

## MEDIA STATEMENT

---

043/2019

### WHY COAL MINING MATTERS

#### MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCHES THIRD MINING FOR SCHOOLS MODULE

**Johannesburg, 30 April 2019:** The Minerals Council South Africa has launched the third module of the Mining for Schools initiative – an online platform with resources for teachers and learners to reinforce, enhance and extend learning about the South African mining industry.



The online platform may be accessed at [www.miningforschools.co.za](http://www.miningforschools.co.za)

Focusing on coal, the module sheds light on one of South Africa's most abundant and valuable resources. Coal has been instrumental in South Africa's development – not only for the mining sector but also for the broader industrialisation of the country. The coal mining industry benefits the South African economy and people in many ways.

In 2018, the local coal mining industry:

- produced 252.5 million tonnes
- contributed R139.4 billion in sales
- employed 86,919 people who earned R24.7 billion
- paid R1.6 billion in royalties



- spent R56 billion on goods and services

The coal module (at [www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/coal](http://www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/coal)) is the ultimate destination for anyone searching for information on the industry. It includes a booklet, downloadable posters and video.

Similarly, the first two Mining for Schools modules provide information on the gold ([www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/gold](http://www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/gold)) and diamond ([www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/diamond](http://www.miningforschools.co.za/lets-explore/diamond)) industries.

The Minerals Council – a mining industry employers’ organisation that supports and promotes the South African mining industry – has developed the Mining for Schools website in alignment with the Grade 12 Economic Geography of South Africa: Mining section of the South African Department of Basic Education’s Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS).

**For further information, please contact:**

Charmane Russell

R&A Strategic Communications

Tel: +27 (0)11 880 3924

Mobile: +27 (0)82 372 5816

Email: [charmane@rasc.co.za](mailto:charmane@rasc.co.za)

Web: [www.mineralscouncil.org.za](http://www.mineralscouncil.org.za)