

Conference: Call for Contributions

Ethical Engineering of Prospering Futures (EETF26): Strategies for Sustainable Raw Materials Development

September 8 – 10, 2026

Hosted *by*: Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg (TUBAF)

A secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials is a key for economic stability, technological sovereignty, and ecological transformation. Without a reliable resource base, essential technologies such as electromobility, renewable energy, and digitalization cannot be realized. In light of geopolitical tensions, disrupted supply chains, and increasing resource scarcity, local responsible raw material production has become more relevant than ever.

At the same time, raw material projects often encounter public opposition - ranging from environmental concerns to local resistance, and questions of social justice and participation. These challenges not only complicate project implementation but also undermine trust between industry, policymakers, and society. Public acceptance has thus become a decisive success factor for sustainable raw material strategies.

This conference brings together researchers, industry and public service representatives, and other stakeholders for an open dialogue. We will explore how responsible resource extraction can align with societal values and community expectations. The goal is to develop shared perspectives and evidence-based strategies for socially responsible and publicly accepted resource extraction.

Key themes include (but are not restricted to):

- Social License to Operate – theoretical concepts and practical applications
- Acceptability and acceptance of raw material development and management
- Empirical approaches and methods for evidence-based institutional design
- Ethical sourcing and global supply chain responsibility
- Engaging indigenous communities in development and decision-making
- Education, transparency, and public engagement in resource projects
- Communication and conflict management in raw material projects
- Best-practice examples of successful stakeholder engagement
- Policy frameworks and governance for responsible resource extraction
- Regional development and benefit sharing

We invite submissions of **full papers, extended abstracts, and posters**. **Participation without a contribution** is also possible and welcome.

Keynotes	<p>Michael Paul, Geschäftsführer Technisches Ressort Wismut GmbH, Germany</p> <p>Kristina Sehlin MacNeil, Researcher and Deputy Director at Várdduo - Center for Sami Research, Umeå University, Sweden</p> <p>Michael Tost, Chair of Mining, Engineering and Mineral Economics, Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria</p>
Location	<p>Technical University Bergakademie Freiberg Faculty for Business and Economics Schlossplatzquartier Schlossplatz 1 09599 Freiberg / Germany</p> <p>The conference will take place in a hybrid format, with both on-site and online participation possible.</p>
Organizers	<p>Gari Walkowitz: Chair for Behavioral & Business Ethics (TUBAF) Theresa Wand: Graduate and Research Academy (TUBAF) Kristina Wopat: Graduate and Research Academy (TUBAF)</p>
Application & Registration	<p>Participants of the open session format are required to submit a paper or an extended abstract detailing their presentation subject.</p> <p>Submissions are exclusively accepted as PDF documents via ProSloConference@tu-freiberg.de.</p> <p>All submitted contributions undergo a peer review process. Selected and accepted contributions will be published as extended abstracts in a proceedings volume.</p> <p>All participants (with or without contribution) must register for the conference via the following link: https://tu-freiberg.de/proslo-conference-2026</p>
Fees	<p><u>Onsite participation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Researchers / PhD Students: €150 • Senior Researchers / Academics: €250 • Industry and Public Service Representatives: €250 <p><u>Online Participation:</u></p> <p>Participants from institutions located in high income countries¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Participation (with or without own contribution): €80 <p>Participants from institutions located in least developed, lower, or lower middle income countries¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Participation (with or without own contribution): €20 <p><small>¹This classification is derived from the OECD classification that can be found here: https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/oda-dac-list.html. Please use your university mail address for identification.</small></p>

Contact

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Updates and updated information on the conference, you can find here: <https://tu-freiberg.de/proslo-conference-2026>