



Concept note: 'Change Makers' 2018

Extractive Industries, SDGs and the 4th Industrial Revolution

The South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), in partnership with the University of Cape Town and Mining Dialogues 360° will host the 2018 Change Makers' Forum on the sidelines of the Investing in Africa Mining Indaba. The Change Makers' Forum is a high-level, annual dialogue, launched in 2013, to promote extractive sector transformation in Africa. It provides a neutral platform for bridging the divisions that continue to polarise mining discussions.

This year the forum will continue to address the question raised in 2017 of how mining can contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To this end, we have commissioned two important papers. The first, by authors from the University of Cape Town, addresses the necessary legislative questions that have to be answered in South Africa to increase the probability of SDG materialisation. The second, by the director of Mining Dialogues 360°, describes a project already underway to harness the power of big data and machine learning to enhance mining's potential contribution to a more sustainable future.

The forum will leverage its high-level composition to identify practical, concrete steps that can be taken to ensure that the recommendations of the research are now implemented.

Sustainable Development Goals and the Africa Mining Vision

A 2016 joint report by the Columbia Center on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Development Programme, and the World Economic Forum - [*Mapping Mining to the Sustainable Development Goals: An Atlas*](#) - highlights that 'the mining industry has an unprecedented opportunity to mobilize significant human, physical, technological and financial resources to advance the SDGs'. The report calls for dialogue across sectors to ensure that best practises are shared and that the potential contribution of the mining industry is fully leveraged for sustainable development. The 2018 Change Makers' Forum contributes to this end by bringing together stakeholders with a particular focus on the governance of Africa's mining industry. It will explore linkages between the SDGs and the [*Africa Mining Vision*](#), which calls for the 'transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic

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development', particularly in the context of an African mining sector that is 'environmentally friendly, socially responsible and appreciated by surrounding communities.'

Details

Panel: Mr Ross Harvey, Governance of Africa's Resources Programme, SAIIA

Professor Hanri Mostert and Dr Cheri Young, Mineral Law in Africa, University of Cape Town

Ms Tracey Cooper, Director of Mining Dialogues 360°

Programme: Following a brief intervention from our panel members, we will invite participants to initiate small-group discussions, leading to the formulation of inputs to the plenary. This response should ideally be framed in terms of key challenges and opportunities related to the presentations, with a focus on how the recommendations can be implemented.

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018

Time: 10h45 for 11h30 until 13h00

Venue: Constantia room of the Cape Sun Hotel, Cape Town

(Address: 23 Strand Street, Cape Town)

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