirement dedicated to accessibility of the workplace (3.1.3.3)

Chapter 3.2: Occupational Safety, Health and Wellbeing

- Added a Scoping requirement (3.2.2), which is in line with ISO 45001:2018, and adds consistency across the Standard.

- Moved the list of principal hazards to an annex (Annex 3.2-B), and updated the list with risks specific to mineral processing.
- Proposed to mark 'critical' the requirements for an on-site emergency preparedness and response plan, and for its regular testing. Failure to conform with those is likely to result in immediate harm or disproportionate exposure to risks, and would be consistent with the 'criticality' of off-site emergency measures included in the dedicated Chapter 2.6.

Chapter 3.3: Community Health and Safety

- Proposed to mark 'optional' (IRMA+) the newly added monitoring and evaluation requirements related to exposure level monitoring and health surveillance program where risks or impacts to health from exposure to airborne emissions in the site's area of influence are identified (3.3.4.3).

Chapter 3.4: Security Forces

- Increased clarity and details for requirements related to selection and vetting, and training, in line with the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers, and the 2023 DCAF-ICRC Security and Human Rights Toolkit.

Chapter 3.5: Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM)

- Moved Section on Commercial relationships with ASM to Chapter 1.4–Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence. This is more consistent and ensures Chapter 3.5 can be marked non-applicable entirely when no ASM activities occur in the project/operation's area of influence (even though the ENTITY may be sourcing minerals from ASM that takes place elsewhere).

Chapter 3.6: Cultural Heritage

- Added new requirements to achieve alignment with EBRD 2023 Guidance on Cultural Heritage.

Chapter 3.7: Noise and Vibration

- Grouped all maximum acceptable noise and vibration levels to a normative Annex which is referred to in Section 3.7.3.
- Risks and impacts on wildlife are now integrated into the scoping processes required in Chapter 4.4 on Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, and Protected and Conserved Areas. This is more consistent, and coherent with the fact that the Chapter on Noise and Vibration mainly focuses on risks and impacts on people and structures (and now moved under Principle 3 on Social Responsibility)

Chapter 4.1: Waste and Materials Management

- The new section on spill preparedness and response has been moved and integrated back into Chapter 2.6 on Emergency Preparedness and Response.
- Moved to Chapter 2.6-Emergency Preparedness and Response the requirement (4.1.9.3 in first draft) to share with authorities and emergency services relevant information on the hazardous properties and health and environmental effects of potentially hazardous wastes and materials.

Chapter 4.2: Tailings and Mine Waste Storage Management

- Updated name of Chapter to clarify the new focus on the management of Tailings Storage Facilities (TSF) and Mine Waste Storage facilities/structures.
- Major changes made to align sequence of Sections, language, and minimum expectations with GISTM Standard.

- Introduced a series of requirements that are fully aligned with the GISTM standard, and that rely on external third-party conformance audits (see introduction to this Chapter and “Issues Under Close Watch” section).
- Made optional (IRMA+) all requirements related to the Physical Stability Management of Non-Waste Facilities (therefore not made explicit in the Chapter title).

Chapter 4.3: Water Management

- Added two new water uses: protection of aquatic life and ecosystem health that are important for protected and conserved areas, biodiversity and the delivery of ecosystem services; and religious and cultural uses (see endnote for 4.3.2.2.a).
- Changed all references to mine/mining operation to mine/mineral processing operations, because the Standard now applied to mineral processing operations as well as more traditional mine sites.
- Removed specific requirements regarding mixing zones, as a consensus amongst IRMA Board members is that the use of mixing zones is not ‘best practice’ and therefore should not be included in the IRMA Standard. In an endnote to 4.3.6.1, it has been clarified that a mixing zone can only be proposed after demonstrating that all technically feasible options for avoiding the need for a mixing zone have been investigated and implemented (and if it is legally permissible).
- New critical requirement added to demonstrate water quality compliance, over at least the last twelve months (see Section 4.3.9 on Information-Sharing and Public Reporting)
- Officially added Annex 4.2-A on Water Monitoring and Reporting Guidance (now Annex 4.3-B), with plan to add more non-US references. Former proposed Annex 4.2-B related to best practices was deemed more relevant to facilities (mine, mine waste, and mineral processing facilities) and has been removed. IRMA proposes to discuss the issue of verification of use of best water management/mitigation practices further within a working group.
- IRMA Water Quality Criteria by End-Use Tables (now Annex 4.3-A) were reviewed and updated.

Chapter 4.4: Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, and Protected and Conserved Areas

- Chapter title expanded to “Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, and Protected and Conserved Areas”, to align with international terminology Conserved Areas.
- Added one optional requirement related to the protection and restoration of primary forests, natural regenerating forests and natural ecosystems, in line with the EU Deforestation Directive (which currently does not apply to mined minerals); and one optional baseline study requirement to inform it.
- Added one optional requirement related to Nature-based Solutions.
- Added one requirement related to the integration of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.
- Removed specific reference that biodiversity offsets be aligned with international best practice, as this would have required that offsetting projects themselves would be audited (e.g., for credibility of methodology, effectiveness, respect of fundamental rights of stakeholders and Indigenous rights-holders etc.). At the present time IRMA could not identify agreed international best practice for offsets that is consistently successful and non-controversial. Thus, IRMA does not want to appear as if its own audit system can sufficiently evaluate the legitimacy, integrity or long-term effectiveness of offset projects. The chapter instead emphasizes the first three tiers of the mitigation hierarchy, and requires transparency and explanation regarding why avoidance or further minimization and further restoration are not

deemed feasible, what additional measures are proposed/taken -as a last resort- if mitigation measures fail to achieve net gain/no net loss.
Chapter 4.5: Air Quality and Dust Management
- Added "Dust Management" to the title, to reflect its scope. - Created a Table for IRMA Dust Deposition Criteria (Annex 4.5-C), based on the reference used in the 2018 IRMA Standard V1.0, complemented with additional, more recent, sources from various countries.
Chapter 4.6: Climate Action
- Chapter title changed to "Climate Action", as the chapter encompasses more issues than just GHG emissions and energy efficiency. - Added a policy requirement committing to take climate action (4.6.1.1). - Added a requirement to assess contribution of the project/operation to climate change. - Added exception criteria to GHG targets for "green enabling" projects (4.6.6.1.b). - Added one requirement related to Traditional Knowledge (Section 4.6.9). - Removed section on carbon offsets, as there is no consensus amongst the IRMA Board that these are considered 'best practice'. The IRMA Secretariat has not been able to identify agreed international best practice for carbon offsets that is consistently successful and non-controversial. Thus, IRMA does not want to appear as if its own audit system can sufficiently evaluate the legitimacy, integrity or long-term effectiveness of carbon offset projects. The chapter instead focuses on the Entity's efforts to reduce its own emissions (and those in its supply chain). While this chapter will not prohibit the use of offsets, it does not encourage them, and IRMA will not attempt to audit the legitimacy or effectiveness of carbon offset projects. Instead, it will simply require transparency and rationale about their use (4.6.11.2.e) -as a last resort-, if any. Guidance on safeguards and minimum criteria to follow when using carbon offsets could be produced and published separately from the IRMA Standard.
Chapter 4.XX: Land and Soil Management (REMOVED)
- The proposed Chapter 4.XX is not included anymore, following feedback from the public consultation and discussion at the level of the IRMA Board. - The requirement for Mineral Processing projects to assess the possibility of locating the project on an existing brownfield site has been moved to the ESIA chapter (2.1.1.1). - Strengthened the references to soil resources in the list of issues that must be considered in Annex 2.1-B for the ESIA process (Chapter 2.1). - References to soil quality and soil pollution is also found in Chapter 2.7 Concurrent reclamation, closure and post-closure chapter (See 2.7.1.4, 2.7.1.5, 2.7.5.3). - IRMA has kept an archive of this Chapter (also acknowledging that a lot of excellent work, comments, annex development and international norm benchmarking went into its development) to be able to consider it for a future version of the IRMA Standard.

Note: In the Annex of this document, you will find additional information on the first public consultation for each of the chapters with comprehensive summaries of all the material changes made to each chapter, and the detailed feedback received for each consultation question and how they were considered and resolved.

Update on the IRMA Expert Working Groups (2023-2024)

Some of the Expert Working Groups were also solicited again during this period to further provide potential solutions for the new consolidated draft. At this time, a new Expert Working Group was also formed, with a focus on Minerals Supply Chains. During this re-solicitation of the Expert Working Groups, group calls were not held but individual working group members were asked to provide individual feedback on remaining or arising issues from the comments.

Table 3 below summarizes the status on each of the IRMA Working Groups during the period leading up to the new consolidated draft, and the potential for reconvening during the second public consultation.

Table 3: Status of the Expert Working Groups

IRMA Working Groups	Status
Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs)	Asked for additional contribution in August 2024 on the new draft Chapter on " Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Area Due Diligence ". <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Land Acquisition, Displacement, and Resettlement	Asked for additional contribution in April 2024 on the new draft Chapter.
Mineral Supply Chain	Asked for additional contribution in August 2024 on the new draft Chapter on " Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence ". <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Planning and Financing for Mine Closure	Asked for additional contribution in August 2024 on the new draft Chapter on " Concurrent Reclamation, Closure, and Post-Closure ".
Waste and Materials Management	Asked for additional contribution in August 2024 on the new draft Chapter on " Tailings Storage Facilities and Physical Stability Management ". <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Water Management	Asked for additional contribution in August 2024 on the new draft Chapter on " Water Management ". <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Circularity	Solicited feedback in October 2023 when 1 st Draft was released. No particular challenge identified since.
Gender Equality and Gender Protections	Solicited feedback in October 2023 when 1 st Draft was released. No particular challenge identified since.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	Solicited feedback in October 2023 when 1st Draft was released. No particular challenge identified at that time. Former "Greenhouse Gas Emissions" chapter has been expanded, renamed "Climate Action" and peer-reviewed by an external consultancy firm, AGS Carbon, specializing in Climate Action, Standard setting, and audits. <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Indigenous Peoples and FPIC	Solicited feedback in October 2023 when 1st Draft was released. No particular challenge identified at that time. Following specific request for engagement, the new draft chapter was sent to 15 Indigenous leaders from across all 7 socio-cultural regions (most of them were not previously part of the Expert Working Group). An in-person closed-door meeting was also organized in November 2024, following a request from Indigenous rights' organizations and Indigenous leaders to do so. <i>It is anticipated that this working group will need to be reconvened during the second public consultation.</i>
Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)	Solicited feedback in in October 2023 when 1st Draft was released. No particular challenge identified since.

5. Summary of remaining and arising issues for the 2nd public consultation

As documented in the *IRMA Standards Development Procedure*, the decision to approve a final version of an IRMA Standard is made by the equally governed, multistakeholder IRMA Board of Directors (see Box 5).

Upon completion of the six-week review period of the new consolidated draft, the IRMA Board of Director representatives from the mining and the NGO sectors requested additional discussions, and work on, the following remaining and arising issues:

- Rationale for, and listing of, critical requirements.
- Upstream and downstream sustainability due diligence.
- Free, Prior, and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples.
- Tailings management, especially regarding the GISTM standard.
- Water management.
- Biodiversity offsets.
- Carbon offsets.
- Air quality and dust management.

Box 5: Decision Making

IRMA's Board of Directors has two representatives from each of six governing "houses": mining companies, downstream purchasers, investment and finance, NGOs, affected communities including Indigenous rights-holders, and organized labor. Board members strive to make decisions by consensus. Where they cannot achieve this, they agree to vote. However, any vote that results in two "no" votes from the same sector does not pass and the issue must go back to the full group for further discussion and resolution. This means that a topic cannot pass if one of the stakeholder groups is fundamentally opposed.

Certain challenging issues and concerns that were raised during the development of this 2nd DRAFT could not be resolved. These are related to the following topics:

- Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Area Due Diligence
- Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence
- Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Climate Action
- Management of tailings storage and mine waste facilities, including synergies with GISTM (Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management) and GTMI (Global Tailings Management Institute)
- Applicability of the Standard to Mineral Exploration and Development
- Applicability of the Standard to Mineral Processing Projects and Operations

6. Plans for the 2nd public consultation and how to get involved

The IRMA Board of Directors, supported by the IRMA Secretariat, has approved the release of a 2nd DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0 for a second 90-day consultation period, from July 22 to October 22, 2025. Like the 1st DRAFT released for the first consultation period, the 2nd DRAFT does not represent the IRMA Board's endorsement of all its contents, but it is an invitation to all affected stakeholders and Indigenous rights-holders to engage with IRMA and further improve this new draft.

All individuals and organizations can submit their comments

The second consultation will support rights-holders and stakeholders to engage and submit feedback by offering these resources, among others (see 'Resources' section at the end of this report):

- This public summary report on the first consultation period.
- A detailed log of all the comments that were submitted (confidential contributions have been redacted), and the individual responses from IRMA.
- The full 2nd DRAFT Mining Standard V2.0 (the new consolidated draft developed based on the first consultation period), in English, that includes:
 - For each chapter: summary of the changes since the 2023 first draft; details on feedback received and decision made for every consultation question.
 - Applicability to respective development stages (exploration to permitting to operations) integrated within the design of the chapters.
 - Updated charts, tables, annexes and glossary.
- Individual Chapters (including some in other languages than English) that can be downloaded separately.
- At-a-glance tables to easily compare the IRMA Standard V1.0 (2018) and this new consolidated 2nd DRAFT, highlighting substantial differences.
- Mapping of the relevant sections of the 2nd DRAFT against the *OECD Guidance For Responsible Supply Chains*, the *UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights*, and the *EU CSDDD Directive (EU) 2024/1760*.

Feedback mechanisms again include:

- A dedicated [consultation page](#) with all ways to comment listed and links for:
 - Live and recorded videos, including in different languages and time zones.
 - An [online commenting form](#), allowing for anonymous and/or confidential submissions.
- Email (at comments@responsiblemining.net) and postal options (see [here](#) for address under "How to comment"); including confidential options;
- WhatsApp (+1 301 202 1445) for text or voice comments, including confidential and encrypted options.

IRMA Expert Advisors and Expert Working Group

Building on the positive experience of Expert Working Groups, IRMA welcomes the contribution of individual experts as follows:

Expert Advisors

Pools of Expert Advisors will be created for the year 2025, seeking their individual perspective and suggestions on the following topics:

- Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Area Due Diligence
- Upstream and Downstream Sustainability Due Diligence
- Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Climate Action
- Applicability of the Standard to Mineral Exploration and Development
- Applicability of the Standard to Mineral Processing Projects and Operations

The Terms of Reference applicable to these Expert Advisors, including instructions on how to apply, are available at (click on this link): [ToR for Expert Advisors 2025](#).

If you are interested in participating in joining the 2025 pools of IRMA Expert Advisors on one or more of these topics, please contact IRMA's Standards Director, as explained in the Terms of Reference

Expert Working Group

Additionally, and acknowledging that several issues and challenges related to the management of tailings storage and mine waste facilities could not be resolved during the development of this 2nd DRAFT, IRMA proposes to discuss and explore potential approaches within an IRMA Expert Working Group dedicated to Tailings Storage and Mine Waste Facility Management.

The Terms of Reference applicable to this Expert Working Group, including instructions on how to apply, are available at (click on this link): [ToR for Expert Working Group 2025](#).

If you are interested in participating in the IRMA Expert Working Group on Tailings and Mine Waste Storage Management, please contact IRMA's Standards Director, as explained in the Terms of Reference.

Note: If you wish to discuss your previously submitted comments you can write to IRMA's Standards Director Pierre Petit-De Pasquale: pdepasquale@responsiblemining.net

7. Resources

2nd DRAFT for public consultation

To access the 2nd DRAFT of the IRMA Standard V2.0, open for public consultation until October 17, 2025, click [here for a pdf version](#), and [here for a tabular version](#) (Excel).

Individual chapters are [available here](#) too.

Summary of changes made in the 2nd DRAFT

To view the summary of the changes by Chapter that were completed during the first public consultation and resulted in the new 2nd DRAFT that is open for the second public consultation until October 17, 2025, click [here for a pdf version](#).

Comparative tables (2018-2025)

To access the comparative tables between the IRMA Standard V1.0 (2018) and this new 2nd DRAFT, highlighting all substantial differences, click [here for a pdf version](#).

All comments received during the 1st public consultation and IRMA responses

To view the full comments log for the first public consultation of the DRAFT IRMA Standard V2.0, click [here for a pdf version](#), and [here for a csv version](#) (machine-readable).

Summary of feedback received on consultation questions and decisions made

To view a summary of the feedback received for each consultation together with decisions made by IRMA, click [here for a pdf version](#).

Mapping of the 2nd DRAFT against the OECD Guidance

To view a mapping of the relevant section of the 2nd DRAFT against the OECD Guidance For Responsible Supply Chains, click [here for an excel version](#).

Mapping of the 2nd DRAFT against the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

To view a mapping of the relevant section of the 2nd DRAFT against the OECD Guidance For Responsible Supply Chains, click [here for an excel version](#).

Mapping of the 2nd DRAFT against the EU CSDDD DIRECTIVE (EU) 2024/1760

To view a mapping of the relevant section of the 2nd DRAFT against the EU CSDDD DIRECTIVE (EU) 2024/1760, click [here for an excel version](#).

Additional resources

- *Log of the main documents and publications considered for the IRMA Standard review and revision (until 2023):* [Log of main documents and publications](#)
- *IRMA Standard for Responsible Mining V1.0 (2018) –* [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#) | [PT](#) | [ZH](#)
- *IRMA Standard (for Responsible Mining and Mineral Processing) V2.0 – 1st DRAFT for public consultation – used for the first public consultation held October 2023 to January 2024) -* [EN](#) | [ES](#)

Note: While this report is undergoing a consultation process of formal IRMA Standards revisions, we welcome comments and input any time on IRMA's Standards, as well as requests for clarifications or revisions. These inquiries can be sent to comments@responsiblemining.net

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