MINING AND GREEN GROWTH IN THE EECCA REGION

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Sub-regional Workshop on mine tailings safety for Central Asia
November 20
Almaty, Kazakhstan
Purpose of the presentation

1. What is our project about?
2. Why are we talking about mining and green growth in the EECCA region?
3. How can the mining sector be linked to green growth?
4. What are the next steps?
WHAT IS OUR PROJECT ABOUT?
What is the project about?

• How policies and technology can support improved environmental performance and associated linkage development of the mining sector in EECCA countries

• In the framework of the OECD’s GREEN Action Taskforce

• Supported by the generous contributions of the governments of Switzerland and Norway
Broader OECD context

• Fits into a wider web of OECD work on mining:
  – 2019 OECD GGSD FORUM theme is “Greener future for extractive and heavy industries: Innovation and fiscal implications”
    – OECD Mining Regions and Cities project
    – OECD Policy Dialogue on Natural Resource-based Development
The project so far...

Q2 2019
- Workshop on mining and green growth in the EECCA region held in Paris, at OECD HQ.

Q3 2019
- Report “Mining and Green Growth in the EECCA Region” published

Q4 2019
- Kick off of country level work
WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT MINING AND GREEN GROWTH IN THE EECCA REGION?
The BIG picture

• Demand for better environmental performance by stakeholders

• Leading mining companies enhancing competitiveness through sustainability

• Most obvious deposits (i.e. close to the surface, easy to extract, high ore concentrations) have been mined and industry needs to become more efficient

• Need for mineral supply to fuel transition to green economy
Environmental impact of mining

Soil, air and water

Human health

Biodiversity

Climate change
The picture in EECCA

Ores and metals as share merchandise exports for EECCA countries (1997-2017)

Source: World Bank Development Indicators database
Many countries have significant mining industries... in 2017, 42% of merchandise exports from Armenia, 24% for Georgia, 8% for Ukraine, 15% for Kazakhstan...

The legacy of Soviet-era mining has left significant environmental hazards.

At the same time, there is an increased concern about environmental harm and the need to move towards greener economic activity


How does the mining industry in EECCA countries mix with a green economy?
HOW CAN THE MINING SECTOR BE LINKED TO GREEN GROWTH?
Potential links…

- **Diffusion of technology**
- **Development of green services industry/local green value chains**
- **Development of shared green infrastructure (water, transportation, power)**
Renewable energy, electric vehicles, and new infrastructure all depend on raw materials.

Circular economy approaches:
- Urban mining (mining of urban waste sites)
- Secondary mining (re-mining of mining waste sites using new/more efficient technology)

Primary mining will still be necessary to keep up with demand.
New areas of technology in the mining sector

Automation

Electrification

Digitalisation

Renewables
Barriers and challenges with in deploying new technology

- Cost and availability of technology
- Knowledge and expertise requirements
- Interoperability with existing systems
- Potential impact in employment
WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS FOR THE PROJECT?
Next steps...

Case studies drafted (Q2 2020)

Site selection, research, field work (Q1 2020)

Regional workshop (Q3 2020)

Synthesis report (Q4 2020)
Thank you!

For any questions or interest in being involved, please reach out to me at:

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