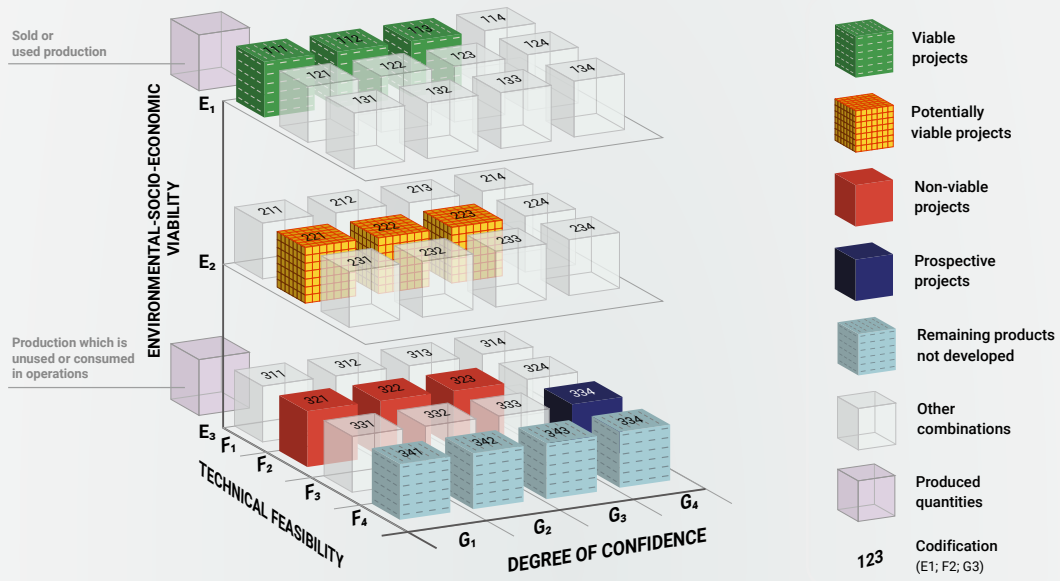


UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CLASSIFICATION FOR RESOURCES (UNFC)



What is UNFC?

United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) is an international scheme for the classification, management and reporting of energy, mineral, and raw material resources.



What are the benefits of using UNFC?



Simple to use



Combines all resources such as **energy, minerals and ground water** into one global classification system



Informs on **environmental, social and governmental issues** at **local, regional, and national level**

Where does UNFC come from?

UNFC was endorsed by the **United Nations Economic and Social Council** in 2004. Case studies have been undertaken across various sectors of society to align with existing international reporting standards in Europe and beyond.

UNFC was developed by the **Expert Group on Resource Management at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**.

Regular consultations with policymakers, industry, and civil society support further development of guidance and case studies. Implementation of UNFC is made possible thanks to funding from the European Union.



Why UNFC is important?

The scaling-up of sustainable raw materials management is critical to attaining the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, the **Paris Agreement**, and the **European Green Deal**.

UNFC is an important tool to analyse the availability and sustainability of critical resources. It forms a pivotal part of the recent UN Secretary-General's policy brief Transforming Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development. UNFC addresses more than just environmental concerns. It classifies and manages all resources in a consistent manner to bring together stakeholders for a principles-based approach of management, development, investing and planning.



How does UNFC work?

UNFC assists **regional and national** authorities to establish and maintain an inventory of primary and secondary raw materials projects in Europe. The mineral and anthropogenic resource inventory based on an agreed UN framework will ensure harmonized decision-making on **technical feasibility, socio-environmental concerns, and the commercial potential** of raw material projects.

Policymakers are encouraged to implement UNFC with support available from the United Nations. Personalised trainings and expert support are available for interested parties.



"The European Union is proud to support this initiative to classify, manage and report natural resources globally. We count on national governments to implement UNFC to make sustainable resource management a reality."

Peter Handley

Head of Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials, European Commission



"UNFC is a vital tool to connect the excellent work being done already in the EU Critical Raw Materials Database and National Raw Materials Management Systems. Policymakers should embrace UNFC now to raise standards and improve consistency for further international cooperation."

Charlotte Griffiths

Chief of Section, Sustainable Energy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

For more information about UNFC please contact reserves.energy@un.org or please check our website unece.org/sustainable-energy