Rationale
The exploitation and use of mineral raw materials plays a vital role in almost every aspect in modern life, generating wealth as well as jobs and comfortable lifestyles. Mineral resources and in particular metals are essential to our developed high-tech economy and specifically to the products and technologies that support the EU 2020 objectives of moving towards a competitive and sustainable European economy. Information technology, renewable and efficient energy production, investment, medical devices, construction, automotive, aerospace, chemicals, machinery and equipment depend on access to raw materials in the required quantity and quality and at competitive cost. Raw materials research will thus feature strongly in Challenge 5 of Horizon 2020. The growing demand for minerals, however, correlates with growing environmental and societal pressures. Decoupling resource use from economic growth is therefore of key importance to the economy and in particular to the minerals sector. This is reflected both in the EU Flagship Initiative for a Resource Efficient Europe as well as in the EU Raw Materials Initiative. A prerequisite for meeting the objective of decoupling is a proper monitoring of the resource intensity of the EU’s economic development. Earth Observation (EO) could provide cost-efficient services for a better monitoring of minerals extraction and the environmental pressures connected to it.

The EO-MINERS Project
Given the current status of political discourse in Europe on raw materials issues, the sustainable development of the extractive industry and the reduction of its environmental and societal footprint are key topics in this discussion. The EO-MINERS project has worked since February 2010, as part of the inter-governmental Group on Earth Observations, to assess the role EO can play in order to:

- assess policy requirements and define environmental, socio-economic, societal and sustainable development criteria and indicators that EO may be able to measure;
- use existing EO knowledge and demonstrate the contribution of integrated EO-based methods and tools in monitoring, managing and reducing extractive industry’s footprints; and
- contribute to making available reliable and objective information about affected ecosystems, populations and societies, to serve as a basis for a sound “trialogue” between industrialists, governmental organisations and other stakeholders.

The results of EO-MINERS work have already been tested on a local level at three demonstration sites chosen for the project (the Sokolov lignite mining area in the Czech Republic, the Witbank coalfields in South Africa, and
the Makmal gold mine in Kyrgyzstan). The related local stakeholder dialogue activities contributed to determining the applicability and usefulness of the developed EO-MINERS products and will inform this workshop.

Who Should Attend
The results obtained during the project as well as the results obtained from the local activities require discussion on the European level, too. Therefore, the workshop addresses three different important stakeholder groups:
1. Stakeholders involved in material flow accounting (MFA) for used and unused extraction as well as those involved in the EU Flagship Initiative for a Resource Efficient Europe, the EU Raw Materials Initiative (e.g. UNEP, UN Resource Panel, OECD, EC, Eurostat, EEA, National Statistical Services, National Ministries, ETP SMR, RMI, ETC SCP, Data centres):
2. The GEO/GEOSS community, as minerals have been recently recognised as an important Societal Benefit issue with the inclusion of Tasks on Energy and Georesources Management and the Impact Assessment of Human Activities in the GEO 2012-2015 Work Plan; and
3. Stakeholders interested in EO tools and methods, especially dedicated to detect and monitor impacts of mineral exploitation activities (e.g. mineral related professional associations, ETP SMR, IOM³, ICMM, minerals industry, EC DGs, EEA, representatives of GMES, policy makers and competent authorities).

Workshop Structure
The event is going to host some key-note presentations as well as technical presentations about the project results. There will also be panel discussions about different topics related to the scope of the workshop. Please find attached the draft agenda for the workshop.

Date and Venue
Date: 18 and 19 September 2013

Contacts / Information
For more information, please contact us at: conferences@eo-miners.eu

Please visit http://www.eo-miners.eu/conference_registration.htm to register

PLEASE NOTE:
The participation in the workshop will be free of charge. However, available places may be limited and will be provided on first come first serve basis. So please return the attached registration completed to: conferences@eo-miners.eu
Minerals and Society Workshop

Draft Agenda

Programme – Day 1
10:30 Coffee & Registration

Session 1: Introductions and Context
11:00-11:15 Welcome on behalf of EO-MINERS
Stephane Chevrel, EO-MINERS Coordinator, French Geological Survey, BRGM
11:15-11:30 Welcome on behalf of DG Research
n.n., DG Research
11:30-12:00 Benefits and impacts of mining on society
Gwenole Cozigu, Director Direction F – Resources Based, Manufacturing and Consumer Goods Industries, DG Enterprise (title tbc)
12:00-12:30 The Potential of remote sensing for monitoring throughout the minerals lifecycle
Christian Fischer, German Aerospace Center, DLR
Stuart Marsh, British Geological Survey, BGS
12:30-13:30 Lunch

Session 2: The EO-MINERS Project
13:30-14:00 The EO-MINERS process and experiences: How to provide suitable integrated EO-based products
Stephane Chevrel, EO-MINERS, French Geological Survey, BRGM
14:00-14:30 Selected EO-MINERS products – Integrated EO-based tools and methods for environmental and societal impact assessment of mining activities
Colm Jordan, British Geological Survey, BGS
14:30-15:00 EO-MINERS products in the context of the national and the EU regulatory framework related to mineral raw materials
Patrice Christmann, ERA-MIN/French Geological Survey, BRGM
15:00-15:30 Coffee
15:30-17:00 Panel Discussion: Is the EO-MINERS process and are the EO-MINERS products suitable for use in monitoring environmental and societal impacts of mining activities: (i) to help to meet information requirements and (ii) to contribute to reconciliation of interests in a dialogue among stakeholders?
Moderation: EO-MINERS (Stéphane Chevrel, BRGM)
Panel: DG Enterprise (Mattia Pellegrini or deputy), ETP-SMR/Euromines (Corinna Hebestreit), BRGM/ERA-MIN (Patrice Christmann), Milieudefensie Friends of the Earth Netherlands (Evert Hassink, tbc)
17:00 Close
Minerals and Society Workshop
Programme – Day 2

9:00 Coffee & Registration open

Session 3: Resource Flows and Economics
9:30-10:00 Resource efficient Europe: Macro Indicators on Sustainable Resource Extraction
Werner Bosmans, Policy Officer Resource Efficiency & Economic Analysis, DG Environment (tbc)
10:00-10:30 Global mineral extraction for the EU economy
Stefan Brinzeu, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment, Energy, International Resource Panel
10:30-11:00 Accounting for minerals extraction and environmental pressures from a national perspective
Renato Marra Campanale, Ispra, Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
11:00-11:30 Coffee
11:30-12:30 Earth Observation, minerals and a resource efficient Europe
Moderator: Stuart Marsh, British Geological Survey, BGS
Panel: DG Enterprise GMES/Copernicus (Reinhard Schulte-Braucks), DG Research (n.n.), DG Environment (Werner Bosmans, tbc), ETP SMR (Nikolaos Arvanitidis, GTK, Finland), Ispra (Renato Marra Campanale), European Parliament (Reinhard Bütkhofer, tbc)
12:30-13:30 Lunch

Session 4: Minerals and Global Earth Observations
13:30-14:00 Global Earth Observation: GEO and related initiatives (e.g. Copernicus, Eye on Earth)
Georgios Sarantakos, Georesources Expert, Group on Earth Observations Secretariat
14:00-14:30 Minerals and GEO
Stuart Marsh, British Geological Survey, BGS
Stephane Chevrel, French Geological Survey, BRGM
14:30-15:30 Panel Discussion on GEO Post-2015 and how Minerals should evolve in the new GEO
Moderator: Luca Demicheli (EuroGeoSurveys Secretary General)
Panel: Group on Earth Observations’ Secretariat (Georgios Sarantakos), International Union of Geological Sciences’ Minerals Initiative (Marko Komac), Eye on Earth (EEA tbc), GMES/Copernicus Bureau (tbc), International Council on Mining and Metals (tbc)?
15:30-16:00 Workshop Wrap-up and Conclusions
Stephane Chevrel, EO-MINERS Coordinator, French Geological Survey, BRGM
16:00 Coffee and depart
Registration
Yes, I like to participate in the workshop “Minerals and Society”.

* Mandatory information

Title: 
*Name: 
*Surname: 
*Organisation: 
Address: 
Town: 
ZIP: 
Country: 
*Email: 
Phone: 
Fax: 

The available places for the workshop may be limited and will be provided on first come first serve basis. So please return this registration quickly and completed to: conferences@eo-miners.eu