



# Québec Plan for the Development of **CRITICAL and STRATEGIC Minerals 2020-2025**

## **ACTION PLAN 2023-2025**

(Actions highlighted in yellow are actions newly added to the Action Plan 2023-2025)

### **Orientation 1 - Increase knowledge and expertise on strategic and critical minerals**

Objectives	Actions	Responsibility	Indicators	Targets
1.1. Improve efficiency and practices in mineral exploration and discovery	1.1.1 Acquire new geoscientific knowledge	MRNF (DGGQ)	1.1.1.A Annual number of geoscientific knowledge acquisition projects completed or in progress	6 projects in 2023-2024 6 projects in 2024-2025
	1.1.2 Integrate digital innovations into geoscientific data processing and mineral potential assessment	MRNF (DGGQ)	1.1.2.A Number of artificial intelligence tools created or revised annually	2 tools in 2023-2024 2 tools in 2023-2024
1.2. Improve knowledge of CSMs by encouraging synergies in research and development and innovation	1.2.1 Support the development of a CSM-specific scientific network	MRNF (DPM)	1.2.1.A Number of research projects carried out	4 projects in 2023-2024 and in 2024-2025
	1.2.2 Develop environmental and social management tools for CSM projects	MELCCFP	1.2.2.A Studies on the risks associated with the presence of CSMs in water, air and soil	100% of the studies done by March 31, 2025
		MELCCFP	1.2.2.B Development of water, atmospheric and soil quality criteria for CSMs	100% of the criteria developed by March 31,
		MELCCFP	1.2.2.C Development of a guide on the best treatment technologies for mine wastewater generated by CSMs operations	Guide published by Sept. 30, 2024
1.2.3 Set up an interministerial committee to analyze existing public health management tools for CSM projects	MRNF (DPM) MSSS	1.2.1.A Production of a report analyzing public health management tools for CSMs projects	Report filed by March 31, 2024	

## Orientation 2 - Deploy or optimize integrated sectors in partnership with the CSM producing regions

Objectives	Actions	Responsibility	Indicators	Targets
2.1. Foster sustainable CSM exploration and development	2.1.1 Improve support for basic CSM exploration	MRNF (DPM)	2.1.1.A Number of projects supported under the Mining Exploration Support Program for CSMs	5 in 2023-2024
	2.1.2 Analyze the market trends of the CSM sectors	MRNF (DPM)	2.1.2.A Number of CSMs analyzed annually	6 in 2023-2024 6 in 2024-2025
	2.1.3 Support mining companies at the development stage	MRNF (DGDIM)	2.1.3.A Number of projects completed or underway as part of the support program dedicated to the scale-up of mineralurgical or primary transformation processes for CSMs.	1 supported project each year
2.2. Support the transformation and creation of value-added products associated with the CSM sectors	2.2.1 Support R&D on CSM extraction, transformation and recycling	MRNF (DPM)	2.2.1.A Number of R&D projects completed or in progress annually under the R&D support program for the extraction, processing and recycling of CSMs.	4 projects in 2023-2024 4 projects in 2024-2025
		MRNF (DPM)	2.2.1.B Number of projects completed or underway as part of the CSMs research areas (Area 7) of the Joint Research Program on Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector	5 projects in 2023-2024 5 projects in 2024-2025
		MRNF (DGDIM)	2.2.1.C Corem submits report for pre-competitive research program on extraction and processing of CSMs	By March 31, 2025
	2.2.1.D Filing of a report by the Magnesium Chair and other chairs		By March 31, 2025	
	2.2.2 Promote and improve the instruments supporting the development of CSM value chains close to the resource	SPN	2.2.2.A Number of customized support sessions provided to mining companies on the use of instruments to support the development of value chains close to the resource	8 supports done by March 31, 2025
		MRNF (DPM) MEIE	2.2.2.B Portrait of current and future CSM value chains in Québec	Value chain portrait carried out for 2 CSMs in 2023-2024 Value chain portrait carried out for 2 CSMs in 2024-2025

Objectives	Actions	Responsibility	Indicators	Targets
2.3. Improve multi-user infrastructure and access corridors to CSM resources	2.3.1 Implement an integrated vision to consolidate regional economic corridors through the progressive realization of transportation, renewable energy and telecommunications network projects in the North	SPN	2.3.1.A Number of targeted areas with high mineral potential for which a portrait of the state and anticipated infrastructure needs has been completed or updated, including the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Côte-Nord</li> <li>&gt; Eeyou Istchee James Bay</li> <li>&gt; Nunavik</li> <li>&gt; Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean</li> </ul>	2 areas by March 31, 2025
			2.3.1.B Number of projects supported in response to identified infrastructure needs in targeted areas with high mineral potential	2 supported projects by March 31, 2025
2.4. Increase the foreign investment needed to develop Québec's mining industry, including the various stages of the CSM value chain	2.4.1 Implement a strategy to maintain and strengthen the comparative advantages of Québec mines with other provinces and territories	MRNF (DGGMM)	2.4.1.A Filing of a report on legal monitoring in other Canadian provinces and territories	By March 31, 2024
	2.4.2 Make Québec a strategic ally in the international CSM sector	MRNF (DGGQ) IQ	2.4.2.A Number of participations in national and international activities promoting mineral diversity, exploration activities, mining projects, Québec's competitive advantages and investment opportunities in the mining sector and to promote the Québec Plan for the Development of Critical and Strategic Minerals (QPDCSM)	10 in 2023-2024
			2.4.2.B Rate of increase in diplomatic activities of influence in priority territories, notably North America, Europe and Asia, aimed at supporting the development of Québec's CSMs value chains and their applications in the energy sector	13 in 2024-2025
2.5 Increase the efficiency of mining operations in Québec	2.5.1 Stimulate the digital transformation of mines	MRNF (DPM) MEIE	2.5.1.A Number of projects completed or underway to support the automation of mining operations supported under the Digital Transformation Offensive (Vortex)	5 in 2023-2024
			2.5.1.B Number of companies supported under the Podium Mines program by Sous-traitance industrielle Québec	5 in 2024-2025
		MRNF (STAS)	15 companies who received support as of March 31, 2025	
2.6 Adapt training and update workforce qualifications in the critical and strategic minerals sector	2.6.1 Promote the availability of a skilled workforce in the CSM sector	MRNF (DPM) INMQ	2.6.1.A Number of actions implemented following approval of the roadmap on the offensive for the availability of a qualified workforce in the mining sector	2 actions by March 31, 2025

## Orientation 3 - Contribute to the transition to a sustainable economy

Objectives	Actions	Responsibility	Indicators	Targets
3.1. Encourage integration of the circular economy into the CSM value chains	3.1.1 Support the circular economy projects applied to the CSM sectors	MRNF (DPM)	3.1.1.A Development of the agent network's service offer on industrial synergies for the mining sector	Agent network service offer on industrial synergies for the mining sector officially launched on March 31, 2025
		MRNF (DPM)	3.1.1.B Number of calls for projects completed or in progress under the R&D support program for the circular economy applied to the CSMs sectors	1 in 2023-2024 1 in 2024-2025
		MRNF (DGGMM)	3.1.1.C Filing of a directive to modify the study requirements for obtaining a mining lease to allow reclamation of mine tailings on public land	By June 30, 2024
	3.1.2 Innovate to favour reclamation of tailings	MRNF (DGGMM/ DPM)	3.1.2.A Filing of the methodology report for assessing the potential for CSMs in unrestored mining sites under the State's responsibility, and prioritization of sites to be characterized	Report filed and prioritization document submitted by March 31, 2024
3.2. Stimulate the implementation of initiatives in view of the reduction of the environmental impacts from the mining projects	3.2.1 Update and optimize the environmental framework to support sustainable development in the mining sector (legal, regulatory and administrative)	MELCCFP	3.2.1.A Publication of updated Directive 019	By December 31, 2023
			3.2.1 B Public consultation on the draft regulation respecting the environmental management of mine tailings and effluents	Technical orientations completed by December 31, 2023 Public consultation completed by March 31, 2025
	3.2.2 Create the tools needed to trace CSM	MRNF (DPM)	3.2.2 A Projects completed or underway as part of a financial assistance program to support companies in implementing traceability systems	1 supported project each year
			3.2.2.B Filing of the report on the findings of the metals and minerals traceability pilot project	By March 31, 2025
	3.2.3 Evaluate the possibility of extending the scope of extended producer responsibility regulations to new products that may contain CSM	MELCCFP	3.2.3.A Updated list of priority products to be designated under the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme	By March 31, 2025

## Orientation 4 - Raise awareness, guide and promote

Objectives	Actions	Responsibility	Indicators	Targets
4.1. Raise the awareness of the population and the local and Indigenous stakeholders about the issues, impacts and implications related to CSM development for Québec and its regions	4.1.1 Develop the communication strategy	MRNF (DCOM)	4.1.1.A Increased public awareness of CSMs	50% increase by March 31, 2025
	4.1.2 Generate interest in Québec's mining sector and CSMs	MRNF (DGGQ)	4.1.2.A. Rate of increase in the number of people reached by activities in which MRNF participated, or helped to organize, aimed at raising awareness of CSMs among the general public and stakeholders	25% of people reached by the 2022-2023 activities for 2023-2024 and for 2024-2025
			4.1.2.B Number of educational documents produced by the MRNF, or to which the MRNF has contributed, aimed at raising public awareness of CSMs	4 by March 31, 2025