

Navigating Disruption: Anticipating the Impact of Global Developments on the Region's Mineral Industrialisation

Johannesburg, South Africa: 24 July 2023 - The global economic, environmental and political landscape is undergoing significant shifts that are poised to impact the region's mineral industrialisation. As the world grapples with various challenges and opportunities, it is essential for stakeholders in the mining and minerals sector to proactively navigate these disruptions and adapt their strategies accordingly. The Manufacturing Indaba to be hosted from the 24 – 26 October 2023 in Sandton, Johannesburg aims to shed light on key global developments and their potential implications for the region's mineral industrialisation. The key aspects to discuss at the event include:

Economic Transformations: Rapid changes in the global economy, including shifts in trade policies, supply chain disruptions and emerging markets, can significantly influence the region's mineral industrialisation. Stakeholders must monitor evolving economic trends, such as the growth of electric vehicles, renewable energy technologies and infrastructure development, which drive demand for critical minerals. Identifying market opportunities and adapting production processes to meet changing demands will be crucial for sustained growth.

Environmental Sustainability: Increasing global emphasis on environmental sustainability and decarbonisation poses both challenges and opportunities for mineral industrialisation. The transition to a low-carbon economy requires a sustainable supply of minerals, including rare earth elements and lithium for batteries. Mining companies need to embrace responsible mining practices, ensure efficient resource extraction and mitigate environmental impacts to align with evolving environmental regulations and consumer expectations.

Political Dynamics: Political developments and policies at the regional and global levels can have a profound impact on mineral industrialisation. Trade agreements, geopolitical tensions and regulatory changes may influence market access, investment opportunities and international collaboration. Stakeholders must stay informed about evolving political landscapes and engage in proactive dialogue with policymakers to shape favourable policies that support the region's mineral sector.

Technological Advancements: Rapid technological advancements, such as automation, artificial intelligence and digitalisation, are reshaping the mining and minerals industry. Embracing these innovations can enhance operational efficiency, improve safety standards, and optimise resource

utilisation. Industry stakeholders need to invest in research and development, upskill their workforce and foster collaboration with technology providers to harness the full potential of these advancements.

Social Responsibility: The region's mineral industrialisation must align with social responsibility principles, respecting the rights and well-being of local communities and indigenous populations. Companies should prioritise community engagement, local employment, and sustainable development initiatives. Building strong relationships with local stakeholders, implementing transparent governance structures and ensuring the equitable distribution of benefits will contribute to long-term social acceptance and support for mineral projects.

By navigating these disruptions and seizing opportunities, the region's mineral industrialisation can contribute to economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development. The Manufacturing Indaba Conference will host Industry experts, government and community representatives to debate and discuss how to collaborate to strike a balance between economic interests, environmental stewardship and social responsibility, ensuring the region's mineral sector thrives in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

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