



CHAMPIONING PEOPLE & PLANET CENTRED CLIMATE JUSTICE IN THE JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

ASIA PACIFIC TRANSITION MINERAL ACCOUNTABILITY
WORKING GROUP REGIONAL ADVOCACY PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The global push for decarbonization under the Paris Agreements has led to skyrocketing demands for transition minerals necessary to manufacture low-carbon technologies. To meet the demand, mineral licences are being fast-tracked within fragile, high-risk areas across the Asia Pacific. The mining sector remains a leading polluter, with the industry responsible for 8 to 28 percent of global GHG emissions. **The Paris Agreements must be implemented alongside mineral governance that is underpinned by principles of climate justice and equity throughout the green technology supply chain.**

The Asia Pacific is host to one-fourth of the world's mineral resources. The region produces 54.6% of nickel and 60 percent of global rare earth metal reserves, which are fundamental for the production of electric vehicles and green technologies. However, countries in the Asia Pacific remain climate-vulnerable and corruption-prone. Six of the ten countries most affected by climate-induced natural disasters are in the Asia-Pacific. Moreover, sixty-nine percent of energy transition minerals are located within Indigenous and peasant peoples' lands, with seventy percent of global Indigenous peoples living in the Asia Pacific. Much of the world's transition minerals are also found in corruption-prone jurisdictions with shrinking civic spaces.

THE PROBLEM

INTENSIFICATION OF MINING EXTERNALITIES

The lack of a standardized definition for transition minerals has brought about a global mineral boom for all types of mining. **The new age of mining exacerbates unresolved mining issues such as corruption; environmental disasters and water scarcity; human and Indigenous rights violations and gender-based violence.**

TRANSITION MINERAL GREENWASHING

The extractive industry utilizes energy transition discourse to push for the **expansion of de-regulated business as usual mining practices and false climate solutions.**

GEOPOLITICAL ISSUES

Intensified competition between foreign nations to secure bilateral transition mineral agreements poses **a risk to mineral sovereignty and natural resource governance in developing nations.**

“ Our vision for justice is a rapid phase out of fossil fuels for a 1.5°C future by 2030 which ensures affected communities and ecosystems throughout the transition mineral supply chain are protected, empowered, and benefit from shared prosperity and inheritance.



PUSHING FOR TRANSITION MINERAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

GOALS

1

Strengthen robust regulatory mechanisms of **accountability, transparency, equity and shared prosperity initiatives** throughout the transition mineral supply chain

2

Expand opportunities for **local and Indigenous host communities to redefine value, and be meaningfully engaged, represented and empowered** within energy transition and climate decision-making processes

OBJECTIVES



Improve governance and accountability in the region to ensure that host mining countries, especially marginalized and climate-vulnerable host communities, are amongst the primary beneficiaries of transition mineral development.

We will advance collective policy advocacy and good governance for mining in the Asia Pacific to support human and environmental rights due diligence, community empowerment, protection, transition mineral wealth sharing, and economic justice for all. A shared vision will promote the following principles:

- Implementing mandates which encourage shared prosperity models for transition mineral value chain operations, including equitable benefit sharing, just fiscal terms, and opportunities for community-defined value-adding midstream and downstream activities
- A regional approach to climate action which prioritizes community-centred energy transitions within Asia Pacific multilateral transition mineral partnerships (E.g. ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Establish **national sub-working groups on Transition Mineral Accountability**, acting as knowledge hubs and national watchdogs for transition mineral value chains
- Advocate for the **revitalization and implementation of regulations** to reflect the safeguards that must be upheld under the transition mineral boom and climate crisis
- Create a **regional portfolio of strategic communication initiatives** tailored to diverse audiences to strengthen awareness of host community mining issues and debunk false climate solutions
- Strengthen **public accessibility of international reporting standards and mechanisms for transparency and accountability** such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative standard
- Develop **monitoring and accountability tools which map bilateral and multilateral agreements for transition minerals and identify diversion of funds for non-decarbonization industries** such as defence and its association with global tensions
- **Connect PWYP-producing countries to consultations and engagements with decision-making bodies** associated with the EU Strategic Raw Materials Act, the US Minerals Security Partnerships, Germany's Critical Raw Materials Act, the UK Critical Minerals Strategy, and the Australian Critical Minerals International Partnership Programme



Maximise social security nets and safeguards for marginalised climate-vulnerable mining host communities affected by the mining under the energy transition

Marginalized peoples hosting the raw materials necessary for green technology, including Indigenous Peoples, Pacific Islanders, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, women and the LBGTQ2IA+ community, will continue to suffer the brunt of climate and mining-induced externalities under the energy transition. We will strengthen opportunities for host communities to be included and prioritized within climate negotiations, including:

- The empowerment of Indigenous peoples and local communities to safeguard their environments, lands, territories, livelihoods, culture, and values through mechanisms such as Free, Prior and Informed Consultation and Consent as well as guaranteed access to justice and remedy for all victims
- Upholding the right for communities to refuse unethical projects as well as the right to withdraw consent for ongoing projects without facing repercussions for their safety and security

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Develop a social media toolkit which provides resources and materials to **amplify host community voices to diverse audiences and policymakers**
- **Build relationships with climate and energy justice coalitions** to strengthen knowledge sharing, elevate transition minerals in public discourse and make coordinated calls for legislative changes that support climate action and better outcomes for communities
- Commission **action-oriented transition mineral mining and supply chain research** in the Asia Pacific
- **Strengthen coordination, knowledge sharing and strategic opportunities** within the Asia-Pacific Transition Mineral Accountability Working Group (currently made up of CSOs from Australia, Indonesia, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines)
- Foster diverse opportunities for the **participation of affected community members, including women and marginalized sectors in decision-making processes concerning climate change, energy transitions and mining**



**PUBLISH WHAT
YOU PAY**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DISCUSS PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

 [Emil Omarov, Asia-Pacific, Eurasia and MENA Manager \(eomarov@pwyp.org\)](mailto:eomarov@pwyp.org)

 [@PWYPtweets](https://twitter.com/PWYPtweets)

 www.pwyp.org

Publish What You Pay is a registered charity (Registered Charity Number 1170959) and a registered company in England and Wales (No. 9533183).