INTRODUCTION

Convened by the Development Partner Institute (DPI Mining), Business for Development (B4D), and Mining Indaba, and modelled on the popular Mining Indaba Investment Battlefield, the inaugural Innovation & Research Battlefield seeks to bridge a gap between great ideas and the resources needed to implement them.

The 2022 Innovation & Research Battlefield is sponsored by BHP and The University of Queensland’s Sustainable Minerals Institute.

2022 CHALLENGE

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE POST-MINING ECONOMIES

Each year there is a new theme, and in 2022 we are looking for innovative research proposals that offer solutions to building a post-mine life economy.

Every phase of a mine’s life brings new opportunities and challenges to different sectors of society. It is in the interest of a country endowed with natural resources to maximise the investment of a mining company in order to generate income for the country and provide benefit to the communities proximate to the resource deposit.

Complete rehabilitation of the mine site, leaving it in a safe and non-polluting condition, is critical to the local community. However, it is not just the environment to be considered, but also the economic and social impact left upon mine closure.

One of the most important legacies a mining company can leave a community is a vibrant, sustainable post-mining economy. A mining company, in partnership with government and community, can leverage the mine’s investments to catalyse economic opportunities to create a sustainable local economy, beyond the life of the mine. But how?

At the 2022 Innovation & Research Battlefield we’re looking for proposals to offer new solutions to this question.

TO APPLY

1. Complete the following application form, paying attention to maximum word limits and the indicated weighting of each section.
2. Save your completed application form as a PDF and submit via email to Innovation@dpimining.org no later than 12pm GMT on 6 April 2022. (You may also include a maximum 3 pages of supporting resources such as charts, process images, etc.)
3. Please include your full name, innovation title and organisation in the subject line of your email and in the file name of your document/s. For example: Subject: Application for Samy Jones_Social Impact Tool_Mining University.

GUIDELINES

Through your application, please demonstrate answers to the following questions:
What is the objective? What will your idea/research accomplish?
What makes your idea/research significant? Demonstrate the rationale and impact.
Describe the process of implementation and time frame.
What resources are required?
Who are the beneficiaries?
How does it support the Sustainable Development Goals?

Proposals will be awarded additional points if they include a focus on inclusion (youth, gender, disabilities), marginalised communities, local partners, and multiple institutions.

NEXT STEPS

• The Development Partner Institute and Business for Development will review all submitted applications using a pre-defined scoring matrix.
• The ten highest-scoring applications will be shortlisted and notified on 15 April 2022. They will be invited to pitch their innovation and research proposals to our judging panel at Mining Indaba 2022 via video or in person.
• If able to attend in person, up to three (3) Mining Indaba tickets will be available for each shortlisted application but please note, related travel costs will not be covered by the event organisers.

Battle Round One – 9 May 2022:
• We’re doing our best to make this event as inclusive and accessible as possible. Therefore, shortlisted applicants who are unable to attend Mining Indaba in person will be able to submit a pre-recorded video of their pitch for the first round.
• Note: all virtual applicants must be available via phone or videoconferencing during the first pitching round for live Q&A after their video.

Battle Round Two – 11 May 2022:
• From the first round, three proposals will be selected by the judging panel to pitch in the second and final battle round, in person or via live videoconferencing on the Mining Indaba stage, allowing for Q&A from our judging panel.
• The winner will be announced on 11 May 2022.

KEY INFORMATION

• The Development Partner Institute, Business for Development and other industry representatives will form the judging panel at Mining Indaba.
• The Innovation Grant will be awarded to an implementing organisation and not an individual applicant. Note, funding will not go to Government officials.
• The Innovation Grant will not be used directly or indirectly to support any organisation or entity that is subject to international trade sanctions or designations imposed by Australia, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, or the United States.
• The winner(s) of the Innovation Grant will be required to measure and report on progress quarterly during the following 12-month period.
• The winner(s) will acknowledge the Sponsors’ contribution to the Innovation Grant and its impact towards Building Sustainable Post Mine Economies.
By 30 March 2023, the winner(s) must submit an overview of how the funds have been spent, outcomes and learnings achieved to date, and a plan for the expenditure of the remaining grant funds if applicable. This report will be presented at Mining Indaba in 2023, providing further visibility for the innovation and research.

**Note:** As this is the inaugural Innovation and Research Battlefield event, we are expecting that there will still be details to iron out – we thank you in advance for your understanding.

If you have specific questions on the application process, please email innovation@dpimining.org. We may not be able to answer each enquiry, but we will try our best to accommodate.

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**PROPOSAL APPLICATION**

Provide the following information:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s) of Applicant(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working Name of Innovation or Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organisation(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your Role(s) (e.g., Student, Professor, Manager)</td>
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<td>Primary Email Address</td>
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<td>Primary Phone Number</td>
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<td>Country you’re located in</td>
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Answer the following questions:

1. **Elevator Pitch:** describe your proposal and what makes it innovative in 100 words (5% of criteria)

2. a) **Provide a budget outlining the total amount of investment required in US$** (5% of criteria)

   b) **Outline how the Innovation Grant will be used to support your proposal** (200 max words, 5% of criteria)

3. **Provide a summary of your innovation and/or research** (max 400 words, 10% of criteria)
4. Highlight the creativity, originality or significance of your innovation or research proposal (max 600 words, 35% of criteria)
For example: How does it uniquely respond to the Challenge? Does it solve a problem (knowledge, application, best practice)? Demonstrate to what extent your research will impact the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. Describe the theory or methodology of your innovation or research (max 500 words, 30% of criteria)
For example: Does your research sit within any theoretical context? How will this be achieved? What methods/steps are involved to make this a success and have impact? How will you collect and measure data? How will you triangulate data? Verify the impact?

6. Describe the background of your affiliate organisation and its relevance to your proposed research (max 400 words, 10% of criteria)

Note: Your application proposal must be signed by the applicant(s) and by an individual at your organisation to confirm you have the backing of your organisation to submit a proposal to the Innovation & Research Battlefield.

Please provide contact details (name, email address, title, relationship to you/your team) for the organizational Approver.

Save your completed application as a PDF and submit, along with up to 3 pages of supporting resources, to innovation@dpimining.org by 12pm GMT on 6 April 2022.

Early submissions are encouraged!