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### **Proposing a new cost-efficient mineral processing technology to recover by-products from primary sources**

The new Horizon 2020-funded project, ION4RAW (ionometallurgy of primary sources for an enhanced raw materials recovery) will run for four years and involves thirteen partners from six countries across Europe as well as the United Kingdom and Peru. Coordinated by IDENER, it gathers SMEs, research and technical organisations and innovation actors.

ION4RAW will develop a new energy- and material-efficient mineral processing technology to recover by-products from primary sources by means of innovative Deep Eutectic Solvent (DES) ionic liquids and advanced electro-recovery as an only step.

Most of the targeted by-products elements are [Critical Raw Materials](#) such as bismuth (Bi), germanium (Ge), indium (In), cobalt (Co), platinum (Pt) and antimony (Sb). Accompanying major product metals, e.g. copper (Cu), silver (Ag) and gold (Au), may also be recovered by this process.

The technical feasibility of this concept is supported by the technology readiness level (TRL) of 2-3 requiring research to prove feasibility. From this starting point, the ION4RAW project aims to reach TRL 5 by implementing a process prototype by tapping into the competencies of the consortium members.

In addition, the project has a promising business potential since it will allow mining and mineral processing companies to fully exploit by-product potential by recovering them at their own facilities. This will eventually contribute to the [EIP Raw Materials Strategic Implementation Plan](#), unlocking the full potential of Europe's inner wealth by converting new and currently unexploited resources into reserves.

The project's partners met on 13-14 June 2019 in Seville to officially launch the project and review the objectives and work plan. The kick-off meeting ended with partners collectively brainstorming on the expected benefits and impacts of the project.

The **ION4RAW** website will be released soon at [www.ion4raw.eu](http://www.ion4raw.eu). If you would like to know more about the project or would like to receive regular updates on its progress, [sign up](#) for our annual newsletter or please contact:

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*ION4RAW kick-off meeting on 13 June 2019*

## MORE INFORMATION

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PARTNERS	
Name	Country
IDENER	Spain
BRGM	France
CSM	Italy
CUM	Peru
HZDR	Germany
LGI	France
LUR	Spain
PNO	Belgium
SG	UK
SINTEF	Norway
TECNALIA	Spain
TUF	Germany
WAI	UK

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