Who We Are

The International Lead and Zinc Study Group (ILZSG) is an intergovernmental organisation formed by the United Nations in 1959 to:

• Promote Transparency in the Lead and Zinc Markets via the provision of up-to-date, accurate and continuous information on the supply and demand of lead and zinc and its probable development.

• Facilitate Co-operation between Governments and Industry via the organisation of twice yearly meetings and regular special conferences and seminars.

• Conduct in-depth Research into Other Issues of Interest or Concern to Members via the completion of special reports and studies.

ILZSG is one of the longest established International Commodity Organisations and was the model for the creation of other similar bodies such as the International Nickel Study Group (INSG) and International Copper Study Group (ICSG).

INSG Meetings 2021

Due to the COVID19 pandemic the INSG April 2021 Meetings in Lisbon have been cancelled. Web Meetings will be held on 23 and 26 April. Please contact the secretariat for further details.

The INSG meetings provide a unique opportunity for nickel industry people from all parts of the upstream and downstream nickel industries to meet together and to interact with government representatives from around the world. Agendas for meetings will include the following topics among others: world market forecast, development of future supply and prospects for world usage, new developments in legislation related to environmental issues.

For more information please visit our website www.insg.org or send an email to insg@insg.org
INSG’s Statistics, Directories, Reports, Insights

INSG Monthly Nickel Statistical Bulletin and Statistics Yearbook

The Bulletin comprises 12 monthly issues with the latest available data covering about 25 months plus annual data for the most recent two to eleven years. A Yearbook is published once a year usually in November and contains annual data for the latest 11-year period. Bulletin published monthly, the Yearbook annually.

World Directory of Nickel Production Facilities (updated annually)

This comprehensive directory lists nickel mines, smelters and refineries as well as new nickel industry developments (committed, likely and potential) together with recent closures in more than twenty countries.

Report on Nickel Production and Usage in Indonesia 2020

This 56-page report was commissioned by INSG in order to obtain improved information on the production and usage of nickel in Indonesia. It is part of on-going efforts by INSG to provide member governments and industry with a better understanding of the issues driving the nickel market

A) Provides an overview of nickel resources and reserves in Indonesia by producer
B) Describes current and future nickel producers and their facilities
C) Analyses the main trends regarding trade flows
D) Lists current and future stainless steels producers
E) Statistics and analysis cover the period from 2015 to 2022
F) Enhances understanding of the main mining laws and trade policies affecting the Indonesian nickel industry

Report on the Use of Nickel in Batteries 2018

The report covers the use of nickel in the various types of batteries. Nickel up to now is the most widely-used material after lead in off-grid energy storage batteries. The report contains following essential information:

A) Historical & status quo of nickel usage in batteries and the prospective outlook
B) Specific nickel chemicals applicable for batteries and their availability
C) Advantage and disadvantage when competing with other alternative materials in perspective of material availability, cost, technology maturity, irreclaimability, environment impact, etc.
D) Analysis of battery using industries, historical data, current situation and prospects by industries, by region, specifically by growth potential
E) Information on nickel usage breakdown and trend, with focus on types and quantities of nickel used in different types of batteries
F) Discussion of changes in technology and methods that may change demand
G) Information on major nickel-containing battery producers and information on existing production, proposed new production, expansion plans, etc.
H) The regulatory framework governing battery industry, including but not limited to EU regulations on Restriction of Hazardous Substances and End of Life Vehicles and U.S. EPA regulations
I) Analysis of recycling of nickel-containing batteries from the perspective of technology, economic value and market size
J) Analysis on potential fields for secondary uses of batteries. There are second life applications of batteries (in more stationary settings) once their actual use has come to an end, analysis on this new underdeveloped market would be ideal

World Nickel-based Alloys 2016

This report was commissioned by INSG to provide a comprehensive overview of the World Nickel-based Alloys market.

Nickel Production in South East Asia: Trends and Perspectives 2016

This report was commissioned by INSG to provide a comprehensive overview of primary nickel production in South East Asia. Nickel reserves and mine production, with company details, are provided for nickel production in Indonesia, Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

Please visit www.insg.org for more reports and publications with detailed brochure for each.
Joint Study Groups’ Reports

Joint Study on Current Responsible Sourcing Initiatives along Minerals and Metals Supply Chains 2019

The Joint Study is a stocktaking process of current legislation, regulation, initiative and corporate practices related to responsible sourcing of minerals and metals. Similarities and unique characteristics of each legislation, regulations, initiatives, standards and approaches can be found and used as reference. Due to the close correlations and overlaps between responsible sourcing, corporate social responsibility and code of conduct, the report also categorizes the responsible sourcing into responsible mining, responsible transportation, responsible trade, responsible processing and responsible allocation of economic benefits.

Solid Wastes in Base Metal Mining, Smelting and Refining - 2019

The report addresses volume and type of mining, smelting/refining waste, risks associated with the waste, case studies of failure and success in managing the waste and its impact on miners and the communities, characteristics & property of the waste and its potential economic value, prevailing technical process and innovation in treating waste, economic & cost analysis of treating waste and recovering value addition, regulation, law and administrative measures/legislation related with waste management and their impact on the industry.

Social Acceptance of Mining - 2016

This report has been prepared by the University of Queensland-based Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining on behalf the Metals Study Groups – the International Lead and Zinc Study Group, International Copper Study Group and International Nickel Study Group. The report is intended for all stakeholders with an interest in social acceptance and social responsibility in the mining and metals sector.

The By-Products of Lead, Zinc, Copper and Nickel - 2015

A joint report of the three Study Groups on the production, usage, trade and outlook for 17 by-products metals. Information on common sources of by-product metals, refinery processes, recycling, markets, contracts, historic process and pricing mechanisms, uses, government regulations, REACH status of compounds, government stockpiles and trade restrictions is provided.

Cobalt as a By-Product of Copper and Nickel

A joint report of the International Nickel Study Group and the International Copper Study Group which provides improved information on cobalt, and the relationship between nickel, copper and cobalt production, refining and use. This 85-page report furnishes data on production and usage through 2012 as well as an outlook for cobalt mine capacity and production for the period 2012 to 2018. Information on end-of-life recycling rates for cobalt-bearing products is also included.

INSG Insights

Recent INSG Insights which are available free of charge on our website include:

- An Overview of World Stainless Scrap Trade in 2019
- An Analysis of the Economic Fallout of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Subsequent Stimulus Packages
- Comment on the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global nickel market
- Briefing on the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Stainless Steel in Food Preparation
- Nickel in Latin America
- Conflict Minerals
- New IMO Regulations Impacting on Shipping Ores and Concentrates
- Nickel in Emerging Technologies

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* Member Countries: Australia, Brazil, Cuba, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom.