

The Mining Innovation and Research Battlefield

2025 CHALLENGE:

'Revolutionizing Tailings Management in Mining'

We invite young innovators and researchers to contribute to advancements in tailings management in the mining industry. We're looking for inventive solutions that consider the social, environmental, economic, and technical aspects that could revolutionize tailings management, aiming for zero harm to people and the environment.

Managing the billions of tonnes of mine tailings produced annually is no small problem. MIRB 2025 will unearth practical, actionable ideas for safer, more sustainable tailings management, in line with the growing demand for minerals and the shift towards responsible mining.

An outstanding opportunity to mobilise NEW LEADERS with FRESH IDEAS for REAL IMPACT.

Opportunity

Mining is a critical part of our collective global future, and as mineral requirements dramatically increase to meet the demand for constructing renewable energy sources, how we mine matters. At the Development Partner Institute (DPI) we believe in the future of mining, but we know things have to change. Overcoming decades of unsustainable mining practices requires new ways of thinking and operating, brave experimentation and collective vision.

Your organisation has the opportunity to support a platform that connects the mining industry with research, academia, and young leaders to drive vital innovation and solve mining's toughest challenges. How? **The 2025 Mining Innovation and Research Battlefield.**

By supporting the Mining Innovation and Research Battlefield you establish your organisation as leaders in our industry, provide tangible support for ongoing research and champion the leaders of the future.

Help us drive worldwide industry transformation towards mining that is transparent and fair, equal and inclusive, committed to sustainability, and a genuine partner in global development.

We're accelerating change.

Changing the industry standards for positive future impact takes more than words. It's about developing our collective sense of responsibility so that stakeholders genuinely benefit.

The Mining Innovation and Research Battlefield, an initiative of DPI Mining, offers the opportunity to accelerate change, with a unique platform that invites cross-sector solutions that deliver transformative solutions.

Competition

The Mining Innovation and Research Battlefield is a proven platform for the mining industry, academia, NGOs and future leaders who have a vested interest in sustainable mining to come together in the form of an annual competition.

Aspiring innovators, researchers, and future leaders bring out-of-the-box solutions to some of the toughest sustainable development challenges. Major industry influencers and producers sponsor the competition and bring the resources needed to pilot, develop and test the best ideas, accelerating the path to market.

The Development Partner Institute breaks down sectoral and geographical boundaries. We offer a neutral platform to manage the competition, connecting researchers, academia, students and organisations.

But we need support from like-minded companies to fund the Battlefield and help us to offer an attractive incentive for participation.

How does the Battlefield work?



ANNUAL RESEARCH CHALLENGE

During the year, we issue a pressing sustainable mining for development challenge.



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

When submissions open in October 2024, we invite organisations and young people to submit research proposals to unlock new or improved ways of practice to tackle the challenge.



ENTRIES ASSESSED

When entries close in November 2024, we competitively evaluate the research proposals. Our panel of industry judges shortlists proposals against pre-defined scoring criteria.



INVITATION TO PITCH

Shortlisted proposals present their pitch in a global online heat, with finalists progressing to pitch at the Mining Indaba event in a fast, round-robin format. The winning proposal receives a grant and support to develop the idea, and closes the loop by presenting results at the following year's Indaba.

MIRB Sponsorships 2025

All MIRB Sponsors will receive access to a network of future young leaders and innovators, and carve out strong representation as a leader in driving the next generation of sustainable development research.

With the Battlefield's Round 2 final presented at Mining Indaba 2025, these opportunities are ideal for organisations wishing to build a profile within the African mining and development landscape.

HEADLINE SPONSOR - \$35K

1 available

- Positioning as a key enabler of tailings innovation
- Headline mention across all MIRB promotions
- Representative in judging panels for Round 1 and Round 2
- Prominent logo placement on promotional materials, online and at Mining Indaba
- Opportunity to cross-promote Battlefield involvement on social media and pre-event marketing
- Additional promotional opportunities at Mining Indaba (eg networking event)
- Post-competition follow-up with winner and finalists for enduring promotional value

INNOVATION GRANT SPONSOR – \$25K

1 available

- Acknowledgement as Innovation Grant sponsor in all promotional materials (throughout the MIRB promotional cycle)
- Logo placement on all Battlefield promotional materials
- Thought leadership opportunity aligned with our 2025 question
- Your choice of representative on either the Round 1 or Round 2 judging panels
- Mention by the MC at the 2025 Battlefield
- Pre-event marketing and opportunity to cross-promote Battlefield involvement on social media

ROUND 1 SPONSOR - \$10K

1 available

- Headline mention in all Round 1 promotions (Round 1 presented by <your company>)
- Prominent logo placement on all Round 1 promotional materials
- A representative on the Round 1 judging panel (online)
- Pre-event marketing and opportunity to cross-promote Battlefield involvement on social media

ROUND 2 SPONSOR - \$20K

1 available

- Headline mention in all Round 2 promotions at Mining Indaba (Round 2 presented by <your company>)
- Prominent logo placement on all Round 2 promotional materials, including competition backdrop at Mining Indaba
- A representative on the Round 2 judging panel (in-person at Mining Indaba)
- Pre-event marketing and opportunity to cross-promote Battlefield involvement on social media

TRAVEL SPONSOR - \$15K

1 available

- Contribute \$3,000 to each Round 2 finalist's travel costs, enabling global representation at the Battlefield at Mining Indaba
- Prominent logo placement in Round 2 promotional materials, including competition backdrop at Mining Indaba
- Mention by the MC at the 2025 Battlefield
- Pre-event marketing and opportunity to cross-promote Battlefield involvement on social media

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dpimining.org



More about DPI

The Development Partner Institute was founded to tackle intractable, multi-stakeholder sustainability challenges in mining. As a neutral organisation, we convene and facilitate conversations and events within the principles of the Development Partner Framework, to co-create the necessary insights and innovation to grow in prosperity beyond mining for all stakeholders.