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Importance of the ESG Aspects in Reporting of Mineral Resources

**Presenter:** 

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# INTRODUCTION

About SRK Consulting About the Presenter









# In India

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Since **2006** 

**30** Professionals

500 Projects

Leading Technical Consultant



## About the Author

Shameek Chattopadhyay, MSc. MAusIMM, MMEAI Director and Principal Consultant (Resource Geology) SRK Consulting schattopadhyay@srk.co.in



Shameek Chattopadhyay is a Director and Principal Consultant with SRK Consulting. With more than 20 years of experience in the mining industry, Shameek has a broad range of background, including planning and managing the advanced exploration projects, designing and implementing QAQC protocols, geological modelling using specialised software, geostatistical analysis, resource estimation and resource classification in accordance with the international reporting codes. Shameek has been involved with several resource estimation projects, different levels of Feasibility Studies, producing independent technical reports associated with Stock Exchange Listing, and strategic projects for different government departments in India and for the World Bank.

In addition to his works in India, Shameek has been involved in projects in more than 30 countries. Shameek is a life member of the Mining Engineers' Association of India (MEAI), the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM), the International Association of Mathematical Geoscience (IMAG) and a founding member of the National Committee for Reporting Mineral Resources and Reserves in India (NACRI).



## CONTEXT

Global Trends What Do the Investors Want? How Mining Industry is Responding?

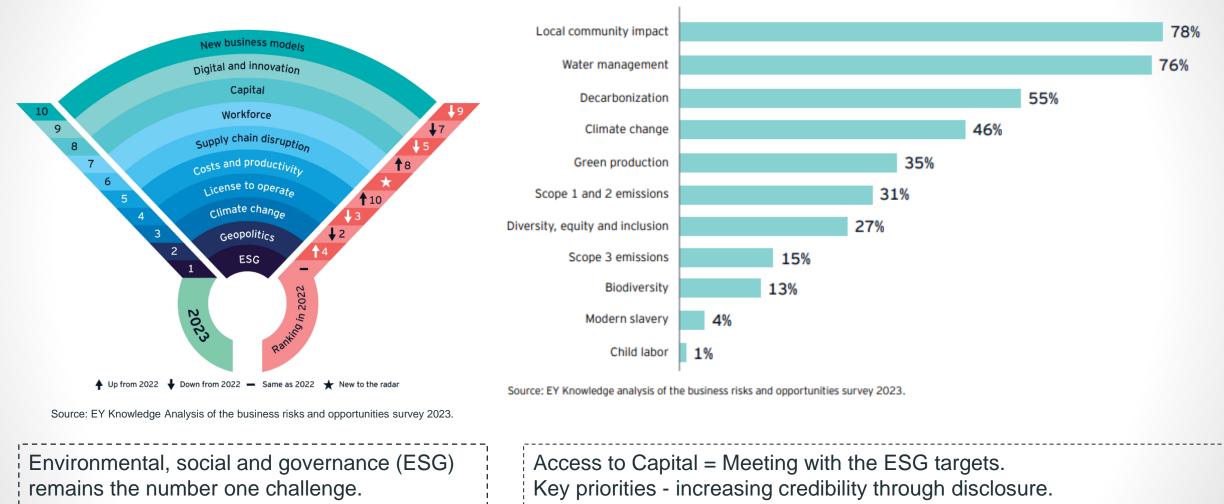




## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) remain the top areas of concern in the Mining Industry

Top 10 business risks and opportunities for mining and metals in 2023

# Top ESG issues that the metals and mining sector will face the most scrutiny on from investors





International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS) has set up a separate organization - International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB).

Consolidation with Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB an initiative of CDP) and the Value Reporting Foundation (VRF which houses the Integrated Reporting Framework and the SASB Standards)

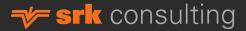


In November 2021, the General Requirements Prototype has been published

> General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information Prototype

Developed by the Technical Readiness Working Group, chaired by the IFRS Foundation, to provide recommendations to the International Sustainability Standards Board for consideration

November 2021



#### Assets under management (US\$ trillion) **N° Signatories** PRI is the leading proponent of Responsible Investment based on 6 principles. Its objective: to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors; to support its international network of investor signatories in incorporating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions. Globally, the investors are looking for assurances on how companies integrate ESG considerations in all aspects of the business, including mineral exploration and the vision about a potentially mining project. Number of Signatories

Number of Asset Owners

Source: PRI Report 2022

Assets under management
 Asset Owners' Assets under management

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## How Mining Industry is placed to respond to the global need?

- CRIRSCO provides the International Reporting Template for the public reporting of Exploration Targets, Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves.
- The latest version is 2019.
- PERC 2021 updated with the ESG aspects
- SAMREC 2016 Introduced SAMESG in 2017
- JORC updates are under review and expected in 2023.

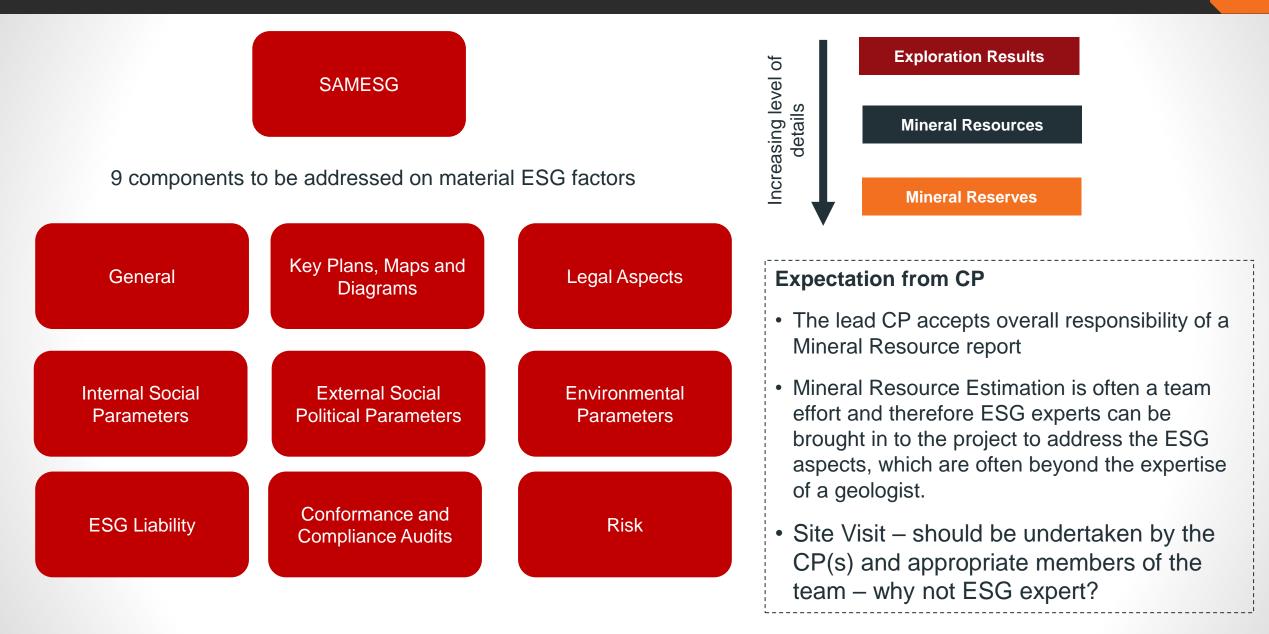
Consensus

All Public Reports of Exploration Targets, Exploration Results, Mineral Resources, Ore Reserves and Technical Studies must include the consideration and reporting of the ESG considerations and factors that could have a material effect on the outcome of the project or operation.

Region	Standard	Year of Last Update	CRIRSCO Template Version
Europe	PERC	2021	2019
Kazakhstan	KAZRC	2021	2019
India	IMIC	2019	2013
Colombia	ECRR	2018	2013
Turkey	UMREK	2018	2013
Indonesia	KCMI	2017	2013
USA	SME	2017	2013
Brazil	CBRR	2016	2013
South Africa	SAMREC	2016	2013
Chile	CRC	2015	-
Canada	CIM	2014	-
Mongolia	MRC	2014	2013
Russia	NEAN	2013	2013
Australasia	JORC	2012	2012 Definitions

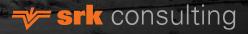


## Example from SAMESG 2017



# MINERAL RESOURCE REPORTING

Definition of Mineral Resource The Concept of RPEEE How ESG Aspects Fit into this?



Geologists/Engineers Further Exploration Planning Engineering Decisions

(Typically Internal)

## Company Management

Visibility, Business Case Further Investment Decision (Typically Internal)

Bank/Investors Investment Decision Risks and Opportunities

(Typically to access the capital)

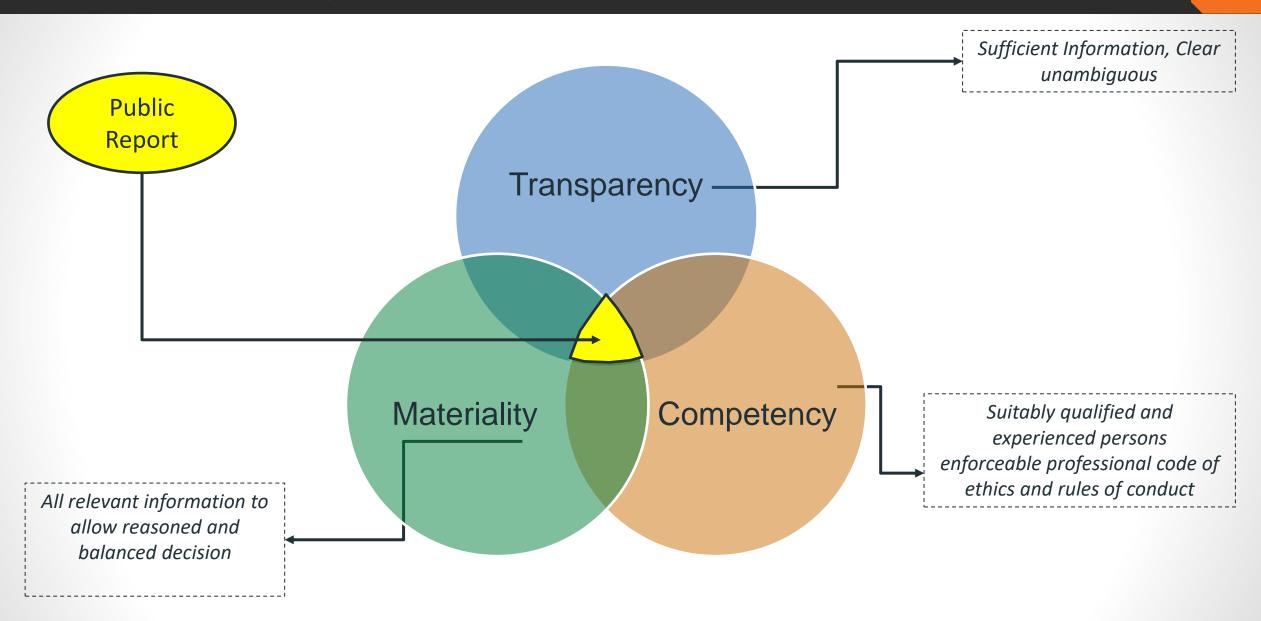
### Government Regulation, National Mineral Inventory Strategic Importance

(Typically External – but not for accessing the capital)

In Auction Regime, the state is inviting mining companies to invest in certain mining project. Therefore, the report should be in accordance with the principles of public reporting.

Public Reports are prepared for the purpose of informing investors or potential investors and their advisers on Exploration Targets, Exploration Results, Mineral Resources or Mineral Reserves.

CRIRSCO type Public Reporting Templates provide the necessary platform to inform the investors enabling them to take informed investment decisions.







## Framework of International Public Reporting Guideline

Increasing level of geological Knowledge and confidence

#### **Exploration Results**

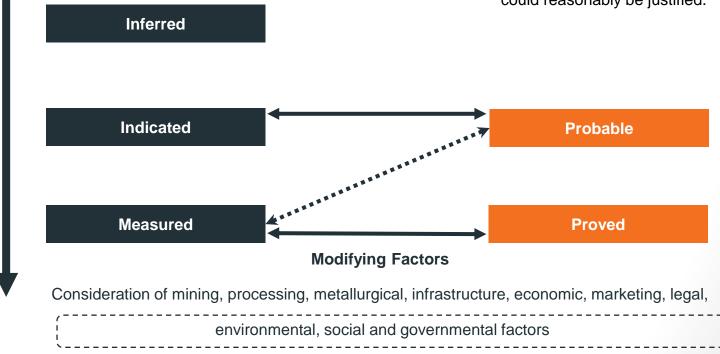
 Data and information generated by mineral exploration programmes that might be of use to investors, but which do not form part of a declaration of Mineral Resources or Mineral Reserves

#### Mineral Resources

- Location, quantity, grade or quality, continuity and other geological characteristics of a Mineral Resource are known, estimated or interpreted from specific geological evidence and knowledge, including sampling.
- Must have reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction.

#### **Mineral Reserves**

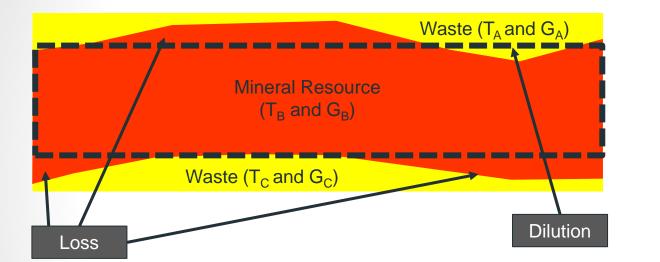
- Economically mineable part of a Measured and/or Indicated Mineral Resource.
- It includes diluting materials and allowances for losses,
- Either a Pre- Feasibility or Feasibility level of study must be undertaken to apply Modifying Factors and demonstrate that, at the time of reporting, extraction could reasonably be justified.

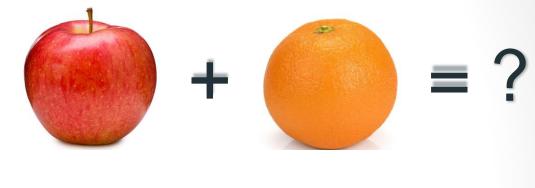


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#### Mineral Resources ≠ Ore/Mineral Reserves

Therefore Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserves are two different things. One cannot add them up.





**Still Struggling to Remember?** 

Quantity (Mineral Reserve) > Quantity (Mineral Resource) Grade (Mineral Reserve) < Grade (Mineral Resource)



It is the **Reserve** Bank of India not the **Resource** Bank of India!



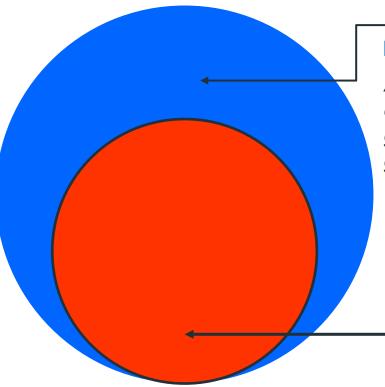
## Mineral Inventory and Mineral Resource

Mineral Resource is not an inventory of all mineralisation drilled or sampled, regardless of cut-off grade, likely mining dimensions, location or continuity.

It is a realistic inventory of mineralisation, which, under assumed and justifiable technical and economic conditions, may, in whole or in part, become economically extractable.

Evaluate whether the mineralised body has Reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction (RPEEE).

RPEE' implies a judgement (albeit preliminary) by the Competent Person in respect of all Modifying Factors. Should be justifiable and defendable. The Term "Inventory" is not a defined term in the CRIRSCO Template, and such quantities may not be disclosed in a Public Report, but it is common that the same is used for other purposes (such as government's database for National Inventory).



#### **Mineral Inventory**

Adequate geological studies have been carried out to establish the share, geometry, continuity grade and other geological characteristics

#### **Mineral Resource**

Reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction (RPEEE) is applied

Investments are made based on the Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve.

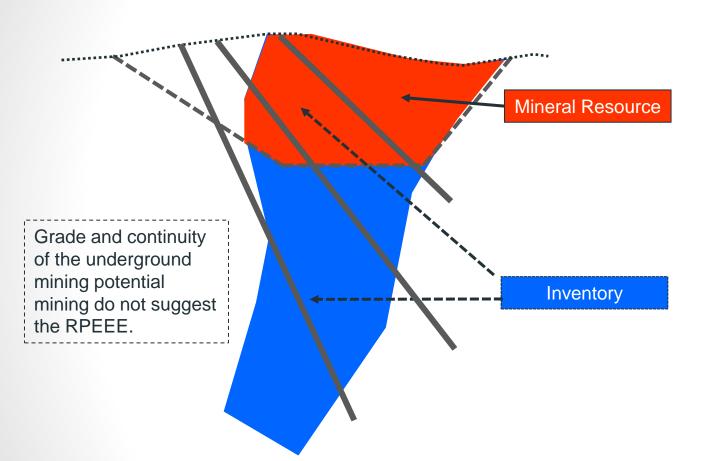
Not on the basis of Mineral Inventory.

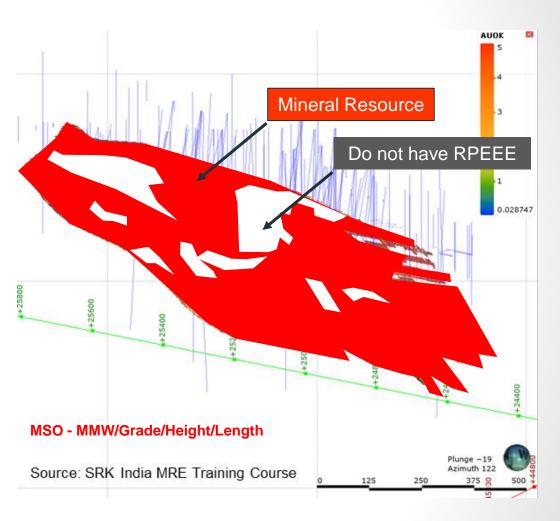


## Example of Application of RPEEE to Define Mineral Resource

Open Pit Project









## ESG in the context of RPEEE

# Typical Key Technical Considerations to disclose the RPEEE

- Long-term price forecast
- Geotechnical Parameters
- Likely mining techniques
- Assumptions on mining loss and recovery
- Likely recovery and yield
- Assumptions of mining cost
- Assumptions of processing cost
- Other costs
- CoG

Which of the above information is material that could impact the eventual economic extraction?

Could there be other factors that impacts the RPEEE?

## Other factors that could potentially impact on the RPEEE



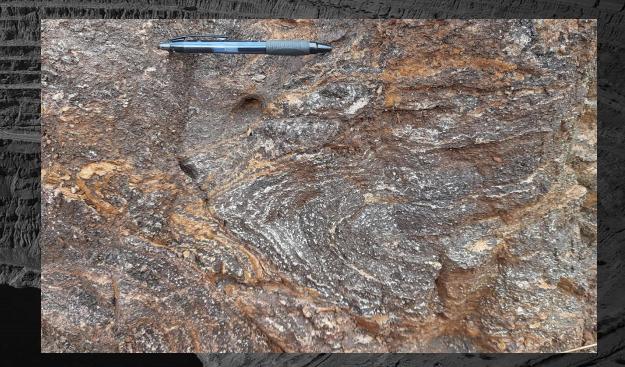
Is the geologist qualified/experienced to address these aspects?

Is the person commenting on the ESG aspects have adequate understanding of the local issues?

What are the minimum level of disclosures on the ESG aspects should be part of the Mineral Resource Reports?



# **CONCLUDING REMARKS**





- Globally there is a growing awareness on the ESG aspects.
- Invertors are demanding more disclosures regarding ESG. Several initiatives are being taken by the investors to
  protect their investments and
- Globally, the public reporting codes are being updated to address the ESG aspects.
- Reporting on the ESG aspects is expected even at the early-stage exploration projects leading to Exploration Results.
- For Reporting of the Mineral Resources, more careful assessment of the RPEEE is solicited and the factors should include the ESG aspects.
- Knowledge of the local issues and their impacts on the projects is highly solicited.
- Bringing ESG experts early into a project would add a lot of value and ensure that the principles of materiality, transparency and competency is adhered.
- As a geologist we must follow the code of ethics in regard to the well-being of the community, the natural environment
  and the reputation of the international minerals industry.



## Thank you for your attention

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# Any Question?