

12th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINERALS INDUSTRY

Medellin,
Colombia



July 14 to 16,
2026

Milla de Oro, El Poblado

Sustainability in:



International speakers / Commercial experiences / Mining experience

Info:
cursosignea_med@unal.edu.co



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DE COLOMBIA

Building the Future of Sustainable Mining

SDIMI 2026 is not just a conference it is a strategic platform where academia, industry leaders, government authorities, financial stakeholders, and global organizations converge to define the next era of sustainable mineral development.

Hosted in Medellín, Colombia - one of Latin America's most dynamic innovation hubs - SDIMI 2026 offers a unique opportunity to engage with decision-makers and thought leaders shaping the minerals industry worldwide.



Registration Fees

Before May 30th

International Participants:

USD \$400

National Participants:

COP \$1.200.000

After USD \$450 y \$1.300.000

Your participation includes:

- Full access to technical sessions (July 14–16, 2026)
- Welcome reception
- Official conference dinner
- Field experience (optional registration may apply)
- High-level networking spaces
- Digital proceedings and certification



Call for abstracts

The Organizing Committee of SDIMI 2026 warmly invites researchers, professionals, industry representatives, and policy-makers from around the world to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations.

Since its inception in 2003, the SDIMI Conference Series has provided a global platform to advance sustainable development principles in the minerals industry, integrating environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic performance. SDIMI 2026 will continue this tradition, emphasizing practical pathways toward a resilient and equitable mining future.

Key Dates

Abstract submission deadline	April 5, 2026
Notification of acceptance	April 30, 2026
Early registration opens	May 1, 2026
Submission of extended abstracts	June 15, 2026
Conference dates	July 14–16, 2026

Abstract Submission Guidelines

- Abstract length: Maximum 300 words, written in English.
- Format: Include the title, authors' names and affiliations, and corresponding author's email.
- Keywords: Up to five (5) keywords.
- Template: Please use the abstract template available at <https://sdimi.enlaceingenieria.co/>
- Deadline for submission: April 5, 2026
- Notification of acceptance: April 30, 2026

Presentation Types

- Oral Presentations: 15–20 minutes, including discussion.
- Poster Presentations: Presented during dedicated interactive sessions.



Publication Opportunity

Selected abstracts at SDIMI 2026 will be invited to submit extended versions for peer review and potential publication in the Sustainable Development Collection of the journal Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (MMEX).

This initiative, offers authors the opportunity to increase the global visibility and academic impact of their research while contributing to advancing sustainable development in the minerals industry.

Submit your abstract and share your research, expanding its global impact while contributing to a more sustainable future for the minerals industry.



The main topics of this meeting are:

- Reporting strategies
- Socio-economic indicators
- Environmental indicators
- Technical and operational indicators
- Cases from mining and other industries
- Different political approaches in global context
- Multinational views and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Examples of sustainable development practices in mining
- Certification or auditing of indicators
- Site and sector specific indicators (metal, minerals, coal and energy)
- Data quality in terms of aggregation, availability, transparency and addressee
- Digitalization and Smart Mining for Sustainability (big data, artificial intelligence, and digital twins to optimize indicators and reduce impacts).
- Climate Resilience and Mining (adaptation and mitigation strategies for mining operations under climate change).
- Critical Minerals and the Energy Transition (the role of mining in global supply chains for clean energy technologies).
- Life cycle assessment
- Mine closure
- Recovery of mining environmental liabilities
- Just Transition and Local Communities (balancing mine closure, employment, and new sustainable opportunities).
- Water and Sustainability in Mining (water resource management, recycling, and water balance as key indicators).
- Circular Economy and Secondary Mining (valorization of waste and tailings for metal recovery).
- Gender Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Sustainable Mining (as part of social sustainability indicators).
- Data Governance and Transparency in Mining (blockchain, traceability, and responsible supply chains). Sustainability in Artisanal and
- Small-Scale Mining (ASM) (adapting sustainability indicators to ASM contexts).
- Sustainable Financing and ESG in Mining (green bonds, responsible investment, and ESG criteria applied to the mining industry).



Agenda

We want to contribute to creating a sustainable mining industry, not only in Colombia, but also in our Latin American and global neighborhood and this is an excellent opportunity to reach a very broad audience, from industry, government and academia.

The meeting program will include two and a half days of regular sessions and a field day to visit a mine closure. We plan to organize diverse sessions, both in content and format, with the goal of fostering interactive and collaborative events. Six to eight months before the meeting, we will solicit proposals from interested attendees to define specific session topics. The Organizing Committee will then review and select the best proposals to develop a coherent program.

Monday, July 13 - 2026	
Evening	Cocktail reception
Tuesday, July 14 - 2026	
Morning	Registration – Technical sessions
Afternoon	Technical sessions
Night	Reception and cultural event
Wednesday, July 15 - 2026	
Morning	Technical sessions
Afternoon	Technical sessions
Evening	Main event dinner
Thursday, July 16 - 2026	
Morning	Main event dinner
Afternoon	Field trip (optional)



Meet the global voices of sustainable mining

Join industry leaders who are redefining the future of the minerals sector



Jürgen Kretschmann

German economist and international leader in mining education and sustainable resource management. He served as President of the Technische Hochschule Georg Agricola (THGA) in Bochum (2006–2022) and currently chairs DMT-Gesellschaft für Lehre und Bildung mbH, while also serving as Professor at RWTH Aachen University.

His work focuses on mining management, resource sustainability, post-mining strategies, and risk management, and he has been recognized internationally as Distinguished Fellow of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).



Juan María Menéndez

Full Professor of Mineral Processing Technology at the University of Oviedo and Director of the Asturias Raw Materials Institute. He earned his PhD at the same university with research on energy consumption in rock fragmentation.

His research focuses on energy efficiency in comminution, mineral liberation, and sustainable mineral processing, including the recovery of critical metals from industrial and mining residues. He has participated in over 120 research projects, published 80–90 scientific papers, and supervised more than 25 PhD theses.



Juan C. Lucena

Director of the Humanitarian Engineering Program and Professor of Engineering, Design & Society at the Colorado School of Mines. He holds a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from Virginia Tech and degrees in Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Author of widely cited books such as *Engineering Justice* and *Engineering and Sustainable Community Development*, his research focuses on social justice, sustainability, and ethics in engineering, integrating technology, community participation, and global development.



Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena

Professor at the Facultad de Minas, Universidad Nacional de Colombia sede Medellín, with more than 28 years of experience in mining, extractive metallurgy, materials science, and sustainable resource development. He holds a PhD in Metallurgy and Materials from the University of Oviedo, Spain.

He leads the Ignea Research Group and collaborates internationally on sustainable mining, materials innovation, water management in artisanal mining, and mercury reduction.



Travel & practical information



Air service

The airport destined for the arrival of the participants is Jose Maria Cordoba International Airport in Rionegro (MDE).

Jose Maria Cordoba International Airport in Rionegro is located 25 km from the Medellín Marriott hotel in Medellín. It is about a 30 minutes driving in non-rush hour traffic. This terminal currently operates 11 international destinations.



Ground transportation

At the Jose Maria Cordoba Airport (Rionegro) in the main exit you can take a taxi, this will take approximately 30 minutes to the city of Medellín.



Visa and travel documents to Colombia

Most countries of the event participants do not require a visa to travel to Colombia. However, check if your country requires a visa at the following link.

https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites_servicios/visa/requisitos

Please contact your local Colombia embassy/consulate for more information. If you need an entry visa, we will send you an invitation letter to be submitted with your visa application.



Dress code and climate

The recommended conference attire is business casual. For the Awards event, suits and ties for the men and dresses for the ladies are recommended. Temperatures in Medellín range from 20 to 25 degrees Celsius.



Banking / Credit Cards

In Colombia major credit cards are generally accepted including American Express, Diners Club, Master and Visa Card.



Flights Details

Medellín is the capital of Antioquia Department and the second biggest city in Colombia, its International airport José María Córdoba is located in Rionegro town which is 30 minutes away from Medellín.

Its strategic location allow that everyone could arrive to Medellín from any city of the world, there is a direct flight from Madrid, Spain to Medellín or two flights from Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania. Those coming from Europe can also fly from Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam and/or Madrid to Panama City and/or Bogota, and then less than one hour from Panama City/Bogota to Medellín. There is a plenty of flights from major US cities to either Medellín, or to Panama City/Bogota, and then to Medellín.



Recommended hotels

To facilitate your stay in Medellín during SDIMI 2026, we suggest the following hotels located near the conference venue CODE SDIMI2026



Hotel San Fernando Plaza

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 604 444 5353
- ✉ reservas@hotelsanfernandoplaza.com
- 🌐 www.hotelsanfernandoplaza.com



Hotel Portón Medellín

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 604 475 53 30
- ✉ reservas.portonmedellin@ghlhoteles.com
- 🌐 www.hotelportonmedellin.com



Hotel Diez

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 604 448 1034 - (+57) 313 712 6061
- ✉ reservas@diezhotel.com
- 🌐 www.diezhotel.com



Hotel Pak 10

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 314 834 76 89
- ✉ reservas.park10@dgroupe.com.co
- 🌐 www.park10hotel.com



Recommended hotels



Gran Hotel Medellín

- 📍 Centro
- ☎ (+57) 604 513 44 55 - (+57) 316 482 4343
- ✉ reservas@granhotel.com.co
- 🌐 www.granhotel.com.co



Hotel Ibis Medellín

- 📍 Ciudad del Río
- ☎ (+57) 604 590 35 65 - (+57) 350 213 85 86
- ✉ ibis.medellin@accor.com
- 🌐 www.all.accor.com



Hotel Dann Carlton Medellín

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 604 444 51 51
- ✉ reservas.portonmedellin@ghlhoteles.com
- 🌐 www.danncarlton.com



Hotel Four Points Sheraton medellín

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 604 319 74 00
- ✉ asistente.eventos@fourpointsmedellin.com
- 🌐 www.marriott.com



NH Collection Medellín Royal

- 📍 El Poblado
- ☎ (+57) 314 834 76 89
- ✉ nhcollectionroyalmedellin@nh-hotels.com
- 🌐 www.minorhotels.com

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