

PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE EXPLORATION:¹

1. Adopt responsible governance and management

Objective: To base the operation of exploration on sound management systems,² professional excellence, the application of good practices, constructive interaction with stakeholders, and the principles of sustainable development.³

2. Apply ethical business practices

Objective: To have management procedures in place that promote honesty, integrity, transparency and accountability.

3. Respect human rights

Objective: To promote the principles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights by incorporating them into policies and operational procedures for exploration.

4. Commit to project due diligence and risk assessment

Objective: To conduct an evaluation of risks, opportunities and challenges to exploration, and prepare strategies and operational plans to address them before going into the field.

5. Engage host communities and other affected and interested parties

Objective: To interact with communities, indigenous peoples, organizations, groups and individuals on the basis of respect, inclusion and meaningful participation.

6. Contribute to community development and social wellbeing

Objective: To have measures in place which support the social and economic advancement and capacity building of communities whose lives are affected by exploration, while respecting the communities' own vision of development.

7. Protect the environment

Objective: To conduct exploration activities in ways that create minimal disturbance to the environment and people.

8. Safeguard the health and safety of workers and the local population

Objective: To be proactive in implementing good practices for health and safety performance in all exploration activities and seek continual improvement.

¹ The Principles have equal weight and importance and are numbered only to facilitate communication.

² See also the 'OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises' at, www.oecd.org/dat/investment/guidelines

³ The 'term sustainable development' is defined here as those actions and activities that minimize harm to the environment and improve the wellbeing of the community or the ability of the community to manage and sustain its own affairs, now and into the future, without depending on external sources for ongoing maintenance.