Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management
AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Respect human rights, by conducting human rights due diligence to identify and address those rights most at risk. Provide opportunities for meaningful engagement of project-affected people in decisions that may have a bearing on public safety and the integrity of the tailings facility.
INTEGRATED KNOWLEDGE BASE

Develop and document knowledge about the social, environmental and local economic context of a proposed or existing tailings facility. This multi-disciplinary knowledge base will support informed decision-making by operators and key stakeholders throughout the tailings facility lifecycle, e.g. in alternatives analyses, impact assessments, choice of technologies, consequence classification, emergency response plans, and closure planning.
Develop a robust design and establish reliable systems for construction, operation and monitoring of tailings facilities, supported by an informed knowledge base to minimise the risk of failure. As social, environmental and local economic contexts are dynamic, demonstrate the ability to upgrade the facility to a higher consequence classification or, where this is not feasible, reduce the consequences of a potential failure.
IV. MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Assign responsibility and accountability for key roles in the management of a tailings facility. Establish standards for critical systems and processes essential to upholding the integrity of a facility throughout its lifecycle. Support cross-functional collaboration and promote an organisational culture that welcomes the identification of problems and protects whistle-blowers.
Establish a community-focused emergency preparedness and response plan. Consider the adequacy of capacity both internally and externally to respond, and engage with communities and public sector and other agencies to prepare for the event of a failure. Support the long-term recovery of communities and the environment affected by a catastrophic tailings facility failure.
VI.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Disclose relevant information about the tailings facility to support public accountability. Commit to participate in global initiatives for the creation of standardised, independent, industry-wide and publicly accessible information about the safety and integrity of tailings facilities.
The Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management strives to achieve the ultimate goal of zero harm to people and the environment.

Explore the full Standard at GlobalTailingsReview.org