

What is Towards Sustainable Mining?

Towards Sustainable Mining™ (TSM) is an award-winning commitment to responsible mining. The program was established in 2004 and its main objective is to enable mining companies to meet society's needs for minerals, metals and energy products in the most socially, economically and environmentally responsible way.



MINING IS ESSENTIAL

From the metals needed to power our transportation to the materials required to make communication possible, it is impossible to imagine a reality without it.



THE FUTURE NEEDS MINING

Mining is essential in our transition to a low carbon economy, one that requires mined minerals and metals to be fully realized.



RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT

It is important that standards be in place to ensure that the process of mining is being managed responsibly, from start to finish.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Today, communities expect more from mining companies and the industry expects much more of itself.

HOW DOES TSM WORK?

TSM provides a set of tools and indicators that drive performance and ensures that key mining risks are managed responsibly at participating mining and metallurgical facilities. To translate commitments into action on the ground, TSM's performance protocols focus on three core areas: Communities and People, Environmental Stewardship and Energy Efficiency.

Each protocol is made up of a set of indicators that help mining facilities build, measure and publicly report on the quality of their management systems and their performance in key areas of mining activity.

One of the key strengths of TSM is that mining companies are measuring where the mining activity actually takes place—at the facility level. The results provide local communities with a meaningful view of how a nearby mine is faring.

PERFORMANCE PROTOCOLS



COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE

- > Indigenous and Community Relationships
- > Crisis Management and Communications Planning
- > Safety and Health
- > Preventing Child and Forced Labour



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- > Tailings Management
- > Biodiversity Conservation Management
- > Water Stewardship
- > Exploration
- > Mine Closure



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- > Climate Change

Towards Sustainable Mining Initiative



TRANSPARENT

Facilities publicly report their performance against the TSM indicators in annual Progress Reports and results are externally verified every three years.



CREDIBLE

TSM is overseen by independent Community of Interest (COI) Advisory Panels, which shape the program for continual advancement.



ACCOUNTABLE

Assessments are conducted at the facility level where mining activity takes place.



MEASURABLE

TSM includes requirements to demonstrate measurable continual sustainability improvement.



HOW IS TSM OVERSEEN?

TSM includes ongoing consultation with national Community of Interest (COI) Advisory Panels, independent, multi-stakeholder groups comprised of 12 to 15 individuals from Indigenous groups, communities where the industry is active, environmental and social NGOs, and labour and financial organizations.

The Panels played a key role in the program's design from the very beginning and continue to be integral to its evolution and implementation.

The Panels play an important role in the external verification of companies' TSM reporting and meet regularly with senior mining representatives to provide support and advice for TSM, identify emerging issues for the sector, and encourage the mining industry to raise the bar in corporate responsibility.



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Participation in TSM, which drives evidence-based improvements in performance, is mandatory for all members of participating mining chambers.

TSM is helping to build capacity within the global mining industry and is freely shared with mining associations in other countries that are seeking tools to improve the environmental and social performance of their mining industries.

In recent years, there has been growing global interest and uptake of TSM and has been adopted by mining associations around the globe.