

Commodity Report: Coltan, Tungsten, & Tin (2026)

Coltan, tungsten, and tin are reportedly produced with forced labor (FL) and/or child labor (CL) in the following countries:¹

Coltan:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo (FL, CL)

Tungsten:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo (FL, CL)

Tin:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo (FL, CL)

Top ten countries that export coltan, tungsten, and tin worldwide:²

Niobium, tantalum, vanadium, or zirconium ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. South Africa | 6. Australia |
| 2. Nigeria | 7. Malaysia |
| 3. Senegal | 8. Indonesia |
| 4. Mozambique | 9. United States |
| 5. Rwanda | 10. Sierra Leone |

¹ This list is based solely on findings from the [U.S. Department of State's 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report](#) and the [U.S. Department of Labor's 2024 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor and Forced Labor](#).

² [International Trade Center. Trade Map](#). (ITC Calculations based on UNCOMTRADE Statistics). **Note:** The country list is ordered by value exported.

Tungsten ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Myanmar | 6. North Korea |
| 2. Kazakhstan | 7. Spain |
| 3. Rwanda | 8. Portugal |
| 4. Bolivia | 9. Mongolia |
| 5. Australia | 10. United States |

Tin ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Democratic Republic of the Congo | 6. Rwanda |
| 2. Australia | 7. Russia |
| 3. Nigeria | 8. Thailand |
| 4. Myanmar | 9. Venezuela |
| 5. Republic of the Congo | 10. Laos |

Where are coltan, tungsten, and tin reportedly produced with human trafficking, including forced labor, and/or child labor?

Coltan, tungsten, and tin, also known as the “Three Ts,” are considered “conflict minerals” (in addition to gold) because they are commonly mined or used to influence and finance armed conflict, human rights abuses, and violence. Tungsten is derived from wolframite ore, tin from cassiterite ore, and coltan ore is refined to produce tantalum. To read about the forced labor and child labor risks associated with the extraction and production of gold, see the [Gold](#) commodity report.

According to the U.S. Department of State’s *2025 Trafficking in Persons Report*, coltan, tungsten, and tin are all produced with forced labor and child labor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).³ The U.S. Department of Labor’s *2024 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* also reports child labor and forced labor in coltan, tungsten, and tin production in the DRC.⁴

³ [U.S. Department of State. 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report. 2025.](#)

⁴ [U.S. Department of Labor. List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor. 2024.](#)

The U.S. Department of State's *2025 Trafficking in Persons Report* lists the DRC in the Tier 2 Watch List.⁵

What does human trafficking and/or child labor in coltan, tungsten, and tin production look like?

This section includes countries with publicly available research and reporting on forced labor and child labor, in addition to the countries listed in the above-mentioned government reports.

Several minerals from the **DRC**—most notably gold, cassiterite (for tin), wolframite (for tungsten), and coltan (for tantalite)—are closely tied to armed conflicts, notably in the eastern provinces where more than 120 armed groups actively operate as of November 2025.⁶ In early 2025, for example, the Rwanda-backed rebel group known as M23 captured Goma, the capital city of North Kivu, along with “many lucrative coltan, tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold mines in the eastern DRC, including the largest coltan mine on Earth.”⁷

According to the U.S. Department of State, “forced labor and the worst forms of child labor remain prevalent in provinces with mining activity such as Haut Katanga, Haut Uele, Ituri, Kasai, Lualaba, North Kivu, South Kivu. Artisanal mining remained predominantly informal, illicit, and strongly linked to both armed groups and the FARDC [Congolese National Army].”⁸ Traffickers may include mining bosses, other miners, government officials, and armed groups who force adults and children to work in artisanal mines, including through debt bondage. Some children are reportedly exploited in the illegal mining of coltan, tungsten, and tin, or are recruited by armed groups.⁹ In some cases, groups in power surrounding mining sites have forced local miners to work at gunpoint without pay.¹⁰ In addition to

⁵ [For the 2025 Trafficking in Person Report's tier ranking methodology, see "A Guide to the Tiers."](#)

⁶ Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#). 16 March 2026.

⁷ Mukpo, Ashoka. ["How illicit mining fuels violence in eastern DRC: Interview with Jean-Pierre Okenda."](#) Mongabay. 6 February 2025.

⁸ [U.S. Department of State. 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report. 2025.](#)

⁹ [U.S. Department of State. 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report. 2025.](#)
[Ojewale, Oluwole. "Mining and Illicit Trading of Coltan in the Democratic Republic of Congo." ENACT. 2022.](#)

¹⁰ The Counter Human Trafficking Trust East Africa. ["The status of human trafficking in The Democratic Republic of Congo."](#) 6 March 2023.

threats of violence, workers at artisanal mines are often unable to afford basic needs, or access medical care and education.¹¹

Children working in DRC coltan mines are as young as 7 years old and work 12-hour shifts, digging alongside adults in deep mud while exposed to toxic metals.¹² Young boys were also identified carrying ore from mine shafts to basins, while young girls worked alongside adults to wash and dry the coltan ore.¹³ Child miners reportedly face harassment, abuse, and daily exposure to radon, a radioactive substance associated with coltan that has been linked to lung cancer.¹⁴

In the first few months of 2026, hundreds of deaths caused by landslides were reported in the Rubaya mines in North Kivu province, eastern DRC, “a town that sits on stores of coltan, tungsten, and tin.”¹⁵ Due to heavy rains in January 2026, landslides collapsed several of the Rubaya coltan mines, killing at least 227 workers.¹⁶ A series of landslides also occurred in March 2026 at the Kasasa mining site in Rubaya, killing over 200 people, including 70 children. At least five deadly landslides were reported in this area over the last two years, where 15 to 30 percent of the world’s coltan/tantalum is produced.¹⁷

In **Indonesia**, tin is commonly extracted in illegal and/or artisanal operations under dangerous conditions, collected by intermediaries, and then bought by traders who sell it into supply chains leading to international markets.¹⁸ Indonesia is the world’s second largest producer of tin, behind China, with 90 to 95 percent mined on and around the Bangka and Belitung islands.¹⁹

¹¹ Musamba, Josaphat and Christoph Vogel. [“The Problem with ‘Conflict Minerals.’”](#) Dissent Magazine. 21 October 2021.

¹² [“Who Is Mining Coltan — and What Does It Have to Do With You?”](#) Ubuntu Village USA. 13 Feb 2026.

¹³ Paravicini, Giulia, and David Lewis. [“Inside the mine that feeds the tech world - and funds Congo’s rebels.”](#) Reuters. 13 August 2025.

¹⁴ Ojewale, Oluwale. [“Child miners: the dark side of the DRC’s coltan wealth.”](#) Institute for Security Studies. 18 October 2021.

¹⁵ [“‘It helps us survive’: Poverty forces children into mine work in DR Congo.”](#) Al Jazeera, 20 March 2026.

¹⁶ Shaoul, Jean. [“Landslides kill 227 at Democratic Republic of Congo coltan mines at the centre of Washington’s struggle to control vital mineral resources.”](#) WSWWS.org. 9 Feb 2026.

¹⁷ [“‘It helps us survive’: Poverty forces children into mine work in DR Congo.”](#) Al Jazeera, 20 March 2026.

¹⁸ Walker, Tom, and Sabrina Walker. [“The Tin Racket: Illegal mining ransacked these Indonesian islands. Tech titans turned a blind eye.”](#) The Gecko Project. 13 May 2025.

¹⁹ Dharmawan, et al. [“Tin Mining and Post-Tin Mining Reclamation Initiatives in Indonesia: With Special Reference to Bangka Belitung Areas.”](#) *Recent Progress in Land Degradation Processes, Control and Restoration*, MDPI, 25 Sept 2025.

Offshore, illegal tin mining operations include vessels equipped with pumps powerful enough to suction up tin-rich sand; pumping water into sand extracted from shallow coastal areas to loosen sediment; or miners who dive, breathing through long hoses and diving as deep as 20 meters underwater to sift for tin on the seabed²⁰ which, if not filtered properly, can lead to nitrogen poisoning.²¹ Reporting described one diver team comprised of boys as young as 14 years old diving using makeshift equipment. At least 38 deaths were reported from illegal tin extraction activities between 2021 and 2024.²²

Miners also dig illegal pits on the islands using heavy machinery²³ on land prone to landslides. According to 2025 reporting, miners desperate to earn a living worked in “hazardous pits with inadequate safety regulations, resulting in landslides and deaths.”²⁴ The Indonesian government began acting against rampant illegal tin mining on the islands in 2024 and 2025, confiscating five smelters. Private smelters would commonly source ore from middlemen, who buy from smaller, unlicensed mining operations with little to no safety precautions in place.²⁵

Tin is reportedly mined with child labor in **Bolivia**. Adults and children who illegally scavenge for ore from a mine, or “jucus,” are known to engage in pushing carts, drilling, extracting, and cleaning ore. In 2025, jucus were apprehended at two mines (one in Huanuni and one in Potosí) for illegally extracting tin and other minerals, including by using six children.²⁶ In Potosí, where the children were found to be mining, authorities seized dynamite, detonators, blasting caps, drills, sledgehammers, and other

²⁰ Walker, Tom, and Sabrina Walker. [“The Tin Racket: Illegal mining ransacked these Indonesian islands. Tech titans turned a blind eye.”](#) The Gecko Project. 13 May 2025.

²¹ Nemec, Olivia, and Ryan Flynn. [“Tin mining is big business in Indonesia. Here’s why miners risk their lives for \\$13 a day.”](#) Business Insider. 20 March 2023.

²² Walker, Tom, and Sabrina Walker. [“The Tin Racket: Illegal mining ransacked these Indonesian islands. Tech titans turned a blind eye.”](#) The Gecko Project. 13 May 2025.

²³ [Shabrina, Nike. “Indonesia’s Tin Mining Crackdown Brings Order, Consolidates Power.” *The Diplomat*, 8 Jan 2026.](#)

²⁴ Walker, Tom, and Sabrina Walker. [“The Tin Racket: Illegal mining ransacked these Indonesian islands. Tech titans turned a blind eye.”](#) The Gecko Project. 13 May 2025.

²⁵ [Decena, Karlitos Brian. “Indonesia makes headway against illegal tin mining, promising market relief.” *S&P Global*, 1 June 2025.](#)

²⁶ [“Huanuni: Aprehenden a 7 ‘jucus’ y evitan el robo de 741 kilos de mineral.” *La Patria*, 2 May 2025.](#)

[“Potosí: Aprehenden a 37 personas, entre ellos 6 menores por robo de mineral.” *La Patria*, 29 April 2025.](#)

equipment.²⁷ Drilling and dynamite explosions produce silica dust, which is known to cause silicosis, a lung disease that can be fatal in severe cases.²⁸

Coltan, Tungsten, and Tin Production and Supply Chain

The mining, processing, and selling of coltan, tungsten, and tin involve numerous steps and intermediaries as the materials move from raw goods to a refined and processed commodity.

The **coltan/tantalum** supply chain begins with the mining of raw ore at both artisanal and large-scale mines. Commonly, in the case of tin, the metal is either recovered from smelters or from recycled scrap metals. The smelting stage involves extracting the metal from the ore, primarily by using heat. The refining stage uses a variety of processes to further remove impurities. At this point, tantalum is then made into products that will later be used for manufacturing, including tantalum metals, powders, and oxides.²⁹ Intermediaries are commonly involved in coltan, tungsten, and tin supply chains in numerous countries. In Indonesia, for example, middlemen buy the tin that informal miners collect through diving or digging, mix it with tin bought from licensed mines and sell it to smelters.³⁰

Tungsten is typically mined underground, where the ore is found in narrow veins. However, open pit mining is used in Australia and Canada.³¹ Tungsten mines tend to be small. After the tungsten ore is mined, it is crushed and milled to release tungsten mineral crystals, which are then concentrated. Due to its extremely high melting point, tungsten mill products (sheet, rod, wire, pins) are fabricated from powder instead of through melting and casting. The tungsten powder is pressed into parts, sintered

²⁷ [“Potosí: Aprehenden a 37 personas, entre ellos 6 menores por robo de mineral.” La Patria, 29 April 2025.](#)

²⁸ Howlett, Patrick et al. [“Confronting the growing epidemic of silicosis and tuberculosis among small-scale miners.” The Lancet Public Health](#), April 2025.

²⁹ Tantalum-Niobium International Study Center. [Processing: Extraction and Refining](#). 12 March 2025.

³⁰ Walker, Tom, and Sabrina Walker. [“The Tin Racket: Illegal mining ransacked these Indonesian islands. Tech titans turned a blind eye.” The Gecko Project](#). 13 May 2025.

³¹ Britannica. [“Tungsten Processing”](#). 19 March 2025

(consolidated) and worked (rolled, forged, swaged, or wire drawn) to the desired form.³² China and Russia are responsible for 90 percent of global tungsten production.³³

To extract **tin**, the alluvial method requires excavating sediment from riverbeds or floodplains where cassiterite has been naturally concentrated by water, washing it to remove lighter materials, and then isolating the tin ore via gravity separation. Another method, hard rock tin mining, extracts the ore embedded in solid rock by drilling and blasting, followed by crushing and grinding the extracted ore to release the tin. After extraction, tin is ground into a fine powder and further concentrated using gravity separation techniques to increase its purity and value.³⁴ There are two main types of tin refining: fire refining (either through boiling or liquidation) and electrolytic refining. Fire refining is more common and produces a commercial grade tin, whereas electrolytic refining produces a higher-grade tin. In fire refining, minerals are heated in vessels or kettles and then treated to remove impurities.³⁵

In the DRC, after minerals are mined, they are bought by individual traders known as “negociants” who have relationships with the parties controlling the mines. The negociants sell the minerals to trading houses, where they are sorted. The minerals are then purchased by exporters called “comptoirs,” who are licensed and registered with the Congolese government. Some comptoirs sometimes also buy minerals directly from the mines. European and Asian companies use the comptoir’s “legal” status as a justification to buy minerals from the DRC. The comptoir is not required to provide any documentation, so information on the minerals’ origin can be obscured at this step.³⁶ Finally, to be used or sold on the global market, the minerals must be refined. In mineral supply chains, in general, “aggregation points such as smelters and refineries pose significant challenges to traceability, as materials from multiple origins are combined and undergo significant transformations, making tracing difficult.”³⁷

³² Britannica. [“Tungsten Processing”](#). 19 March 2025

³³ Giordano, Geoff. [“Ensuring the Global Supply of Tungsten Critical to EV Batteries.”](#) Battery Technology. 29 January 2024.

³⁴ [How is Tin mined? - Mining Doc](#). 23 Sept 2025.

³⁵ Barry, B.T.K. [“Mining and Concentrating in Tin Processing”](#) *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 25 April 2017.

³⁶ Wakenge, Claude Iguma, et al. [“From ‘conflict minerals’ to peace? Reviewing mining reforms, gender, and state performance in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.”](#) *The Extractive Industries and Society* 8, no. 2 (2021).

³⁷ Castillo, Emilio, et al. [A conceptual framework for mineral supply chain traceability: Enabling conditions and core dimensions - ScienceDirect](#). June 2026.

Challenges in the global supply chain of coltan/tantalum, tungsten, and tin also include the dispersed and informal nature of mining and the illegal transfer of minerals from the DRC to Uganda, Rwanda, and other neighboring countries.³⁸

How consumers are linked to human trafficking and/or child labor in coltan, tungsten, and tin production:

Top ten countries that import coltan, tungsten, and tin worldwide:³⁹

Niobium, tantalum, vanadium, or zirconium ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. China | 6. United States |
| 2. Spain | 7. Italy |
| 3. India | 8. Netherlands |
| 4. Malaysia | 9. Japan |
| 5. Thailand | 10. Brazil |

Tungsten ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. China | 6. Kenya |
| 2. United States | 7. Netherlands |
| 3. Vietnam | 8. Taiwan |
| 4. United Arab Emirates | 9. Portugal |
| 5. Malaysia | 10. Japan |

³⁸ Marks, Simon, and Michael Kavanagh. [“Mineral Smuggling From Congo to Rwanda at ‘Unprecedented Levels’, UN Says.”](#) Bloomberg. 2 July 2025.

³⁹ [International Trade Center. Trade Map.](#) (ITC Calculations based on UNCOMTRADE Statistics). **Note:** The country list is ordered by value imported.

Tin ores and concentrates:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. China | 6. Cambodia |
| 2. Malaysia | 7. Brazil |
| 3. Thailand | 8. China |
| 4. United Arab Emirates | 9. Saudi Arabia |
| 5. Poland | 10. Singapore |

Coltan, tungsten, and tin are commonly used in electronics such as cell phones and computers. These conflict minerals can also be found in products ranging from jewelry to appliances to jet engines.⁴⁰

Tantalum, from which coltan ore is extracted, has applications in the healthcare sector including replacement for bone, connector for torn nerves, and binding agent for muscles given the lack of immune response it elicits in humans. It is also frequently used in the manufacturing of surgical appliances.⁴¹

Coltan/tantalum is widely used in the capacitors of common electronics like cell phones and laptops given its high conductivity, density, and exceptional thermal properties. It is also in high demand in industries that require a high level of assurance in the capacity of their power systems, such as in automobile, satellite, aerospace, and military equipment.⁴² With the rise of electric vehicles also comes high demand for coltan. Coltan is an essential component in electric vehicle batteries given its ability to control electrical current flow.⁴³

Tungsten is used to make cemented carbides (hard metals), or wear-resistant materials utilized in metalworking, mining, and construction.⁴⁴ Tungsten alloys are used frequently in aerospace engine parts due to their ability to withstand extreme conditions. Tungsten is also highly effective at absorbing and shielding against radiation.⁴⁵ Tungsten metal wires are used in lighting, electronics, electrical, heating,

⁴⁰ European Commission. [Conflict Minerals Regulation: The Regulation Explained.](#)

⁴¹ Pistilli, Melissa. ["What is Coltan? 5 Facts to Know About the Conflict Mineral."](#) Investing News Network. 22 August 2024.

⁴² Pistilli, Melissa. ["What is Coltan? 5 Facts to Know About the Conflict Mineral."](#) Investing News Network. 22 August 2024.

⁴³ MCPC. ["Coltan, Gorillas, and E-Recycling: Why They're All Tied Together."](#) 17 April 2023.

⁴⁴ Giordano, Geoff. ["Ensuring the Global Supply of Tungsten Critical to EV Batteries."](#) Battery Technology. 29 January 2024.

⁴⁵ AEM Metal. [Top 20 Applications of Tungsten Metal: An In-Depth Guide.](#) 20 June 2024.

and welding applications due to the metal's high conductivity. Tungsten filaments are used in halogen bulbs for their heat resistance and long lifespan.⁴⁶ Similar to coltan, tungsten is also an essential component found in electric vehicle batteries. According to a 2024 article, "about 2 kg of tungsten goes into every EV in the form of anodes and cathodes, as well as wiring looms in semiconductors."⁴⁷

Often found alongside coltan, tin from cassiterite has a wide variety of uses from the production of tin cans to tin solder and circuit boards.⁴⁸ In the manufacturing of automobiles, tin is primarily found in solder. Solder is a metal alloy that is used to "form mechanical joints between metal components" in a process known as soldering.⁴⁹

Examples of what governments, corporations, and others are doing:

United States

In July 2010, the U.S. Congress passed Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Section 1502), which "requires persons to disclose whether any conflict minerals necessary to the functionality or production of a product originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo [DRC] or an adjoining country." If the minerals do originate from this area, then persons must complete a Conflict Minerals Report to describe any due-diligence measures taken.⁵⁰ However, multiple companies have committed to sourcing minerals ethically from the DRC by working with NGOs to create tracking systems with enhanced traceability.⁵¹

⁴⁶ AEM Metal. [Top 20 Applications of Tungsten Metal: An In-Depth Guide](#). 20 June 2024.

⁴⁷ Giordano, Geoff. ["Ensuring the Global Supply of Tungsten Critical to EV Batteries."](#) Battery Technology. 29 January 2024.

⁴⁸ Geoscience Australia. [Tin](#). 14 May 2025.

⁴⁹ Combs, Ed. [What is Soldering?](#) Peerless Electronics Inc. 29 March 2024.

⁵⁰ The International Energy Agency. [Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act](#). 30 January 2025.

⁵¹ Impact: Transforming natural resource management and empowering communities. ["Beyond the Label: Rethinking Traceability in Critical Minerals."](#) 29 April 2025.

According to a 2024 investigation conducted by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the SEC's conflict minerals 2012 disclosure rule, implemented pursuant to Section 1502, had not been found to reduce violence in the DRC "and has likely had no effect in adjoining countries."⁵²

Rwanda & the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Beginning in 2011 and 2012, Rwanda and the DRC, respectively, required that companies working in minerals disclose their operations and complete due diligence requirements in assessing their supply chains. As of February 2012, the DRC government has prohibited sourcing from mining sites across North Kivu and South Kivu and required "rigorous due diligence" by private sector actors on their supply chains where evidence shows conflict minerals are being smuggled into the legal market by armed groups. This includes compliance with international due diligence standards set by the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Minerals Supply Chains from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas, and regional regulations and standards for responsible sourcing of conflict minerals.⁵³

European Union

Across the European Union, the Conflict Minerals Regulation came into effect in 2021, imposing due diligence reporting requirements for companies that import raw conflict minerals, as well as for non-financial matters in the areas of the environment, social responsibility, and human rights.⁵⁴ The due diligence reporting obligations expand to any company in the EU that may come into contact with conflict minerals or minerals mined with child labor by importing coltan, tungsten, tin, or gold from high-risk areas, or by offering products and services where there is reasonable suspicion that child labor is involved.⁵⁵ The EU maintains a list of conflict or high-risk areas around the world under the regulation.⁵⁶

⁵² U.S. Government Accountability Office. [Conflict Minerals: Peace and Security in Democratic Republic of the Congo Have Not Improved with SEC Disclosure Rule](#). 7 Oct 2024.

⁵³ [IMPACT. "Actors Must Suspend Sourcing Minerals Financing Armed Groups in Democratic Republic of Congo."](#) February 2025.

⁵⁴ Regulation (EU) 2017/821 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017. [Laying down supply chain due diligence obligations for Union importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas](#).

⁵⁵ Kühni, Beat, et al. ["Switzerland: New ESG Regulations Enter into Force as of January 1, 2022."](#) Mondaq. 3 Jan 2022.

⁵⁶ Sinclair, Brendan. ["Conflict Minerals and the Challenge of Not Funding Human Rights Abuses."](#) GamesIndustry.biz. 13 July 2021.

As of June 2026, there are 28 countries and 268 regions identified.⁵⁷ Despite the ambitions of this regulation, reporting has indicated shortcomings in its overall impact primarily due to “insufficient engagement with stakeholders in producing countries, a lack of transparency in supply chains, and inconsistent enforcement across Member States.”⁵⁸

China

Between 2014 and 2023, the **China** Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters (CCCMC) “developed a set of corporate social responsibility guidelines which aim to steer Chinese outward mining investment toward a socially responsible model.” These standards were published to prevent conflict and corruption within mineral mining in addition to protecting both labor rights and the environment. The CCCMC offers trainings and outreach to companies wishing to be more sustainable in their mineral consumption.⁵⁹

Conflict Free Smelter Program

The Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition (now the Responsible Business Association) and the Global e-Sustainability Initiative introduced the Conflict Free Smelter Program in 2010, which “aims to identify smelters that can demonstrate through an independent third-party assessment that the raw materials they procured did not originate from sources that contribute to conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.”⁶⁰ As of 2025, more than 380 companies across 10 industries participate in the initiative.⁶¹

⁵⁷ [Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas. European Union. 2026.](#)

⁵⁸ Walschot, Maureen and Guillaume de Brier. “[EU acknowledges shortcomings of Conflict Minerals Regulation: What Next?](#)” IPIS. 4 December 2024.

⁵⁹ Chen, Si. “[Shaping corporate social responsibility standards in the global economy: Chinese industry guidelines for responsible mineral supply chains.](#)” *China Information* 38, no. 2 (2023).

⁶⁰ “[Conflict free smelter program.](#)” *International Tin Association*. 10 Dec 2010.

⁶¹ Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC). [About the Responsible Minerals Initiative.](#)

How can I learn more?

[**Watch** the BBC documentary “Blood in the Earth: Life and Death in Congo's Coltan Mines.”](#)

[**Read** about illegal tin mining in Indonesia.](#)