

Minerals Security Partnership (MSP):
June 2023

Basic Information

- Minerals are essential to the global economy and to the technologies powering the clean energy transition. Diverse, secure, and sustainable supply chains for critical energy minerals are vital to deploying these technologies at the speed and scale necessary to combat the climate crisis.
- The Minerals Security Partnership aims to accelerate the development of diverse and sustainable critical energy minerals supply chains through targeted financial and diplomatic support for strategic projects along the value chain. The MSP complements existing multilateral forums by offering MSP partners a mechanism to share opportunities and coordinate MSP governments' resources to bring critical minerals projects to fruition.
- The MSP focuses on the minerals and metals supply chains most relevant for clean energy technologies. These include – but are not limited to – lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese, graphite, rare earth elements, and copper.
- The MSP considers projects along the full clean energy value chain, from mining, extraction, and secondary recovery, to processing and refining, and ultimately to recycling. The MSP embraces the role of innovation and the principles of sustainability and circular economy and strives to support state-of-the-art projects. The MSP is considering projects around the globe, both within MSP partners' borders and elsewhere – projects do not have to be located within MSP partners' jurisdictions to receive MSP support.
- MSP partners strive to elevate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards across the global minerals sector. The MSP commits to support only those projects that meet high, internationally recognized ESG standards, promote local value addition, and uplift communities, in recognition that all countries can benefit from the global clean energy transition. Projects supported by the MSP will adhere to rigorous ESG standards throughout the project lifetime. Further information can be found in the MSP partners' public statement, "Principles for Responsible Critical Mineral Supply Chains."

Partners

- MSP partners include Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union (represented by the European Commission).
- The initial group of MSP partners possess significant government authorities to finance and invest in critical minerals projects globally, and MSP partners' private sectors have high potential for offtake from such projects. The MSP aims to use partners' economic engagement and other forms of support to make strategic critical minerals projects more likely to succeed.
- The MSP commits to consult frequently and transparently with countries that are not MSP partners, particularly those with significant mineral reserves and those that aspire to move up the critical minerals value chain, to evaluate how best to support responsible commercialization of mineral resources. MSP activities will advance the economic objectives of both MSP partners and affiliates.
- Governments that are not MSP partners but wish to join the Minerals Security Partnership may contact any of the MSP partner governments for an initial briefing and explanation of partner admission procedures.

Projects

- The MSP aims to ensure minerals are produced, processed, and recycled in a way that helps countries realize the full economic benefits of their resources. The MSP welcomes the opportunity to work together with resource-rich countries developing their minerals sectors.
- The MSP strives to produce concrete, project-level results to diversify and strengthen supply chains and promote shared economic growth.
- The MSP operates through a collection of project-focused working groups that engage project proponents, evaluate project compatibility with ESG standards and MSP strategic objectives, and assess potential modes of MSP support. MSP partner governments engage across a wide range of agencies,

including those responsible for foreign affairs, economy, energy, trade, development finance, and export finance.

- As of June 2023, the MSP is assessing more than a dozen minerals projects around the world, across several commodities and stages of the value chain, including processing and recycling projects. The MSP partner governments may provide financial, diplomatic, or other forms of support.
- The MSP is open to receiving information on projects of potential interest to the MSP partner governments. Information on a project in a given country may be shared with the diplomatic missions of MSP partner governments operating in that country. Sharing project information with an MSP partner government for consideration by the MSP does not imply or guarantee that the MSP will provide support for the project.

Milestones

- The MSP was established in June 2022 on the margins of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada convention.
- The Minerals Security Partnership Ministerial, hosted in September 2022 on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, brought together MSP partners and minerals-rich nations to discuss the priorities, opportunities, and challenges faced by countries developing their natural resources and seeking to attract diverse foreign investment and advance value-added industry. At the MSP Ministerial, MSP partners affirmed the importance of working together with a wide range of countries to diversify supply chains.
- In February 2023, Minerals Security Partnership partners and key minerals-rich African nations held a vice-ministerial meeting in Cape Town, South Africa to discuss priorities, challenges, and opportunities in responsible mining and processing of critical minerals on the African continent. At the vice-ministerial, MSP partners affirmed their commitment to sustainable economic development and the elevation of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards in global critical minerals supply chains.