UniCredit Position Statement concerning the Mining Industry

The Mining Industry is a diverse and important industry which supplies minerals and metals that form the basis for economic activity globally. Mining activities, if not managed in a responsible way, can have adverse impacts on the environment and on involved communities. This is particularly of importance in countries where political governance is weak, which is the case for mining sector activities in some emerging markets countries. In addition, the Mining Industry involves a large variety of different activities related to the extraction of minerals and metals. These activities include:

- Exploration and prospection for solid, mineral raw materials (this definition includes, but is not limited to: base metals, precious metals, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, coal, uranium, gemstones, salts and industrial minerals) and any related activities;
- Development and construction of facilities to mine and primary process solid mineral raw materials and adjacent facilities (bridges, roads, railway lines, ports, navigation channels, pipelines, power generation, power lines) and any related activities;
- Operation of assets to mine, extract and process solid, mineral raw materials, including the management of waste rock and tailings, and any supporting activities;
- All closure and rehabilitation activities which are related to past Mining activities.

Key assessment areas

UniCredit’s Mining Policy provides guidelines and standards, which are based on those accepted by the industry and by other stakeholders and represent best practice. The Mining Policy aims to assess and limit environmental and social risks associated with the financing of mining activities with particular attention to:

- Habitat & biodiversity loss;
- Groundwater, water, soil and air contamination;
- International Labour Standards, especially concerning child and forced labour;
- Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- Health and safety of affected communities;
- Resettlement and economic displacement;
- Security and human rights;
- Production processes involving toxic substances;
- Cultural heritage;
- Legal compliance;
- Corruption risk and political risk.