Global Assessments and Strategies for Critical and Strategic Raw Materials:

Resource-Rich and Producing Countries' Perspectives

IRTC Online Round Table – Wednesday, November 18, 2026

12-3.30 pm Zürich / 10 pm-1.30 am Canberra / 7-10.30 pm Beijing

– DRAFT –

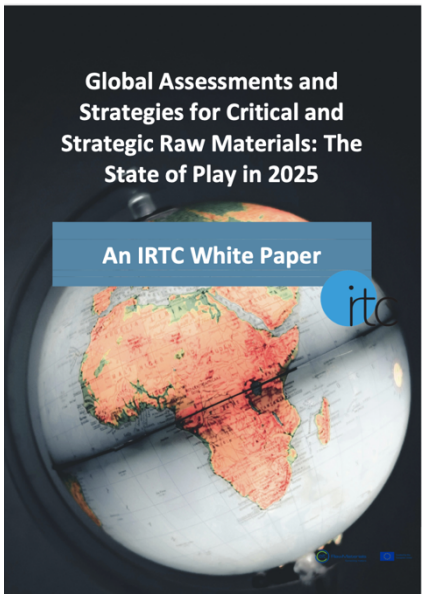
Aim

Securing the supply of critical and strategic raw materials (CSRMs) has become a priority for economies worldwide as demand grows for clean energy technologies, digital infrastructure, advanced manufacturing, and defence applications. Resource-rich and producing countries are playing an increasingly important role in meeting this demand while pursuing their own economic, industrial, environmental, and social development objectives. Many are seeking to strengthen domestic value creation through processing, refining, manufacturing, skills development, and innovation, thereby capturing a greater share of the benefits associated with global raw material value chains.

Building upon previous initiatives, the International Round Table on Materials Criticality (IRTC) aims to convene experts from major producing and emerging supplier countries to exchange perspectives on the opportunities and challenges associated with CSRM development. The Round Table will explore how countries assess their strategic raw material potential, strengthen their position in global value chains, attract investment, foster downstream industries, and contribute to secure, resilient, and sustainable supply chains. It will furthermore examine how supplier-country perspectives can enrich methodologies for criticality and strategicity assessments, inform policy development, and contribute to a broader and more balanced international dialogue on raw material security, resource governance, and value creation across global supply chains.

While the 2025 IRTC Round Table brought together ten country and jurisdictional perspectives and featured participants from both consuming and producing economies, the discussion was primarily centred on jurisdictions that have developed formal criticality assessment frameworks and policy approaches for managing critical and strategic raw materials. The 2026 edition complements these discussions by placing greater emphasis on resource-rich and producing countries. It aims to bring together around ten perspectives from supplier nations across Asia, Central Asia, Africa, Oceania, and Latin America to discuss opportunities, challenges, and strategies for developing secure, resilient, and sustainable critical raw material supply chains.

2025 Edition



The upcoming Round Table builds on the successful IRTC online Round Table"*Global Assessments and Strategies for Critical and Strategic Raw Materials: A 2025 Update*", held on 24 October 2025, which brought together experts representing ten countries and jurisdictions, including Brazil, the European Union, France, India, Japan, Korea, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, and the United States to discuss approaches to critical and strategic raw materials assessment and policy development. The resulting White Paper, *Global Assessments and Strategies for Critical and Strategic Raw Materials: The State of Play in 2025*, provides a comprehensive overview of national and supranational approaches and serves as a valuable reference for policymakers, researchers, and industry stakeholders.

White Paper: https://irtc.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/IRTC-White-Paper-January-2026.pdf

Purpose

The Round Table will focus on recent developments in resource-rich and producing countries regarding critical and strategic raw materials. Particular attention will be given to national strategies, resource governance frameworks, geological potential, investment conditions, value-addition and beneficiation policies, sustainability requirements, circularity initiatives, and international partnerships. The discussion will also explore how producing countries assess the strategic significance of their mineral resources and how their perspectives can contribute to the further development of criticality assessment methodologies and policy frameworks.

As a key outcome of the Round Table, IRTC will coordinate the development of a White Paper in collaboration with participating experts. The publication will highlight common opportunities, challenges, and priorities across supplier countries and contribute to a broader international dialogue between producing and consuming economies. It will further identify areas of convergence and divergence in approaches to resource management, value creation, supply chain resilience, strategic raw material governance, and international cooperation.

Round Table content

Experts from producing and resource-rich countries will present their perspectives on critical and strategic raw materials, including national priorities, resource assessment methodologies, value chain development strategies, investment and industrial policies, sustainability considerations, and international cooperation initiatives.

The discussion will seek to identify common themes across different regions and explore how supplier countries can contribute to secure, resilient, and sustainable global supply chains while advancing their own economic and industrial development objectives. Particular attention will be given to lessons learned, emerging policy approaches, and perspectives that may enrich current criticality and strategicity assessment methodologies.

Audience participation and interaction throughout the event are highly encouraged. An interactive whiteboard will facilitate communication, exchange, and the identification of common priorities, emerging trends, methodological developments, and opportunities for future collaboration between stakeholders from producing and consuming economies.

Target audience

The Round Table is aimed at policymakers, researchers, and industry representatives from both producing and consuming economies. We also welcome representatives of international organisations, academia, financial institutions, civil society, and other stakeholders interested in critical and strategic raw materials, supply chain resilience, sustainable resource governance, and international cooperation. By bringing together diverse perspectives from across the value chain, the event seeks to foster knowledge exchange, mutual understanding, and constructive international dialogue.

Registration

Free registration at https://irtc.info/resource-rich-and-producing-countries-perspectives/

The event will not be recorded.

Program

Time (CET)	Topic	Presenter
12.00	Welcome	Alessa Hool, ESM, IRTC Coordinator
12.10	Introductory Remarks	Roland Gauß, Senior Advisor, EIT RawMaterials
12.20	Introduction to the interactive Miro Board	Dieuwertje Schrijvers, WeLOOP, IRTC Collaborator / Daniele Perossa, Politecnico di Milano, President IRTC Junior Board
12.30	Let Us Cool Down the Heat: My Perspective on Global Material Criticality and the Unexpected Consequences	Peng Wang, Professor, Chinese Academy of Sciences
12.45	Kazakhstan's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Sairan Baizhakhanov, Official representative of the Ministry of Industry and Construction of Kazakhstan to the EU
13.00	Kyrgyzstan's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Arkady Rogalsky, Executive Director, Kyrgyz Society of Subsoil Expert
13.15	Uzbekistan's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Rustam Khalmatov, Deputy Director for Science and Innovation, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Uzbekistan
13.30	Namibia's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Harmony Musiyarira, Professor, Namibia University of Science and Technology
13.45	Break	
14.00	Morocco's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Khalid Hamouch, Director Business Development, Managem S.A., Morocco
14.15	South Africa's Perspectives on Critical and Strategic Raw Materials Value Chains	Royston Lobow, Business Advisory Manager, DMT Kai Batla, South Africa
14.30	*Tbc*	
14.45	*Tbc*	
15.00	Summary of the poll results and inputs on the Miro Board	Dieuwertje Schrijvers, Daniele Perossa
15.15	Key take-aways by the speakers	All
15.25	Wrap-up and farewell	Alessa Hool
15.30	End	