THE COPPER MARK | RESPONSIBLY PRODUCED COPPER

Newsflash

MARCH 2026

Appointed

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed Daniel Ortega-Pacheco as Director and Chair Designate.

He will serve initially as a non-executive Director before taking the role of Chair of the Copper Mark's evolved Board of Directors once it is established later this year.

Daniel is an experienced leader who has worked in a variety of complex international and multi-stakeholder governance settings, with work spanning climate, agriculture, natural resources, finance, and sustainability. He serves as Expert Panel Co-Chair with the Integrity Council for Voluntary Carbon Markets and leads the Executive Secretariat of the Partnership for Agricultural Carbon. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Management from The Ohio State University.

"Minerals and metals are at the centre of many of the most important economic, social, and environmental issues facing the world today.

I am honoured to support the Copper Mark at an important moment in its evolution. As Chair my role will be to build trust and maintain strong and independent governance of the organisation while fostering transparent, balanced, and consensus-based decision making amongst the diverse perspectives represented on the Board."

Daniel Ortega-Pacheco, Director and Chair Designate, the Copper Mark

Read the full announcement.

CMSI Final Consultation Report

Together with our partners in the Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative (CMSI), we have published the Final Consultation Report. It summarises the CMSI final public consultation process and identifies key themes from the extensive feedback received. For full transparency, we have also made all verbatim submissions with respondents' consent publicly. The report and submissions are available on the CMSI website.

Highlights

We received feedback from 120 stakeholders and rights-holders from around the globe

Over 3,400 comments were received, in 3 languages, from 29 countries

The Consolidated Standard received the most responses with 87% of the total

Since the close of the final public consultation in late 2025, all contributions have been under consideration as we advance the Consolidated Standard, Assurance Process, and Claims Policy towards finalisation. The CMSI partners are working to ensure the initiative reflects the variety of perspectives, and the updated documents will be reviewed by the CMSI Stakeholder Advisory Group, as well as the Industry Advisory Group, for further consideration and adaptation.

Once established, the Copper Mark's evolved Board of Directors will be solely responsible for approving the final Consolidated Standard, Assurance Process and Claims Policy.

Sector Decarbonisation Approach

Copper is a key metal for the global energy transition, essential for renewable energy technologies, electric vehicles, and electricity transmission infrastructure. With demand expected to rise significantly, the copper sector faces the dual challenge of increasing production while reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to align with the 1.5° C climate target.

To address this, the Copper Mark and RMI, in collaboration with industry and non-industry stakeholders, have developed the Sectoral Decarbonisation Approach (SDA) to GHG target setting for copper companies.

The SDA is built on the best available data, yet several important limitations and assumptions shape its form. It is important for users to be aware of these when considering its application. The SDA is an optional guidance to help companies across the copper value chain develop science-based, 1.5°C-aligned emissions reduction targets, providing a sector specific pathway where none previously existed. Copper Mark Participants may choose to use the SDA to demonstrate conformance with Risk Readiness Assessment (RRA) version 3.0, specifically Criterion 27 on greenhouse gas reduction, but are not required to do so.

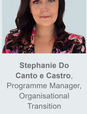
We have now published the SDA: A 1.5° C-Aligned Trajectory and Target-Setting Methodology for the Copper Sector, along with a target-setting tool for companies using the SDA, and three archetype versions of the tool.

Visit our website to access these resources and all related information.

Welcome

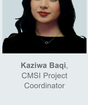
This month we welcomed four people to the Copper Mark's team:

Megan Leahy-Wright, Standards Lead



Stephanie Do Canto e Castro, Programme Manager, Organisational Transition

Cristina M. Villegas, Programme Manager, Value Chain Platform



Kaziwa Baqi, CMSI Project Coordinator

Learn more about our team here.

Upcoming Events

DCD Connect | New York, United States of America | 23-24 March 2026.

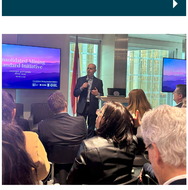
The Copper Mark's Mike Smith, Director of Value Chain, and Cristina M. Villegas, Programme Manager, Value Chain Platform, will attend the event to connect with data centre companies interested in responsible and resilient copper supply chains.

WindEurope Annual Conference | Madrid, Spain | 21-23 April 2026.

The Copper Mark's Mike Smith, Director of Value Chain, and Bethany Hughes-Brown, Project Coordinator, will be at the event to engage with actors working to develop responsible supply chains for wind energy in Europe.

The Copper Mark Represented

Mike Smith, the Copper Mark's Director of Value Chain, attended Giga Europe 2026 in Brussels, Belgium where he moderated a panel discussion on how to build responsible and resilient copper value chains for the EV market and infrastructure.



Greg Radford, the Copper Mark's Director of Mining, attended the PDAC 2026 convention in Toronto, Canada. During the conference, Greg moderated a panel during a side event discussing the latest developments in the CMSI.

How the Copper Mark is Growing

New Partner

Welcome to Elcowire, our newest Partner, joining a group of 63 midstream and downstream companies that use copper, molybdenum, nickel or zinc in their business and have made a public commitment to the Copper Mark's vision and mission.

New Recipients

- Freeport-McMoRan's Henderson mine has been awarded The Molybdenum Mark (re-assessment)
- Freeport-McMoRan's Climax mine has been awarded The Molybdenum Mark (re-assessment)
- Sherritt International Corporation's COREFCO refinery has earned The Nickel Mark

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