

MINING LICENCE PROCESS MAP CAMBODIA


LICENCE:
EXPLORATION
RESOURCE TYPE:
**METALS &
MINERALS**
SCALE:
LARGE-SCALE
ACTORS:

 Applicant
(Explorer)

 Ministry of Mines
and Energy

 Department of
Environmental Impact
Assessment

 (within the Ministry of the
Environment)

 Evaluation
Committee

This process map depicts the process of awarding an exploration licence in Cambodia.

The Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) is responsible for granting mining and exploration licences. It is responsible for receiving, processing and administering mining rights.

The MME determines which land is available for mineral exploration, and then invites interested parties to submit an application for a mineral exploration licence. Before applying, applicants must first conduct an initial environmental impact assessment, which must include consultation with affected communities.

An Evaluation Committee made up of members appointed by the Minister of Mines and Energy then conducts due diligence on the applicants and assesses the applications based on technical and financial criteria. The applicant that receives the highest score is granted the licence. If two applicants receive the same high score, the licence is awarded on a first come, first served basis.

The exploration license is valid for three years and may be renewed twice, for two years each time.



EXPLORATION

STEPS:
ACTORS:

1 PRELIMINARY AREA ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATION

The Ministry of Mines and Energy assesses which area may be explored. This is determined through a discussion that includes the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Ministry of Environment, and other relevant stakeholders such as the provincial government and key civil society organisations.



- 1.1** The Ministry of Mines makes a determination on what land may be explored. Before granting a mineral exploration license in a prohibited or protected area, the Ministry of Mines and Energy must first get approval from the responsible ministry or authorities that manage those areas.


2 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Interested parties conduct an Initial Environmental Impact Assessment (IEIA). This must include consultation with communities and local authorities living in and around the proposed mining project.



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3 CALL FOR APPLICANTS

The Ministry of Mines and Energy issues a notification to invite interested parties to apply for a mineral exploration licence. The notification is published on the MME's website and shared through social media.



4 LODGE APPLICATION FOR BIDDING

The applicant must submit 14 documents, including the IEIA. The IEIA must be endorsed by the Ministry of Environment before the applicant submits it to the MME with their application. All documents that are submitted are made public.



5 PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMPLAINT PROCESS

The MME publicly announces the proposed area available for exploration, as well as the applicants who have applied to explore the area. It also notifies the municipal, provincial, district and commune authorities.



45
DAYS

5.1 Any legal person can submit any concerns or complaints to the provincial or municipal Department of Mines and Energy or national level Ministry of Mines and Energy within 45 days.

45
DAYS

5.2 The Minister of Mines and Energy must assess and resolve the complaints within 45 days after receiving them.



6 EVALUATION

The Evaluation Committee evaluates the applications following three steps:



6.1 The Department of Industrial Mining, a member of the Evaluation Committee, evaluates the application form and the required 14 documents.

6.2 The Evaluation Committee conducts a due diligence check on the applicants. Only the applicants that pass this step will proceed to the following step for further technical evaluation and scoring.

6.3 The Evaluation Committee conducts a technical evaluation and scores the applicants according to set criteria (totalling 750 points for the technical score and 250 points for the financial score).



7 LICENCE APPROVAL



7.1 REJECT

Unsuccessful applicants receive an official letter from the Ministry of Mines and Energy informing them they did not pass the evaluation.

7.2 ACCEPT

The Ministry of Mines and Energy issues an official letter to the successful applicant. They must come to the MME within 15 days of receiving the letter to proceed to the next step. The exploration license is valid for three years and may be renewed twice, for two years each time.

15
DAYS



8 EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES CAN COMMENCE