

The Canadian Mining Story

SPRING 2026

TSM Excellence Awards



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TSM® EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Each year, the [TSM® Excellence Awards](#) highlight outstanding community engagement and environmental initiatives at facilities that are implementing TSM®.

TSM Excellence Awards acknowledge innovative projects and initiatives that expand and promote sustainable development within the mining sector. Companies, facilities and individuals that have raised the bar for the industry through environmental and social programs will be recognized with TSM

Excellence Awards at the [Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum's \(CIM\) Awards Gala](#).

The awards selection committee, comprised of members of MAC's national [Community of Interest Panel](#), received several excellent nominations for the awards and acknowledged the range of important sustainability initiatives being undertaken by Canadian mining companies. This year, the committee chose to highlight the projects that they felt to be truly innovative and demonstrative of leading practice.



TSM® Environmental Excellence Award

WINNER Eldorado Gold—Kışladağ Mine

From Sun to Villages, From Water to Life: Solar-Powered Water Access Transforms Communities Near Eldorado Gold's Kışladağ Gold Mine

Eldorado Gold's Kışladağ Gold Mine has launched an inspiring sustainability initiative that is already transforming daily life in nearby villages. The project brings clean, reliable, and cost-free energy to local water wells by powering them with solar systems, ensuring steady access to drinking and utility water for more than 1,000 residents across six villages.

Villages including Gümüşkol, Katrancılar, Söğütlü, Küçükilyaslı, Gedikler, and Karacaömerli now rely on solar-powered infrastructure that delivers uninterrupted water supply without the burden of electricity costs. By removing recurring energy expenses for pumping water, the project has eased financial pressures on households and improved long-term water security.

What makes this initiative stand out is its extension of renewable energy beyond mine operations and into surrounding rural infrastructure. Instead of focusing solely on on-site energy use, Kışladağ Gold Mine directed solar investment to where it could meet critical community needs. The result: reduced fossil fuel dependence, zero electricity cost for water pumping, lower carbon emissions, and sustained economic relief for communities.

The project includes 125 kW of installed solar capacity dedicated to powering village water wells—an efficient, scalable configuration that can be replicated easily in other rural or industrial contexts. Its modular nature means similar communities can adopt the model without high capital costs or complex infrastructure upgrades.



A key pillar of the project's success has been active community engagement. Village headmen (muhtars) and local stakeholders helped determine system capacities based on population, subscription numbers, and actual water consumption patterns. This hands-on involvement ensured that each installation met real community needs while fostering a sense of ownership.

By eliminating electricity costs, reducing emissions, and ensuring resilient water access, the solar-powered water initiative delivers a powerful combination of environmental stewardship and social value. It demonstrates how targeted renewable energy investments can uplift communities while advancing broader sustainability goals.

TSM® Environmental Excellence Award

RUNNER UP PAN AMERICAN SILVER—CERRO MORO MINE

Transforming Waste into Value at Pan American Silver's Cerro Moro Mine

Pan American Silver's Cerro Moro operation in Argentina is redefining what responsible mining looks like in remote regions. Through its "Circularity of Waste" initiative, the site is transforming traditional waste management into a model of environmental innovation, community partnership, and long-term sustainability.

Cerro Moro operates within a complex Patagonian landscape—one marked by scarce recycling infrastructure, long distances to major processing centres, and a municipal landfill nearing saturation. Confronted with these challenges, the team reimagined its approach, shifting from linear disposal to circularity.

The program introduced integrated practices such as source separation, waste conditioning and compaction, full traceability, and strategic alliances with local organizations, resulting in a 68.27% waste diversion rate.

Its modular design allows other mining operations to adopt its principles step by step, even in remote areas with limited infrastructure.



2024: 264 tonnes of scrap metal recycled, 33.81 tonnes of mixed recyclables, 28.34 tonnes of cardboard, and 297.81 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill.

2025: 727.74 tonnes recycled, 688.46 tonnes of scrap processed, 32.68 tonnes of cardboard, 12.07 tonnes of plastic recovered, and 256 tonnes of wood repurposed.

Cerro Moro's circularity program is becoming a long-term social and environmental legacy, integrating mining operations with community needs and ensuring that today's waste does not become tomorrow's liability.



Photo: Eldorado Gold



TSM® Environmental Excellence Award

**SECOND RUNNER UP
ELDORADO GOLD—LAMAQUE**

Environmental Excellence in Action: Eldorado Gold Québec's Energy and Ecological Balance Plan

Eldorado Gold Québec (EGQ) launched its Energy and Ecological Balance Plan (EEBP) in 2020 to address the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated through surface exploration activities at the Lamaque Mining Complex. The initiative aims to mitigate nearly 11,000 tCO₂e over 30 years. The plan includes planting over 87,000 trees in partnership with the Association forestière de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue (AFAT), with planting sites chosen for environmental and community impact.

The EEBP is recognized for its innovative and structured model within the Quebec mining sector. EGQ collaborates with drilling companies to reduce emissions at the source by optimizing transportation, diesel consumption, and exploring rig electrification. The reforestation initiative follows a documented strategy supported by AFAT's extensive expertise.

The EEBP integrates strong social components, including greening schoolyards through a partnership with the Centre de service scolaire de l'Or et des Bois (CSSOB). Since 2020, more than 1,100 students have been reached through schoolyard greening and climate awareness activities. Municipalities and



The EEBP is designed to be transferable to other exploration, mining, and industrial contexts. Its structure is based on clear emissions mitigation methodology, strong forestry partnerships, and deep community engagement.

TSM® Community Engagement Excellence Award

WINNER

Teck Resources, Quebrada Blanca Mine - Indigenous-Led Conservation: Protecting the Salar de Alconcha

The Alconcha Conservation Project is a groundbreaking co-management initiative between Teck Resources and the Indigenous Quechua Community of Ollagüe (CIQO) to create the first Indigenous-led conservation area in Chile, located in the Salar de Alconcha in the Antofagasta Region.

Covering more than 6,000 hectares of high-Andean wetlands, the project safeguards an ecosystem of ecological, cultural, and spiritual importance while revitalizing Indigenous governance and long-term environmental stewardship.

The initiative was co-developed with CIQO to ensure legal certainty, cultural relevance, and permanence. It ensures meaningful Indigenous participation in decisions related to water, biodiversity, and cultural heritage, delivering lasting community benefits and a self-sustaining conservation model.

A core innovation is the transfer of mining and water rights associated with the Salar de Alconcha to the Chilean State, guaranteeing the area's protection in perpetuity. Community members have also been trained and employed as Indigenous park

rangers, supporting monitoring, conservation, and local livelihoods.

The project establishes a governance model in which the Indigenous community leads the protection and management of its own territory, with Teck acting as a long-term partner. It is the first conservation area in Chile created on Indigenous land with explicit Indigenous identity, governance authority, and cultural foundation.

Over 30 culturally significant sites are incorporated into the conservation plan. A sustainability-based economic model, including an endowment, secures long-term funding for conservation activities. Twelve Indigenous community members have been trained as park rangers, enhancing monitoring and management.

The Alconcha model is highly replicable, built on principles such as early Indigenous engagement, shared governance, and alignment with cultural values. Future plans include establishing an Indigenous-led 'Alconcha Model Academy' to support replication across other communities and industries.

The project has reshaped the relationship between Teck and CIQO—from consultation to co-leadership—and has received national recognition as a leading example of Indigenous-led conservation.





TSM® Community Engagement Excellence Award

RUNNER UP PAN AMERICAN SILVER—STRENGTHENING ANDEAN CAMELID TRADITIONS IN SAN VICENTE

Pan American Silver's legacy initiative in the Sud Chichas Province of Potosí, Bolivia is empowering 105 camelid-raising families across the communities of San Vicente, Loma Colorada, Cieneguillas, and Portugalete. Launched in January 2023 and running through 2027, the project aims to improve quality of life through sustainable camelid management and community-led development. The project establishes self-managed Agricultural Production Units, ensuring community ownership, continuity, and sustainability. By addressing productivity, environmental conservation, and cultural heritage simultaneously, the initiative generates both economic income and positive environmental impacts, particularly in pasture and biodiversity preservation.

What are camelids? A camelid is a member of the Camelidae family of even-toed, cud-chewing mammals, which includes camels, llamas, alpacas, guanacos, and vicuñas.

The program promotes technical and sustainable camelid management through:

- Capacity building and training
- Improved productive and sanitary infrastructure
- Pasture conservation and water-capture systems
- Climate-resilient grazing practices, including rotational grazing (CANAPAS) and forage enclosures
- Animal health protocols and improved shelters ("llama wasis") designed to protect animals from extreme cold

South American camelids are central to food security in high-Andean regions, providing fiber, meat, fertilizer, and fuel. By improving infrastructure, grazing systems, and family-based Agricultural Production Units (UPAs), the project supports biodiversity conservation, environmental stewardship, and household livelihoods.

UPAs are self-managed to ensure community ownership, long-term sustainability, and continuity beyond the project period.

Designed collaboratively with local communities, the initiative responds directly to community needs and supports economic, social, and environmental development. Its framework is adaptable to other high-Andean or rural contexts and Pan American Silver operations, ensuring cultural specificity while maintaining core principles of sustainable production, community empowerment, and environmental stewardship.

Quantitative Indicators:

- Targeted 20% increase in average animal weight within 15 months
- Increased meat and fiber production
- Reduced livestock losses through strengthened animal health practices
- Higher household income and production volumes
- Cost savings from locally produced forage during dry seasons

Qualitative Indicators:

- Enhanced quality of life
- Strengthened productive infrastructure
- Increased technical knowledge within families
- Greater empowerment of beneficiary households
- Improved pasture management, biodiversity preservation, and reduced land degradation

Communities were involved from the diagnostic phase through prioritization and baseline assessments. Beneficiaries contribute labor and local knowledge to pasture restoration, forage enclosure construction, water capture systems, and shelter building. Local Indigenous authorities reinforce long-term commitment through formal agreements.

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