



SCRREEN3

Coordination and Support Action (CSA)

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Start date : 2024-01-01 Duration : 48 Months

Status in the expert network

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SCREEN3 - Contract Number: 101138060

Project officer: Victoria Leroy

Document title	Status in the expert network
Author(s)	Roberta DE CAROLIS, Carlo Tronci (ENEA); Alessio Traverso (ENEA)
Number of pages	20
Document type	Deliverable
Work Package	WP2
Document number	D2.4
Issued by	ENEA
Date of completion	2025-10-03 10:17:45
Dissemination level	Public

Summary

Status of the experts database to support the first validation WS, axes of improvement. The deliverable describes the third intermediate assessments of expert database compared with the previous, indicating the gaps still occurred and the identified solutions. To carry out an in-depth analysis of such information the database posed several constraints concerning data organization, univocity and granularity.

Approval

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2025-10-03 10:20:01	Gaetan LEFEBVRE (BRGM)
2025-10-03 10:20:49	Gaetan LEFEBVRE (BRGM)



STATUS OF THE EXPERT NETWORK

DELIVERABLE 2.4

WP1 Network



**Funded by
the European Union**

DOCUMENT TITLE: STATUS OF THE EXPERT NETWORK (D2.4)

DUE DELIVERY DATE: September 30th, 2025

NATURE: Public

PROJECT TITLE: Solutions for CRITICAL Raw materials - a European Expert Network 3.

PROJECT ACRONYM: SCREEN3

INSTRUMENT: CSA

CALL IDENTIFIER: HORIZON-CL4-2023-RESILIENCE-01

TOPIC: HORIZON-CL4-2023-RESILIENCE-01-07 Expert network on Critical raw materials (CSA)

GRANT AGREEMENT: 101138060

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable:

ENEA

DELIVERABLE TYPE		
R	Document, report	
DISSEMINATION LEVEL		
PU	Public (fully open)	

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HISTORY			
Version	Name (Partner)	Modifications	Date
V1	ENEA	First version	25.09.2025
V2	BGRM	Minor revisions	01.10.2025
V3	LGI	Added GDPR specification	03.10.2025

VALIDATION	
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SCRREEN3, officially launched on January 1st, 2024 aims to continue developing and animating an Expert Network which will contribute to give expert advice in support of decision-making at the EU level covering all the raw materials and their value chains screened in the CRM assessment of 2020, and additional raw materials screened in 2023 assessment. This will be done taking into account not only the CRM list 2023 but also the new CRM regulatory assessment, in particular CRM Act.

This work follows SCRREEN (2016 – 2019) and SCRREEN 2 (2020 - 2023). Regarding the expert network created in SCRREEN and update in SCRREEN2, a first update was done during first 3 months of SCRREEN3 (D1.1): from that first assessment, some gaps and criticalities emerged, paying attention to commodities with number of experts not more than 5 and with experts for new CRMs and SRMs. Furthermore, even if it is currently well balanced, industry side needed to be reinforced, in particular SMEs voice. Other two intermediate assessments were completed in January and July 2025.

This deliverable describes the third intermediate assessments of expert database realized in September 2025, compared with the previous one, indicating the gaps still occurring and the identified solutions. To carry out an in-depth analysis of such information, the database posed several constraints concerning data organization, univocity and granularity. To address such problems, we developed a Windows application that populates a relational database from the flat file (CSV) exported from the portal website. During such operation data is normalized and enriched with more information, allowing for more insightful analyses.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

D – Deliverable

EU – European Union

H2020 – Horizon 2020 The 8th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

HEU – Horizon Europe – the 9th framework Programme of the EC for research, technological development and innovation activities

SME – Small and Medium Enterprise

WP – Work package

CRM(s) – Critical Raw Material(s)

SRM(s) – Strategic Raw Material(s)

CSV – comma separated values file

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THE APPLICATION FOR DATA ANALYSIS

1.1 Introduction

The SCRREEN3 database gathered information from experts' profiles on the project web portal. To carry out an in-depth analysis of such information the database in its native form posed two main constraints:

- the experts' organization names and addresses were entered inconsistently, resulting in multiple names and/or multiple addresses for the same organization; thus, making a rigorous analysis of such information difficult, affecting also the possibility to group experts by country or region.
- some important data was not directly available and needed to be extrapolated; information about commodities material group, CRM and SRM status, and experts' consortium and EU commission affiliation status.

Given the raw nature of the CSV/Excel file downloadable from the SCRREEN portal, we found it appropriate to develop a Windows application to normalize the data addressing the above.

1.2 The Application

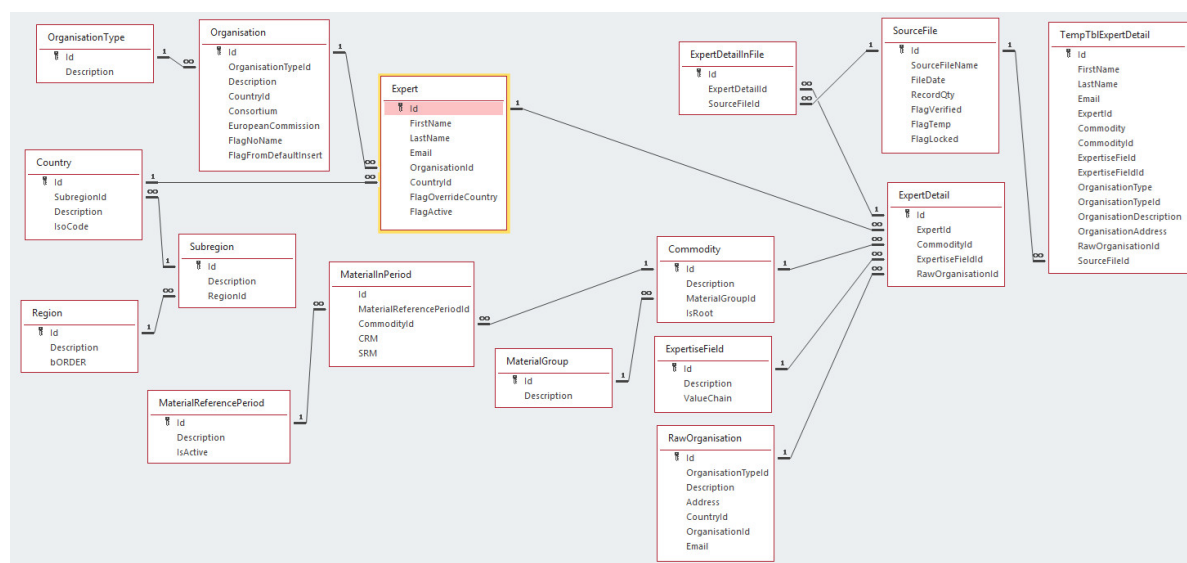


Figure 1 Structure of the relational database built upon data from the project web portal

The application allowed us to load the CSV output of the portal expert database and automatically transform the data so that:

- organization names are compared to a dictionary and normalized
- organization addresses are normalized, introducing additional fields for country, country ISO code, region and subregion to each expert's record; manual corrections are allowed where necessary, e.g. the case of independent experts where organization address is not defined.
- New boolean fields for the experts' Consortium and European Commission affiliation were added to each record.
- Fields with information about commodities material groups, CRM and SRM status are also introduced for each expert and her field of expertise.

Normalized data was organized in a relational database, that can be easily queried and exported for data analysis and other purposes.

The application allows also to be updated from the raw CSV export from the web portal, importing and transforming only new and updated records.

1.3 Data analysed

The relational database built upon normalized and improved data from the web portal was subsequently analyzed by the following parameters:

- Expert Distribution – Country, geographical region and subregion
- Expert Distribution - Organization type
- Expert Distribution - Material groups
- Expert Distribution - Commodities
- Expert Distribution - Field of expertise
- Expert Distribution - Value chain
- Expert distribution - commodities by material group
- Expert distribution - commodities with fewer experts (threshold ≤ 5)
- Expert distribution - CRM
- Expert distribution – SRM
- Target commodity (CRM, SRM) experts with focus on industry side
- Commodities with number of experts below threshold ($n \leq 5$) with focus on industry side

THE INTERMEDIATE ASSESSMENTS

2.1 The selection process

The experts in the database are added after their approval. They should update their profile with any information relevant to describing their expertise and professional experience, including the selection of specific raw materials from the provided groups. Based on this information, they may be invited to participate in our workshops and could also be contacted by the European Commission. In accordance with GDPR, the data provided will be processed solely for these purposes and may be shared with the European Commission where necessary.

From April 2024 to the end of 2024 many experts ask to join the network, due to the visibility of the website and the valuable work of SCRREEN3 Communication team. However, not all experts were admitted in the database.

To better clarify the scope of the database we shared with the potential experts this advice:

“The access to database is granted to experts interested to contribute to the project, participating to our workshop, giving feedback about raw materials indicated in the profile (on the basis on own expertise), etc.. The experts will be contacted by us, and they could be contacted also directly from European Commission. This is not an “legal obligation” of course, but active participation in these terms is expected”

Consequently, different requests were discarded. Just people confirming the intention to contribute to the project with their expertise were admitted.

2.2 The I intermediate assessment – January 2025

First of all, priorities were agreed, as here below:

- Commodities with n. experts <5
- Commodities not/not enough represented by Industry (focus SMEs)
- Strategic raw materials as defined in Critical Raw Materials Act

Then, a second status check was done in August 2024, compared with the status of March 2024 (D1.1). The results of this check were shared here below:

Commodity	n. expert D1.1	n. large industry	n. SME	n. association	R&D	Academy/University	Other	Independent expert	n. expert 08/2024
Arsenic	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cadmium	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Copper	27	2	3	3	4	8	3	2	25
Feldspar	8	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	7
Hafnium	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Helium	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	5
Manganese	11	2	0	1	3	1	2	0	9
Natural cork	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Nickel	18	2	1	4	2	4	3	1	17
Rhenium	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Selenium	4	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
Silica sand	4	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	4
Sulphur	5	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	4

Figure 2 Results of preliminary status check on priorities (August 2024) – Table 1

TARGET COMMODITY	n. LARGE INDUSTRY	n. SME	n. ASSOCIATION	n. LARGE INDUSTRY D1.1	n. SME D1.1	n. ASSOCIATION D1.1
Arsenic	1	0	0	1	0	1
Feldspar	0	1	1	0	2	3
Helium	1	1	1	1	1	1
Manganese	2	0	1	1	1	2
Copper	2	2	4	2	0	3
Nickel	1	2	4	2	1	6

Figure 3 Results of preliminary status check on priorities (August 2024) – Table 2

COMMODITY WITH n. EXPERT UNTIL 5	n. LARGE INDUSTRY	n. SME	n. ASSOCIATION	n. LARGE INDUSTRY D1.1	n. SME D1.1	n. ASSOCIATION D1.1
Silica sand	0	0	1	0	1	2
Sulphur	0	1	0	0	1	1
Arsenic	1	0	0	0	1	0
Cadmium	0	1	2	0	1	2
Rhenium	0	0	0	0	0	1
Selenium	0	0	1	0	0	2
Natural cork	0	0	0	0	0	1
Helium	1	1	1	1	1	2

Figure 4 Results of preliminary status check on priorities (August 2024) – Table 3

Using the new application developed by ENEA, a deeper analysis was done, as detailed in the chart below:

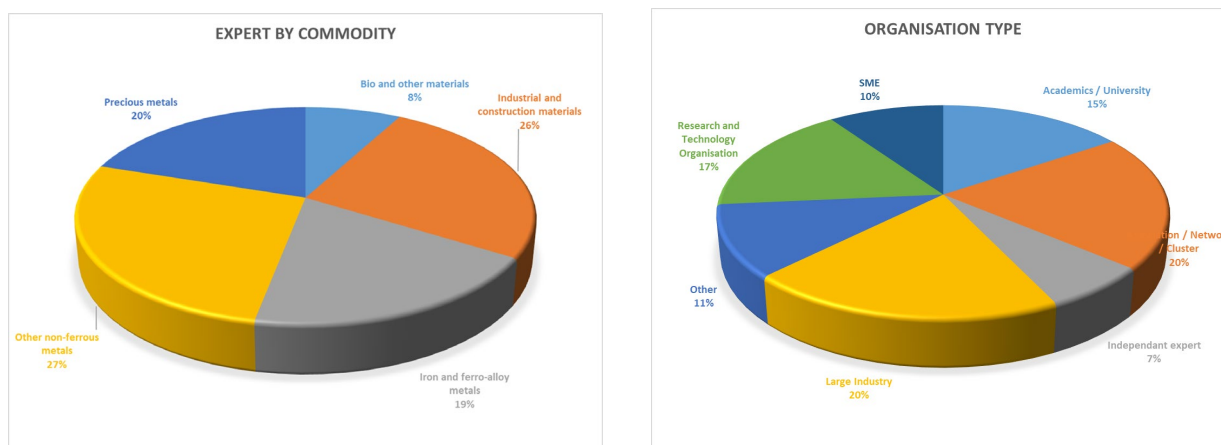


Figure 5 Experts by commodity and Experts by organization type (January 2025)

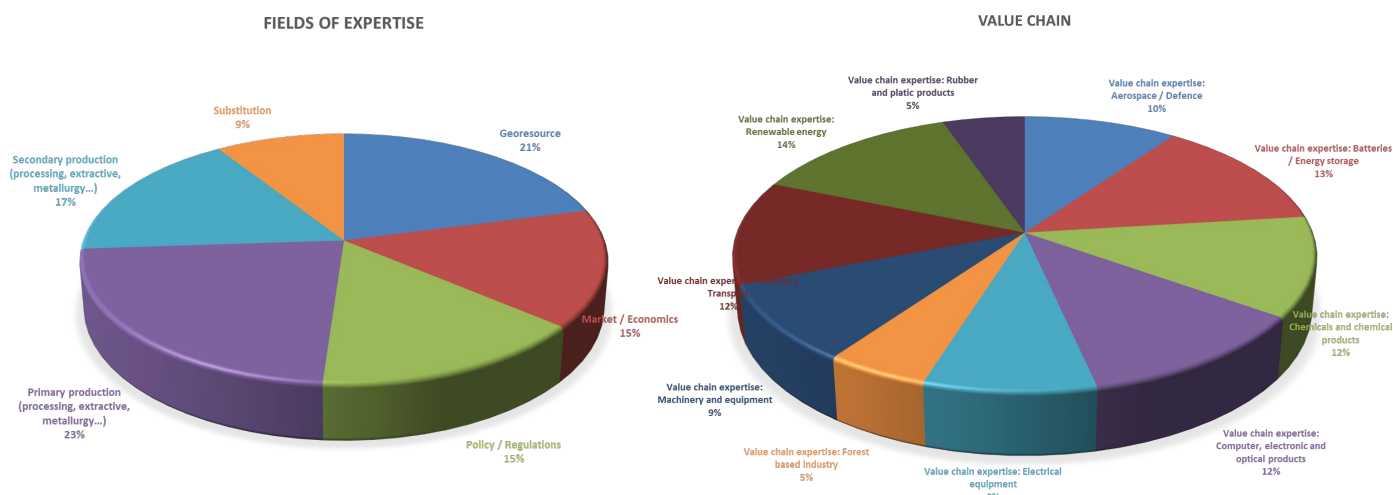


Figure 6 Experts by field of expertise; Experts by value chain (January 2025)

The preliminary results showed a general well balanced in terms of commodities, field of expertise and value chain. However, gaps in some commodities and typology of organization still occurred, and deeper analysis in July was done, as detailed in the following paragraph.

2.2 The II intermediate assessment – July 2025

The II intermediate assessment analysed the same topic underlying the same priorities. Even if significant % difference have not emerged, some specific gaps were identified, in particular

Commodity	n. unique experts
Arsenic	1
Cadmium	3
Hafnium	3
Helium	5
Natural cork	3
Neodymium	2
Rhenium	4
Selenium	4
Silica sand	5
Strontium	1
Sulphur	5

Table 1 Commodity with n. Unique expert until 5 (July 2025)

Furthermore, general lack of industries, especially SMEs, still emerged.

2.3 Actions and results

In September 2025, the consortium was activated aiming to cover the gaps: targeted invitations were sent from partners and some needs were satisfied, as detailed in the figure here below:

18.07.2025		25.09.2025	
Expert distribution - commodities with fewer experts (threshold <= 5)		Expert distribution - commodities with fewer experts (threshold <= 5)	
Commodity	Unique expert	Commodity	Unique experts
Arsenic	1	Arsenic	1
Cadmium	3	Cadmium	3
Hafnium	3	Hafnium	3
Helium	5	Helium	5
Natural cork	3	Natural cork	3
Neodymium	2	Neodymium	4
Rhenium	4	Rhenium	4
Selenium	4	Selenium	4
Silica sand	5	Silica sand	7
Strontium	1	Strontium	1
Sulphur	5	Sulphur	5

Table 2 Commodity with n. Unique expert until 5 – Comparin between July 2025 and September 2025

18.07.2025		25.09.2025	
Expert distribution - Organization type		Expert Distribution - Organization type	
Type of organization	Unique expert	Type of organization	Unique experts
Academics / University	37	Academics / University	37
Association / Network / Cluster	51	Association / Network / Cluster	51
Independant expert	16	Independant expert	16
Large Industry	51	Large Industry	52
Other	18	Other	18
Research and Technology Organisation	48	Research and Technology Organisa	48
SME	22	SME	23

Table 3 Expert distribution vs Organization type 5 – Comparison between July 2025 and September 2025

More in details:

Expert per commodity

- +2 experts for Neodymium
- +2 experts for Silica Sand (no more a priority now)

Expert per organization type

- +1 expert from SME
- +1 expert from Large Industry

As a consequence of new registration, we also have:

Expert per group of commodities

- +1 expert for Iron and ferro-alloy metals
- +1 expert for Precious metals

Expert per field of expertise

- +1 expert for Georesource
- +1 expert for Market / Economics
- +1 expert for Policy / Regulations
- +1 expert for Primary production (processing, extractive, metallurgy...)
- +1 expert for Substitution

Expert per value chain

- +1 expert for Aerospace / Defence
- +1 expert for Batteries / Energy storage
- +1 expert for Electrical equipment

Full results of comparison between July and September 2025 assessment in the Annex 1 is attached.

CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

3.1 Conclusion

This work follows SCRREEN (2016 – 2019) and SCRREEN 2 (2020 - 2023). Regarding the Expert network created in SCRREEN and update in SCRREEN2, a first update was done during first 3 months of SCRREEN3 (D1.1): from that first assessment, some gaps and criticalities emerged, paying attention to commodities with number of experts not more than 5 and with experts for new CRMs and SRMs. Furthermore, even if it is currently well balanced, industry side needed to be reinforced, in particular SMEs voice. Other two intermediate assessments were completed in January and July 2025. Only people confirming the intention to contribute to the project with their expertise were admitted.

In September 2025, the consortium was activated aiming to cover the gaps: targeted invitation were sent from partners and some needs was satisfied, in particular +2 experts for Neodymium, +2 experts for Silica Sand (no more a priority now), but also +1 expert from SME and +1 expert from Large Industry.

All the assessment were realized with new application developed by ENEA. In fact the SCRREEN3 database gathered information from experts' profiles on the project web portal. But to carry out an in-depth analysis of such information, we found it appropriate to develop a Windows application to normalize the data addressing the above. The application allowed us to load the CSV output of the portal expert database and automatically transform the data.

3.2 Next steps

Gaps still occurring will be addressed by targeted invitations sent by the consortium, as well as discussions with DG Grow. The objective is to have all ewperts covered and invited for the foreseen Validation workshops taking place in 2026.

Furthermore, two more analysis lines on database are foreseen in 2026:

- expert x commodity x country
- expert x commodities x field of expertise

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 Comparison of full results July 2025 vs September assessment (below threshold; upgrade after September assessment)

18.07.2025		25.09.2025	
Expert distribution - Organization type		Expert Distribution - Organization type	
Type of organization	Unique experts	Type of organization	Unique experts
Academics / University	37	Academics / University	37
Association / Network / Cluster	51	Association / Network / Cluster	51
Independent expert	16	Independent expert	16
Large Industry	51	Large Industry	52
Other	18	Other	18
Research and Technology Organisation	48	Research and Technology Organisation	48
SME	22	SME	23
Expert Distribution - Material groups		Expert Distribution - Material groups	
Material group	Unique experts	Material group	Unique experts
Bio and other materials	35	Bio and other materials	35
Industrial and construction materials	106	Industrial and construction materials	106
Iron and ferro-alloy metals	74	Iron and ferro-alloy metals	75
Other non-ferrous metals	102	Other non-ferrous metals	102
Precious metals	73	Precious metals	74
Expert Distribution - Field of expertise		Expert Distribution - Field of expertise	
Field of expertise	Unique experts	Field of expertise	Unique experts
empty	62	***empty***	62
Georesource	76	Georesource	77
Market / Economics	95	Market / Economics	96
Policy / Regulations	80	Policy / Regulations	81
Primary production (processing, extractive, metallurgy...)	110	Primary production (processing, extractive, metallurgy...)	111
Secondary production (processing, extractive, metallurgy...)	102	Secondary production (processing, extractive, metallurgy...)	102
Substitution	58	Substitution	59
Expert Distribution - Value chain		Expert Distribution - Value chain	
Value chain expertise	Unique experts	Value chain expertise	Unique experts
Aerospace / Defence	34	Aerospace / Defence	35
Batteries / Energy storage	51	Batteries / Energy storage	52
Chemicals and chemical products	49	Chemicals and chemical products	49
Computer, electronic and optical products	44	Computer, electronic and optical products	44
Electrical equipment	29	Electrical equipment	30
Forest based industry	18	Forest based industry	18
Machinery and equipment	34	Machinery and equipment	34
Mobility / Transport	47	Mobility / Transport	47
Renewable energy	49	Renewable energy	49
Rubber and plastic products	22	Rubber and plastic products	22
Expert distribution - commodities with fewer experts (threshold <= 5)		Expert distribution - commodities with fewer experts (threshold <= 5)	
Commodity	Unique experts	Commodity	Unique experts
Arsenic	1	Arsenic	1
Cadmium	3	Cadmium	3
Hafnium	3	Hafnium	3
Helium	5	Helium	5
Natural cork	3	Natural cork	3
Neodymium	2	Neodymium	4
Rhenium	4	Rhenium	4
Selenium	4	Selenium	4
Silica sand	5	Silica sand	7
Strontium	1	Strontium	1
Sulphur	5	Sulphur	5

Expert distribution - CRM		Expert distribution - CRM	
Commodity	Unique experts	Commodity	Unique experts
Aluminium and Bauxite	23	Aluminium and Bauxite	23
Antimony	11	Antimony	11
Arsenic	1	Arsenic	1
Baryte	9	Baryte	9
Beryllium	8	Beryllium	8
Bismuth	7	Bismuth	7
Borates	8	Borates	8
Cobalt	21	Cobalt	21
Coking coal	6	Coking coal	6
Copper	26	Copper	26
Feldspar	8	Feldspar	8
Fluorspar	6	Fluorspar	6
Gallium	6	Gallium	6
Germanium	10	Germanium	10
Hafnium	3	Hafnium	3
Helium	5	Helium	5
Lithium	21	Lithium	21
Magnesium	12	Magnesium	12
Manganese	14	Manganese	14
Natural graphite	10	Natural graphite	10
Nickel	17	Nickel	17
Niobium	14	Niobium	15
Phosphate rock	8	Phosphate rock	8
Phosphorus	16	Phosphorus	16
Scandium	8	Scandium	8
Silicon metal	12	Silicon metal	12
Strontium	1	Strontium	1
Tantalum	14	Tantalum	14
Titanium	9	Titanium	9
Tungsten	14	Tungsten	14
Vanadium	10	Vanadium	10
Expert distribution - SRM		Expert distribution - SRM	
Commodity	Unique experts	Commodity	Unique experts
Bismuth	7	Bismuth	7
Cobalt	21	Cobalt	21
Copper	26	Copper	26
Gallium	6	Gallium	6
Germanium	10	Germanium	10
Lithium	21	Lithium	21
Magnesium	12	Magnesium	12
Manganese	14	Manganese	14
Natural graphite	10	Natural graphite	10
Nickel	17	Nickel	17
Silicon metal	12	Silicon metal	12
Titanium	9	Titanium	9
Tungsten	14	Tungsten	14

18.07.2025		25.09.2025	
Expert Distribution - Commodities		Expert Distribution - Commodities	
Commodity	Unique experts	Commodity	Unique experts
Aggregates	13	Aggregates	13
Aluminium and Bauxite	23	Aluminium and Bauxite	23
Antimony	11	Antimony	11
Arsenic	1	Arsenic	1
Baryte	9	Baryte	9
Bentonite	8	Bentonite	8
Beryllium	8	Beryllium	8
Bio and other materials	8	Bio and other materials	8
Bismuth	7	Bismuth	7
Borates	8	Borates	8
Cadmium	3	Cadmium	3
Chromium	16	Chromium	16
Cobalt	21	Cobalt	21
Coking coal	6	Coking coal	7
Copper	26	Copper	26
Diatomite	7	Diatomite	7
Feldspar	8	Feldspar	8
Fluorspar	6	Fluorspar	6
Gallium	6	Gallium	6
Germanium	10	Germanium	10
Gold	20	Gold	20
Gypsum	7	Gypsum	7
Hafnium	3	Hafnium	3
Helium	5	Helium	5
Hydrogen	6	Hydrogen	6
Indium	14	Indium	14
Industrial and Construction	45	Industrial and Construction I	45
Iridium	6	Iridium	6
Iron and ferro-alloy metals	10	Iron and ferro-alloy metals	10
Kaolin clay	8	Kaolin clay	8
Lead	13	Lead	13
Limestone	9	Limestone	9
Lithium	21	Lithium	21
Magnesite	10	Magnesite	10
Magnesium	12	Magnesium	12
Manganese	14	Manganese	14
Molybdenum	11	Molybdenum	11
Natural cork	3	Natural cork	3
Natural graphite	10	Natural graphite	10
Natural rubber	12	Natural rubber	12
Natural teak wood	11	Natural teak wood	11
Neodymium	2	Neodymium	3
Nickel	17	Nickel	17
Niobium	14	Niobium	15
Other non-ferrous metals	14	Other non-ferrous metals	14
Palladium	7	Palladium	7
Perlite	6	Perlite	6
Phosphate rock	8	Phosphate rock	8
Phosphorus	16	Phosphorus	16
Platinum	8	Platinum	8
Platinum Group Metals	12	Platinum Group Metals	12
Potash	15	Potash	15
Precious metals	11	Precious metals	11
Rare earths	30	Rare earths	30
Rhenium	4	Rhenium	4
Rhodium	10	Rhodium	10
Ruthenium	6	Ruthenium	6
Sapele wood	11	Sapele wood	11
Scandium	8	Scandium	8
Selenium	4	Selenium	4
Silica sand	5	Silica sand	7
Silicon metal	12	Silicon metal	12
Silver	13	Silver	13
Strontium	1	Strontium	1
Sulphur	5	Sulphur	5
Talc	6	Talc	6
Tantalum	14	Tantalum	14
Tellurium	8	Tellurium	8
Tin	11	Tin	11
Titanium	9	Titanium	9
Tungsten	14	Tungsten	14
Vanadium	10	Vanadium	10
Zinc	21	Zinc	21

18.07.2025				
Target commodity expert with focus on industry side				
Commodity	Association / Ne	Large Industry	SME	Total
Arsenic	0	1	0	1
Copper	4	2	3	9
Feldspar	0	0	3	3
Helium	1	1	1	3
Manganese	2	5	0	7
Nickel	4	2	1	7
18.07.2025				
Commodity with n. of expert below threshold (n<=5) with focus on industry side				
Commodity	Association / Ne	Large Industry	SME	Total
Arsenic			1	1
Cadmium	2		1	3
Helium	1	1	1	3
Selenium	1			1
Silica sand			1	1
Strontium			1	1
Sulphur			1	1

25.09.2025				
Target commodity expert with focus on industry side				
Commodity	Association / Ne	Large Industry	SME	Total
Arsenic	0	1	0	1
Copper	4	2	3	9
Feldspar	0	0	3	3
Helium	1	1	1	3
Manganese	2	5	0	7
Nickel	4	2	1	7
25.09.2025				
Commodity with n. of expert below threshold (n<=5) with focus on industry side				
Commodity	Association / Ne	Large Industry	SME	Total
Arsenic			1	1
Cadmium	2		1	3
Helium	1	1	1	3
Selenium	1			1
Silica sand			1	1
Strontium			1	1
Sulphur			1	1