



RawMaterials Hub
Regional Center Greece

Lab. of Metallurgy
National Technical University of Athens



RCG. A RCG for the Greek RM Community: Vision, Mission, Stakeholders Involvement

A. Politis, Project Manager
Mining and Metallurgical Engineer, MBA



EIT Raw Materials: 2nd Greek Raw Materials Sector Dialogue

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RCG – The story

- In 2016 the prospect of creating a Greek Raw Materials Support Center (GRAMASC) was announced during the “1st EIT RM Greek RM Community Dialogue”
- In 2017 NTUA submitted a proposal to EIT RM call for RIS/RCGs
- Approved for funding for the next 3 years (pilot phase of RCG)
- Regional Center Greece (RCG) will be officially established on 01/01/2018 and will be functional



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RCG – Objectives

- Establish a regional center for EIT RawMaterials in Greece as a first attempt of EIT RM to establish a regional center. RCG will be a local entity to function as an ‘interaction point’ between EIT RM and Greek Raw Materials Community (GRMC).
- The overall scope is to engage and stimulate the Greek Raw Materials Community in a single point and act as a “one-stop shop” through actions in multiple directions (innovation, policy, industry, authorities, society) in line with EIT RM Agenda, Greek National Mineral Policy and SIP of EIP.
- Connect the Greek Raw Materials Community to EIT RM actions. RCG top priority is to create the right climate for innovation transferability from EIT RM Community to Greek RM Community and vice versa by addressing concrete solutions for the Greek RM KT challenges.

Vision: Strengthen the RM sector of Greece



- RCG will develop an **official establishment and branch** with secretariat, site, communication channels and premises for bilateral meetings. Easy reach out and open to the Greek RM Community
- **Network and Community Building.** Objective of the activity is to engage, inform the local ecosystem and create direct channels of communication with the Greek Raw Materials Community. This action, among others in RCG, will facilitate the critical mass building around the RCG.
- **Dissemination and Communication Strategy.** Develop channels of communication with the Greek RM Community. A regular 3 months Newsletter will be communicated to inform you on all EIT, EIT RM, EC and relevant to RM sector activities.
- **Develop a RCG Business Plan.** Based on the needs and challenges derived from our discussions today, the Business Plan will be formulated accordingly.

- The RCG in a holistic approach is aiming to register at first and then meet the needs and challenges of the Greek Raw Materials Community with the constant support of the EIT RM and EIT.
- Indicative Portfolio of Services of RCG connected to the list of needs and challenges of the Greek Raw Materials Sector
- This list is not exhaustive and the Portfolio of RCG services will be updated constantly and it will be determined by the needs of the KT and authorities.
- Services are connected to specific parts of the KT and to end users (e.g. academia, students, industry, society, policy etc.)

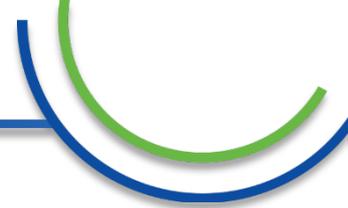


Needs - Challenges	RCG actions-Impact
Build trust among Academia and Greek Raw Material Sector Companies	RCG will act as a formal tool to engage Industry participation and involvement. RCG activities, networking capacity and services provision will in due time prove its concrete role that companies can trust on.
Dissemination and communication activities over the EIT RawMaterials actions and European raw material community actions.	RCG will develop an information service and will provide a periodical and up to date communication about the EIT RawMaterials activities, such as research priorities-projects and results, yearly business plan, call for proposals dates, upcoming events etc. The same will be applied for the important projects, calls and strategies performed in Europe for the raw materials sector.
Ensure the benefit to grant the presence to event(s) of interest.	EIT RawMaterials organizes a series of important events throughout the year for the partners of the community. RCG will disseminate the events in first stage and in second stage will ensure the registration and participation of the interested Greek stakeholders to the respective event, even if they are not EIT RM members
Greek delegation body to exert political positions of the Greek raw materials community in the EIT RawMaterials.	RCG will promote the Greek agenda to the EIT RawMaterials Head Quarters and will seek to exert political pressure for inclusion to the Business Plans. The agenda will be formulated with the issues raised by the Greek Raw Materials Community.
Plenary, thematic and matchmaking events organization for the Greek Raw Materials Community.	RCG through the EIT RawMaterials will organize events to bring together the Greek and the European community for networking and matchmaking over common issues. Moreover, thematic events can be formulated from RCG following a Greek stakeholder demand to resolve specific issues (e.g. WEEE as urban mines, waste valorization and recycling practices, mining and automation, deep sea mining etc.).

Needs - Challenges	RCG actions-Impact
Access to EIT RawMaterials services and information centre.	EIT RawMaterials provides access to information and services to the members of the community. RCG will ensure the uninterrupted access to network services to the Greek Raw Materials community
Access to targeted training for students, high level educated personnel to the industry.	EIT RawMaterials is developing education projects (M.Sc., Ph.D.) created by the needs of the industry and create engineers for the industry. RCG will inform Greek students on the educational projects and ensure constant update of the respective Greek industries in order to claim high level targeted personnel.
Specialised Facilitator services to meet the individual needs of the respective Greek Raw Materials Community stakeholder	RCG will act as a facilitator for addressing and resolving each issue raised with an individual approach. RCG will assist in seeking support in problem definition, roadmap actions, search within the network for existing solutions, find partners with a common issue, proposal organization in funding schemes either inside or outside the EIT RawMaterials, feasibility study, investment in time and budget etc.
Convince the Industry to open their doors of their market understanding to Academia. Access to BUs closer to the market and not only the “Funded Projects Depts.” and/or R&D.	RCG will help bring together Greek Universities and Research centres, with high experience in RM research projects, with key Greek RM companies in an effort to built trust and mutual respect, aiming mainly in the development of innovation projects. Also, RCG will work closely with people coming for the Industry, who understand the “red lines” in commercial information disclosure. RCG will fully leverage on those competencies, achieving a valuable cooperation in market applications, enhancing innovation potential.

Needs - Challenges	RCG actions-Impact
Discuss and coordinate curriculum of under- and post graduate studies in order to take into consideration current and future market needs (for this Academia must coordinate with Innovators and Companies)	RCG will provide the “neutral ground” for free and productive brainstorming and problem solving discussions and incubation, bridging the gap between “business talk” and “academic thinking”. Concise, mutually agreed, procedures and targets will be established and followed, increasing the participation and contribution appetite.
Greek Raw Materials Community need to see the benefits of being part of the EIT RM	Participation in EIT RawMaterials is an investment. Becoming part of EIT RawMaterials requires own contribution for every partner. However, this is considered to be an investment not only for the partners individually, but for the whole community of the EU Raw Materials Sector with a common Return of Investment through performed actions and outcomes of EIT RawMaterials.
Incentives to reduce the Brain Drain of the Greek Raw Materials human resources.	Greece has been and is producing high-level experts and engineers for the RM sector, which is evident in national and international success cases in high percentage. However, the phenomenon of Brain Drain mainly due to the economic crisis set boundaries to the exploitation of this high level raw materials human resources. This prohibiting factor has to be transformed into opportunity land by offering incentives to keep them in Greek borders and contribute over the boost of the Greek raw materials sector. The EIT RM makes this possible, with the emergence of alternative pathways and mainly by blowing the business mind-set to the new engineers. In this way, the incentives and know-how for the Greek experts and engineers to become entrepreneurs will contribute to the strategic development of start-ups and SMEs that will answer to individual issues of Greek Raw Materials Sector. This will be the cornerstone for the recovery of the sector and the economy overall.

Needs - Challenges	RCG actions-Impact
Communicate directly with, enhance and support the career offices of Academic institutions with Mining, Metallurgy and Geology Universities	RCG will provide the necessary “gun powder” for successful placement policies, through the deep understanding of job opportunities and trends in the coming years.
IP protection is not always very clear, especially to the SMEs	RCG can assist the Greek RM companies and Universities/Research centres in seeking advice and guidance to secure their IP rights.
Top down information propagation and diffusion: RM companies and Academia need better access not only to the European Initiatives and Funded programs, but also participation in their formation	RM Companies do not have the time or the know-how to follow closely the European Initiatives etc. RCG will be following closely the ongoing actions in Brussels and preparing regular briefs for the Greek RM companies and Academia, focusing on the important pieces of information. This will secure the full exploitation of any incentives, directives and guidelines by the Greek RM sector.
Bottom up information propagation and diffusion: Institutions need to understand directly the needs and challenges of the RM companies in order to formulate the policies and financial tools	RCG will be in close contact with companies and will be collecting and processing their needs and ideas. The aspiration is that the RCG will be the most reliable information source on the situation of RM Sector in Greece, able to provide reliable data to any Institution wants to study and help the sector.
Understand the innovation and other priorities of Greek Government and facilitate their dissemination with European Union and other Governments (e.g. National Mining Policy) leading to their efficient alignment	RCG will be in a close contact with Greek central Government and Regions, facilitating the communication with other Institutions and assisting in the efficient planning and implementation of legislative tools



Needs - Challenges	RCG actions-Impact
Understanding Regional Development Policies (13 Regions of Greece) and contribute to the strengthening of RM Industry position in those – Smart Specialization Strategies	RCG will be working closely with the Regional Authorities, understanding the mineral wealth potential of the Regions and assisting in maximizing the sustainable exploitation of the local natural resources.
RCG will promote Industrial Minerals and Decorative Stones importance for Europe, leveraging the leading position of Greece in both segments	RCG will collect all necessary information to support the importance of Industrial Minerals and Decorative Stones for the European Economy, targeting the elevation of priorities



- What is your feedback of the RCG as a tool for the Greek RM Sector?
- What are the services you would like to see in RCG?
- How would you define the proper framework of involvement of your institution?
- Ideas, thoughts, blind spots, wishes for the RCG.

Help us make RCG a strong tool

