

**MINERALS COUNCIL**  
SOUTH AFRICA



MANDELA MINING PRECINCT  
MINDS FOR MINES

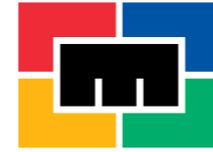


# MODERNISATION AND TECHNICAL INNOVATION FOR JUNIOR MINING COMPANIES

4 NOVEMBER 2021

# #TheFuture'sMine

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MANDELA MINING PRECINCT  
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## IMPERATIVE OF MODERNISATION

SIETSE VAN DER WOUDE - SENIOR  
EXECUTIVE, MODERNISATION AND SAFETY,  
MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA

# #TheFuture'sMine

# JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS PURPOSE

Junior Miners see their greatest purpose as:



Job creation



Wealth creation for entrepreneurs who take risks



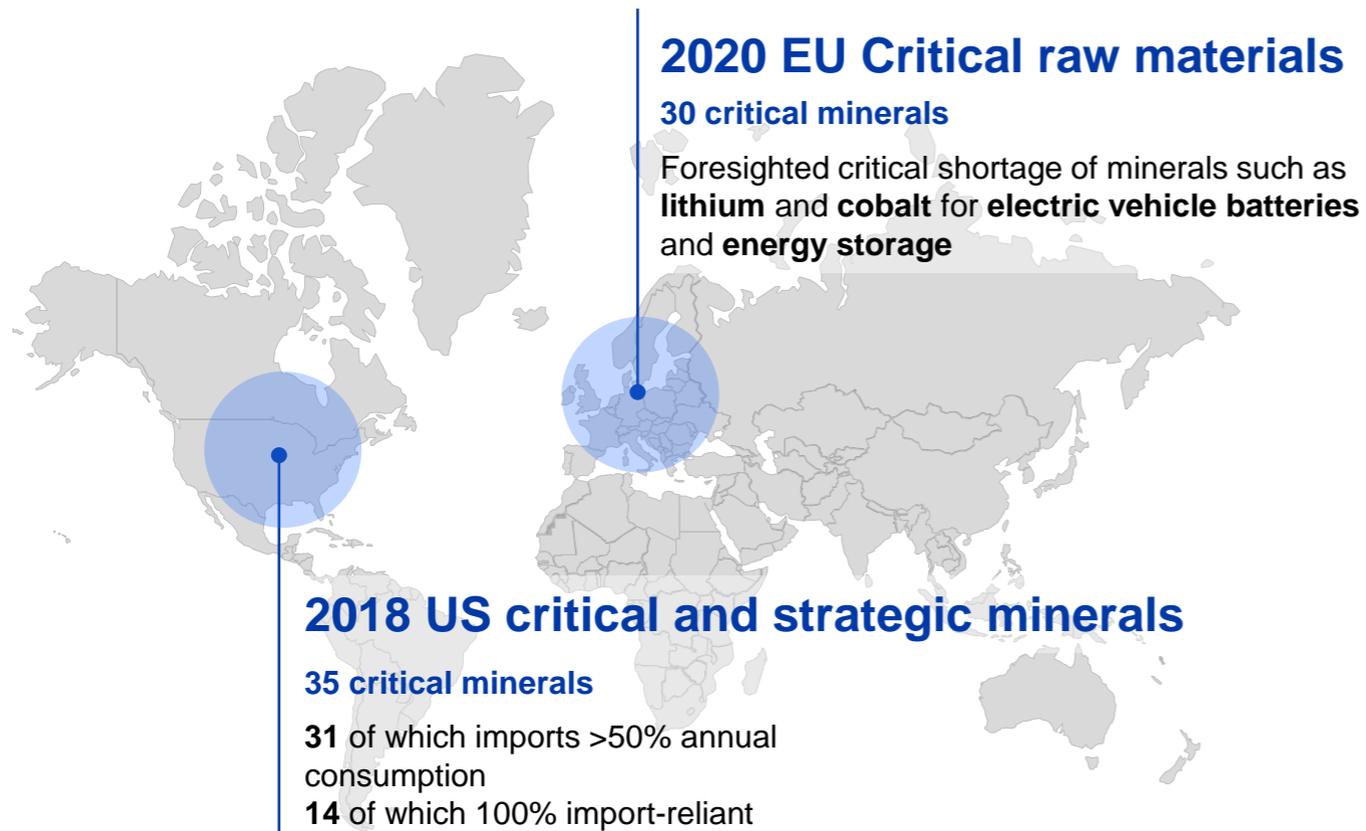
To spearhead introduction of new technology in mining



To utilise mineral resources too small for major mining houses' overhead structures

Source: Junior Mining Research Report, 2019

# CRITICAL MINERALS PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES TO BROADEN SOUTH AFRICA'S COMMODITY OFFERING AND STRENGTHEN THE MINING SECTOR



## US Federal strategy:

### Enhance International Trade and Cooperation related to Critical Minerals

“Secure access to critical minerals through trade and investment with international partners [...]”

“Secure access to critical minerals through trade and investment with international partners, while ensuring that foreign trade practices do not harm U.S. industries and broader national interests”

## EU action plan for critical raw materials:

### Diversified sourcing from third countries

“Such strategic partnerships covering extraction, processing and refining are particularly relevant for resource-rich developing countries and regions such as Africa.”

**Action 9** – Develop strategic international partnerships and associated funding to secure a diversified and sustainable supply of critical raw materials [...] starting with **pilot partnerships** with Canada, **interested countries in Africa** and the EU’s neighbourhood in 2021 [...].

# MANY CRITICAL MINERALS PRESENT EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS IN SA

## Critical minerals identified by US and/or EU

Aerospace		Al	Be	Cs	Cr	Co	Ga	Ge	C	He*	In	Li*	Mg	Mn	Nb
		Bauxite	Beryllium	Cesium	Chromium	Cobalt	Gallium	Germanium	Graphite	Helium	Indium	Lithium	Magnesium	Manganese	Niobium
		Pd	PtPd	Rare Earths Elements	Re	Rb	Ru	Sc	Sr	Ta*	Ti*	W	U	V	Zr
		Palladium	PGMs		Rhenium	Rubidium	Ruthenium	Scandium	Strontium	Tantalum	Titanium	Tungsten	Uranium	Vanadium	Zirconium
Telecoms and electronics		Sb	As	Ba	Al	Bi	Cs	Cr	Co	F*	Ga	Ge	C	Au	Hf
		Antimony	Arsenic	Barite	Bauxite	Bismuth	Cesium	Chromium	Cobalt	Fluorspar	Gallium	Germanium	Graphite	Gold	Hafnium
		He*	In	Li*	Mg	Mn	Nb	Pd	PtPd	K	Rare Earths Elements	Re	Rb	Ru	Sc
		Helium	Indium	Lithium	Magnesium	Manganese	Niobium	Palladium	PGMs	Potash		Rhenium	Rubidium	Ruthenium	Scandium
		Ag	Sr	Ta*	Te	Ti*	U	W	V	Y	Zr				
		Silver	Strontium	Tantalum	Tellurium	Titanium	Uranium	Tungsten	Vanadium	Yttrium	Zirconium				
Critical to climate change control, RE, Carbon Capture, EVs		Al	Cd	Cr	Co	Cu	Dy	Ga	In	Fe	Li*				
		Bauxite	Cadmium	Chromium	Cobalt	Copper	Dysprosium	Gallium	Indium	Iron	Lithium				
		Mg	Mn	Mo	Ni	Nd	Se	Si	Ag	Zn					
		Magnesium	Manganese	Molybdenum	Nickel	Neodymium	Selenium	Silicon metal	Silver	Zinc					

Critical minerals presence and potential in South Africa

- Key**
- Dormant mines / renewed interest
  - By-product of or occurrence in widely mined mineral
  - Mined mineral
  - Occurrences
  - Many occurrences
  - ☆ High potential / being developed

# INNOVATION NEEDS MINING...

## SCREEN

### TOUCH: INDIUM TIN OXIDE



### GLASS: ALUMINA AND SILICA



### COLOURS: RARE EARTH METALS



## BATTERY



## ELECTRONICS

### WIRING & MICROELECTRONICS



### MICROPHONES & VIBRATIONS



### THE SILICON CHIP



### CONNECTING ELECTRONICS



## CASING



### Key:

- <1% recycle rate
- <1-10% recycle rate
- <10-25% recycle rate
- <25-50% recycle rate
- <50% recycle rate
- Non-metal (or recycle rate unknown)

# ...MINING NEEDS INNOVATION



Over last decade  
mining productivity  
**decreased**  
by **7.6%**

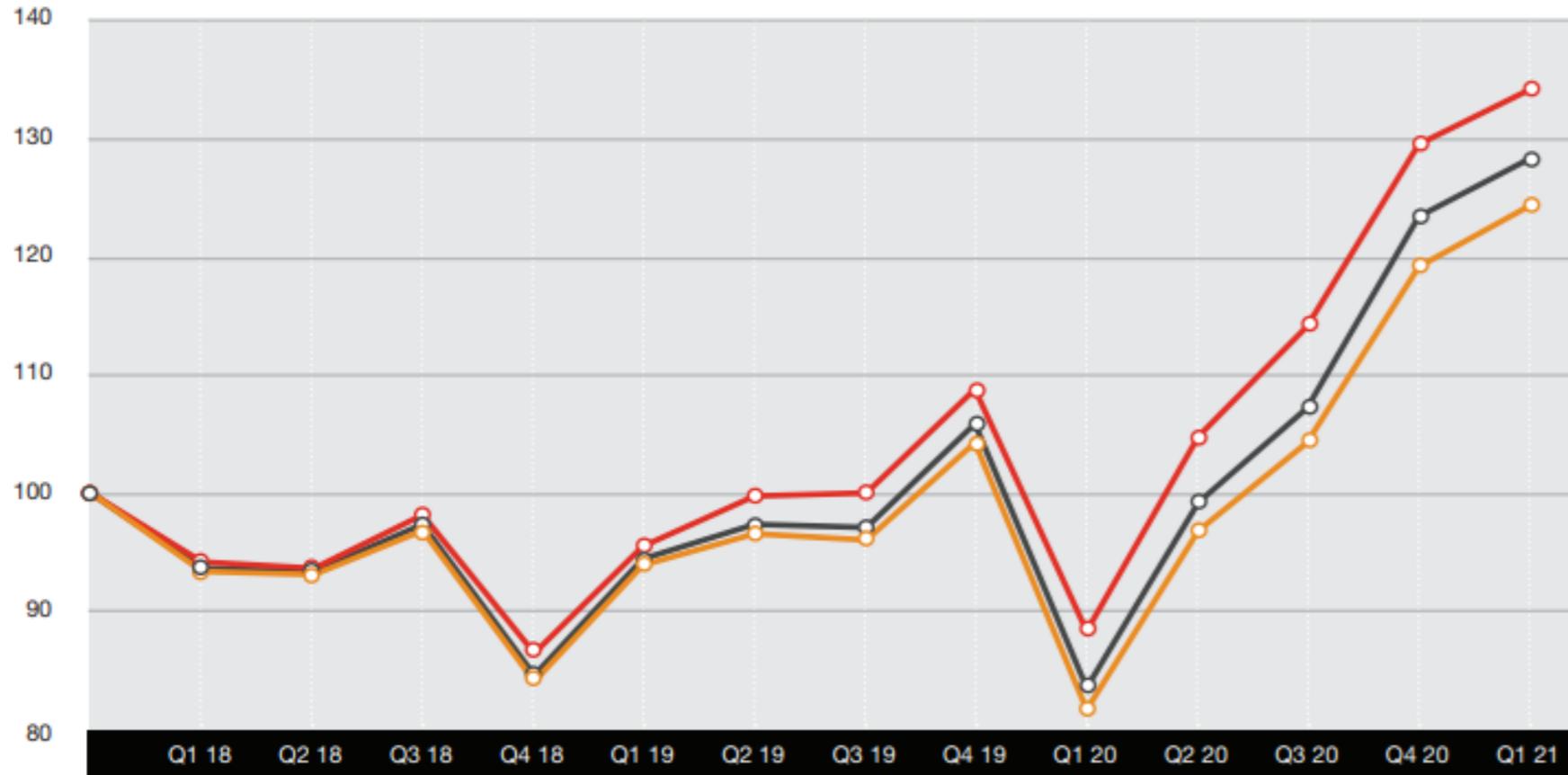


Costs  
**rose by 2-3%**  
in real terms



Two-thirds of SA's  
mining output in  
**upper half**  
of global mining  
cost curve

# IMPROVED ESG IS LINKED TO GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS...



Companies with ESG focus, excluding those with products that have negative social / environmental impact

All companies with strong ESG focus

Standard companies, without ESG focus

“ Companies with higher ESG ratings (from MSCI) had an average **total shareholder return of 34% over the past 3 years** – 10% higher than the general market index. ”

PwC, 2021

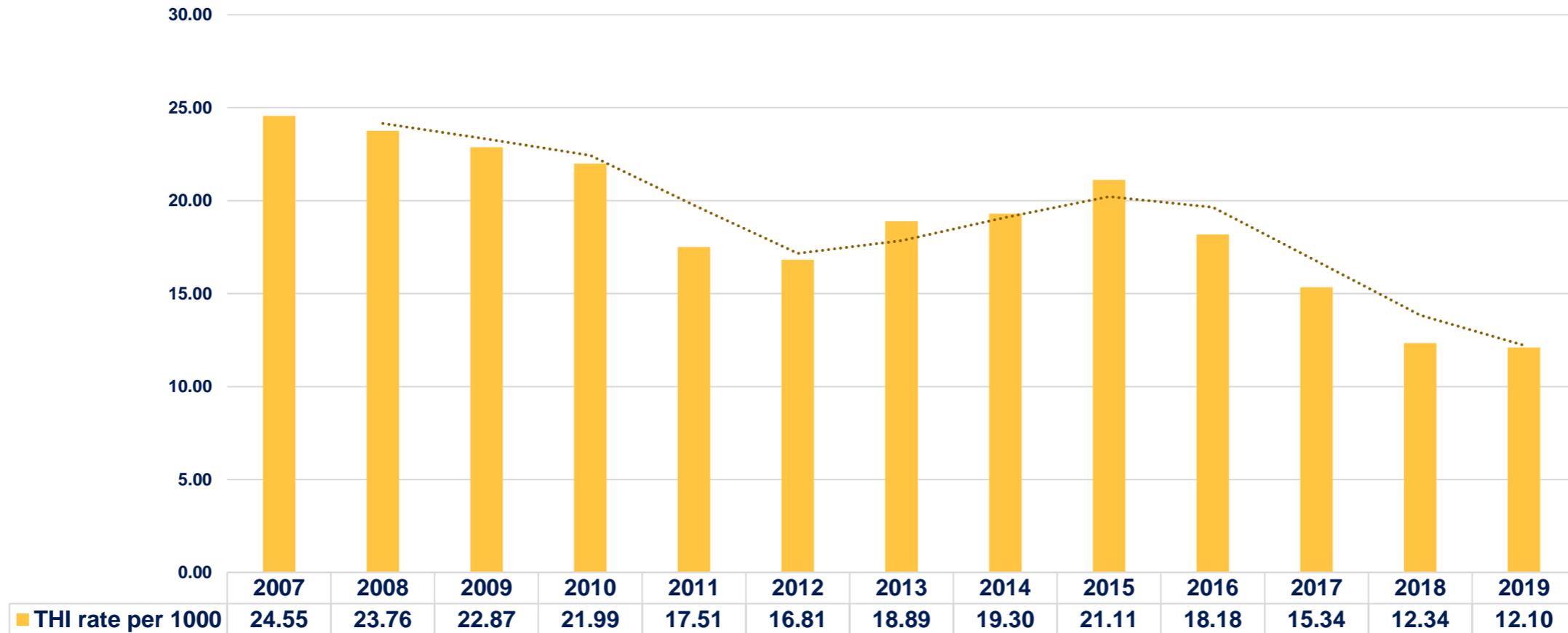
— ACWI SRI Standard (Large+Mid Cap) — ACWI ESG FOCUS Standard (Large+Mid Cap) — ACWI Standard (Large+Mid Cap)

Source: S&P Capital IQ, MSCI

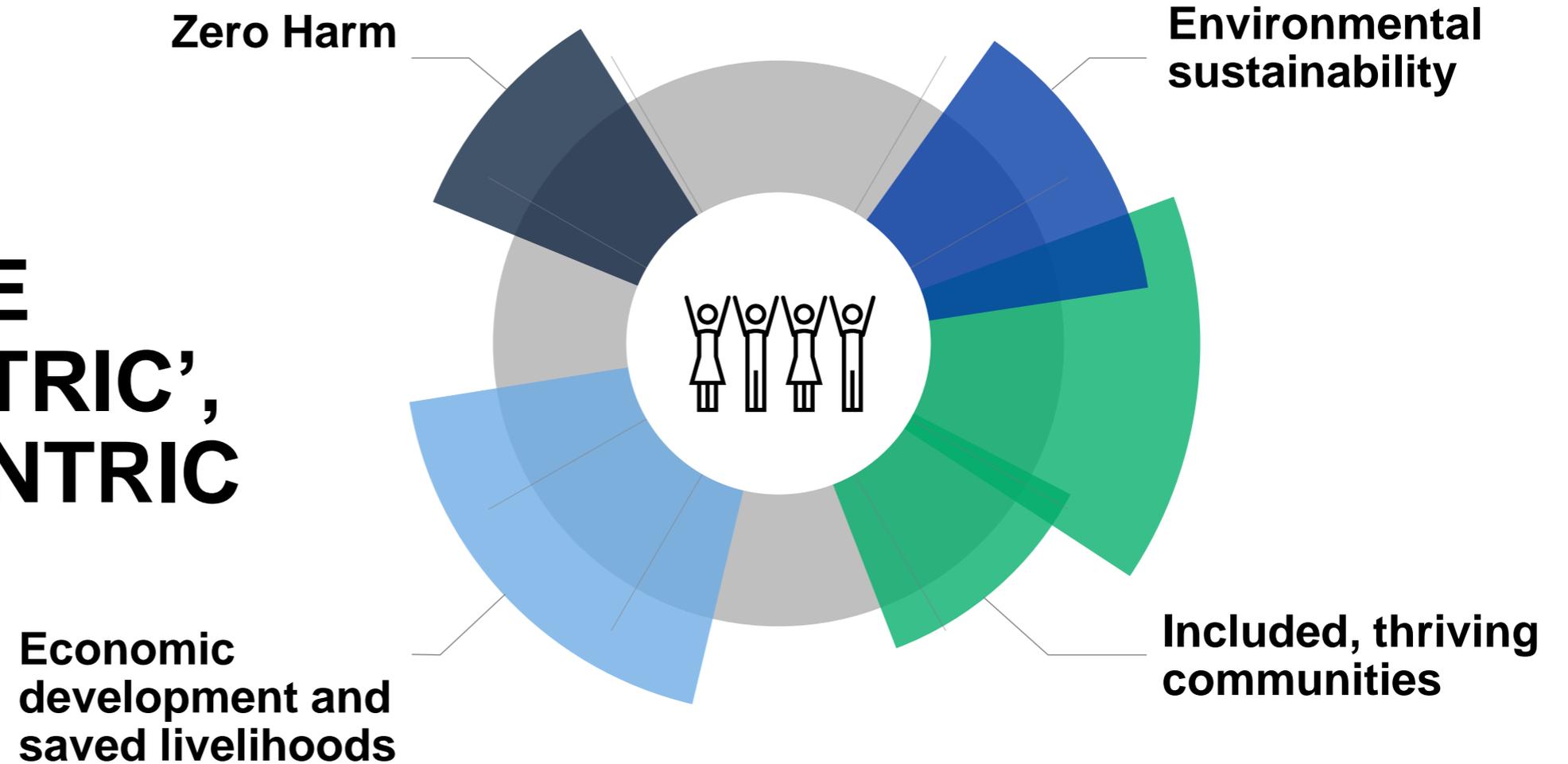
Note: Morgan Stanley Capital Index (MSCI)'s All Country World Index (ACWI) ESG Leaders Index includes companies with high ESG ratings in developed and emerging markets. The ACWI SRI Index comprises mainly the same companies but excludes those with products that have a negative social or environmental impact.

# ...AND INNOVATION HAS A DIRECT LINK TO IMPROVED ESG PERFORMANCE

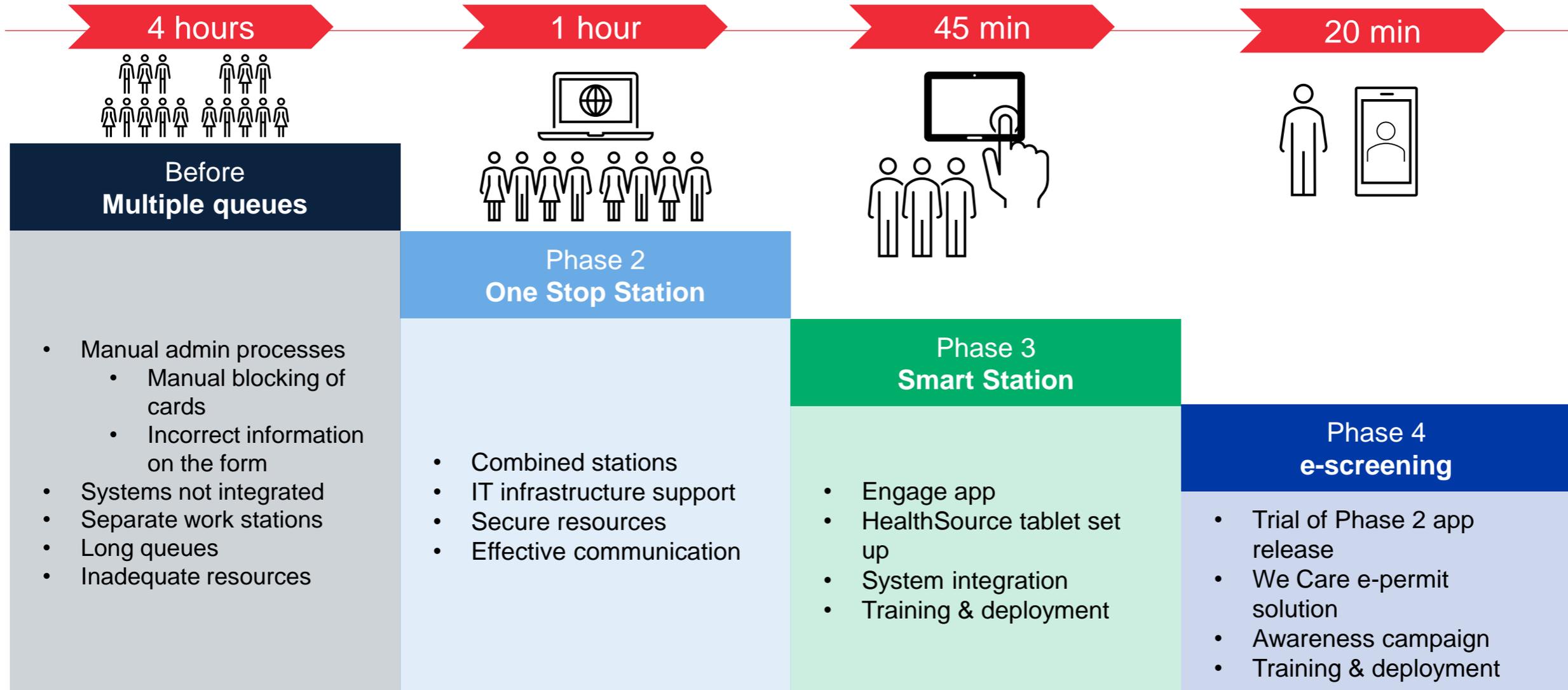
Total Harm Indicator rate per 1000



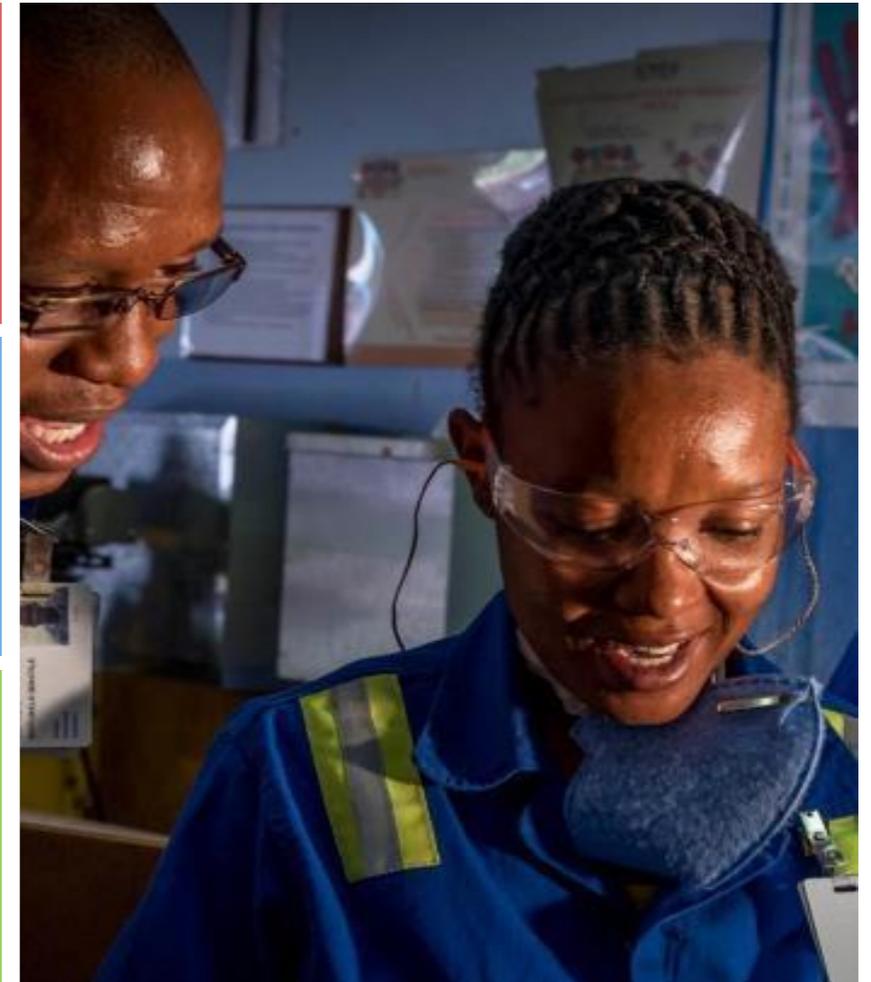
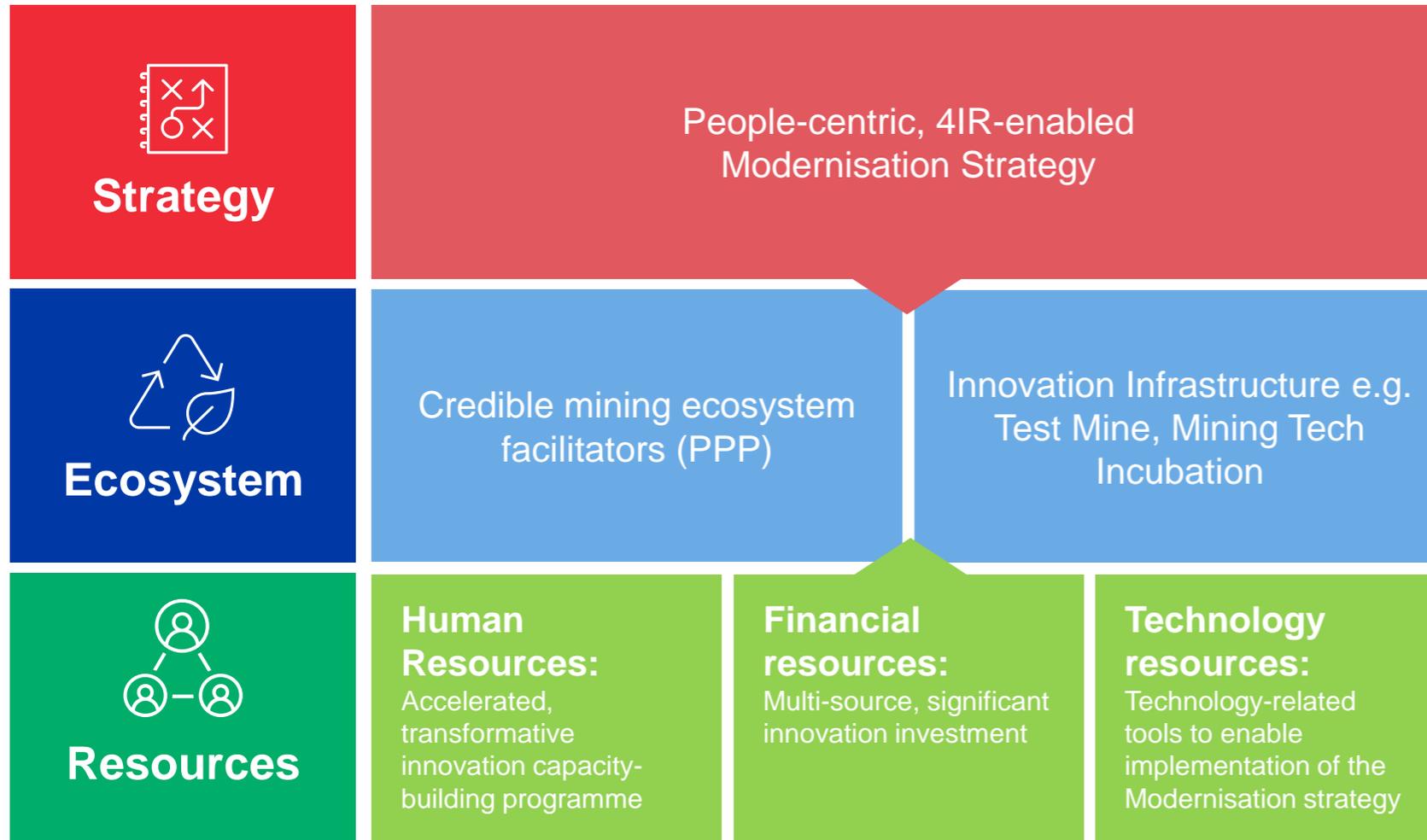
# INNOVATION IN SA MUST BE 'PEOPLE-CENTRIC', NOT TECH-CENTRIC



# COVID-19 SLOWED THE WORLD, BUT ACCELERATED CHANGE

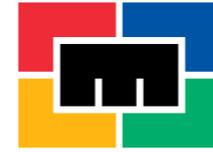


# THE MINERALS COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO PEOPLE-CENTRIC MODERNISATION



# TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE COUNCIL DRIVES A NUMBER OF MODERNISATION-FOCUSED PROJECTS





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SOUTH AFRICA



MANDELA MINING PRECINCT  
MINDS FOR MINES



# THE MANDELA MINING PRECINCT VISION FOR THE JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINER SECTOR

DICK KRUGER – STRATEGIC TECHNICAL  
ADVISOR, MANDELA MINING PRECINCT

# #TheFuture'sMine

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# MODERNISATION AND JUNIOR MINING



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MINDS FOR MINES

- Junior mining is not artisanal mining
- Junior mining is not primitive
- A junior mining operation can be modern and mechanised
- Mandela Mining Precinct is relevant for Junior Miners

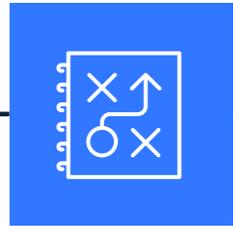
# MANDELA MINING PRECINCT: MINDS FOR MINES



MANDELA MINING PRECINCT  
MINDS FOR MINES

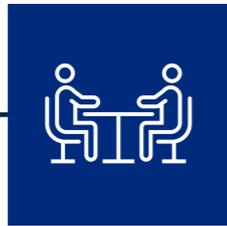
Adopted by Mining  
Phakisa

**2015**



**2014**

SAMERDI Strategy  
Formulated



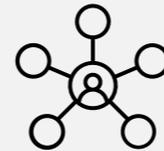
**2016**

Mandela Mining  
Precinct as  
implementation  
agency



science & innovation

Department:  
Science and Innovation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**Hub & Spoke model**

Hub: Mandela Mining Precinct  
Spokes: Research partners



**Direction and funding**

provided to research partners

# A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT STRUCTURE



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# STAFFING



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- 01** Director
- 01** Strategic advisor
- 05** Programme managers
- 03** Support staff
- 08** Interns



# PROGRAMMES



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**SUCCESSFUL  
APPLICATION OF  
TECHNOLOGIES  
CENTRED AROUND  
PEOPLE (SATCAP)**



**MECHANISED MINING  
SYSTEMS**



**ADVANCED OREBODY  
KNOWLEDGE**



**REAL-TIME  
INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEMS (RTIMS)**



**LONGEVITY OF  
CURRENT MINES  
(LOCM)**



**TEST MINE**



# SATCAP



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- 
- **E-Digital skills training for artisans/engineering overseers**
  - **E-digital literacy training – enhancing Adult Education and Training**
  - **VR Training module to enable miners upskilling**
  - **Training simulation for rock drill operators upskilling**

# MECHANISED MINING SYSTEMS



- **Pillar design at depth**
- **Effective ventilation control system**
- **Improve blasting frequency**
- **Equipment utilization and performance monitoring**
- **Technology for rapid development**

# ADVANCED OREBODY KNOWLEDGE



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- Improved diamond drilling
- Integration of scanning technologies
- Statistical analysis for pothole prediction

# REAL TIME INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (RTIMS)



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- **Develop the capability for dealing with and leveraging modern/hyper technologies, big data, digital transformation and expediting the digitalisation on-boarding journey**
- **Develop a shared open data analytics platform for industry**
- **Develop a network of service and solution providers for 4IR technologies**
- **Implement and open a RTIMS knowledge base for technical, information management**

## LONGEVITY OF CURRENT MINES (LOCM)



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- **Water usage in mining operations**

- **Energy usage in mining operations**

- **Remotely controlled scraping with proximity detection**

- **Identification of leading practices and the dissemination of these**



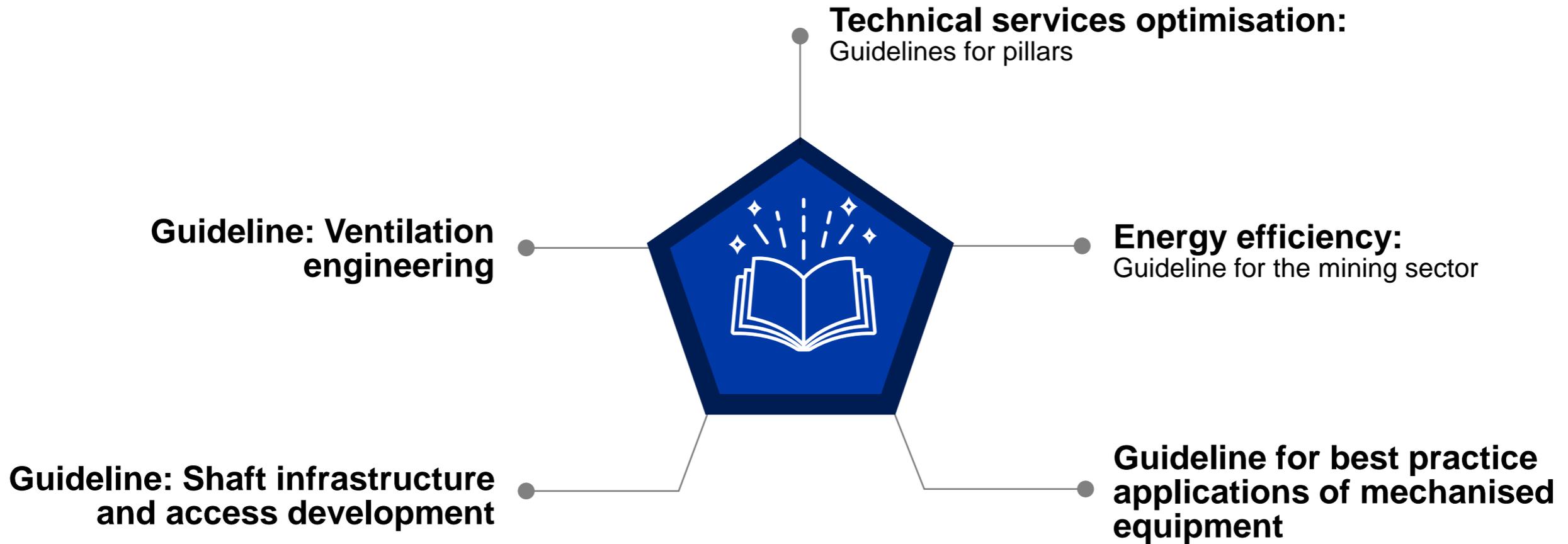
MANDELA MINING PRECINCT  
MINDS FOR MINES

## ESTABLISHMENT OF AN UNDERGROUND TEST FACILITY UNDERWAY



- Feasibility study with risk and legal framework
- Discussions with inspectorate confirmed support
- Low risk testing already taking place
- Workshop **CONFIRMED INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

# OUTPUTS: GUIDELINES



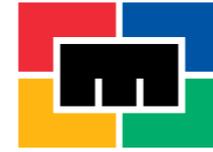
# OUTPUTS: GUIDELINES



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- **Lightweight synthetic support elongate**
- **Two lightweight hydro rockdrill prototypes**



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# DIGITAL APPLICATIONS IN MINING FOR JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS

DAVIS COOK – CEO, RIIS

ALEXANDRA LUGAGE – MANAGER, RIIS

# #TheFuture'sMine

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**New technologies are dramatically  
changing the cost structures for  
businesses**

# Space-based platforms are providing dramatic cost reductions in remote sensing for exploration

## Satellite imagery cost accessibility

### Satellite imagery for initial identification

- 30m accuracy
- ASTER / Landsat / Sentinel 2
- **FREE**

### More accurate digital elevation models to identify drilling areas

- 2m accuracy
- e.g. DEMSA 2
- e.g. R25-70/km2

## At the cutting edge: Muography



### 1. COSMIC RAY MUONS

Muons travel in straight lines from cosmic rays colliding with matter in the Earth's upper atmosphere



### 2. MUON FLUX

Muons are slowed down as they enter the Earth's surface, as they encounter material of different densities



### 3. DETECTORS

Sub-surface detectors in the survey area measure muon intensity, creating a 60° field of view



### 4. SATELLITE TO CLOUD

The data captured by the detectors is transmitted to the surface, then via satellite to the Ideon cloud



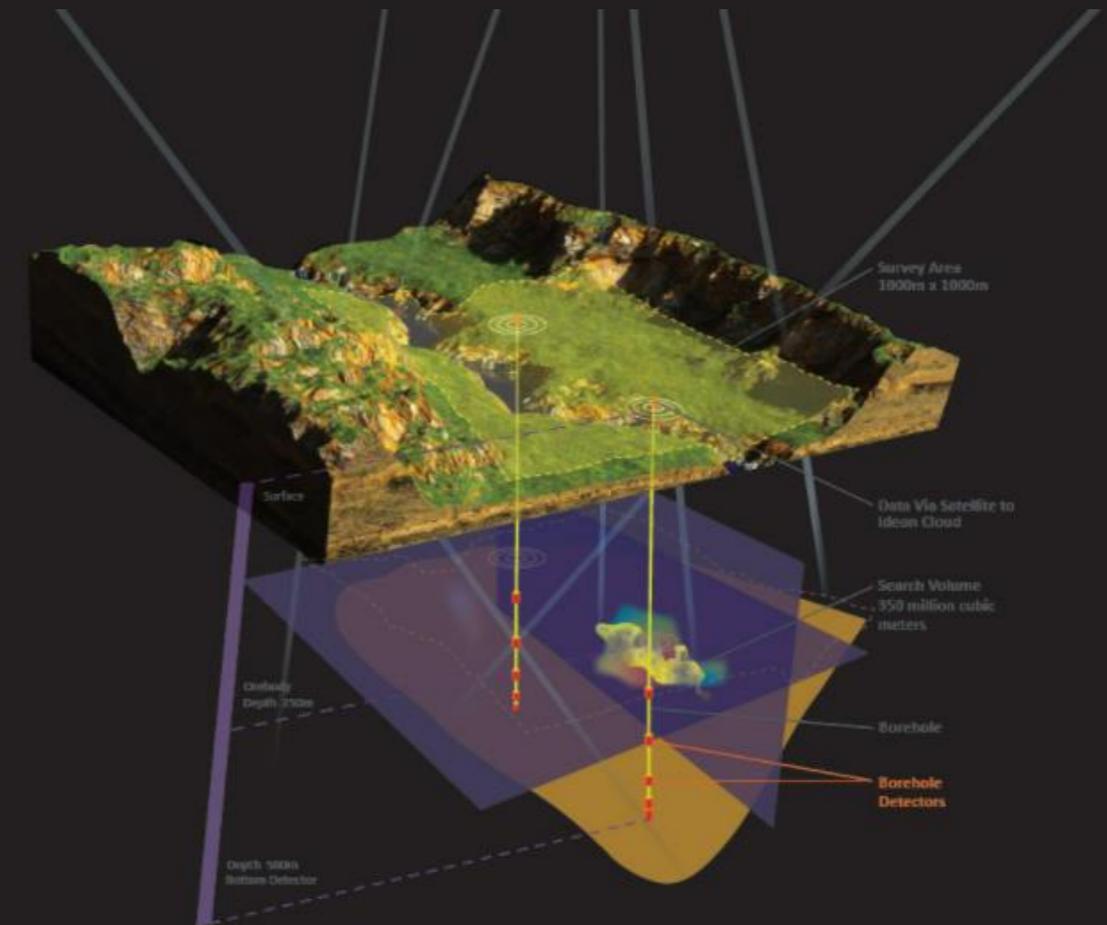
### 5. RADIOGRAPHIC IMAGES

The data is transformed into x-ray-like images of density anomalies in the survey area



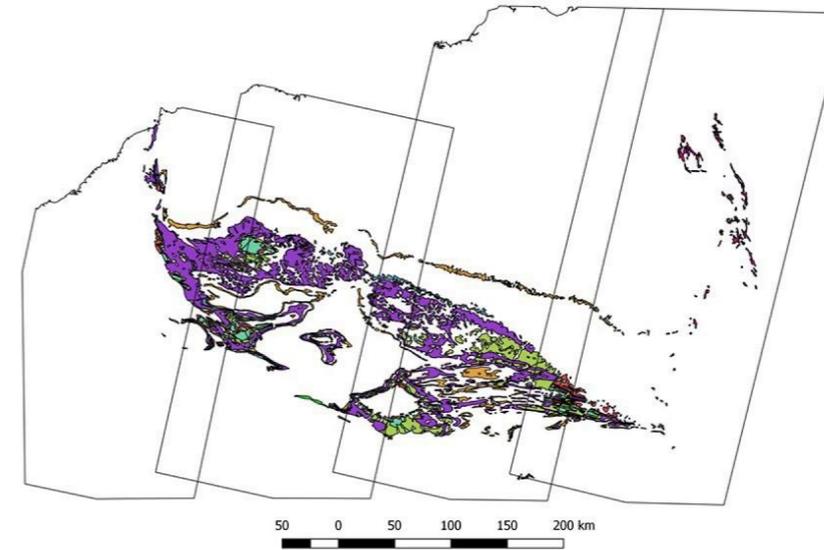
### 6. 3D SUBSURFACE MODEL

Inversion technologies create subsurface 3D density delivered into client software tools



# AI is capable of re-analysing existing data sets to discover previously missed orebodies

## Searching for surface signatures in the Pilbara using Supervised Learning



- Total model area 262,704 km<sup>2</sup>
- 300,000,000 data points
- 11-15 layers of data
- 10 Landsat 8 OLI scenes
- SRTM
- Regional radiometrics
- Regional aeromagnetic data

*“Exploration from a desktop, rather than with a drill rig, has unearthed almost 600 potential deposits of sought-after new economy minerals across Queensland... including 6 possible rare earth systems”.*

Australian Minister for Resources. Scott Stewart  
October 2021



## 5 top Artificial Intelligence startups\* impacting mining exploration

(StartUS Insights, 2020)

\*Out of 88 analysed

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**Work undertaken by the Minerals Council and Mandela Mining Precinct aims to support development and roll out of such technologies**

# We will delve into a few of the initiatives underway

<b>Minerals Council SA</b> <i>Modernisation projects portfolio</i>		
<i>Implementing partner</i>	<b>RIIS</b>	<b>Mandela Mining Precinct</b>
<i>Projects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modernisation Focused Strategy</li><li>• Mining Skills 4.0</li><li>• Mpumalanga Coalfields 2030+</li><li>• Data 4.0</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Longevity of current mines</li><li>• Mechanised Mining Systems</li><li>• Real Time Information Management Systems</li><li>• Advanced Orebody Knowledge</li><li>• Successful Application of Technology Centred around People</li><li>• Test Mine</li></ul>

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**...Through identifying, piloting and testing emerging technologies**

# Through the RTIMS\* programme, underground communications technologies and mechanisms are being piloted and tested

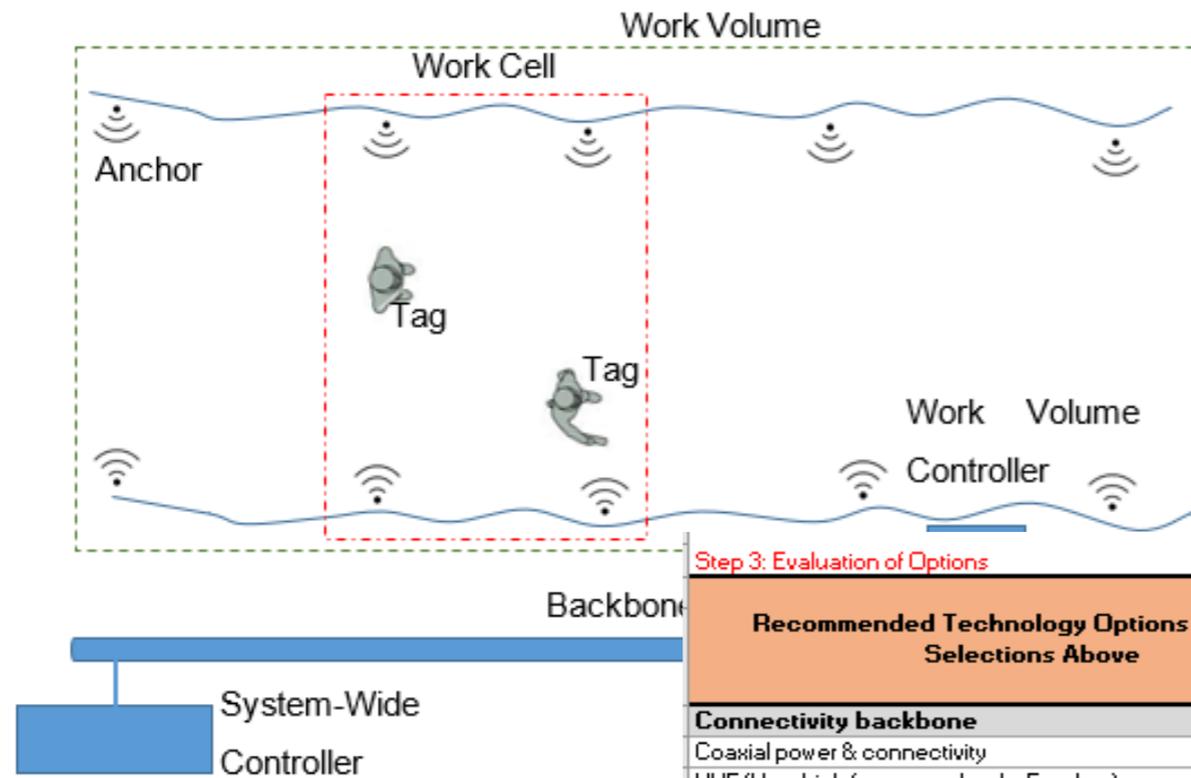


Figure 1) Plan view of the work volume

Integrated stope-communications system: successful application of Coded Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (COFDM)

Potential applications:

Improve and ensure communication in

- **Proto team rescues**
- **Infrastructure-poor areas**

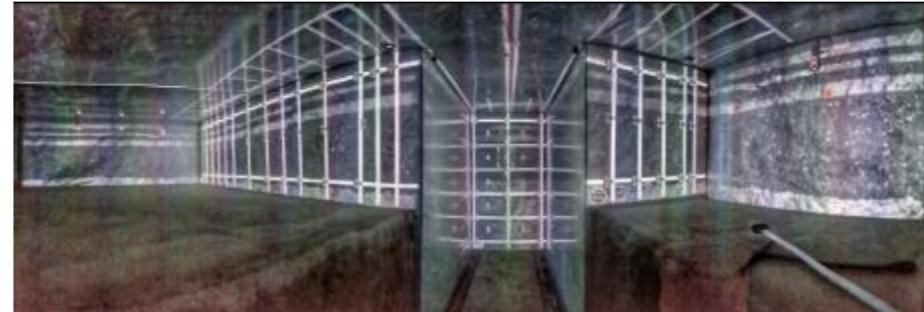
Step 3: Evaluation of Options

Recommended Technology Options Based on Selections Above	Business Considerations			Interoperability
	Applicable to Mining Method	Relevance based on Life of Mine	Legislative Compliance	
<b>Connectivity backbone</b>				
Coaxial power & connectivity	Applicable	Applicable	Compliant	✓
VHF (Very high frequency Leaky Feeders)	Applicable	Not Applicable	Compliant	✗
UHF (Ultra high frequency Leaky Feeders)	Applicable	Not Applicable	Compliant	✗
<b>Connectivity extension (propagation)</b>				
<b>Data Aggregation</b>				

# Under Mining Skills 4.0, EdTech solutions to improve training effectiveness and efficiency were sought and demo'ed

## 4IR technologies

Virtual and Augmented Reality



Mobile technology



## Combined with innovative approaches to learning



Micro-learning



Gamification



Human-Centred Design

# The Isidingo Drill Design Challenge led to prototyping of handheld rockdrills for faster, safer and more efficient drilling



## Isidingo Drill Design Challenge

- Ran from 2018 – 2019
- Two South-African developed designs prototyped and in testing

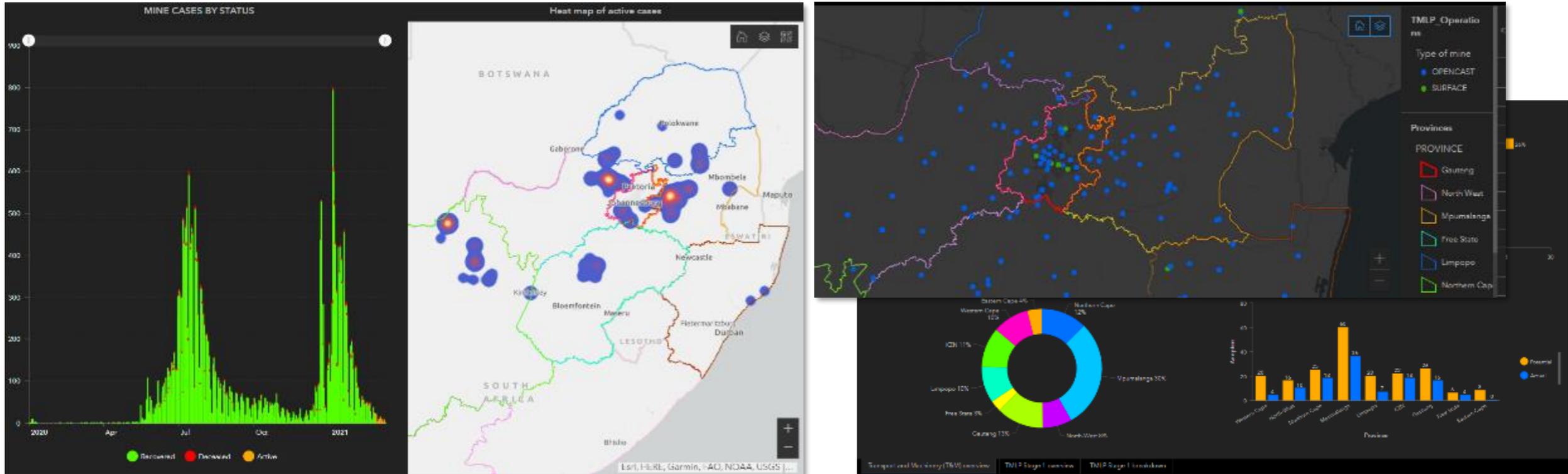
## Characteristics of drills designed

- **16 kg** (half of 28-32kg of traditional rock drills)
- Reduced noise and vibration
- Systems to enable easier **accurate, parallel drilling**

2 proudly South African OEMs won with their designs



# The Data 4.0 programme is leveraging geographically coded data for industry monitoring and decision-making



COVID-19: mine case surveillance and geographical distribution, employee breakdown, vaccination sites mapping

Mapping adoption of MOSH Leading Practices

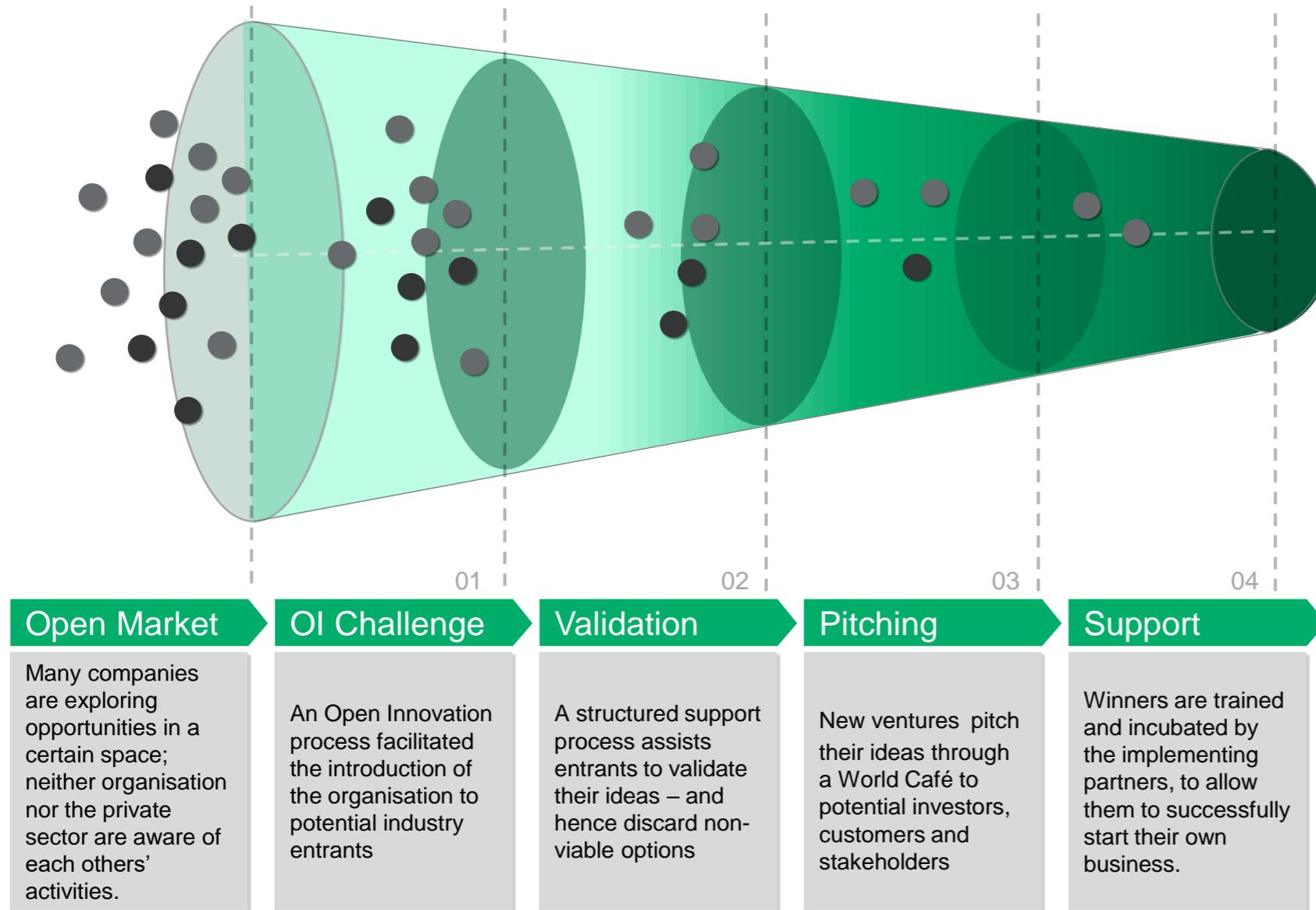
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**The work also aims to establish the right mechanisms to enable modernisation and digital transformation by....**

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**...Fostering an enabling environment for innovation**

# Developing the innovation ecosystem through Open Innovation Programmes



## 2018 | Isidingo Drill Design Challenge

- Two locally-designed and locally-made rockdrills

## 2021 | Reimagining Training in Mining Innovation programme

- 6 South African EdTech innovations

## 2021 | Mandela Mining Precinct partnership with LEO Open Innovation platform *globally*

- Open Innovation Challenges for Mining Companies *at no cost*

### Global audience

- 30%** Americas
- 30%** Europe
- 30%** Asia Pacific
- 10%** ROW

### Cost-saving

Up to **90%** reduced time and cost in finding relevant innovations

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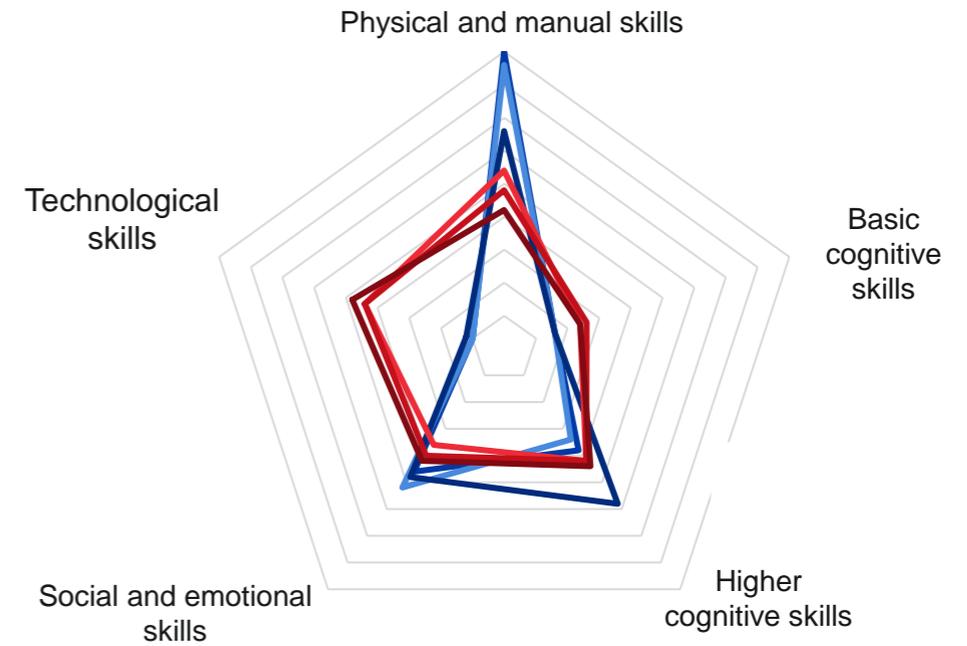
**...Supporting companies in their  
modernisation journey**

# The Mining Skills 4.0 programme has initiated mapping skills transitions from conventional to modernised scenarios based on new technology



## Scenarios

- Conventional RDO *baseline*
- Modernised RDO 1
- Modernised RDO 2
- DRO 1
- DRO 2
- DRO 3





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# RTIMS' digital business case validation tools provide support to CIOs and heads of innovation in the Digital Transformation journey



Digital Mandate and focus area

Digital value drivers and criteria

Capture: Business information

Capture: Digital initiatives and information

**Report: Initiative level analysis**

**Report: Detailed portfolio level analysis**

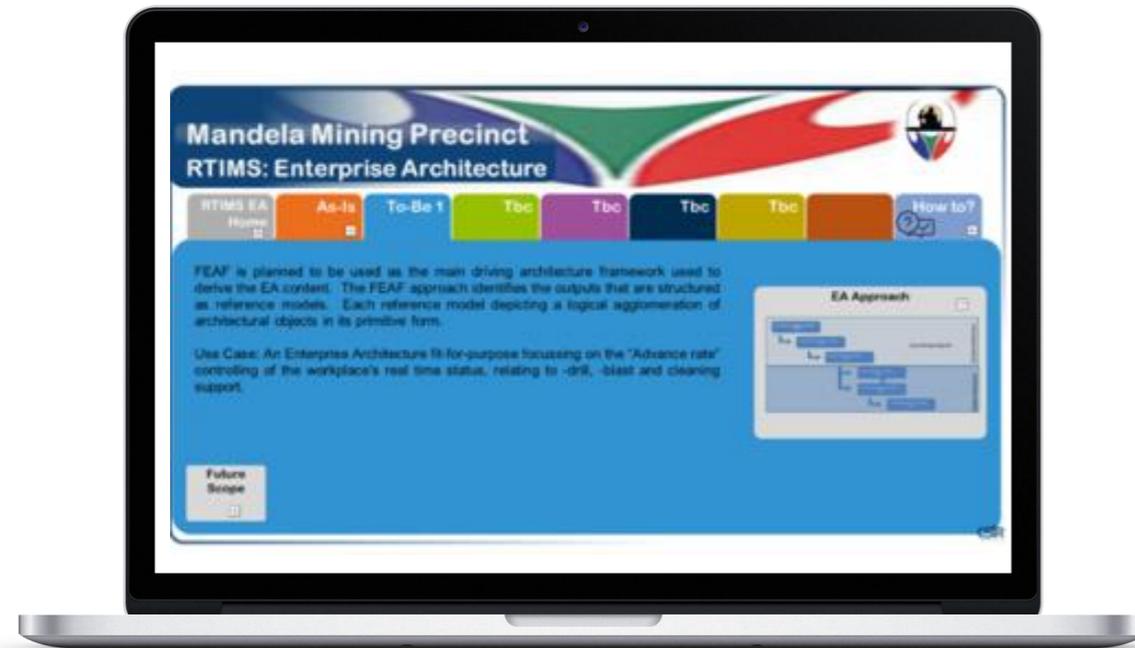
Capture: Initiative stage gate status

Report: Executive portfolio level analysis

Report: Initiative verifiable measures



## In addition, the RTIMS knowledge portals enable easy access and adoption of tools, best practices and guidelines



**Vision: Entire mining extraction value chain housed on the RTIMS blueprint.**

It is only possible with inputs from the industry as the team continues building the components.

### Portals available:

- **RTIMS wiki:** Technical reports repository
  - Contains all research and technical specifications from the 4 years of RTIMS research
- **RTIMS blueprint (Enterprise Architecture)**
  - Allows design of systems, processes, relationships, gaps, optimisation, information and data needs and flows, technology needs, roles and functions.
  - Houses the **RTIMS IIOT Framework for Mining**

### Case study:

**Drill & Blast:** Identified inefficient flow of information such as duplication of daily reports by various functions, potential gaps in processes, and technology needs.

**Freely accessible upon user registration.**



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## Mandela Mining Precinct: Open Data Analytics Platform (ODAP)

**RTIMS Data platform that will be open to industry:** Multiple formats, types and sources of data for collation and insights development

Allows implementation **at site, company or industry level**

Provides **interoperability** (across OEMs and their products, sensors, software etc)

### Value add for Junior and Emerging Miners

**Access to data and systems at low to no cost**

**No need to develop and implement own systems**

**Enables the digital worker**

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**How can the Junior and Emerging Miners benefit from and help inform these initiatives?**

# Get involved



## Mandela Mining Precinct (RTIMS)

- Map your Digital Transformation Journeys (Strategy and Tactical)
- Access capacity building
- Access data
- Run Open Innovation Challenges

**Jean-Jacques Verhaeghe**  
Programme Manager

## Minerals Council Modernisation initiatives

- Pilot solutions
- Leverage industry-level insights and data
- Help steer the modernisation agenda

**Sietse van der Woude**  
Senior Executive: Modernisation and Safety

**Davis Cook**  
RIIS: Modernisation Programme Director



# Thank you

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