



ANNUAL REPORT

2021



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## The Copper Mark

This report covers the period of 1 April 2021 – 31 December 2021 (“the reporting period”). In this reporting period, the Copper Mark continued to build momentum in promoting responsible production practices across the copper value chain. Over 15% of copper produced globally now comes from Copper Mark-assured sites. The Copper Mark’s progress in 2021 is indicative of the growing imperative, illustrated through the COP26 summit, to accelerate the low-carbon transition and ensure that the critical materials essential for the deployment of green technologies are responsibly produced.

The Copper Mark was awarded to 17 sites this year, strengthening the recognition of the Copper Mark as a credible and practical framework for actors throughout the supply chain. The assurance framework was opened for fabricator participants in a pilot, further expanding the Copper Mark’s downstream engagement.

Looking ahead, the Copper Mark started its first three-year review of the Risk Readiness Assessment in 2021. This is an important opportunity to consider ways in which the current requirements for responsible production can be further strengthened to match the needs of customers, investors, and local communities around which the copper industry operates.



**13** sites received the Copper Mark in 2021  
FOR A TOTAL OF 18 SITES.

### PARTICIPATING SITES

2021 Participating Sites by Geography and Operational Type

Geography	Mining	Smelting / Refining	Mining, Smelting, & Refining	Supply Chain Actors
	Current Scope			Forthcoming
N. America	1	1	8	
Latin America	2	2	10	
Europe	–	6	0	
Asia / Australia	1	0	2	
Africa	–	–	–	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	

### GOVERNANCE



Growth in Participating Sites by Operational Type



▶ [VIEW THE FULL LIST OF COPPER PRODUCERS](#)

### COPPER PRODUCERS

In its second year of operations, the Copper Mark welcomed 17 new mining, smelting or refining sites in its assurance framework, further embedding the recognition of the Copper Mark as a credible and practical framework for actors throughout the supply chain. The assurance framework was opened to fabricator participants in a pilot, expanding the Copper Mark's downstream engagement.

### PROGRAMS



### FINDINGS

Of the 13 sites that received the Copper Mark in 2021, findings were identified across 19 criteria. These 4 criteria showed the most frequent gaps in performance across participants:

Due Diligence in Mineral Supply Chains.....	<b>12</b>
Business Relationships.....	<b>7</b>
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions.....	<b>4</b>
Tailings Management.....	<b>4</b>

*Due Diligence in Mineral Supply Chains* is the most frequent gap in performance.

## COPPER PARTNERS

The Copper Mark welcomed 12 new partners from the automotive, electronics, investor and copper manufacturing industries in its second year of operations. Copper Mark Partners use or rely on copper in their business and have made a public commitment to the Copper Mark's vision and objectives.

**18** **2021**  
TOTAL NUMBER OF COPPER PARTNERS INCREASED BY 12.  
2020 / 6 MEMBERS

**11** **2021**  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTNERS THAT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN WORKING GROUPS AND/OR ADVISORY COUNCIL.  
2020 / 5 MEMBERS

## WORKING GROUPS

**+1** NEW WORKING GROUPS ADDED IN 2021

**5** TOTAL GROUPS

The Copper Mark Working Groups are responsible for the development and growth of the Copper Mark's activities. They focus on due diligence, transparency, standards development and revision.

▶ JOIN THE COPPER MARK WORKING GROUPS

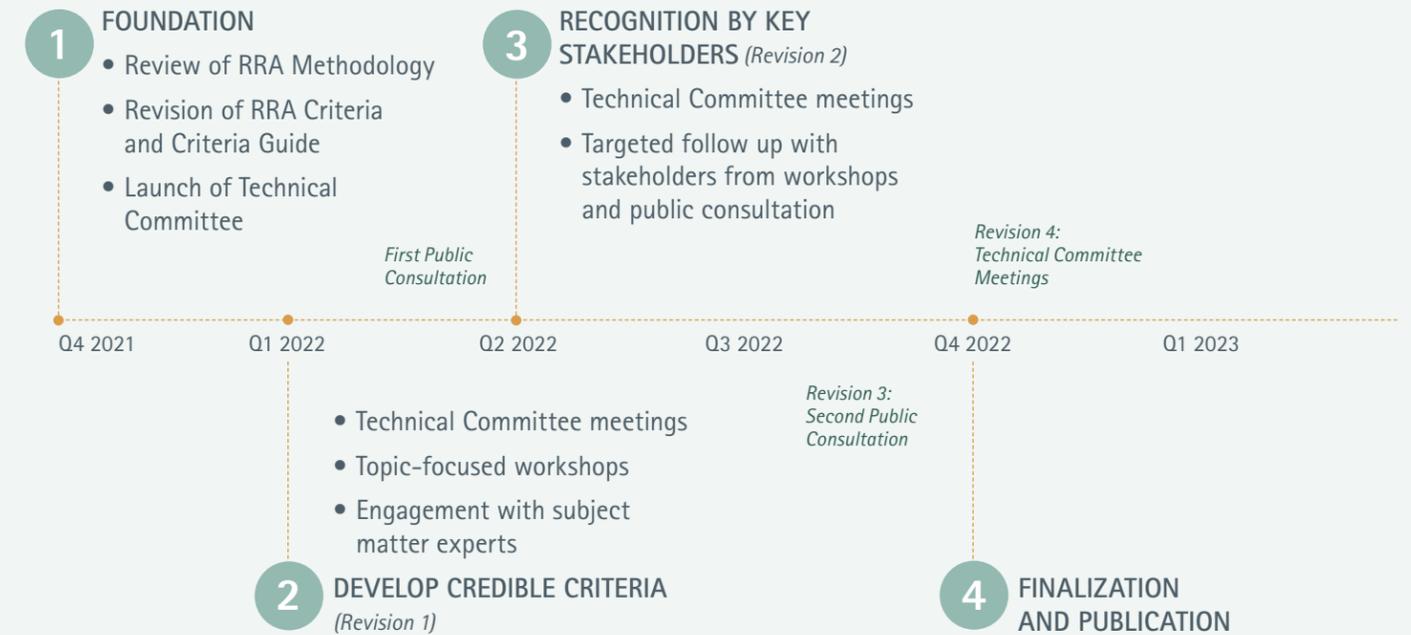
	PARTICIPANTS	ORGANIZATIONS	MEETINGS
2020 ▲			
	DUE DILIGENCE	31	18
	TECHNICAL	22	5
	TRANSPARENCY	37	0
2021 ▼			
	DUE DILIGENCE	31	11
	TECHNICAL	51	18
	TRANSPARENCY	57	9
	RRA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE	20	7

# Program

## STANDARDS

The Copper Mark continues to develop and review its standards to ensure they reflect today's expectations for responsible production. In 2021, the Joint Due Diligence Standard was independently assessed for alignment with the OECD Guidance, the Chain of Custody Standard was developed and the revision of the core criteria for responsible production started.

### RISK READINESS ASSESSMENT



### CHAIN OF CUSTODY

Public consultation December 22 - February 28

The standard is a voluntary add-on to an assessment of the Copper Mark Criteria, available to mines, smelters, refiners, and semis-fabricators.

The Chain of Custody Standard's core objectives are to:

- To track a copper product throughout the supply chain.
- Increase transparency in copper supply chains.
- Allow customers to be confident that their copper was produced responsibly.
- Contribute to the uptake of responsible production practices and in particular use of the Copper Mark Responsible Production Criteria (Copper Mark Criteria) and Assessment Process.
- Contribute to the increased use of recycled material and support efforts to move to a circular economy.
- Allow product-level claims of Copper Mark copper.

### JOINT DUE DILIGENCE STANDARD

The Joint Due Diligence Standard for Copper, Lead, Nickel and Zinc is designed to enable effective due diligence for producers and/or traders of these metals. It intends to build on existing standards and looks to provide flexibility for multi-metal producers to include materials intended for the production of metal products other than of principal covered metals at their site(s) as needed.

Independently confirmed to be 100% OECD-aligned.



- 01 Commitment** | Sites apply online and commit to the Assurance Process.
- 02 Self-Assessment** | Participants complete a self-assessment against the Copper Mark Criteria via an online platform and upload supporting evidence within 6 months of committing to the Assurance Process.
- 03 Independent Assessment** | Participants undergo a desk-based Independent Review of the Self-Assessment. All sites complete a site-level assessment, within 12 months of committing to the Assurance Process. Participants that fully or partially meet all criteria are awarded the Copper Mark.
- 04 Improvement Plan** | All sites address gaps in practices identified by the Independent Assessment. Participants must be "fully meets" for all criteria within 24 months.
- 05 Re-Assessment** | Re-assessment every 3 years and/or when there are significant operational changes or incidents.

## ASSESSOR APPROVAL

Interest in becoming an approved assessor for the Copper Mark grew over the reporting period as implementation among producers gained traction. Applying a rigorous methodology, the Copper Mark approved, partially approved, or did not approve applications from across geographies and firms.

### APPLICATIONS

**70** 2020  
11 FIRMS, 59 INDIVIDUALS

**68** 2021  
9 FIRMS, 59 INDIVIDUALS

### ACCEPTED

#### Participating Sites by Geography and Operational Type

	2020 Approvals	2021 Approvals	TOTAL
Fully Approved	15	5	20
Approved with Subject-Matter Limitations	27	17	44
Not Approved	15	11	26
In Process	2	26	28

## ASSURANCE PROCESS

In May 2021, the Assurance Process was revised to incorporate learnings from the 1st year of implementation as well as assessments against the Joint Due Diligence Standard for Copper, Lead, Nickel and Zinc. Complementary to these revisions was the development of the Assessor Management Procedure, providing greater detail as to how the Copper Mark manages assessors and assessment firms from the application process through to the ongoing monitoring.

### ASSESSOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE CATEGORIES

The following categories are further detailed within the Copper Mark Assessor Management Procedure:

- Types of Applicants
- Requirements for Approval
- Application Process
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Copper Mark Report Review



Copper producers' conformance with the Copper Mark Criteria is independently verified by approved assessors.

▶ [VIEW THE ASSESSOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE](#)

## RECOGNITION

### STATUS

The Copper Mark was recognised by the following existing systems as being partially or fully equivalent:



1. THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MINING AND MINERALS

2. THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL COMPANY STANDARDS FOR THE SOCIAL EQUITY PILOT CREDIT

## CAPACITY BUILDING

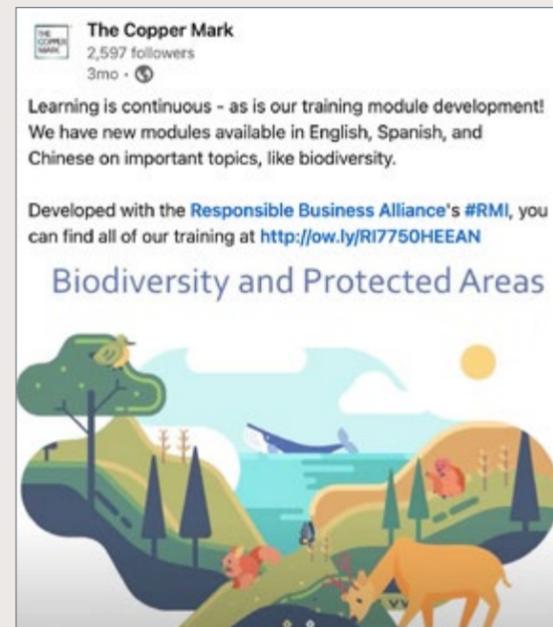
The Copper Mark continues to invest in training and capacity building. Online modules related to the Joint Due Diligence Standard for Copper, Lead, Nickel and Zinc as well as additional modules for the Copper Mark Criteria were added to the website in English, Spanish, and Chinese.

### Total Training Sessions for 2021

Category	Type of Training	TOTAL
Assurance Process		4
Criteria Deep Dive	Online Modules	7
Joint Due Diligence Standard	Live Training	1
Joint Due Diligence Standard	Online Modules	3
Joint Due Diligence Standard	Other (FAQ and Live Chat)	2

▶ VIEW ALL TRAININGS AND RESOURCES

The Copper Mark offers trainings for copper producers and assessors on the Copper Mark Assurance Framework and Criteria.



## Stakeholder Engagement

The Copper Mark continues to engage with stakeholders to ensure a variety of views are represented through its framework.

This has included holding meetings with over 400 organisations across civil society, industry and the wider supply chain, as well as speaking at 7 virtual public forums and hosting an event on the responsibility of businesses to promote sustainable practices.

The Copper Mark has welcomed one civil society representative and a second independent director with significant leadership experience in working with indigenous peoples to its Board, strengthening the representation of impacted stakeholders through the Copper Mark's governance.

In December 2021, the Copper Mark was accepted as an ISEAL Community Member.



1 Copper Mark Event



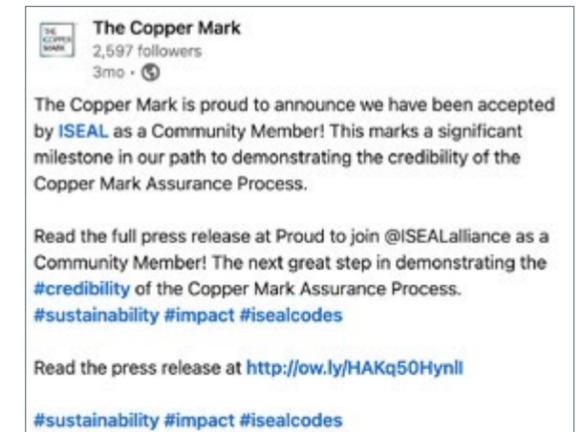
7 Speaking Engagements (virtual public events)



1200+ Number of people reached



Conversations with 400+ organizations



# Driving Impact

## MONITORING & EVALUATION SYSTEM

The Monitoring and Evaluation System measures the Copper Mark's progress towards our intended impact. Results are used to inform the Copper Mark's strategic goals, organizational processes and serve to proactively prevent and mitigate potential negative impacts.

### The M & E System has the following objectives

To inform the Copper Mark leadership of opportunities to:

- 1 Modify the organization's **strategic goals** to reach the desired impact.
- 2 Improve organizational **processes** and implementation to achieve the strategic goals.
- 3 Be aware of potential negative impacts so that the organization can proactively **prevent and mitigate** them.
- 4 Incentivize participation in the Copper Mark, contributing to the critical industry mass necessary to **achieve** the intended impacts.
- 5 Provide transparency of the M & E System and its results, building external stakeholder **recognition and the credibility** necessary to achieve the long-term objectives and intended impacts.



NEW SYSTEM DEVELOPED IN 2021

The M & E System complements the Theory of Change by defining the data and indicators to track performance toward achieving our goals and intended impact.

[▶ VIEW THE M & E SYSTEM](#)

## THEORY OF CHANGE

The Copper Mark Theory of Change—developed in 2020—articulates the desired impact of the organization. It is intended to act as a guide to measure the effectiveness of the organization's activities.



[▶ VIEW THE THEORY OF CHANGE INFOGRAPHIC](#)



The Copper Mark works in an environment where open, honest communications are the expectation.

## Grievances

Similar to the previous reporting period, the Copper Mark received one grievance. The grievance was regarding the assessor management process, and was closed during the same reporting period.

## Related Parties & Finance

The Copper Mark is financed primarily through annual fees of participating Copper Producers. The annual fee applies for each participating site and depends on the type and size of the operation. In addition, the Copper Mark benefits from a capital loan facility from the International Copper Association (ICA) and leverages funding through joint projects with partner organizations.

[▶ VIEW THE 2021 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT](#) | [VIEW THE FEE SCHEDULE](#)



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