

Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade

Leaders worldwide are calling for action to address conflict minerals concerns while delivering solutions that benefit those involved in responsible minerals trade in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Great Lakes Region (GLR) of Central Africa.

The Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade (PPA) is a **multi-sector and multi-stakeholder initiative** to support supply chain solutions to conflict minerals challenges in the GLR. The PPA provides **funding and coordination** support to organizations working in the region to develop verifiable conflict-free supply chains; align chain-of-custody programs and practices; encourage responsible sourcing from the region; promote transparency; and bolster in-region civil society and governmental capacity.

The PPA is a **hub for those seeking information and taking action** on responsible minerals trade and sourcing, **maximizing the efficiency and impact** of participants' time and resources, and generating resources to fill gaps to **support verifiable, conflict-free supply chains**.

What is the PPA accomplishing?

Support for Conflict-free Sourcing. The PPA supports testing of secure **legitimate, conflict-free minerals** from the DRC and the GLR. The PPA supports pilot projects—with the goal of producing **scalable, self-sustaining systems**—to demonstrate fully validated supply chains in a way that is **credible to companies, civil society, and government**.

Credible Information Resources. The PPA website is a resource for those seeking **current, balanced information on conflict minerals**. The **members-only website** allows participants to share information and seek insights on responsible sourcing from the PPA network.

Improved Coordination and Engagement. The PPA provides a **platform for coordinated, productive dialogue** among government, industry, and civil society in a non-regulatory setting.

PPA Member Benefits:

- *Vetted, safe, and efficient funding channel to support development and research projects in the GLR*
- *Platform to inform, manage, and leverage funding priorities by combining resources*
- *Multi-stakeholder and multi-sector community of peers to share challenges, solutions, and interests*
- *Opportunity for companies to communicate, demonstrate, and reinforce commitment to conflict-free mineral sourcing*
- *Supports alignment and coordination of multiple*
- *A forum for downstream companies to provide input to others in the supply chain and implementers in the region, and vice versa*

What has the PPA achieved?

The PPA has made three grants to advance responsible sourcing in the GLR, following a competitive proposal process. One project tested ways to incentivize and establish a conflict-free artisanal gold supply chain from the DRC. The second worked to build the capacity of DRC civil society to participate actively and productively in the regional traceability and conflict-free certification mechanism. A third grant supported an independent assessment of responsible sourcing programs in the DRC. The PPA also recruited new participants—reaching nearly \$1.4M in funds raised—and convened seven sessions to promote alignment of regional traceability, validation, and certification systems.

Leveraging its resources under the PPA, USAID has provided parallel financing for the Responsible Minerals Trade Infrastructure and Traceability Project. These funds support multi-stakeholder validation of mine sites in eastern DRC; security monitoring via United Nations collaboration; pilot phases of trading centers and traceability in eastern DRC; development of artisanal cooperatives; and strengthening of state authority in mining areas.

Why an Alliance?

The PPA allows government, companies, and civil society to harmonize technical and financial resources for a common purpose. Participants commit funds, technical capacity, and in-kind contributions to support shared goals. The US Government invested more than \$3.5 million in traceability; the PPA has raised more than half of its \$2M funding goal to support traceability solutions.

How does the PPA align with other conflict minerals activities?

The PPA helps **coalesce and strengthen existing sourcing mechanisms**, marshaling technical and financial resources to bolster promising initiatives. The PPA provides **opportunities to interface and coordinate** with governments, supply chain systems, and other stakeholders, serving as a focal point for dialogue and problem-solving.

PPA Participants

NGOs

Africa Faith & Justice Network
Diamond Development Initiative
Enough Project
Global Witness
Heartland Alliance
IMPACT
International Peace Information Service
Pact
RESOLVE
Save Act Mine
Solidaridad

Government

International Conference of the Great Lakes Region
US Agency for International Development
US Department of Labor
US Department of State

Industry Associations

International Tin Supply Chain Initiative
Programme

Companies

Acer
Apple
Boeing
Dell
Ford Motor Company
Global Advanced Metals
Google
HP
Intel
Nokia
NVIDIA
PAMP
Sony
Telefonica
Verizon