

Please see the following answers from your questions stated in red and also refer to the human right report 2022 published on our website.

[https://www.mizuhogroup.com/binaries/content/assets/pdf/mizuhoglobal/sustainability/human-rights/solution/human\\_rights\\_report.pdf](https://www.mizuhogroup.com/binaries/content/assets/pdf/mizuhoglobal/sustainability/human-rights/solution/human_rights_report.pdf)

**A. Exposure to transition minerals mining**

1. To your knowledge, are you currently, or have you been in recent years, directly or indirectly involved in financing (through loans, credit facility or underwriting bonds/share issuance, or else) any transition minerals mining project in South Africa, or elsewhere?

It is difficult to make comments on specific cases, so we are unable to answer for this question.

**B. Human Rights Policy and Due Diligence**

2. What policies and procedures do you have in place to undertake initial and ongoing human rights due diligence regarding the companies and projects that you finance in the mining sector?

We have been applying the Equator Principles for the financing of projects involving large-scale development, while working with clients to identify, assess and manage environmental and social risks and impacts. (Please refer to page 22 and 23 of the human rights report 2022)

- a. Do you have additional procedures applicable to transition minerals only?

There are no procedures only applicable to transition minerals only. The measures of prohibited and additional due diligence regardless of sector and the policy for forced labor, child labor and human trafficking have been clarified based on the environmental and social management policy for financing and investment activity in addition to the Equator Principles as mentioned above, and those would be applied for transition minerals. (Please refer to page 19 and 20 of the human rights report 2022)

- b. Which risks to human rights do you consider as most salient in the mining sector in your risk assessment process?

We have identified adverse impacts on communities and the environment, problems concerning staff and violations of the rights of indigenous people as human rights issues caused by financing and investment clients, not limited to the mining sector. Among human rights issues relevant to financing and investment activity, business activities in conflict area and forced labor, child labor and human trafficking are the highest severity human rights issues we have identified. (Please refer to page 14 of the human rights report 2022)

- c. Does your due diligence processes involve consultation with the affected communities by any of the mining projects?

Regarding projects with significant adverse impact on the environment and society, we request the client to make actions for environment and social risks based on the Equator Principles, and among them, it may be required for the client to conduct stakeholder engagement with project-affected communities, workers and other stakeholders if necessary. (Please refer to the following webpage)

<https://www.mizuhogroup.com/sustainability/business-activities/investment/equator/application>

- d. Do you have exclusion policies in place in relation to past track record of human rights abuses of potential new clients in the mining sector?

Based on the policy for financing and investment activity related to forced labor, child labor and human trafficking, we conduct human rights due diligence (initial screening) at the time of beginning business relationships with new clients, and we have the policy not to provide financing and investment if there is evidence of forced labor, child labor or human trafficking caused by the client. (Please refer to page 19 and 20 of our human rights report 2022)

- e. Who assesses human right risks associated with clients in the mining sector (departments, positions etc.)?

Please refer to page 20 of our human rights report regarding the role of each section.

- 3. Do you require new clients in the mining sector to have undertaken human rights due diligence before financing them? Have you ever refused financing or withdrawn financing of a mining operation as a result of failure to conduct human rights due diligence?

For a client with which we do not have credit transactions, we conduct human rights due diligence (initial screening) at the time of beginning business relationships with new clients, and we have the policy not to provide financing and investment if there is evidence of forced labor, child labor or human trafficking caused by the client. (Please refer to page 19 and 20 of our human rights report 2022)

We carefully consider the project and verify whether or not there are adverse impacts on human rights when conducting financing and investment for a project in a conflict area. (Please refer to page 21 of our human rights report 2022)

**C. Tracking effectiveness of Human Rights Due Diligence**

- 4. Do you have a process to determine whether mining projects you finance cause or contribute to adverse impacts on human rights?
- 5. Do you undertake any form of on the ground assessment of conditions at major mining projects sites?

In the environment and social risk assessments based on the Equator Principles, we monitor project's compliance with the Equator Principles including human rights risk assessments by receiving a monitoring report from the client and conducting the assessment undertaken by the independent environmental and social consultant.

**D. Reporting**

- 6. Do you include information on your human rights due diligence for mining projects in any public sustainability reporting?

We published the human rights report as the comprehensive disclosure material including information on the human rights due diligence.

[https://www.mizuhogroup.com/binaries/content/assets/pdf/mizuhoglobal/sustainability/human-rights/solution/human\\_rights\\_report.pdf](https://www.mizuhogroup.com/binaries/content/assets/pdf/mizuhoglobal/sustainability/human-rights/solution/human_rights_report.pdf)

**E. Remediation**

- 7. Do you require your clients in the mining sector to have grievance mechanisms in place for each project? How do you assess their effectiveness?

We receive consultation, feedback and complaints related human rights from varied stakeholders. Feedback and complaints are consolidated internally and reported to management. We seek out areas requiring improvement in our policies, procedures and operations.

- 8. Have you ever taken any steps to require or support a client in the mining sector in remediating a human rights impact?

- 9. Have you ever withheld loans or other financial services as a result of a failure to remediate to human rights abuses in the mining sector?

Please see page 20 and 30 of the human rights report 2022 regarding the monitoring of human rights risks as well as receiving and responding to feedback and complaints for your question 8 and 9.

Best regards,

\*\*\*\*\*

Sustainability Planning Department  
Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.