

# IRTC Professional Course

**IRTC Professional Training:** Boost Your Company's Critical Raw Materials Capabilities

**Delivery:** In-person training, including expert lectures, group discussions, and practical exercises

**Instructors:** Luis Tercero, Michaela Schicho, Dieuwertje Schrijvers, Alessa Hool, Catalina Scheer, and Carolin Friedrich

This one-and-a-half-day intensive training provides participants with an applied understanding of critical raw materials (CRMs) and their significance for business operations. The course examines supply, cost, and reputational risks related to raw materials and introduces methods for identifying, assessing, and mitigating these risks within organizations. Current European Union legislation, with emphasis on the Critical Raw Materials Act, is discussed in detail. Participants will also explore the integration of due diligence and sustainability requirements into business processes, while exchanging experiences and building connections with other professionals facing similar challenges.

The program is delivered by specialists with expertise across market analysis, regulation, sustainability, and compliance:

- Luis Tercero (Fraunhofer ISI) – Raw materials markets and criticality from the EU perspective.
- Michaela Schicho (Fraunhofer ISI) and Dieuwertje Schrijvers (WeLOOP) – Definitions of CRMs, risk types, and mitigation approaches.
- Alessa Hool (ESM Foundation) – Features of the Critical Raw Materials Act and implications for risk management.
- Catalina Scheer and Carolin Friedrich (Forvis Mazars) – ESG risk factors, EU compliance frameworks, and due diligence integration.

The course combines lectures, case examples, and exercises. Participants will map parts of their supply chains, analyze relevant regulatory frameworks, and work through due diligence processes to identify knowledge gaps and define practical next steps. Pre- and post-course quizzes support self-assessment of learning progress.

## Program

### Day 1

Time	Module
13:30	Welcome
13:40	"Before" quiz terminology
13:50	Introduction: How is this topic relevant to me?
14:20	Introduction to raw materials markets
14:50	Examples for availability issues & price spikes
15:00	Break
15:20	What are critical raw materials?
15:50	Criticality: EU perspective
16:15	The Critical Raw Materials Act
16:40	Mitigation for availability and price risks; obstacles
16:50	Mitigation & obstacles exercise
17:20	Break
17:40	Supply chain mapping exercise
18:25	End of day 1, evening get-together

### Day 2

Time	Module
09:00	Open questions from day 1
09:15	Regulatory risk factors and mitigation measures
09:25	Typical ESG risks
09:40	Mapping of EU regulations
10:20	Break
10:40	Part I Due diligence process with continuous exercise
12:10	Lunch
13:40	Part II Due diligence process with continuous exercise
14:25	Opportunities of CRM developments - exercise
15:10	
15:40	Next steps
16:10	Wrap-up and final discussion
16:35	"After" quiz
16:50	Course evaluation
17:00	End of course

## Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Define the role and importance of CRMs in your economic sector.
- Identify the types of raw material supply risks you face and recall concrete examples.
- Map CRMs with your organization's supply chain.
- Distinguish between supply, cost, and reputation risks affecting your operations.
- Describe the main features of the EU Critical Raw Materials Act as they apply to your work.
- Recognize environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risk factors in your business environment.
- Explain due diligence processes and integration into your business operations.
- Formulate mitigation strategies and prioritize your organizational next steps.

## Target Audience

The course is intended for professionals working in, for example:

- Engineering and product development
- Supply chain management and procurement
- Sustainability and corporate responsibility
- Compliance and regulatory affairs
- Risk management and strategic planning