

Presentation to the PPC on Minerals & Energy

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### **Outline**



Mintek at a glance

Mintek corporate scorecard 2021/22

- Mintek's strategic framework
- Overview of key challenges and outlook
- Concluding remarks



# Mintek at a Glance



### **Mintek Mandate**



"The objects of Mintek are through research, development and technology transfer, to promote mineral technology, and to foster the establishment and expansion of industries in the field of minerals and products derived therefrom."

(Mineral Technology Act No 30 of 1989)

Mintek is a Research and Technology Organisation (RTO)

Mintek is a Schedule 3B Entity



### **Mintek Mandate**



#### Aligning Mintek's mandate, as articulated in the Mineral Technology Act, suggests that the activities of:

- Research
- Development and
- Technology transfer

#### are pursued in order to achieve the following:

- improvement of minerals technology particularly to enable better utilisation of minerals of the Republic
- improvement of technical processes and methods particularly improve mineral production
- promotion and expansion of existing industries in the field of minerals and products derived therefrom
- establishment of new industries in the field of minerals and products derived therefrom

It is with this lens that the priorities are assessed for applicability to Mintek and alignment with goals.



### Mintek | Our focus along the mining & minerals value chain



**OFFERINGS** 

**EXPLORATION STAGE**: Geochemical sample analysis and mineral ore characterization

**CORE ACTIVITIES** Range from initial investigations to process development and the design, construction, as

well as **commissioning** of **industrial plants** 

Working closely with clients, and in conjunction with engineering partners, Mintek supplies a flexible package of technology for process development and optimisation, products and services



## Mintek's integrated value chain



**Analytical Testing** 



Mining



Mineral Processing (Concentration)



**Pyrometallurgy** 



Digital Platform



Value Addition / Manufacturing



Post Mining Landscape

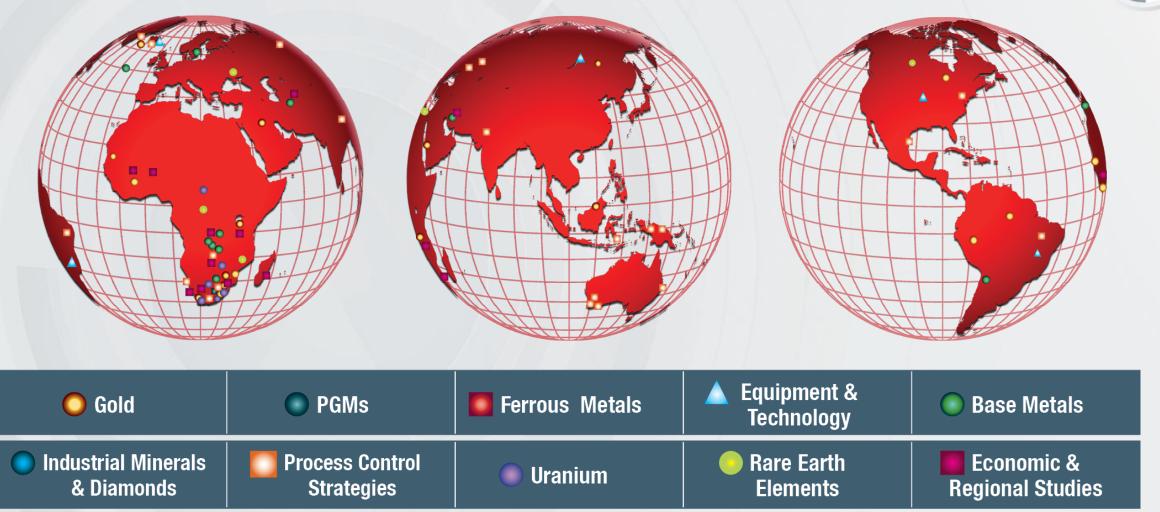


Hydrometallurgy



### Mintek's global operations







### Mintek at a Glance: 2021 preliminary results



#### **EMPLOYEES COVID TESTS TO DATE: 4 439 & SCREENING: 129 817**

Learning and Growth



Total staff base: 507

SET base: 243 (48%)

SET Mid-Senior staff: 98 (40%)



Black SET: 194 (80%)

Female SET: 129 (53%)

% SET Black Mid-Senior staff: 63%



SET - PhD: 46 (19%)

SET - MSc: 54 (22%)

SET BSc/Eng.: 69 (28%)

Financial Perspective



Products & Services: R102 m

Total Income: R542 m

Total Expenses: R551 m

Deficit: R9 m



Investment in HCD: R12 m

SET at Lower-Middle level:

145 (60%)



BEE Spent: 94%

Liquidity ratio: 1.7:1

Research,
Development
& Innovation



Journal papers: 36

Conference presentations (& webinars): 24 (80)

Books Chapters: 12

Books: 1



New patents: 5

New trade marks: 5

New technologies/prototypes: 1



Invention disclosures: 13

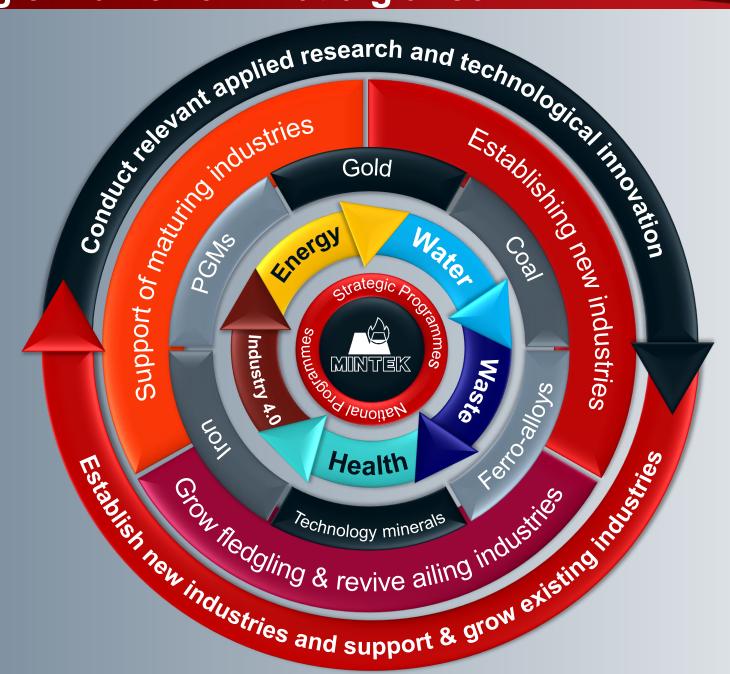
IP Licence Agreements: 0



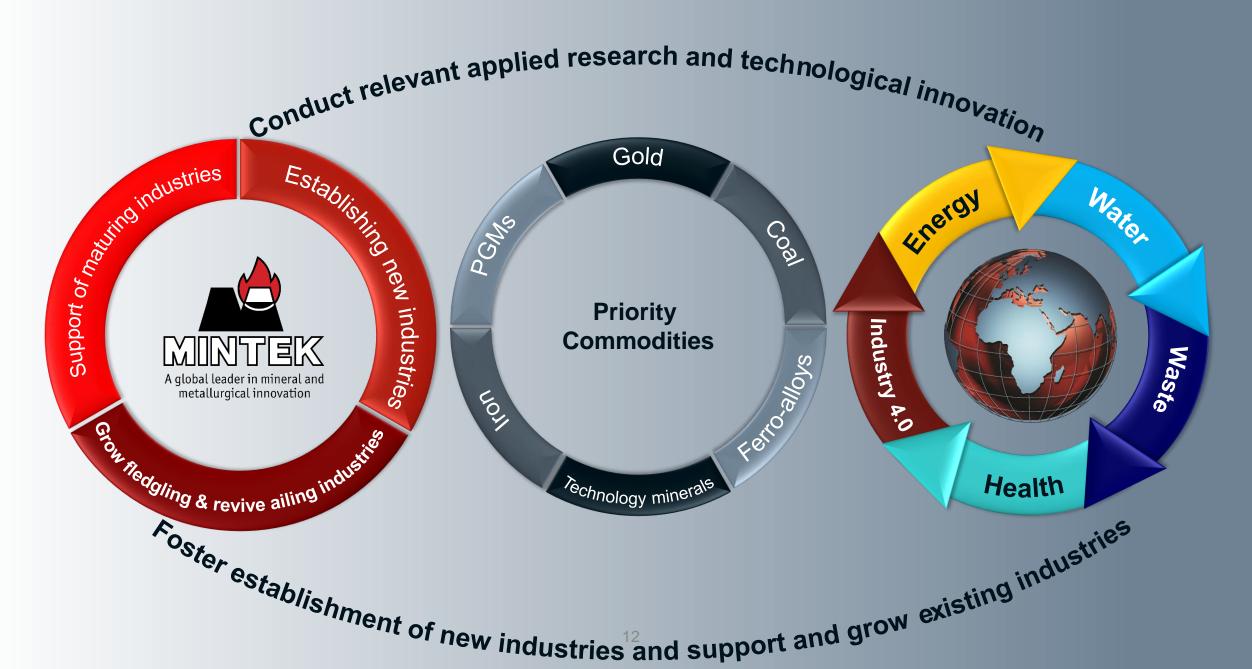
# Mintek Strategic Framework



### Mintek Strategic Framework – at a glance



## Pillars of the RDI Strategic Framework



### **Priority commodities**

#### **Importance to South Africa**

90% of global resources

#### **Current state of the industry**

- Mature, settled processing
- Changes in demand

#### **Opportunity/problem statement**

- Hydrogen economy
- Fuel cells

#### Importance to South Africa

- South African iron ore is globally in demand as sweetener in ironmaking
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest exporter of iron ore

#### **Current state of the industry**

 Grades declining, sterile deposits requires unlocking

#### Opportunity/problem statement

• Unlocking of sterile deposits, and fines



#### Importance to South Africa

- Major contributor to economy
- 4.2% of global gold production

#### **Current state of the industry**

- Declining grades
- Ageing infrastructure & technologies
- Rising costs
- Deep-level mining

#### **Opportunity/problem statement**

- Extending the life of operations
- Recovery from wastes
- Sweating assets & technical support

### **Priority commodities**

#### **Importance to South Africa**

- Major contributor to economy
- Reserves for more than >50 years

#### **Current state of the industry**

- Primary energy carrier
- Environmental pressures

#### **Opportunity/problem statement**

- Greening of coal, waste processing
- Alternative energy, gasification
- Eskom support

#### **Importance to South Africa**

- 5th largest Ni reserve
- 74% of Mn global resources
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest V reserve & high grade
- Potential to be next global REE producer

#### **Current state of the industry**

 Most minerals not primary resources, co-produced; REE deposits fragmented

#### **Opportunity/problem statement**

 Precursor metals batteries, magnets; demand for metals high; resource security a global agenda



#### **Importance to South Africa**

- Major contributor to economy
- Dominant reserve position Cr, Mn

#### **Current state of the industry**

- Smelter closures
- Dramatic rise in exports (Cr, Mn)
- Energy intensive (electricity) users

#### Opportunity/problem statement

- Renewable energy
- Hydrogen reduction
- Low-grade ore
- Revival

### Mintek Strategic Framework – at a glance

- · Core research, development and innovation programmes
- Core industry development programmes
- Strategic and national programmes
- Priority commodities
- Enabling programmes



the organisation understands the market and future opportunities

Transform how the organisation conducts R&D and delivers clients' work

**STRATEGY** 

Transform how the organisation engages with customers and the market at large

Transform the organization's culture and employee development

- Conduct any relevant, applied research and technological innovation
- Foster industry establishment and expansion
- Develop a capable workforce
- Ensure financial sustainability
- Develop and maintain worldclass RDI infrastructure

4 BUSINESS &
OPERATING DESIGN

Agile, innovative and impact-oriented operations, and focused attention on critical capabilities

Mining and minerals value chain, clustering, quality infrastructure, industry facing programmes

Collaborative, cross-functional teaming and partnerships across technical disciplines, the organisation at large and the broader market

Commercialisation, business development, technology transfer, innovation, manufacturing capabilities, business incubation, partnerships & alliances, and joint development with industry



### Key strategic focus programs, 2021-2030



- Establishing a local rare earth element mining and manufacturing industry
- Developing and manufacturing nanotechnology-based diagnostic products
- Transforming the energy mix in the energy-intensive ferroalloys industry
- Developing a hydrogen and platinum-based fuel-cell economy in South Africa
- Energy storage as an enabler of a just energy transition
- Developing clean coal technologies
- Revitalising South Africa's iron ore industry
- Unlocking the Bushveld Complex's titaniferous magnetite



### Partnership and investment opportunities



- Point of care diagnostic test kits and production of antigens and antibodies
- Fuel Cell catalyst manufacturing incubating the industry
- Energy storage The Battery Precursor Development
- Investing in a REE opportunity powered by South African minerals and Mintek Technology
- Investing in a world-class ferrochrome furnace development opportunity enabled by Mintek's smelting technology
- Investing in an integrated development for the production of vanadium, iron and titanium from the Bushveld Complex
- Revitalizing South Africa's iron ore industry
- Waste coal gasification



### Diagnostics Test Kit program: product portfolio and timelines

Short-term (2020-2022)

**Medium-term** (2023-2025)

Long-term (2026-2030)

### **Qualitative Lateral Flow POC RDTs:**

- Human Infectious:
  - ✓ Covid-19
  - ✓ HIV
  - ✓ TB
  - ✓ Malaria

#### **Quantitative RDTs:**

✓ ELISA: Covid-19

### **Qualitative Lateral Flow POC RDTs:**

- Zoonotic Infectious:
  - ✓ RVFV
  - ✓ Brucellosis
  - ✓ Bovine TB
- Human Infectious:
  - Syphilis
- Multiple detection:
  - ✓ HIV/TB
  - ✓ HIV/ Syphilis
  - ✓ Brucellosis/ Bovine TB

#### **Quantitative RDTs:**

#### **SERS** assays:

- Malaria
- TB

### <u>Fluorescent Lateral Flow</u> <u>assays</u>:

- Oncology
- Diabetes

#### **Molecular Diagnostics**

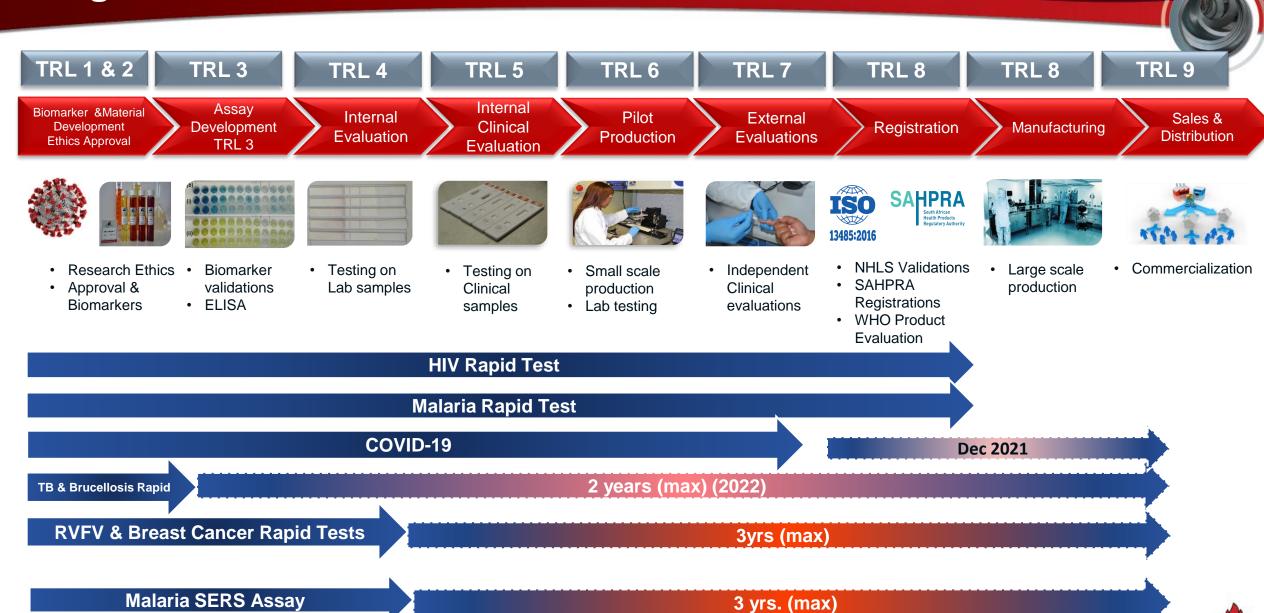
- NALFIA
- Aptamer-based lateral flow assays

#### WØRLD ECONOMIC FORUM Disease causing the most deaths in Africa Deaths per 100,000 people per year HIV/AIDS 121.9 Diarrhoeal Diseases 67.5 62.1 Malaria Ischaemic heart disease Meningitis 27.6 24.4 Tuberculosis 20.5 Diabetes mellitus Neonatal sepsis and infections 19.5 15.2 Cirrhosis of the liver

Source: WHO. 2012



### Diagnostics timelines to market





### Diagnostics reagents program: product portfolio and timelines

# Pipeline Development 2020-2022

Pipeline Development 2023-2025

## Disease Reagents Line for Diagnostics:

- Covid-19 Antibodies
- Covid-19 Antigens
- HIV Antigens
- Diagnostic Peptides

#### **Disease Reagents Line:**

- TB
- Malaria
- Diagnostic Peptides
- Cancer

### 1 11

#### **General Reagent Line:**

- Protein A/G
- Anti-mouse IgG-HRP
- Anti-rabbit IgG-HRP
- Anti-human IgG-HRP

- Cosmetic peptides
- PCR reagents
- Restriction Enzymes









### Fuel Cell program: local manufacturing





Target 5% penetration of the global PEMFC market by 2030. This would amount to:

- ➤ 840 MW FC products
- > \$350-660m revenue per year
- Approximately \$325m cumulative local investment over 2020-2030 period
- 3600 new manufacturing sector jobs
- Local beneficiation of 200-300kg platinum to high value products

At the expected market growth SA would also provide most of the 5 - 7 tons platinum required for the global 2030 PEMFC market



### Energy storage: battery precursor metals in South Africa



Electric vehicles
Smart-grid storage
Portable electronics

Electric cars, hard Drives, wind turbines
High-tech industries

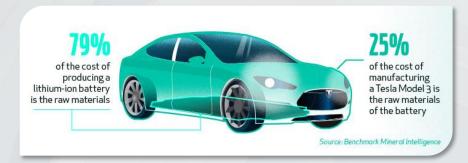


As the shift to renewable energy occurs energy storage solutions are required. The most significant cost contributor to battery storage is the cost of pre-cursor chemicals.

A specific feature of these battery precursor chemicals is exceptional purity – required to ensure high performance and short charging times



### Energy storage: high purity battery materials





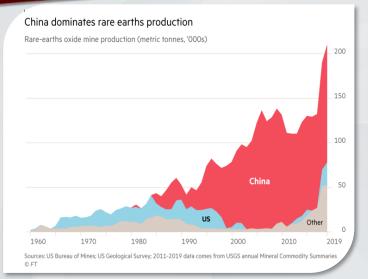
Mintek is addressing the production of these precursor battery materials – this is where most of the value lies.

#### Achievement for 2019 to 2021

- **Enhanced process developed**, combining iron exchange and solvent extraction technologies to improve purification to future battery grade specifications.
- First example being **Nicksyn reagent**, recommended for application in Nickel recovery and purification plant.
- Assessment of recycling and recovery of battery materials undertaken.
- First application of enhanced Digital Twinning of extraction of manganese successful. The computer modelling programme was more rapid than conventional laboratory testwork in developing the process which includes the introduction of direct solar heating.
- Thakadu Battery Materials commissioned R 300 million nickel sulphate refinery based on Mintek technology.

**Next step 2021 - 2022:** Additional market analysis. Marketing of the Nicksyn reagent and further technical development of other synergistic technology options.

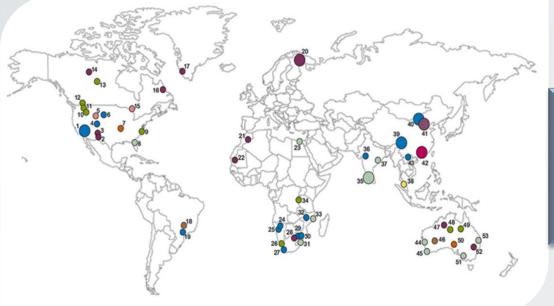
### Rear Earth Elements program: China and REE supply risks





Bayan Obo, China (Inner Mongolia)
48 Mt contained REO

- China dominates world REE production and consumption
- More than 80% production, less than 40% of world reserves
- Bayan Obo is an enormous REE resource and set China up for world dominance
- A tight supply is expected towards 2030
- Global rare earth resources are modest in size and low grade
- REE productions is dominated by a few world class deposits



No single Southern African deposit can support a global competitive \$500m processing and separation plant.

⇒ Driver to seek alternative supply

## Establishing a centralized REE refinery in South Africa

Mintek's technology suite has been shown to process all these ores in a single processing facility to produce refined REE products

- 1. Research & Development
- 2. Centralised Refining Technology demonstration (at pilot scale)
- 3. Demonstration plant to be build and feasibility study carried-out (in progress but needs funding)
- 4. Partners & investment
- 5. Construction
- 6. Commissioning
- 7. Operations



Hydrometallurgical separation

PyEarth™



High temperature concentration

Mintek's REE technologies at pilot scale

SOUTH Africa is well placed to maximise the economic value of the regional REE deposits, currently government has funded the technology development and pilot facilities – funding is being sought for the bankable feasibility study and demonstration plant.

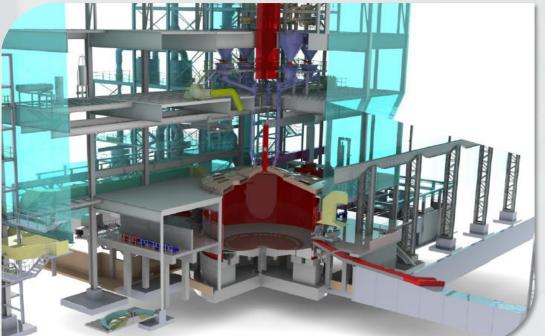
### Development of world-class Ferrochrome furnace



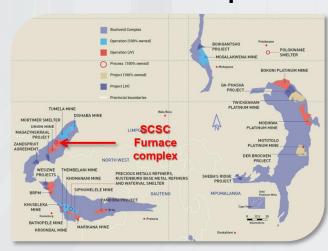


- ✓ Siyanda is an established chrome producer and this project aims to build a new smelter in South Africa (Siyanda Chrome Smelting Company ferrochrome project)
- ✓ SCSC invested in developing project and feasibility study including pilot plant demonstration test at Mintek
- ✓ Mintek pilot test processed 34% Cr grade chromite (over 110 tons) and produced a typical charge chrome product (about 40 tons)
- ✓ Technology successfully benchmarked at pilot scale against metallurgical chromite

#### Planned SCSC 70 MW DC smelter



#### **Bushveld Complex**



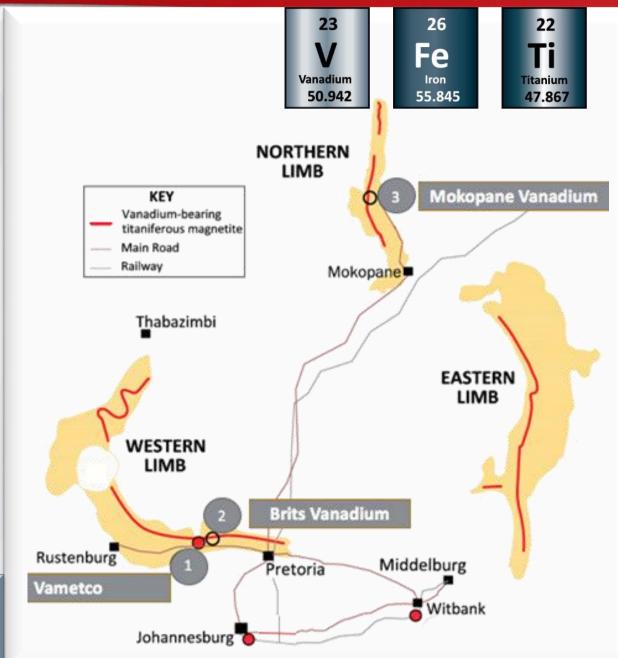
#### Pilot plant alloy (40 tons)





### Establishing a VTM smelter in South Africa: The Bushveld Complex

- Since closure of EVRAZ Highveld Steel in 2015, we have only small activity to extract vanadium (currently only three operations)
- About 90% of the world's vanadium production from the titanoniferous magnetite resources (2019) – mainly in China, New Zealand, and minor contribution from SA since Highveld Steel closure
- SA has second largest vanadium reserve globally as part of the famous Bushveld Complex
- And also contains significant economic value as iron and titanium



Note: VTM = Vanadium-bearing Titaniferous Magnetite

### **Establishing a VTM smelter in South Africa**

Mintek's fluxless open-arc smelting technology demonstrated to be superior relative to existing technologies, process flowsheet also requires INTEGRATED DEMONSTRATION step

- 1. Research & Development
- Technology demonstration √
   (more 1000 tons processed)
- 3. Feasibility study & detailed engineering (in progress) ■
- 4. Partners & investment
- 5. Construction
- 6. Commissioning
- 7. Operations





VTM demonstration facility installation commencing late 2021





### Revitalizing South Africa's iron ore industry: unlocking iron ore fines



South Africa's high grade iron ore reserves are being depleted and operating costs are increasing, however there are opportunities to unlock sterile resources and low grade material extending the life of the iron ore sector.

#### Achievement for 2019 to 2021

- Co-developed with industry **Ultra High Density Dense Media Separation** (UHDDMS) technology for the processing of iron ore fines material.
- Currently implemented at Sishen shows significant improvement.
- Kumba Iron Ore announced a new R 3.6 billion investment in an additional UHDDMS plant.
- A multi-year programme with Assmang has commenced.
- Multi year development of technology for the processing of Banded Iron Formation (BIF) ore to produce high grade iron ore commenced.

Next step for 2021 / 2022: Continuation of programme for further implementation of UHDDMS including further co-development with Kumba and Assmang. Continuation of BIF research programme as a future source of high grade iron ore.

### **IMPACT**

Revenue

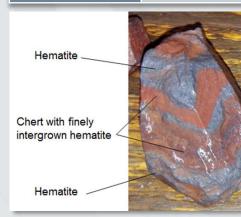
UHDDMS to yield 10.8% higher revenue than a traditional DMS

Production

Additional 3.2Mta of saleable product by May 2021 (current 41.4Mtpa)

Socio Economic Construction: 2483 direct jobs

Operational: 1059 jobs (644 direct)





### Coal as a sustainable resource of the future

The development of coal gasification technology to recover residual energy from waste coal dumps.

#### Achievement for 2019 to 2021

- Proof of concept for the gasification of coal was completed. Coal can be gasified with up to 1 MW/t of net energy produced.
- Coal gasification concept patented.
- Modelling was undertaken to confirm the viability of gas generation.
- Techno-economic modelling undertaken with CSIR and Coaltech to refine opportunity and economics.

**Next step 2021 - 2022:** Technology comparison to confirm best available technology particularly for linking gas production and energy generation to be undertaken. Design of demonstration equipment and facility to commence. Life-cycle assessments of processes to commence. Partnerships with end users to be established.

# Mintek Corporate Scorecard 2021/22



### **Key Performance Indicators for 2021/22**

Strategic Outcome - Oriented Goal	Key performance indicators	Prelim Results 2020/21	Target 2021/22	Target 2022/23	Target 2023/24
Conduct relevant, Applied research and technological innovation	Number of journal papers	36	30	33	35
	Number of conference papers	24	35	37	39
	Number of book chapters	12	5	5	6
	Number of books	1	1	1	1
	Number of invention disclosures	13	16	17	18
	Number of new patents	5	4	4	4
	Number of new trademarks	5	6	6	7
Foster industry establishment and expansion	Number of new prototypes, processes and/or models demonstrated/ validated in a relevant environment	12	20	21	22
	Income from the sale of products and services, royalties and licences (R million)	101.95	108.78	118.23	118.4
	Number of IP licences	0	1	1	1
	Number of certified reference materials (1)	n/a	6	6	7
	Number of accredited methods (1)	n/a	19	20	21

## **Key Performance Indicators for 2021/22**

Strategic Outcome - Oriented Goal	Key performance indicators	Prelim Results 2020/21	Target 2021/22	Target 2022/23	Target 2023/24
Develop a capable workforce	Total number of SET employees	243	220	225	228
	Percentage of SET staff	80%	80%	84%	88%
	Percentage of female SET staff	53%	52%	53%	53%
	Total number of SET staff with doctoral degrees	46	55	58	61
	Percentage of SET staff with doctoral degrees	19%	25%	26%	27%
	Total number of SET staff with master's degrees	54	70	73	73
	Percentage of SET staff with master's degrees	22%	32%	32%	33%
	Total number of SET staff at middle & senior levels (SP, MP and SE)	98	115	119	123
	% of black SET staff at the middle and senior levels (SP, MP and SE)	63%	65%	68%	74%

## **Key Performance Indicators for 2021/22**

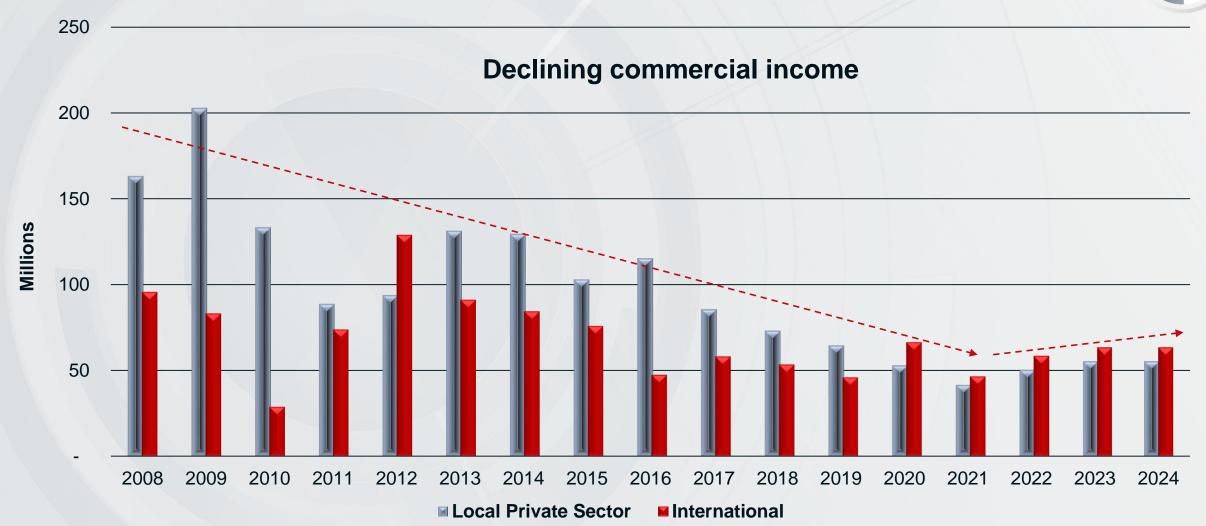
Strategic Outcome - Oriented Goal	Key performance indicators	Prelim Results 2020/21	Target 2021/22	Target 2022/23	Target 2023/24
Develop and maintain a world-class RDI capacity	Total investment in plant, property and equipment (R million)	42.14	52.2	52.9	52.9
	Total investment in human capital development (R million)	11.63	14	14.2	14.5
	Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate	0	<1	<1	<1
	Client Satisfaction Frequency Rate	94%	90%	90%	90%
	Number of accredited facilities (1)	n/a	5	5	5
	Safety, Health, Environment and Quality	Accreditation maintained	Maintain accreditation	Maintain accreditation	Maintain accreditation
Ensure financial sustainability	Total income (R million)	542.16	568.7	590.2	587.1
	Net result (R million)	-9.02	0.6	9.4	5.1
	Contract R&D income (R million)	56.21	14.7	15.5	16.3
	BEE spend as a percentage of procurement spend	94.01%	85%	90%	90%
	Audit opinion	Unqualified	Unqualified	Unqualified	Unqualified

## Overview of Key Challenges and Outlook



## Financial sustainability



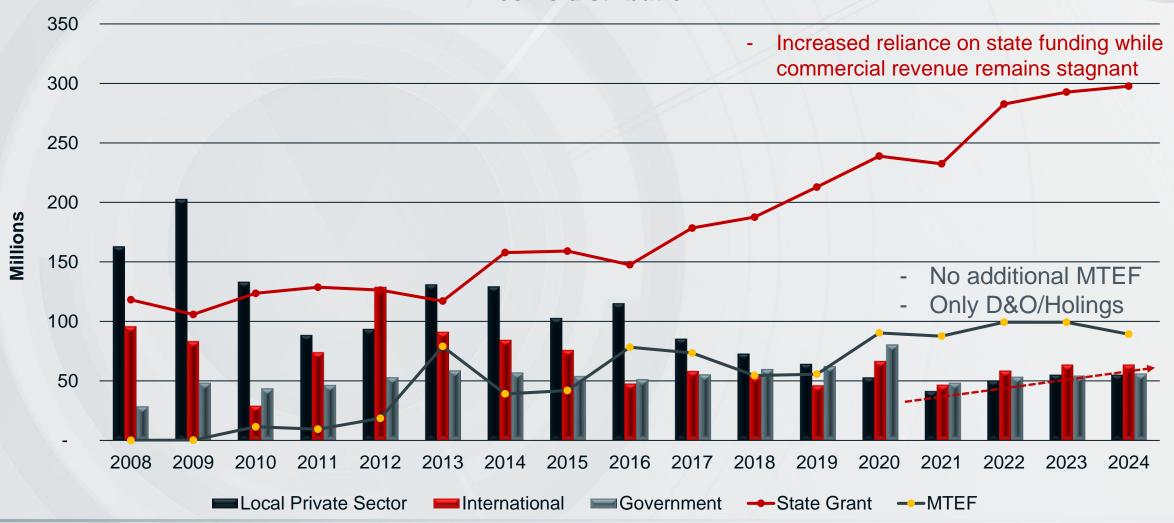




### Revenue sources



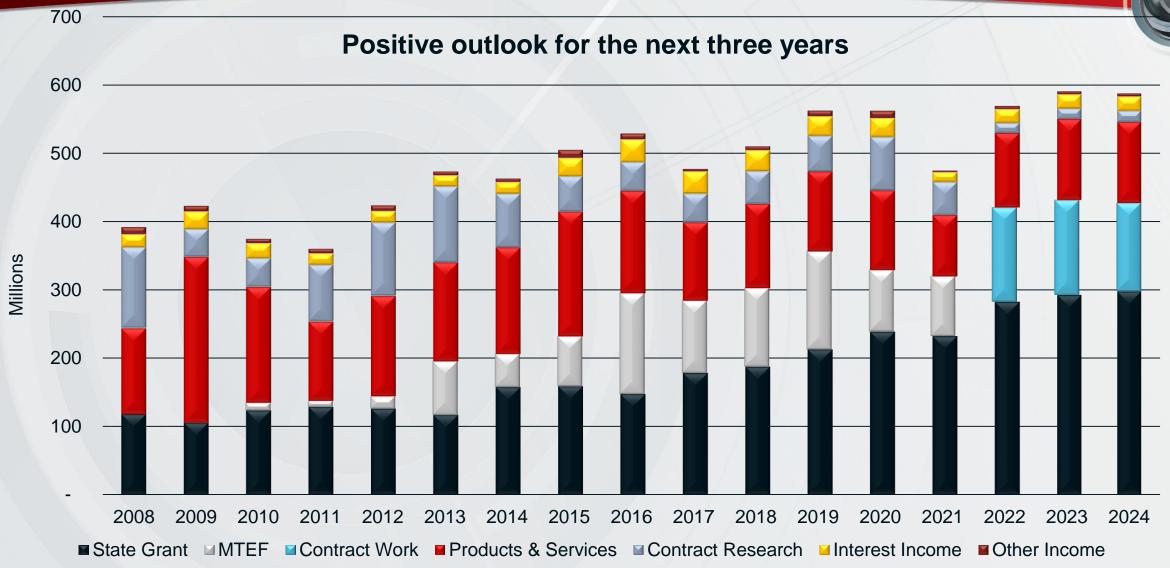
#### **Income distribution**





### Revenue sources



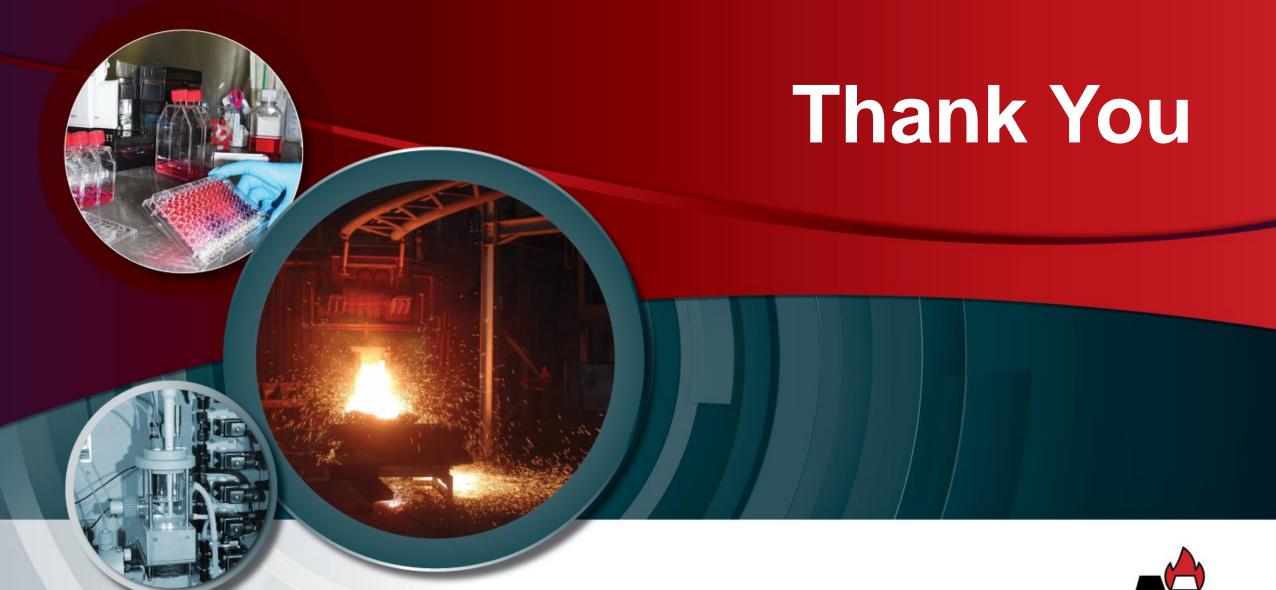




### **Concluding remarks**

- Mintek is in a transition phase to fully align with our role as a research and technology organisation.
- We are implementing a new strategy that has already begun to deliver results with an improvement in the SET staff number, experience and qualification profile.
- Mintek is building capacity in business development and commercialization.
- Notwithstanding the difficult economic climate and the Covid-19 pandemic, we will
  continue to manage our risks and implement mitigating measures.
- We addressing the challenge of balancing our revenue sources by diversifying our funding streams.





#### **MINTEK CONTACT DETAILS**

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