

JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS' DESK

Fact sheet



MINERALS COUNCIL
SOUTH AFRICA

Formerly the Chamber of Mines of South Africa

“The Junior and Emerging Miners’ Desk hopes to be a voice for the developing mining sector of South Africa.”



At the 2018 Investing in African Mining Indaba

WHO ARE JUNIOR MINERS?

The term “junior mining”, internationally, generally refers to prospecting companies only involved in the early stages of mining development. This is particularly true for Canada where junior exploration companies are supported through the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada. In Australia, junior mining usually refers to mid-tier producers. In South Africa, however, the term junior mining has taken on a wider meaning and includes, in addition to exploration companies, mid-tier producers. Junior producers operating in South Africa are in sectors such as platinum, coal, manganese, iron ore, chrome or other base metals.

WHO ARE EMERGING MINERS?

A term indigenous to South Africa, “emerging miners” are typically smaller companies. They can be either involved in the early phases of mining exploration or in the early developmental stage. Examples are the many smaller companies at development stage, associations and mining contractors. The term emerging miners therefore covers a diverse group of mining and mining-related entities, including prospecting and smaller producing companies, and associated companies such as contractors. Since the advent of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) in 2002, there has been significant growth in smaller mining companies operating in South Africa.

WHAT IS THE JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS' DESK?

The purpose of the Junior and Emerging Miners’ Desk is to provide advice and support, and to act as a resource centre for smaller Minerals Council South Africa (Minerals Council) member companies.

While the Minerals Council, at policy level, presents a consolidated position on key policy areas, it is sensitive to the needs of its smaller members who often lack the capacity and resources to implement policy and legislation.

WHAT THE JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS' DESK OFFERS

- 01  **Breakfast seminars**
- 02  **Mentorship group**
- 03  **Research**
- 04  **Committee work**
- 05  **Lobbying and recruitment**
- 06  **Media**
- 07  **Policy lobbying**

WHAT DOES THE JUNIOR AND EMERGING MINERS' DESK DO?

The Junior and Emerging Miners' Desk hopes to be a voice for the developing mining sector of South Africa. Its key role is in supporting junior and emerging mining through policy lobbying, providing advice, linking junior and emerging miners to networks, providing mentorship and disseminating relevant policy information.

The Junior and Emerging Miners' Desk also supports contracting companies and two mining associations representing over 200 smaller companies.

To provide strategic leadership, the inaugural Junior and Emerging Miners' Leadership Forum convened in March 2018. Membership is limited to chief executive officers with an allowance for the appointment of alternates. A chairperson and an alternate of the Junior and Emerging Miners' Leadership Forum are also members of the Minerals Council Board.

Visit www.mineralscouncil.org.za/work/supporting-junior-and-emerging-miners/emd-resources for more information and resource documents or send an e-mail to emergingminers@mincosa.org.za. In addition, a LinkedIn group serves as a platform for discussion and information dissemination.



BREAKFAST SEMINARS

Breakfast seminars, held biannually, are open to all junior and emerging mining companies, and are not exclusive to Minerals Council members. In 2016, two seminars were held on the Mining Charter and water management. In 2017, a workshop was held on mining and community development.

In addition, biannual seminars are held exclusively for junior and emerging miner members of the Minerals Council, covering topics of direct relevance to them. In 2017, topics included financing options offered by the Industrial Development Corporation as well as an introduction to a major producer in order to facilitate dialogue about possible synergies. A seminar was organised for members only to provide input on the draft Mining Charter – their feedback was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources.



MENTORSHIP GROUP

The Minerals Council has established a mentorship group to support junior and emerging miners. Mentors include current and former senior executives within the mining industry – they provide advice on all aspects of business operations as the need arises. Using their extensive network of contacts, the mentors will also connect junior and emerging miners with relevant people.



COMMITTEE WORK

The Chair of the Junior and Emerging Miners' Leadership Forum represents the committee on the Board of the Minerals Council.



RESEARCH

The Junior and Emerging Miners' Desk has completed a survey of members to ascertain their needs in terms of raising finance, regulatory compliance, social and labour plans, skills development, industrial relations, company law and taxation, business effectiveness and dealing with mining contractors, to name a few areas. In addition, policy research in key areas is conducted on an ongoing basis.



LOBBYING AND RECRUITMENT

Recruitment of new members takes place continuously, including at quarterly breakfast sessions where potential members are invited to join the Minerals Council.



MEDIA

The Junior and Emerging Miners' Desk reaches audiences through media, including the Minerals Council's website. In this way, it also provides an interactive forum for junior and emerging miners seeking information and advice.



POLICY LOBBYING

In many cases, junior and emerging miners have particular needs, in terms of mining policy and regulations, which the Junior and Emerging Miners' Desk aims to address. In representing broader and collective policy positions for relevant stakeholders, the Minerals Council is sensitive to these requirements without compromising compliance and leading practice.

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CONTACT DETAILS

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