



## STRADE Newsletter – 02/2016

September 2016

- **Advisory Board meeting a success!**
- **Policy briefs published**

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### Advisory Board meeting a success!

For STRADE's 1st Advisory Board Meeting (Brussels, 1-2 September 2016), twelve of the fourteen renowned members of the Advisory Board joined with other participants from universities, the mining industry, the EC and the STRADE project team to discuss project objectives and STRADE's current policy briefs and results. Overall, participants expressed a strong wish for mutually beneficial partnerships with resource-rich countries, including support for responsible mining practices and ensuring the extractive sectors' contribution to economic development.

Several members kindly presented views from different countries and communities, various terminology and corporate experiences. The STRADE team is now working to incorporate these ideas into workable recommendations for publication in its myriad policy briefs and reports.

### Policy briefs published

STRADE has published three more policy briefs reviewing different aspects of raw materials. (The first brief was published in June 2016). These can be [downloaded](#) from the project website.

The project's second policy brief, "Non-EU Country Engagements with Raw Materials Producing Countries" ([No. 02/2016](#), by SNL), reviews current raw materials engagements undertaken by advanced non-EU countries –

Australia, Canada, China, Japan and the United States of America – with resource-rich countries. It aims to categorize the nature of such engagements and outline strategies that may be of interest to the EU as it charts its own course forward.

STRADE's next policy brief, "Locating the European Union in Mineral Exploration Expenditure Budgets" ([No. 03/2016](#), by SNL), reviews exploration expenditure budget trends in the mineral sector and examines the EU's current and future share of global exploration budgets. Data and forecasts are presented for different markets and mining stages to provide a concrete base for placing the current and expected position of the EU within general exploration expenditure budget trends. Exploration expenditure budgets in the EU over the past decade have been comparatively lower than other budgets worldwide and, given the current environment, are not expected to pick up considerably in the coming years.

The fourth policy brief, "Outlining environmental challenges in the non-fuel mining sector" ([No. 04/2016](#), by Oeko-Institut), reviews environmental impacts and ecological challenges in raw material production. The environmental challenges in mineral supply chains from EU- and non-EU regions were systematically analysed. The analysis found that, despite large improvements in national legal requirements and industry engagement, with myriad examples of responsible mining practices, mining prac-

tices still can be greatly improved. Various areas for improvement were suggested to address the most relevant environmental impacts. Strategies for a stronger EU engagement, with regards to responsible mining practices, will be looked at in more depth in upcoming analyses.

To download the briefs click [here](#).

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