# Digitalization of the ICGLR
# Regional Certification Mechanism

Side Event to the BMZ High-Level Forum on Mineral Supply Chains

Presented by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

BGR Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION
CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE SUR LA REGION DES GRANDS LACS

# The Regional Database on Mineral Flows

One of the 6 tools of the Regional Initiative to fight against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources (RINR) and one of the 5 components of the Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM)

The ICGLR Regional Database on Mineral Flows is one of the tools approved by the ICGLR's 12 Heads of State as part of the Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources (RINR).

The RINR was adopted by the ICGLR Heads of State and Government held in Lusaka, Zambia on 15 December 2010. The purpose is to break the link between mineral revenues and the financing of armed groups in the GLR.

Regional Database will store publicly accessible information used to monitor and track the flow of 3Ts (tin, tantalum, tungsten) and gold sourced from or transiting across any RCM implementing Member State.

Harmonization of National Legislations

Regional Certification Mechanism

ASM Formalisation
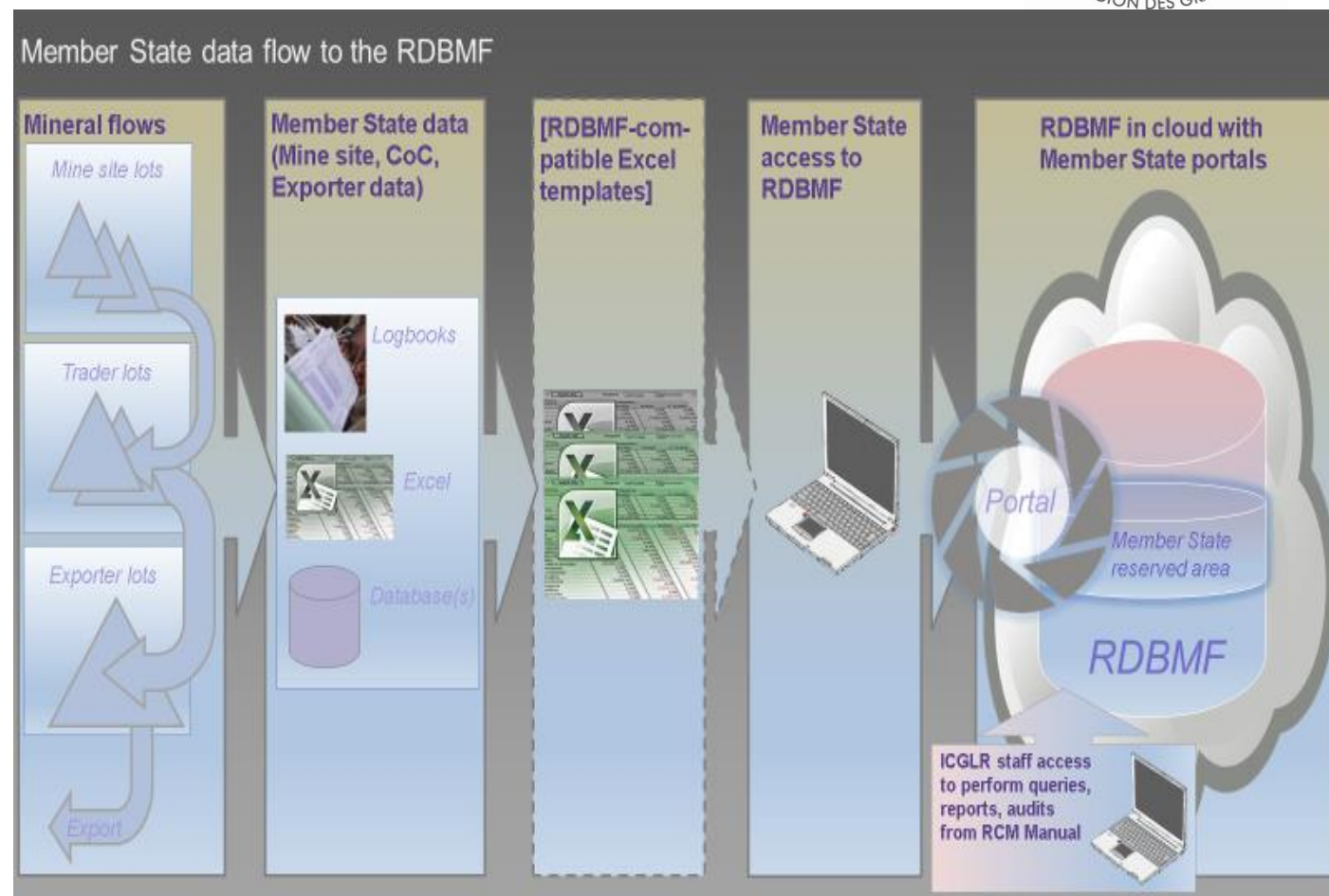
Regional Database

Whistle-blowing Mechanism

EITI

# Purpose of the Regional Database

The ICGLR Regional Database is intended to provide national and regional actors, as well as international stakeholders, with transparent and reliable data.

Once operational, this web-based database will be gathering and updating data on mine sites, chain of custody, and exports.

Adhere to UN Resolution 1896 (2009) Article 17: Member States, particularly those in the Great Lakes Region, regularly publish full import and export statistics for Gold, Cassiterite, Coltan and wolframite"

# Regional Processes

- High level and Technical Consultations
- Design and deployment
- Sustainability aspects
    - Technical Capacity
    - Financial Capacity
- Access and Security of data

# Mechanism for Data Flow and Management

- Database is important for maintaining credibility of the regional mineral flow.

- Data are transmitted to the Conference Secretariat on monthly basis. Analysis is undertaken on the data provided.

- This is meant to establish the match between the export and import data from each of the participating entity.

- Any discrepancies in the data match are significant as they will determine whether the entity is compliant.

- It is for this reason that the credibility and accuracy in the data management is vital.

# Progress on the development of the RMD and state of data

A proof of concept for the RMD was developed to test the user interface and provide input for further development of the application.

Front-end accessible under https://icglr.wbc-hosting.com

Provides access for admin as well as end user.

Covers data types like mines, lots, locations, certifications.

Current data in the system is mainly test data from DRC which was uploaded directly to the database.

The application is not yet fully implemented and tested and therefore not ready for rollout.

# Challenges & Mitigations

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the development of the application was halted, resulting in certain activities having to be restarted by the team. Moreover, some of the knowledge owners had left ICGLR, which necessitated the recovery of the solution.

The member states have begun implementing their own Regional Minerals Databases (RMDs), which do not use a standardized data format. Therefore, there is a need to make efforts towards achieving regional alignment on data structures.

Although the Member States have aligned on a Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM), which covers the basic functional requirements for a Regional Minerals Database (RMD), the user interface and user journeys have not yet been defined or aligned. Therefore, it is crucial to address these aspects in the next steps.

# Future plans and roadmap



Further development is planned using agile development in iterations with the following brief outline.

**Iteration 1:** Assess the future users and processes of the system. Evaluate the current architecture.

**Iteration 2:** Implement a pilot with improved architecture for master data. Define and implement data exchange for master data (e.g. mine sites)

**Iteration 3:** Define and implement data exchange for remaining data, connect with member states local databases.

# Change room