

# **USG Critical Minerals Initiatives** and Activities

Lauren Shelton, International Trade Specialist, Office of Critical Minerals and Metals Joint Study Groups' Seminar | September 25, 2024

U.S. Department of Commerce | International Trade Administration | Industry & Analysis

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#### 100-Day Supply Chain Report Recommendations on **Critical Minerals**

- 1. Developing and Fostering New Sustainability Standards for Strategic and Critical Material Intensive Industries
- 2. Expanding Sustainable Domestic Production and Processing Capacity, **Including Recovery from Secondary** and Unconventional Sources and Recycling
- 3. Deploy the DPA and Other Programs

- 4. Convene Industry Stakeholders to **Expand Production**
- 5. Promote Interagency Research & **Development to Support** Sustainable Production and a Technically-Skilled Workforce
- 6. Strengthen U.S. Stockpiles
- 7. Work with Allies and Partners and Strengthen Global Supply Chain Transparency



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## **Programs/Initiatives**

- Supply Chain Center
- Industry and Analysis Business Unit's Workstreams
- Indo-Pacific Economic Framework
- Minerals Security Partnership
- Defense Industrial Base Consortium
- Mining and Permitting Reform
- Critical Materials Collaborative



#### **Supply Chain Center**



- Commerce's Industry and Analysis Business Unit (I&A) launched a first-of its-kind Supply Chain Center (SCC) in I&A to serve as the analytical engine for supply chain resilience policy action within the U.S. Government.
- The SCC seeks to be:
  - Proactive in getting ahead of supply chain challenges.
  - Strategic in setting priorities for policy action.
  - A force multiplier in improving the effectiveness of U.S. Government investments.
  - A partner to industry in building resilient supply chains and supporting U.S. businesses to lead the industries of the future.
- On September 10, 2024, I&A hosted a Supply Chain Summit which gathered leaders from industry, government, academia, and civil society to collaborate and share best practices for preventing and addressing supply chain vulnerabilities.



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## **I&A's Critical Minerals Workstreams Leverage our Comparative Advantage**

- I&A's workstreams utilize its **comparative advantage** and **unique value-add**, leveraging **commercial**, **analytical**, **industry**, **and supply chain expertise**.
- Priority workstreams:
  - Perform practical supply chain assessments to drive policy recommendations.
  - 2. Drive engagement with **stakeholders and international partners** to **secure mineral supply chains**.
  - 3. Be a force multiplier across USG to provide market intelligence.







- On August 23, the U.S. announced its list of critical sectors and key goods for potential cooperation under the IPEF Supply Chain Agreement.
  - The list included Critical Minerals and Mining.
- At the first meeting of the IPEF Supply Chain Council on September 12, the IPEF partners agreed to establish Action Plan team on critical minerals, with an initial focus on batteries.
- The Action Plan team will bring together IPEF subject matter experts to work together to identify shared vulnerabilities and opportunities to build resilience in critical mineral supply chains.



INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAME FOR PROSPERIT



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## **Minerals Security Partnership**

- The MSP is a collaboration of 14 countries and the EU to catalyze public and private investment in responsible critical minerals supply chains globally.
- The MSP directly addresses four major critical minerals challenges:
  - Diversifying and stabilizing global supply chains; 1.
  - 2. Investment in those supply chains;
  - Promoting high environmental, social, and governance standards in the mining, processing, and recycling sectors; and
  - Increasing recycling of critical minerals.
- MSP Forum Provides a platform for partners and Forum members to discuss and advance both projects and policies that provide a more secure and sustainable supply of critical minerals.

#### **Defense Industrial Base Consortium**

- In December 2023, DOD, through the Manufacturing, Capability Expansion and Investment Prioritization Directorate (MCEIP) established the DIBC Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) to enable rapid research, access to commercial solutions for defense requirements, and innovations from industry, academia, and non-traditional contractors.
- The DIBC is open and free to join for companies, universities, and non-profits based in the United States, Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

DIBC Critical Sectors			
>	Kinetic Capabilities	>	Energy Storage and Batteries
>	Microelectronics	>	Castings & Forgings
>	Strategic and Critical Materials	>	Workforce Development
>	Additional Areas of Interest Include: Small Unmanned Aerial Systems, Submarine Industrial Base, Space Industrial Base, and Emerging Manufacturing Technology		



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#### **Recommendations to Improve Mining on Public Lands**

- In September 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration released the Final Report on Recommendations to Improve Mining on Public Lands developed by the Department of the Interior-led Interagency Working Group on Mining Laws, Regulations, and Permitting (IWG).
- The report provides more than 60 recommendations to Congress and federal agencies.
  - Improving Mineral Exploration and Development Planning and Permitting
  - Increasing Engagement with Stakeholders and Potentially Affected Communities
  - Expanding Consultation and Engagement with Tribes
  - Obtaining Fair Compensation for Taxpayers for Minerals Extracted from Federal Lands
  - Protect Taxpayers from the Cost of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
  - Revitalizing Domestic Mining and Other Issues



#### **Critical Minerals Collaborative**



- The CMC is the connective tissue within the DOE Critical Materials Program and the U.S. government, aligning our RD&D portfolio with DOE climate goals and accelerating adoption of innovative solutions.
- Website: energy.gov/cmm/critical-materials-collaborative
- Email: cmc@hq.doe.gov



Building a robust innovation ecosystem



**Training the critical materials leaders** and workforce across multiple sectors



Enabling **industry adoption** of novel,
cutting-edge technology



Laying the **scientific and technological groundwork** needed
to address emerging challenges



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