CERA
Certification of Mineral Resource Recovery Chains

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CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS IN GENERAL

Status Quo

The certification of raw materials with a view to sustainable production and trade is a megatrend today.

In certain product groups such as timber, coffee and other specific foods, certified products are of significant importance.

The trend towards sustainable produced products is driven by two important factors:

1. the concerns of the manufacturing industry about image damage,
2. the purchasing behavior of end customers who are willing to pay higher prices for sustainably produced products.
CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS FOR RAW MATERIALS

This trend is also clearly visible in the field of mineral raw materials and fossil fuels.

Certification systems for environmental, social and economic sustainability in extraction, processing, trading have been in place for many years in individual raw material areas, e.g. in diamond or gold production.

However, in many cases – not all of course – these systems are confronted with different deficiencies, e.g:

- Restrictions to a special region distort the market, often to the detriment of certain local markets.
- Due to too high and complex requirements, small-scale mining is overburdened or not taken into account at all.
- Recognition of the certificate is hampered by a lack of transparency or objectivity.
CERA TEAM AND SUPPORT

EIT RawMaterials – the largest and strongest consortium in the raw materials sector worldwide – has awarded a development contract to create a certification system that avoids these disadvantages.

The title of this system is CERA. The Project Team consists exclusively of independent audit and consulting companies and universities.

A open international advisory board supports the project team.
CERA UNIQUENESS

None of the existing certification schemes are holistically applicable to all raw materials and fossil energy sources as well as on a global scale. Small-scale mining is often not considered.

Often only one mineral(group) or one region is taken into account.

The CERA standard closes this gap by being a holistic certification scheme that is

- applicable to the entire value chain from greenfield to customer
- applicable on a global scale
- applicable to all mining-related operations
- applicable to all sizes of operation
- introduces mechanisms to ensure reliability in the Chain of Custody, and
- covers the entirety of mineral resources.
CERA UNIQUENESS

The CERA system consists of three different standards that look at different aspects but build on each other.

These are the

- CERA Readiness Standard – CRS
- CERA Performance Standard – CPS
- CERA Chain of Custody Standard – CCS

The overall system leads to certification of the complete mineral resources recovery chain.
CERA – 3 STANDARDS IN 1 SYSTEM

CERA Performance Standard: The Performance Standard certifies a facility or sequence of operations. The standard defines a set of minimum criteria, which every operation in the upstream supply chain, regardless of type of raw material, type of operation and processing method or size have to fulfill. The individual aspects of the respective minerals or processes are taken into account.

CERA Chain of Custody Standard: The Chain of Custody Standard refers to the mining product, e.g. copper in its various forms. The standard aims to provide criteria for appropriate management systems for a complete traceability, that guarantee a chain of custody of sustainably extracted raw materials.

CERA Readiness Standard: The Readiness Standard defines binding sustainability criteria to be considered before the extraction of a deposit. It is taken into account when preparing feasibility studies, e.g. when looking for an investor.
SUSTAINABILITY IN CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES

There are several systems for the classification of mineral resources which are used worldwide. The most commonly used systems are the Canadian CIM Classification (NI 43-101), the Australasian Joint Ore Reserves Committee Code (JORC Code) or the South African Code for the Reporting of Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (SAMREC).

The conversion of resources into reserves requires the application of various modifying factors such as mining and geological factors, metallurgical factors, economic factors, etc.

Ecological and social factors are also listed in the codes.

Their individual application can lead to a subjective assessment of the classification of mineral resources.
CERA READINESS STANDARD

The CERA Readiness Standard helps to achieve an objective evaluation of the sustainability factors

- Independent standard for sustainable aspects
- Standardization of guidelines and codes as well as reports
- Helps to prevent errors because of lacking observance of sustainable aspects in advance of mining.
- Fulfilled CERA Readiness Standard criteria support the achievement of the CERA Performance Standard (CRS is a first guideline to preparing CERA Performance Standard, too.)
- CERA is an all-in-one system from the greenfield to the customer
CERA READINESS STANDARD

The following aspects characterize the CERA Readiness Standard:

- Sustainability aspects are considered individually depending on the type of raw material.
- Consideration of national laws.
- UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is taken into account.
- The elements of the Equator Principles and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) guidelines are found in the standard. Therefore, there are no divergences to these guidelines.
CERA READINESS STANDARD

The CERA system has the following advantages

- **Objectivity and transparency in the evaluation of sustainability criteria**

- **Investor confidence in the covering consideration**

- **Avoidance of environmental or social issues for countries irrespective of**, for example, the development level of national environmental law.

- **Higher long-term value added in the raw material-owning country**
UNFC - SPECIFICATION AND GUIDELINES FOR CLASSIFICATION ↔ CERA - STANDARD

CERA READINESS STANDARD (CRS) can be used within the UNFC specifications and guidelines for classification and subsequent management of mineral inventories.

CRS represents the link between the UNFC specifications and guidelines for classification and the CERA system at the end of which the consumer or customer stands.
CONTACT

Our website will keep you up to date about progress, meetings, further steps and more.

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