

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Powering a Just Energy Transition Green Minerals Challenge



Rooting out corruption in green
mineral supply chains



The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), with our partners Amazon, BHP Foundation, and Chandler Foundation, is excited to announce the 11 winners of the Powering a Just Energy Transition Green Minerals Challenge (JET Minerals Challenge). The JET Minerals Challenge is the first activity under the Countering Transnational Corruption Grand Challenge for Development (CTC Grand Challenge). Under the challenge, the winners will each receive approximately \$50,000 to \$400,000 in funding as well as in-kind support, including targeted technical assistance, to implement their innovations.

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The JET Minerals Challenge's winning innovations focus on the three objectives established in USAID's Anti-Corruption Policy:



Constraining Opportunities for Corruption



Raising the Costs of Corruption



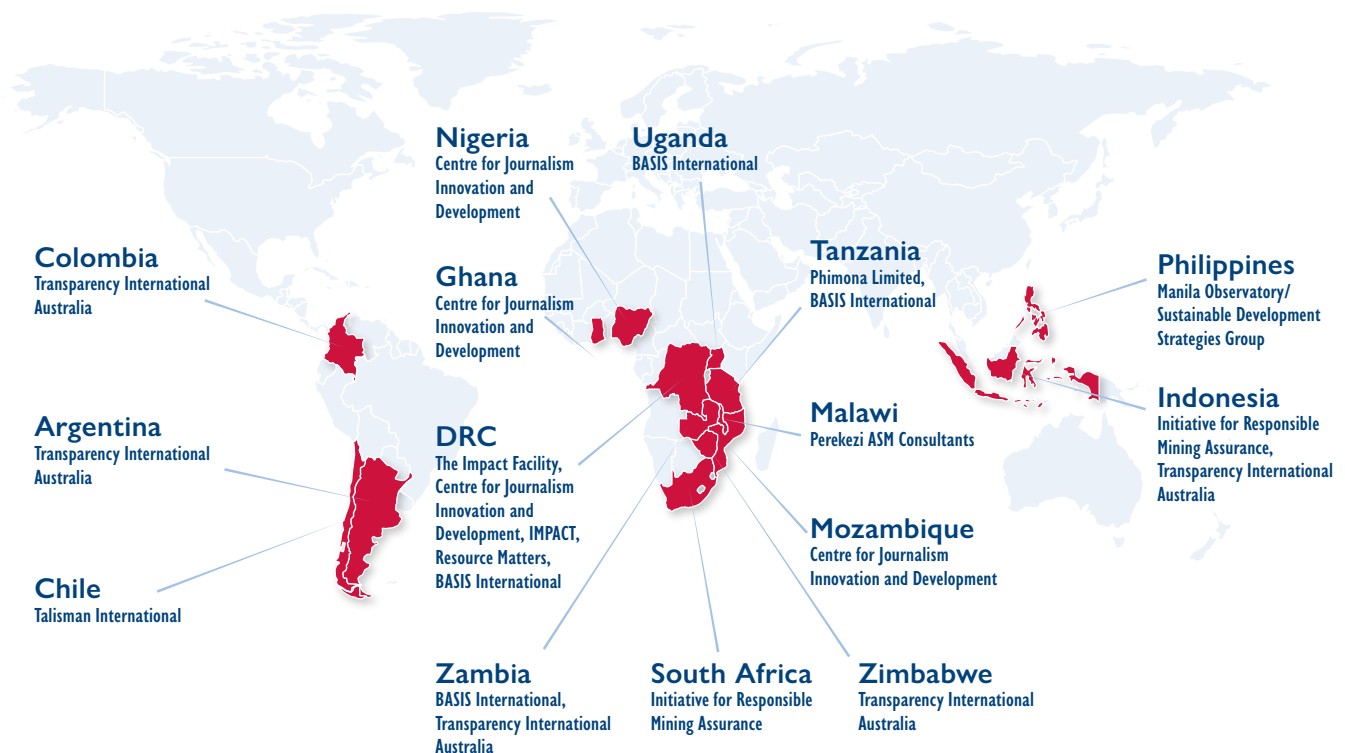
Incentivizing Integrity in the Public and Private Sectors

These three objectives are not mutually exclusive. Although the winning innovations are categorized among them, many are addressing more than one of the objectives.

The JET Minerals Challenge innovators are working at the forefront of new and innovative approaches to strengthen transparency, accountability, and integrity in the global rush to meet unprecedented demand for green minerals. Some of the innovators are introducing or scaling online platforms that allow for safe reporting on corruption; dissemination of information about payments, fees, and taxes; or facilitation of direct connections between small-scale miners and mineral buyers. Other innovators are engaging journalists, non-governmental organizations, local communities, or other stakeholders in the development of tools and processes that hold the mining industry accountable.

Their work is geographically and sectorally diverse, with four innovators pursuing multi-country initiatives to address transnational corruption and seven focused on a single country. Seven of the winning organizations are women-led, and nearly half are local organizations. Covering 15 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the innovators are targeting more than ten green mineral supply chains, including cobalt, copper, lithium, manganese, nickel, silver, and rare earth elements.

Join us in congratulating the winning innovators and read on to learn more about their approaches to counter corruption in green mineral supply chains.





Winners Cohort Funding Tiers

- 7** Tier 3 innovators looking to **scale** (seeking \$200,000 – \$400,000)
- 2** Tier 2 innovators ready to **prototype** (for \$50,000 to \$200,000)
- 2** Tier 1 innovators at the **ideation** stage (seeking up to \$50,000)

Introducing the JET Minerals Challenge Winners



[BASIS International Limited](#)

will receive approximately \$400,000 in funding to

scale an existing digital platform for reporting on corruption on green minerals supply chains in the Great Lakes region of Africa, which includes the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. BASIS International will provide local actors—including civil society organizations, miners, investors, and other stakeholders—with real-time data that promotes transparency, exposes corruption, and supports policies and guidelines on whistleblowing. To do this, BASIS International will coordinate with Assistance ET Protection Pour Tous in the DRC, the [Initiative for Good Governance and Transparency](#) in Tanzania, the [African Centre for Energy and Mineral Policy](#) in Uganda, and [Publish What You Pay](#) in Zambia. This project will raise public awareness through advocacy, capacity building, and training that strengthens the ability of stakeholders to follow up on complaints and use the data for strategic decision-making.



The [Centre for Journalism Innovation and Development](#) (CJID) will receive nearly

\$400,000 in funding to combine data aggregation, civic technology, investigative journalism, and capacity building to mobilize data for anti-corruption in the green minerals sector in the DRC, Ghana, Mozambique, and Nigeria. CJID will partner with [Dataphyte](#), [mines.cd](#), and [Dubawa Ghana](#) to promote

access to information in the African green minerals sector and improve the use of green minerals data to increase investigative reporting and anti-corruption advocacy. This partnership will increase citizen participation in green minerals governance and accountability and provide anti-corruption agencies with the data and investigative reports they need to work effectively in the green minerals sector.



In the DRC, [IMPACT](#) will receive nearly \$400,000 in funding to

constrain opportunities for corruption and incentivize integrity by making corruption and its impacts more visible. IMPACT's existing Mapping Payments initiative used a consultative, multi-stakeholder process to map all the payments, fees, and taxes applicable to artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) cobalt supply chains and their legal basis. With JET Minerals Challenge funding, IMPACT will widely disseminate these maps, providing supply chain actors and communities with a new tool to defend against corruption. IMPACT will collaborate with [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative](#) DRC and [Minespider](#) to implement this project. [Solidaridad](#) and [Microsoft](#) will also support the project by advising on private sector incentives to maintain responsible ASM cobalt supply chains. As a result of this work, civil society, anti-corruption advocates, and ASM communities will be better able to monitor corruption and interpret, understand, learn from, and leverage the analytics to bring about change.



The [Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance](#) (IRMA) will

receive nearly \$400,000 in funding to engage representatives of non-governmental organizations, organized labor, and affected communities to co-create, pilot, improve, and share tools to enhance transparency around the impacts of extraction, with a focus on Indonesia and South Africa. Tools include IRMA's Community Impact Survey and increasing the accessibility of IRMA audit reports and complaints and feedback mechanisms. By co-creating new and improved tools with local stakeholders, IRMA will prompt action and create added value for those committed to improving practices and reducing harm.



In Malawi, [Perekezi ASM Consultants](#) will receive \$50,000 in funding to

leverage in-depth investigative journalism to address corruption in the green minerals supply chain. This small, women-led organization will provide capacity building for journalists, resulting in the publication of findings that expose potential corruption risks in government practices. This work will increase the transparency and accountability of government agencies, as well as empower citizens and civil society by providing them with information that spurs dialogue about corruption across government, civil society, media outlets, concerned citizens, and other stakeholders.



In Tanzania, [Phimona Limited](#) will receive nearly \$200,000 to scale

Temisite, an application dedicated to auctioning minerals, increasing transparency, and promoting accountability in the trading process. The app enables direct connections between small-scale miners and mineral buyers, eliminating the need for intermediaries and reducing opportunities for corruption. It also provides valuable information on mining regulations and laws, empowering miners to make informed decisions and ensuring compliance with standards. Over the course of the project, Phimona will receive support in developing the app through partnerships

with [Dar Teknohama Business Incubator](#), [Mwalimu Commercial Bank PLC](#), [Tanzania Data Lab](#), [HakiRasilimali](#), and Women in Mining Operations.



resource matters

In the DRC, [Resource Matters](#) will receive \$200,000 in funding to

raise the cost of corruption for corrupt actors in the country's lithium and cobalt supply chains. Resource Matters will conduct investigations into suspicious transactions, document any corrupt practices, and map the lithium supply chain as an expansion of the existing beta edition of the organization's Cobalt Supply Chain Map. Resource Matters will leverage its research findings to equip Congolese civil society with the information needed to encourage supply chain actors to robustly incorporate corruption into due diligence and call for sanctions to hold corrupt actors accountable.



The [Manila Observatory](#) will receive nearly \$400,000 in funding to create the Community Development Agreement (CDA) Digital Innovation Hub in the Philippines. The Hub will address the lack of transparency around the impacts and benefits of mining for affected communities, particularly as it relates to agreements with companies. It will integrate a database of mining-related community agreements and a revenue transparency tool with contextual data and analysis of relevant international principles and legal frameworks. In addition, it will facilitate opportunities for outreach and sharing of knowledge, allow greater scrutiny of financial flows to communities from mining, and empower communities with revenue management tools to support sustainable outcomes. To implement this work, Manila Observatory will partner with [Sustainable Development Strategies Group](#), a research institute advancing the sustainable management of renewable energy and natural resources, and Gov Data Initiative, a consultancy and resource center that advocates for the release and use of open fiscal data to promote transparency and accountability.

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TALISMAN

In Chile, [Talisman International](#) will receive nearly \$50,000 to scope an easily accessible, free data platform that supports due diligence in the lithium value chain by highlighting corruption risks. The grant will enable the first stage in the development of the platform, which will make it more difficult for private and public sector stakeholders to ignore unethical activities that harm vulnerable communities by providing structured data on patterns of corruption. It will allow companies to assess their value chains for corruption and incentivize them to take action to eliminate it, while also providing regulators with the data to recalibrate and enforce anti-corruption policies. This pilot project will test ideas and conduct data modeling focused on the extraction of lithium in Chile, serving as a proof of concept that could be applied in other countries and for other green minerals.



In the DRC, [The Impact Facility](#) will receive nearly \$235,000 in funding to address the problem of opacity and corruption in the trade and taxation of artisanal cobalt mining. By introducing the [Trust Merchant Bank's](#) (TMB) Pepele Mobile payment platform to the artisanal cobalt trade, The Impact Facility will help reduce the scope for corruption and reward ethical behavior through ripple-on benefits to individuals and

cooperatives at large. Miners, traders, and cooperatives will gain access to digital payment and banking services, inventory financing, and a responsible mineral credits system, reducing their vulnerability to corruption and usurious lending. As partners on the project, TMB will participate in the initial needs assessment and lead the rollout of its platform, and [Datastake](#) will help consolidate structured data from miners, manage risks, measure impact, and identify opportunities for investing in the professionalization of local mining operations.



TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
AUSTRALIA

[Transparency International Australia](#) (TIA) will receive

approximately \$400,000 to refine its Responsible Mining Business Integrity tool, which was originally developed in collaboration with companies and international mining governance institutions in 2020. TIA will work with other Transparency International in-country chapters to pilot the updated tool with up to 25 mining companies in Argentina, Colombia, Indonesia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe to identify corruption risks and strengthen their integrity and anti-corruption standards. This innovation will increase knowledge and collaboration between civil society and mining industry stakeholders, promote business integrity practices, and improve anti-corruption capabilities within the private sector.

Focus Area of Winning Innovations

4 Global or multi-country

7 Single country



Follow along with the winners as they begin implementing their approaches to counter corruption and strengthen transparency, accountability, and integrity in green mineral supply chains. You can receive JET Minerals Challenge updates by visiting the [CTC Grand Challenge website](#) or joining our CTC Grand Challenge network by emailing us at challengecorruption@usaid.gov