

## 17<sup>th</sup> OECD Forum on Responsible Minerals Supply Chains

Friday, 24 May 2024 (08:45 – 10:15 CET)

### Partner session “Implementing the EU Battery Regulation: opportunities and challenges”

#### Brief description of the session

With the adoption of the EU Battery regulation, there are heightened expectations for companies to intensify their due diligence endeavours to ensure adherence to ESG standards across the entire supply chain encompassing Cobalt, Lithium, Nickel, and Graphite.

Building upon the discussion in the partner session from the previous year, which focused on considerations on the due diligence requirements stipulated by the Battery Regulation, this follow-up session aims to further explore:

- The evolution of the understanding of the regulatory requirements since the previous session.
- The implications for downstream companies’ due diligence processes and responsible sourcing strategies.
- Approaches adopted by upstream companies, particularly Chinese value chain players, in response to the regulation.
- Insights from on the ground implementation of the EUBR requirements
- The role of sustainability initiatives in supporting companies to meet regulatory requirements and deliver impact, through collective engagement and the development of common tools, such as the DS Self-Assessment Questionnaires (SAQ), the RMI newly updated ESG Standard, and the RCI assessment tool.

Focusing on these questions, the session will provide a platform for dialogue on the due diligence requirements of the Battery Regulation thereby contributing to a deeper understanding of its implications for the automotive industry.

#### Proposed agenda & speakers

(moderation, Stefan Crets, Executive Director, CSR Europe/Drive Sustainability)

08:45 – 08:55	<p><i>Introductory speech</i></p> <p><b>Levin Sources:</b> what are the requirements from the EU battery regulation and what is the upstream impact and opportunity</p>
08:55 – 09:05	<p><i>Keynote speech</i></p> <p><b>Volkswagen and Mercedes-Benz:</b> OEM approach to EU battery Regulation</p>
09:05 – 09:10	<p><i>Keynote speech</i></p> <p><b>RCI:</b> the approach by Chinese value chain players concerning the Battery Regulation</p>
09:10 – 09:40	<p><i>Panel discussion</i></p> <p><b>RMI, Drive Sustainability, RCI:</b></p> <p>collaborative approaches to develop compliance solutions (RMI ESG Standard, DS SAQ, RCI standards and assessment tool)</p>
09:40 – 10:15	Open discussion with the audience