

THE MINING INDABA INNOVATION AND RESEARCH BATTLEFIELD

New Leaders Fresh Ideas Real Impact

DEVELOPMENT
PARTNER
INSTITUTE



INNOVATION
& RESEARCH
BATTLEFIELD

IS YOUR COMPANY A SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATOR?

NOW, MORE THAN EVER, INNOVATION AND RESEARCH ARE DRIVING IMPACTFUL DECISION-MAKING AND ENABLING BUSINESSES TO BE AGILE AND EFFECTIVE.

Against a backdrop of climate change, automation, reduced global mobility, a growing ESG agenda and rising stakeholder expectations, **new solutions from outside of the sector have the potential to lead to positive impact on the ground.**

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RESEARCH, ACADEMICA AND INDUSTRY

Research and innovation are often internalised within individual companies and organisations. Sector-wide, collaborative research and innovation has the potential to accelerate sustainability breakthroughs for the whole industry but is rarely adequately funded.

The Innovation & Research Battlefield is a platform for the mining industry, academia, NGOs and future leaders who have a vested interest in sustainable mining to come together. It is the place for research innovation to be piloted at speed to build new workable solutions to some of the industry's toughest sustainable development challenges.

By forging new partnerships between the mining industry and other sectors, and engaging young leaders of the future, this platform is unlocking valuable sustainability advances.

Convened by the Development Partner Institute, Business for Development and Mining Indaba, and modelled on the popular Mining Indaba Investment

Battlefield, the Innovation & Research Battlefield seeks to bridge a gap between great ideas and the resources needed to implement them.



THE GOALS OF THE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH BATTLEFIELD ARE:

1 To **develop and test innovative solutions** to tackle tough sustainability and development challenges related to mining

2 To **strengthen collaboration** between the mining industry and academia

3 To **engage young people** studying at university and impassion them about the opportunities mining can bring, and how the industry can support communities and improve livelihoods

4 To **connect with researchers, academia, students and organisations** that may have innovative research ideas to achieve sustainable development outcomes

5 To **increase the profile and contribution of research to good mining** for sustainable development practice on the ground

6 To **collaborate and create effective partnerships** to commercialise solutions, solve existing and future sustainability problems

WE ARE SEEKING LEADING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MINING VALUE CHAIN TO SUPPORT THE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH BATTLEFIELD AND JOIN OUR GROUP OF SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATORS.

THE JOURNEY OF THE BATTLEFIELD

In February 2020, a diverse yet intimate group of leaders convened on the fringes of the Mining Indaba in Cape Town to explore the opportunities for education and research in mining to contribute to the long-term sustainable development of the sector.



Aligned with the DPI's methodology – working collaboratively at speed to innovate – the group brainstormed and designed new concepts and initiatives with the goal of strengthening coordination and collaboration between academic institutions and mining companies, around the world. The idea for the Innovation and Research Battlefield was born.

In May 2022, the inaugural Innovation and Research Battlefield took place at the African Mining Indaba. Nine participants from across the world, shortlisted from multiple entries responding to the 2022 challenge: Building Sustainable Post-Mining Economies, pitched their research proposals to judges and attendees. Ideas represented the thinking of potential future leaders and just over half of applicants were backed by a university institution. Some came from mining communities.

Our 2022 winners were awarded a US\$28,600 Innovation Grant, speaker opportunities at events such as the Young Leaders Forum and tickets to attend Mining Indaba 2023. They have since also been nominated in Women in Mining's top 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining 2022.

The Innovation Grant was sponsored by BHP and the University of Queensland Sustainable Minerals Institute. Our implementation partners included Hyve Group (The Investing in Africa Mining Indaba), Business for Development and the Brunswick Group.

CLICK HERE
to find out more



In November 2022, our Innovation and Research Battlefield winners, Shilpa Rumjeet, (Research Coordinator) and Tapiwa Chimbgana, (PhD Candidate) were nominated by DPI and announced as Women in Mining's top 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining 2022.

HEAR FROM OUR 2022 WINNERS

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THE PROCESS



ANNUAL RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Annually at Mining Indaba, a pressing sustainable mining for development challenge will be announced.



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Organizations and young people from all over the world are invited to submit proposals to unlock new or improved ways of practice to tackle the challenge.



ENTRIES ASSESSED

Research proposals are evaluated against pre-defined scoring criteria by a selected panel. High scoring research proposals will be shortlisted. Institutions will be encouraged to collaborate.



INVITATION TO PITCH

Shortlisted proposals are invited to pitch at the annual Mining Indaba. This will be in a fast, round-robin format, where the winning proposal will receive a grant. The successful organization will be asked to present the results of its research the following year at Indaba.

THE 2024 CHALLENGE

The 2024 challenge is still to be finalised; however, we can already share that it will relate to the theme of Artisanal Mining.

SHAPE THE FUTURE. FUND CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH. FUND THE BATTLEFIELD.

We provide the following amounts as a guide, but welcome support from organizations of all sizes

→	INNOVATION CATALYZER	→	US\$100,000
→	INNOVATION ADVOCATE	→	US\$50,000
→	INNOVATION SUPPORTER	→	US\$35,000

Funds will contribute to the Winner's Innovation Grant and to administrative and operational costs. Please note, DPI Mining is a not-for-profit organization.

WHAT THE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH BATTLEFIELD OFFERS YOU

- ✓ Access to a network of future young leaders and innovators
- ✓ A way to demonstrate your commitment to sustainable development and innovation
- ✓ A chance to directly fund new and cutting-edge research in sustainability
- ✓ An opportunity to activate projects that are focused on delivering sustainable development from mining in emerging markets and beyond
- ✓ A high-profile opportunity to display your role as a thought leader and join conversations forging the future direction of the mining industry
- ✓ An opportunity to review all research ideas submitted

RECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial and in-kind partners will be recognized in all relevant promotional material and on DPI and Mining Indaba's website and social media, giving you a powerful way to stand out as a global shaper of sustainability innovation.

ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT PARTNER INSTITUTE



The Innovation and Research Battlefield is powered by The Development Partner Institute for Mining (DPI).

The DPI, established in 2017, is a global coalition of ambitious leaders, committed to maximizing the contribution of mining to economic and social development. We work together, collaboratively, with stakeholders from across the ecosystem to advocate

for new ways of operating, sparking multi-stakeholder conversations on the sector's toughest challenges, preparing and sharing knowledge and research and catalyzing pilots and demonstrations to accelerate the vision of mining as a development partner.

For more information, to register interest or to activate your involvement please contact Wendy Tyrrell, Executive Director, Development Partner Institute on wendy@dpimining.org

FOLLOW THE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH BATTLEFIELD

Introducing the Innovation & Research Battlefield – Development Partner Institute (dpimining.org)



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

