



CANMET MINING AND MINERAL SCIENCES LABORATORIES

Special Projects



Program objectives

The Special Projects Program has solid expertise in building and coordinating multistakeholder initiatives, such as the Mine Environment Neutral Drainage (MEND) Program and the National Orphaned/Abandoned Mines Initiative (NOAMI), to address environmental issues of national concern and to obtain information for formulating sound policy.

Expertise

The secretariat for MEND and NOAMI provides the technical support needed to ensure the success of the initiatives by coordinating activities, managing the research projects, and sharing information and knowledge through an extensive network of contacts. The secretariat also fosters working relationships among its multistakeholders, including the various levels of government, the mining industry, academia, consultancies, non-governmental organizations and Aboriginal Canadians.

Key initiatives

MEND was the first international multi-stakeholder program to develop scientifically based technologies to reduce the effect of acidic drainage. The MEND model of collaboration is now used by both Canadian and international programs to address issues of national importance.

MEND is internationally acknowledged for its role in advancing technologies to prevent acidic drainage.

NOAMI assesses key issues for orphaned and abandoned mines and recommends collaborative approaches and partnerships for remedial programs across Canada. NOAMI receives funding from its government and industry partners and addresses the key areas of community involvement, building a national inventory, legislative barriers to collaboration, and funding approaches.

International partnerships

Since 2003, MEND has been the Canadian partner for the Global Alliance, an international network of organizations involved in acidic drainage research that includes representation from Australia, Europe, South Africa and the United States. The alliance brings numerous benefits to the partners, such as additional resources, reduction in research duplication, worldwide links and enhanced technology transfer capabilities. A major undertaking for this alliance was the production of a Global Acid Rock Drainage Guide.

Contact Us

This research is part of CANMET-MMSL's broader plan to foster sustainable growth in Canada's mining and mineral industry. To work with us, contact

www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/mms-smm/tect-tech/index-eng.htm

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