

27 June 2023, Luxembourg



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MEDIA RELEASE

Eurasian Resources Group becomes an Honorary Partner of UNESCO

Eurasian Resources Group (ERG), a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg, has been certified as a UNESCO Honorary Partner for a major contribution to the development of international social initiatives for children. The presentation of the UNESCO certificate took place in Kazakhstan, ERG's home nation, during a meeting between Ms Audrey Azoulay, the Director-General of UNESCO, and Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

ERG is committed to the sustainable development of its host countries and has been supporting a wide range of social initiatives and programmes aimed at improving the lives of children in communities around the world. The UNESCO honorary partnership is a testament to the Group's longstanding work in this regard.

In Kazakhstan, ERG proudly supports Planet of ART, a spectacular music and arts festival for children and teenagers. The Group acts as the General Partner for the festival and over the last three years ERG's funding has enabled more than 13,000 children to participate in the programme. The Planet of ART Festival is dedicated to championing the International Year of Dialogue, a UN sponsored initiative designed to promote global peace. In addition to the Planet of ART festival, in 2022, the Group supported the Kazakhstan Khalkyna public social fund, which helps to arrange medical assistance to children with rare diseases, as many families struggle to raise funds for treatment.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), ERG has put responsible practices at the core of its business operations, which embraces the safeguarding of vulnerable people and the eradication of child labour in the neighboring communities. The DRC accounts for 70% of the world's cobalt and almost 100% of battery-grade ore. However, it is estimated that more than 40,000 children are working illegally in the country's artisanal mining sector.

ERG is firmly committed to taking children out of the mining industry and is working in close partnership with NGOs and charities in the DRC to achieve this goal. In this country, ERG has supported access to education for more than 15,000 children. Furthermore, ERG is working with the Good Shepherd International Foundation (GSIF). The GSIF aims to improve living conditions

in ASM communities, especially for women and children. To date, ERG and GSIF have already helped more than 3,000 children escape the worst forms of child labour and receive an education away from unsafe environments.

Benedikt Sobotka, CEO of ERG and Co-Chair of the Global Battery Alliance (GBA), said: “We are proud to receive this certificate from UNESCO, which recognises the success of our impressive social initiatives. Scaling up our operations to meet the demands of the global energy transition must be done in a sustainable and responsible manner. We have collaborated with a range of leading NGOs, including the Good Shepherd International Foundation in Africa, to address the prevalent issue of child labour in the DRC, and the Planet of ART in Kazakhstan to nurture the musical and artistic talents of children and teenagers. We also supported the Vida Cidadania initiative in Brazil to help liberate vulnerable people in perilous living conditions. Through these and many other initiatives, we are improving the lives of children from local communities across our global asset portfolio.”

The work of the Global Battery Alliance – the largest multi-stakeholder consortium in the energy storage space, which ERG co-founded – plays a fundamental role in eradicating child labour across the entire battery value chain. The GBA recently launched its Child Labour Index which measures and scores the efforts of any member of the battery value chain towards supporting this goal. Such indexes, the world-first frameworks built upon existing standards and guidance from NGOs, will serve as key performance indicators for the GBA’s flagship Battery Passport, which was launched this year in Davos.

In Brazil, BAMIN - ERG’s subsidiary - has been working on the Vida Cidadania programme, in the Caetité region, where the Group is developing the Pedra de Ferro Mine. The programme aims to help reduce the number of violent acts perpetrated against the most vulnerable population, including the sexual abuse of children. BAMIN also promotes the Cultural Enhancement Programme in the Ilhéus region. Through this programme, it donated more than 1,500 children’s educational books and games to collective spaces in communities neighbouring the Porto Sul region.

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About Eurasian Resources Group:

Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) is a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg with integrated mining, processing, energy, logistics, and marketing operations. The Group operates in 16 countries and is a major employer in the industry with over 80,000 employees and contractors.

ERG is the world’s largest high-carbon ferrochrome producer by chrome content and one of the largest producers of cobalt. It is also a large global supplier of copper and high-grade iron ore. In Eurasia, it is one of the largest suppliers of alumina and is Kazakhstan’s only producer of high-grade aluminium.

In Kazakhstan, ERG represents one third of the metals and mining industry. It is also a key power supplier and a large railway operator in Central Asia. ERG manages several of Kazakhstan's leading production entities, including **Kazchrome**, **SSGPO**, **Kazakhstan Aluminium Smelter (KAS)**, **Aluminium of Kazakhstan**, **Eurasian Energy Corporation**, and others.

In Africa, ERG mines and processes copper and cobalt ore and produces copper metal and cobalt hydroxide. **Frontier** is the cornerstone of the Group's copper business, and ERG's **Metalkol**, a major tailings reprocessing operation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has become the world's second largest producer of cobalt as well as a major producer of copper.

The Group has its own supply chain on the continent through its logistics company **Sabot** as well as development projects which are focused on other minerals and products in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Mali.

In Brazil, ERG is developing **BAMIN**, an integrated mining and logistics project in the State of Bahia, which comprises the Pedra de Ferro iron ore mine, the Porto Sul deep-water port and the associated stretch of the new FIOLE broad-gauge railway.

ERG is a founding member of the Global Battery Alliance (GBA), hosted originally on the platform of the World Economic Forum. The GBA is dedicated to ensuring an ethical and sustainable global supply chain for the lithium-ion batteries that can power the Fourth Industrial Revolution and a low carbon economy through electric vehicles, renewable energy technologies and smartphones. Since its establishment in 2017, the GBA has grown to include more than 140 leading businesses and international organisations as members.

ERG is also a co-founder of the Re|Source initiative, working together with CMOC, Glencore, Umicore and Tesla. The initiative uses blockchain to track cobalt and other responsibly produced battery materials in real operating conditions from the mine to an electric vehicle.