

United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

15th Multi-Year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
14-16 October 2024, Geneva

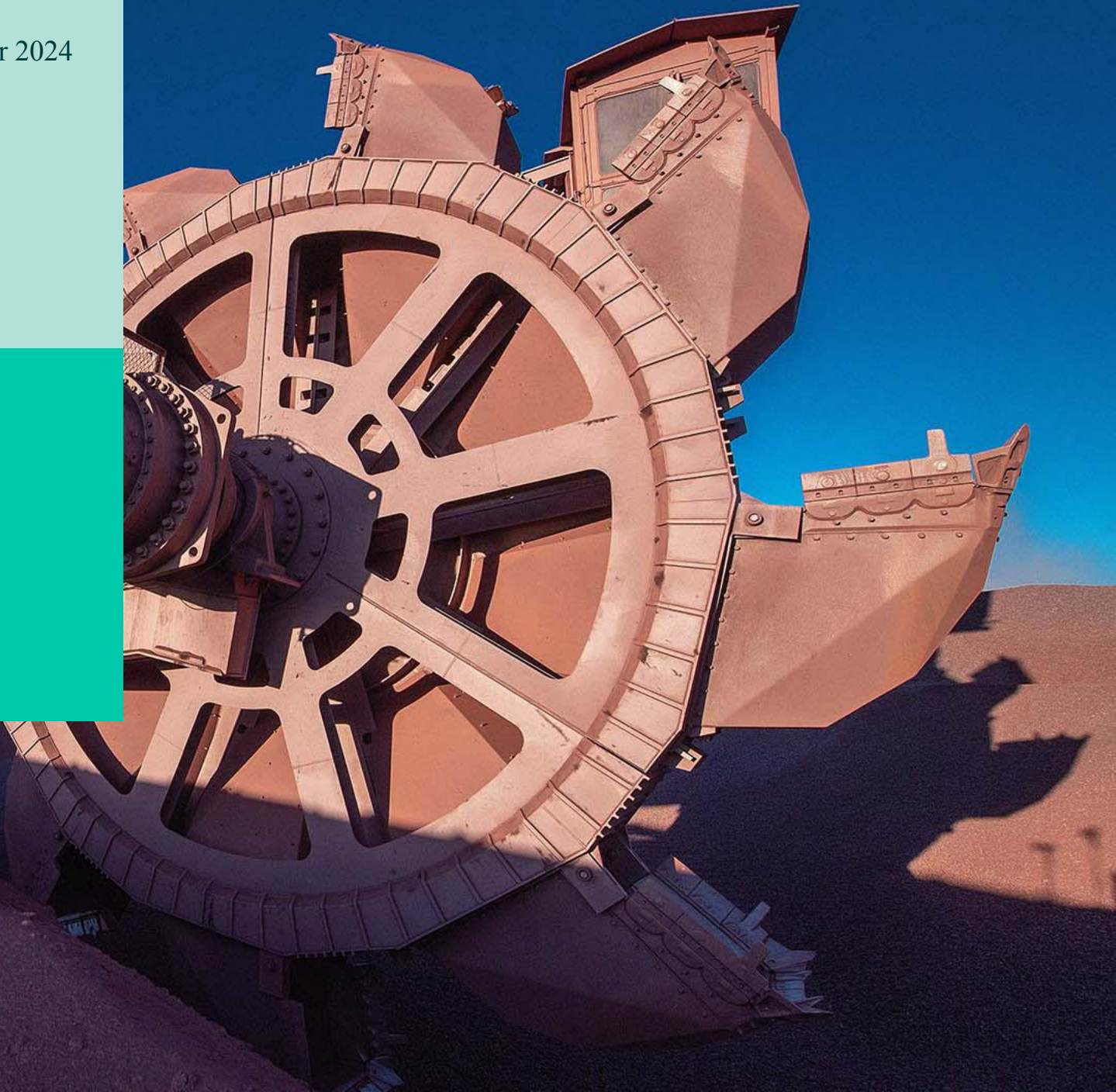
Responsible mining – expectations and realities

John Lindberg
Policy & Public Affairs Lead

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.

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ICMM brings together a third of the mining and metals sector to drive leadership, action, and innovation, Members set the standard for responsibly produced minerals and metals in a safe, just and sustainable world.



In addition to company members, we count over 40 national and commodity associations as members, each of which share our commitment to responsible and sustainable mining practices.

By working together, we hope to achieve a positive impact on our wider industry that enhance the contribution of mining and metals to sustainable development. This embodies our purpose of providing leadership through collaboration.

A perception experiment...



“Mining”



“Responsible mining”



“Irresponsible mining”



**“Responsible
mining”**

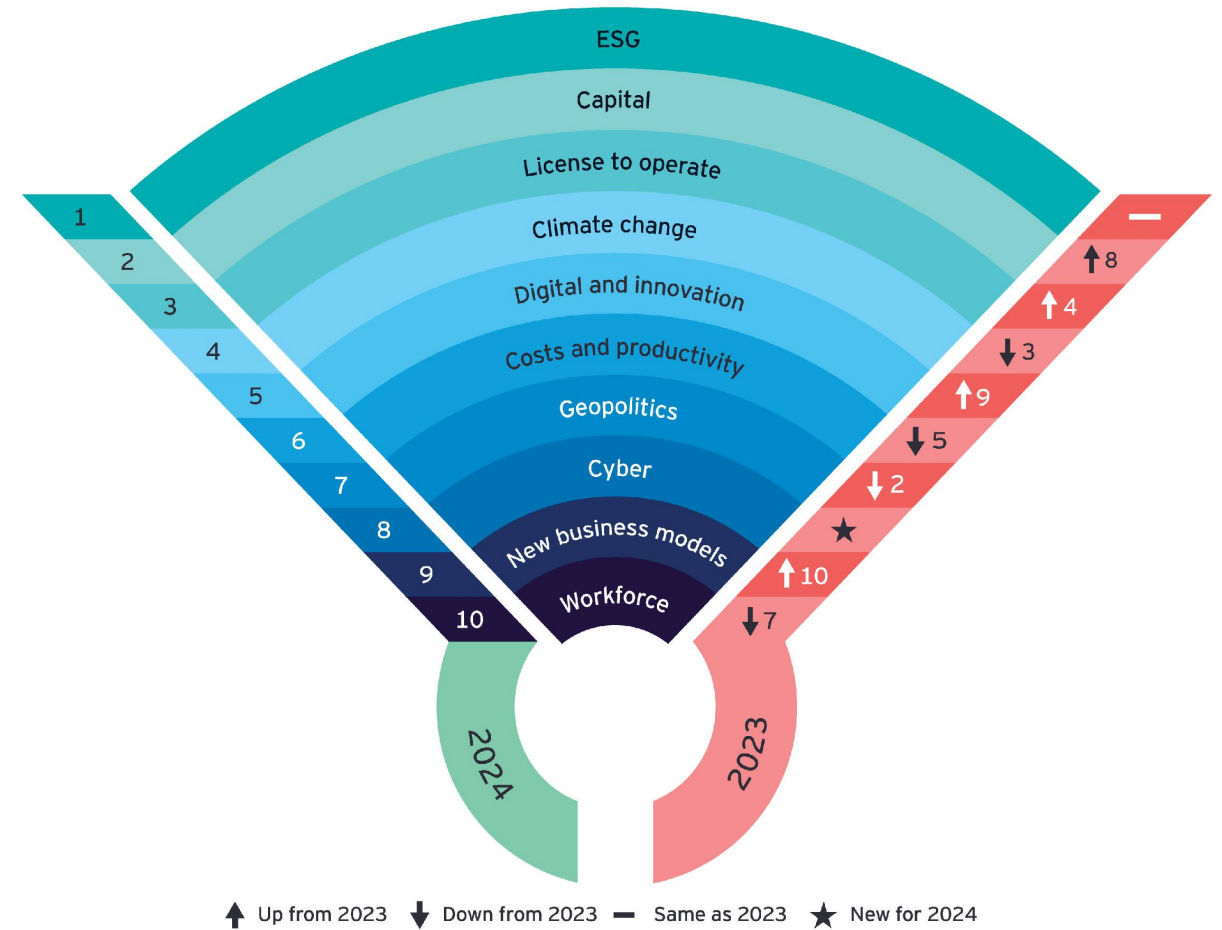


Growing recognition of the importance of mining...but challenges exist



“A world powered by renewables is a world hungry for critical minerals. For developing countries, critical minerals are a critical opportunity to create jobs, diversify economies, and dramatically boost revenues. But only if they are managed properly. The race to net zero cannot trample over the poor. The renewables revolution is happening—but we must guide it towards justice”

António Guterres



Top risks & opportunities in the mining sector (EY, 2024)

Responsible mining practices – increased awareness...but does it go beyond the headlines?





United Nations Environment Programme
Fourth session
Nairobi, 11–15 March 2024

05/14/2024 · Press Release

Volkswagen Group: Fourth Responsible Raw Materials Report published

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Global push to triple renewables requires responsible mining of minerals

Published on 23/09/2024, 12:27pm

Comment: As leaders at the UN debate how to meet renewable energy goals, they must also ensure supply chains are sustainable

4/19



UNEP

Environment Programme

Recalling the Executive Director's implementation of resolution 4/19...

United Nations Environment Assembly
of the United Nations Environment Programme
Sixth session
Nairobi, 26 February–1 March 2024

Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 1 March 2024

6/5. Environmental aspects of minerals and metals

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing that sustainable management of mineral and metal resources contributes significantly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



TRANSFORMING THE ENERGY SECTOR

PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE CRITICAL ENERGY TRANSITION MINERALS TOWARDS EQUITY AND JUSTICE

MAY 20, 2023

Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué

BRIEFING ROOM STATEMENTS AND RELEASES



Official Journal of the European Union

REGULATION (EU) 2024/1252 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 11 April 2024

establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020

Responsible vs irresponsible – a policy failure?



Policy rhetoric \neq policy recognition

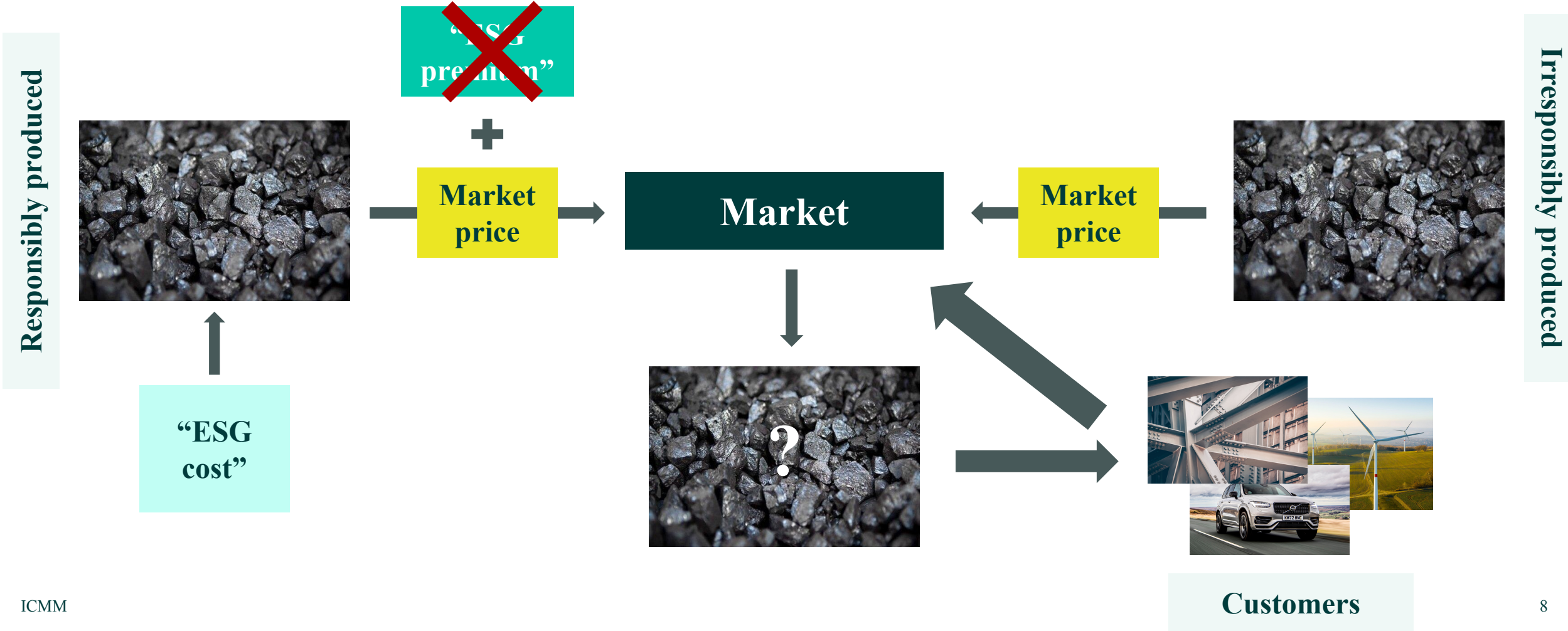
Responsible practices \neq regulatory norm or expectation

Awarding of contracts, licenses & permits \rightarrow
Conditional upon capacity & commitment to
responsible practices



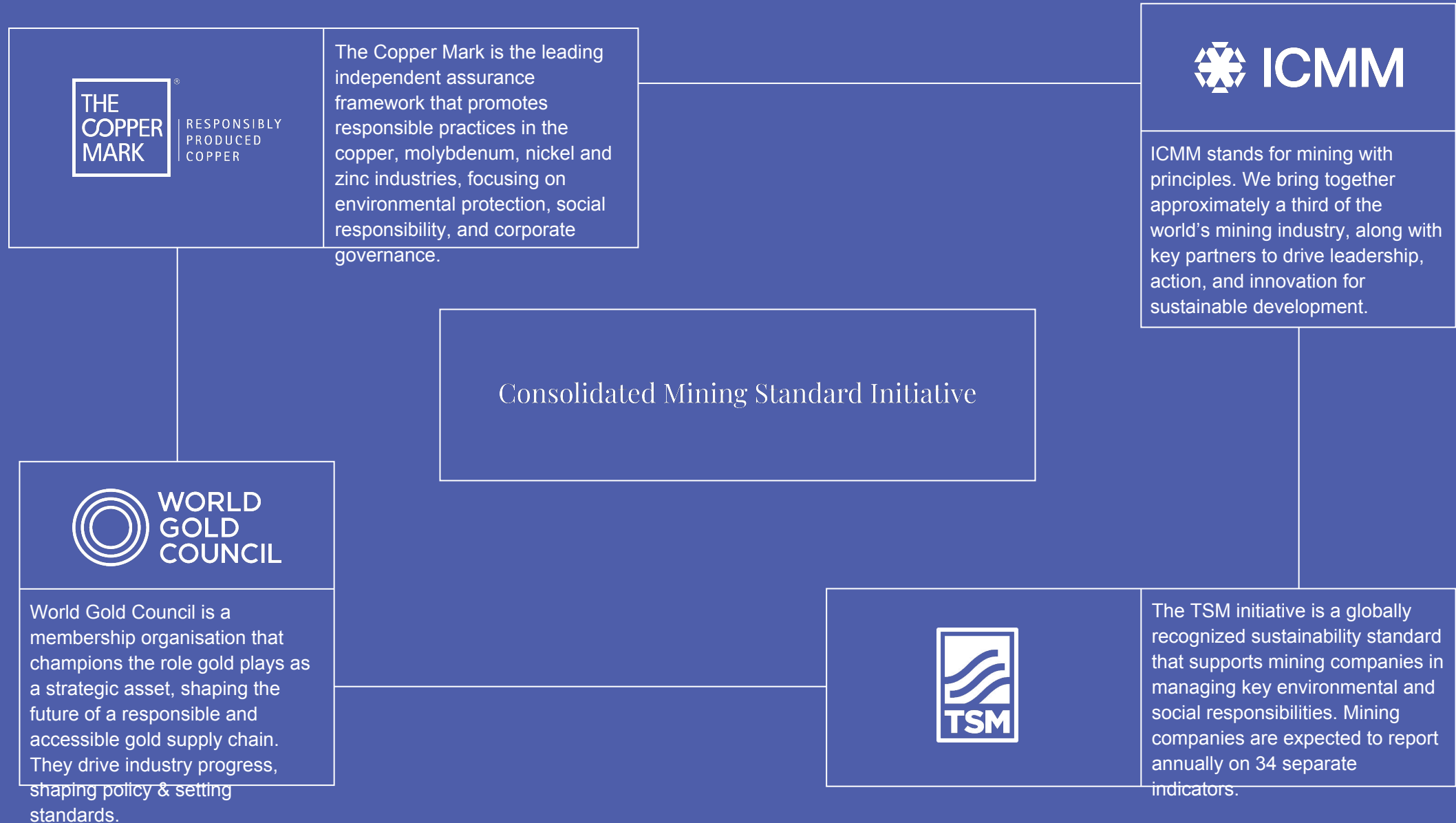
Responsible vs. irresponsible – a market failure?

Nb. This is an illustrative example

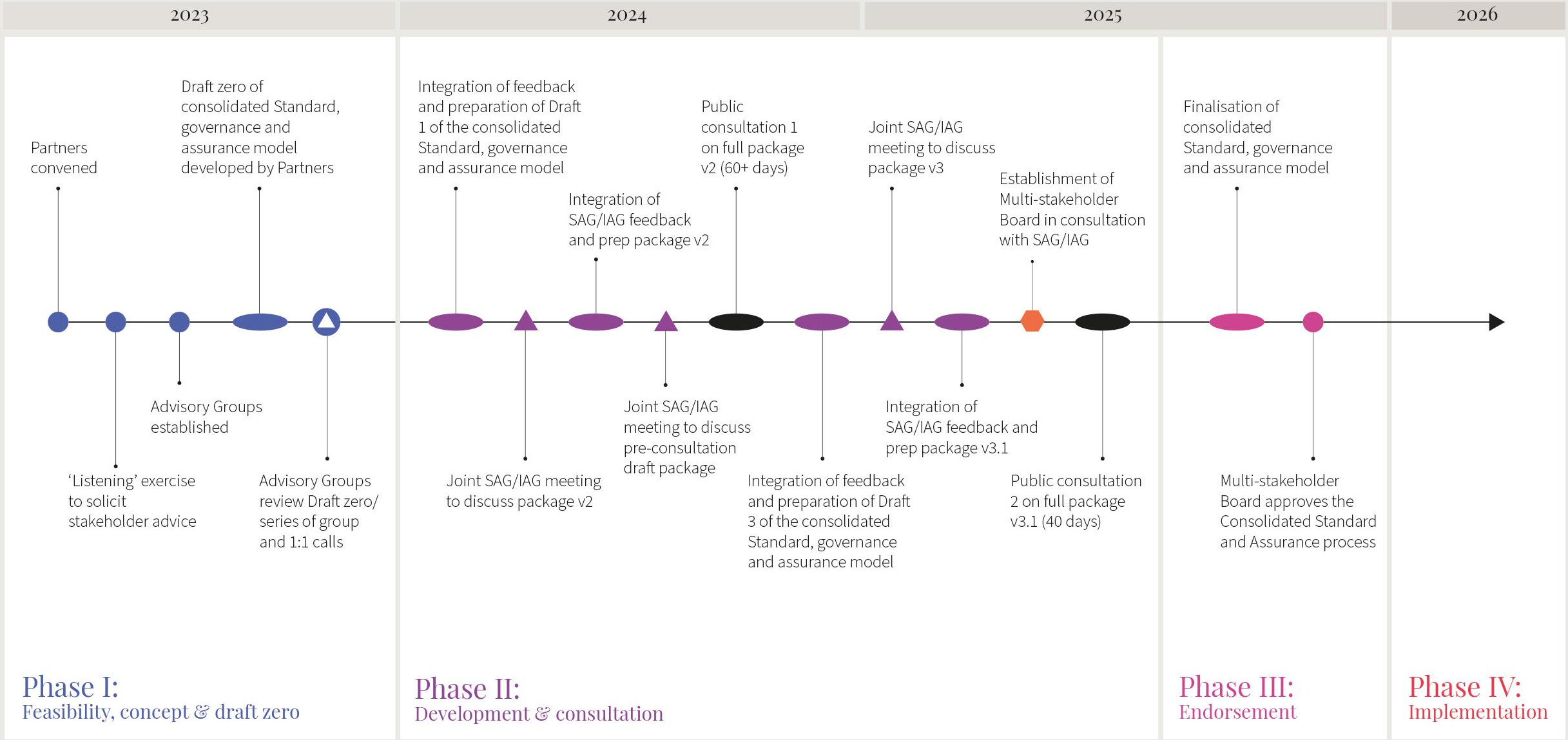


Standards, oh standards





The process: overview



Public Consultation overview

To share your feedback, please visit our website here: <https://miningstandardinitiative.org/>

- Consultation will be on all components: Consolidated Standard, Governance Model, Assurance Process and Claims Policy.
- Online format, available in **all UN languages** (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish) as well as Brazilian Portuguese and Japanese.
- **Complementary explanatory webinars** where stakeholders can engage with the partners on the content.
- **Targeted stakeholder engagements** at global events during consultation period.
- In line with ISEAL Code of Good Practice, after the consultation closes, a **consultation report** will be published. The report will include an overview of the consultation process, feedback received and how it was addressed.
- In addition, for full transparency, **all raw submissions will be published verbatim** (with individual respondents' permission).

Key takeaways



Increased recognition of the **importance** of (responsible) **mining** (practices)...

...however, recognition is yet to translate to expectations – **responsible mining is not yet normative**.

Governments can, and **should** – through permitting, contracts and licenses – hardwire responsible practices.

Incentives for responsible practices – differentiation between responsible and irresponsible supply in the marketplace, etc. is **crucial**.

Standards can play a real role in **raising performance** – especially where governance challenges exist.

Governments & stakeholders **engagement** in ongoing efforts to **consolidate standards landscape** is pivotal – and so is avoiding further proliferation.



