



PUBLISH WHAT  
YOU PAY

## Terms of Reference (ToR) for Consultancy

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### Project Title

Amplifying Civil Society Power: Understanding Engagement Opportunities on Transition Minerals with Chinese Stakeholders in Africa

### Period/Time

About 20 days between March 2025 – June 2025

### Budget

Up to 10,000\$

### Background:

Africa's vast reserves of transition minerals hold potential to drive sustainable development and energy access while avoiding the historical pitfalls of exploitation and environmental harm. Recognising this opportunity, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), in collaboration with other non-profit organisations, launched the [Just Minerals Africa \(JMA\) campaign](#). This initiative envisions Africa's development rooted in equity, environmental protection, and thriving local communities. The campaign calls for the extraction of transition minerals which is responsible and brings benefits to local populations, uphold human rights, and safeguard ecosystems, aiming to unlock Africa's energy sovereignty and developmental potential.

As part of this effort, PWYP is implementing a project to strengthen the capacity of African civil society to amplify their voice and influence in transition mineral engagements with Chinese stakeholders. With China's growing role in the sector, the project aims to enhance understanding and shape effective advocacy strategies targeting Chinese policymakers and corporations.

The project has two key components:

1. **Scoping and Analysis:** Mapping Chinese presence, influence, decision-making pathways, and impacts in Africa's transition minerals sector to create a shared resource for advocacy.
2. **Peer Learning and Training:** Strengthening civil society organisations (CSOs) through knowledge sharing, informed by the scoping findings, to support context-specific, actionable advocacy.

PWYP is seeking a consultant to lead the scoping and analysis of China's role in Africa's transition minerals sector. The findings will inform a guide designed to enhance civil society's engagement with Chinese stakeholders. This data, in conjunction with additional contributions from civil society, will serve as the foundation for a strategy development workshop to collaboratively define advocacy tactics and solutions. The final outcomes will be incorporated into the published civil society guide for engaging with Chinese stakeholders.

## Objective of the Consultancy

The objective of this consultancy is to provide a comprehensive baseline analysis of China's engagement in transition minerals across Africa. The analysis will focus on identifying key Chinese stakeholders, mapping relationship dynamics with African stakeholders, and understanding the multifaceted impacts of their presence in the sector, including African perspectives and responses to these engagements.

## Scope of Work

The consultant will undertake a desk based research to :

- Identify key Chinese entities (governmental, corporate, and other actors) engaged in the transition minerals sector across Africa with particular attention to DRC, Guinea, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- Map relationships and influence mechanisms between Chinese stakeholders and African counterparts, including regional institutions, governments, private sector entities, and local communities.
- Assess the multifaceted impacts of Chinese engagement in transition minerals, including:
  - **Value Chain Dynamics:** Evaluate how their presence influences the extraction, processing, and transformation of minerals
  - **Economic Impacts:** Assess the high level economic impact of China's presence on African economies, including revenues, employment, and infrastructure investments
  - **Broader Impacts:** Bring examples about the broader impacts on local communities, governance systems, decision making and sustainability efforts
  - **African Stakeholder Reactions:** Incorporate African perspectives by analysing how African stakeholders, including regional institutions, governments, private sectors, and communities, respond to Chinese presence and influence, including their perceptions, reactions, and strategies for engagement or resistance.

The research will provide a clear picture of who is present, the nature of their presence, the dynamics of their relationships with African stakeholders, and the tangible and intangible outcomes of these engagements.

## Outputs

1. **Stakeholder and Impact Report:** A document (between 10-20 pages) identifying key Chinese entities, their relationship dynamics with African stakeholders, and mechanisms of influence. The report will analyse the multifaceted impacts of Chinese engagement, examining both their contributions (value chain integration, economic benefits) and extractions or gains (financial returns, resource control), as well as broader implications for African development, including African stakeholders' reactions and strategies in response to Chinese involvement.

2. **Participation in Strategy Workshop:** The consultant will join a strategy workshop to clarify findings, provide insights, and support discussions on advocacy and strategic approaches.

### **Key Deliverables and Timeline**

- **Draft outline for the report:** Friday, March 14, 2025
- **Draft report submission for review:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025
- **Feedback on draft:** Wednesday, April 16th, 2025
- **Final report submission:** Monday, April 28, 2025
- **Strategy workshop:** May 2025

### **Consultant Requirements**

- Fluency in English required; Mandarin proficiency is an asset
- Expertise in research and analysis, particularly in the extractive sector, civil society advocacy, and/or engagement
- Proven experience in research or projects around China's influence in Africa, particularly in the context of transition minerals
- Strong understanding of key issues related to transition minerals, including resource governance, and the role of China in mineral extraction and processing in Africa
- Excellent writing and communication skills, with the ability to synthesise complex information into clear, actionable recommendations
- A commitment to equity, inclusion, and diversity (EID) should be reflected in the consultant's approach, with particular attention to gender equity and the inclusion of marginalised communities in the analysis and recommendations. This focus on EID aligns with [PWYP's Global Gender Policy](#) and ensures that advocacy tactics are inclusive and representative of all community voices affected by transition mineral engagements

### **Application Process**

Applicants should submit the following by the end of the day, **Friday, February 28, 2025** to Ouleymatou Ngom ([ongom@pwyp.org](mailto:ongom@pwyp.org)).

- A brief proposal (max. 2 pages) outlining the consultant's approach to the assignment, including methodology, timeline, and fee structure
- CV of the consultant, highlighting relevant experience
- Examples of similar projects completed