



**UNECE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2024**  
**ASSURING SUSTAINABILITY IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**  
22 - 26 APRIL 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

Tempus Meeting Room, Geneva

5:15 – 6:00pm CEST 24 April 2024

Resource Management Young Members Group (RMYMG)

## **Panel discussion proposal | Driving Intergenerational Justice in Critical Raw Materials Management: Potential of Demand-side solutions**

### **1. Background and purpose**

Demand for Critical Raw Materials is estimated to increase exponentially in the coming decades, driven by macro-trends including population growth, the energy transition, and global economic development. The dominant policy approach to the material challenges of decarbonisation involves rapidly increasing the supply of extractive resources such as nickel, lithium, and copper, without challenging assumptions around consumption and lifestyle patterns.

These issues were raised in the [International Resource Panel's 2024 Global Resources Outlook](#), launched in March 2024, which raised important points regarding the rising trends in global resource consumption and demand, and the need for balanced policy solutions with a stronger demand-side focus.

The Resource Management Young Members' Group (RMYMG), as a young professionals' group mandated to engage with the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM), aims to bring the idea of intergenerational equity into resource management discussions. An ongoing RMYMG activity, together with the SDG Working Group of the ERGM, consists of highlighting the central role of demand-side policies in tackling looming challenges in the management of extractive resources.

This session is intended to introduce the EGRM and broader stakeholder community to the ongoing work on the forthcoming RMYMG White Paper discussing demand-side approaches to the sustainable management of extractive resources. Speakers will provide an overview of the motivation behind the paper as well as the methodological approach being considered.

### **2. Objectives**

- Outline the material and environmental challenges of the decarbonisation agenda.
- Critically assess present-day assumptions around the future of CRMs.
- Highlight the importance of intergenerational equity as a guiding principle in sustainable development and management of extractive resources.
- Discuss the potential of demand-side solutions for sustainable resource management and decarbonisation.

### 3. Agenda

Time outline	Description	Notes and personnel
2 min	Opening remarks	Moderator: Bianca Derya Neumann
10 min	Current policy approach to material impacts of decarbonisation and implications for intergenerational equity.	Diego Marin
10 min	Challenging the assumption of exponential growth in resource consumption, and the potential of demand-side approaches.	Gyubin Hwang
10 min	Presentation of the novel methodological approach for considering the trade offs between increased CRM extraction to achieve current decarbonisation targets and long-term social and environmental sustainability objectives to be used in the forthcoming white paper.	Natalia Mrówczyńska
10 min	Q&A	Opening the floor for the comments and/or questions to the speakers
2 min	Closing remarks	Moderator, Bianca Derya Neumann RMYMG

### 4. Preliminary Speakers

#### **Bianca Derya Neumann**

Bianca is a young professional advancing responsible resource management and innovation in policy and practice. As Chair of the Resource Management Young Member Group, she supports emerging leaders in the field and works on several projects promoting UNFC. With over seven years in the UNECE EGRM, Bianca's contributions to the Minerals, RMYMG, and Policy Adaptation Working Groups shape strategies for sustainable resource use. Passionate about driving global change, Bianca aims to foster a more sustainable future.

#### **Natalia Mrówczyńska**

Natalia is a Board Member at ReGeneration 2030 and leads the SDG Task Force at the UNECE Resource Management Young Member Group, where she coordinates the work on the forthcoming white paper discussing intergenerational justice in resource management. Natalia is committed to advancing systemic approaches to the ecological crisis and promoting intergenerational equity in climate policy.

#### **Diego Marin**

Diego Marin, a Master's graduate in International Development from the University of Kent, works within the EBB's Economic Transition Unit. His expertise lies in raw materials, with a focus on

environmental justice, geopolitics, and circular economy aspects. Diego leads efforts in analysing the impacts of green and digital transitions while actively working on political strategies for a raw materials binding target across the EU.

**Gyubin Hwang**

Gyubin is the Global Coordinator of the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP, where he facilitates youth engagement in international environmental governance matters. He works at the International Energy Agency, analysing critical minerals and energy markets.