



# ITA CODE OF CONDUCT

## Statement of Values

International Tin Association (ITA) members recognise that the prudent and responsible use of natural resources is an important driver of economic growth which contributes to sustainable development and poverty reduction, but if not managed properly, may create negative economic, environmental and social impacts. ITA members believe that tin's future as a metal of choice relies on stakeholder confidence in the industry's approach to these issues throughout the project and product lifecycle, from exploration, through extraction, processing and trading to metal recycling. ITA members recognise the need to work in ways that support their 'social license to operate', seeking to avoid negative impacts, while maximising the benefits available to all involved through responsible use of natural resources and this *Statement* summarises the values to which ITA members collectively aspire.

Members view *compliance with national laws and regulations*, including all permits, approvals and authorisations for legal operation as the minimum acceptable standard, and strive towards the consistent implementation of tin industry best practice, recognising the need to implement appropriate standards in the management of environmental and social issues to contribute to the wider goal of sustainable development. Members will also encourage their suppliers and contractors to adopt equivalent standards wherever feasible.

Members will *promote safe and healthy working conditions* for employees, contractors and visitors and seek to take appropriate steps to avoid or mitigate health and safety impacts for local communities relating to their direct operations, as well as taking appropriate measures to ensure the *safe management and disposal of relevant materials and waste* from mining, processing and recycling activities.

Members are expected to *consider options for improving environmental performance* and take steps to support the responsible and efficient use and management of resources such as water and energy, including the adoption of economic greenhouse gas emission reduction opportunities when appropriate. Members will also take measures to seek to support a healthy ecosystem and contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in the area of their operations.

By adopting a participative approach to stakeholder engagement, members undertake to develop *positive relationships with host communities* including, where relevant, artisanal and small-scale miners in close proximity to their operations. Members will seek opportunities to provide support for social and economic development programmes which improve local circumstances in areas hosting their activities.

Members recognise that responsible tin production also requires that *closure, decommissioning and rehabilitation* of operations is properly integrated in the project lifecycle, enabling positive future land use and the recovery of terrestrial and marine habitats.

Recognising the need for progressive improvement in *responsible sourcing*, members aim to work with their direct suppliers to improve understanding of the supply chain in an effort to evaluate the circumstances of production in higher risk areas, and, will consider possible joint activities with key stakeholders such as Government, local industry, buyers and the international community to minimise identified risks.

While acknowledging that supply chains are complex, members will enhance practices to improve their due diligence on suppliers, and seek to avoid direct or indirect support to armed *conflict and human rights abuses*. Members will respect human rights at their own operations in a manner consistent with host government obligations and commitments, and will, more broadly, avoid unlawful or improper practices.

Members in countries that are implementing EITI will aim to support the *Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI)* and undertake to disclose relevant information as appropriate.

*For further information please contact:*

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