

# Swedish mining in sustainable futures

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SveMin

SIP | STRIM

# About SEI

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- Established in 1989 by the Swedish government
- #1 environmental policy think tank globally in 2019
- Work in most areas related to sustainable development
- Staff of ~300, about 80 at HQ in Stockholm

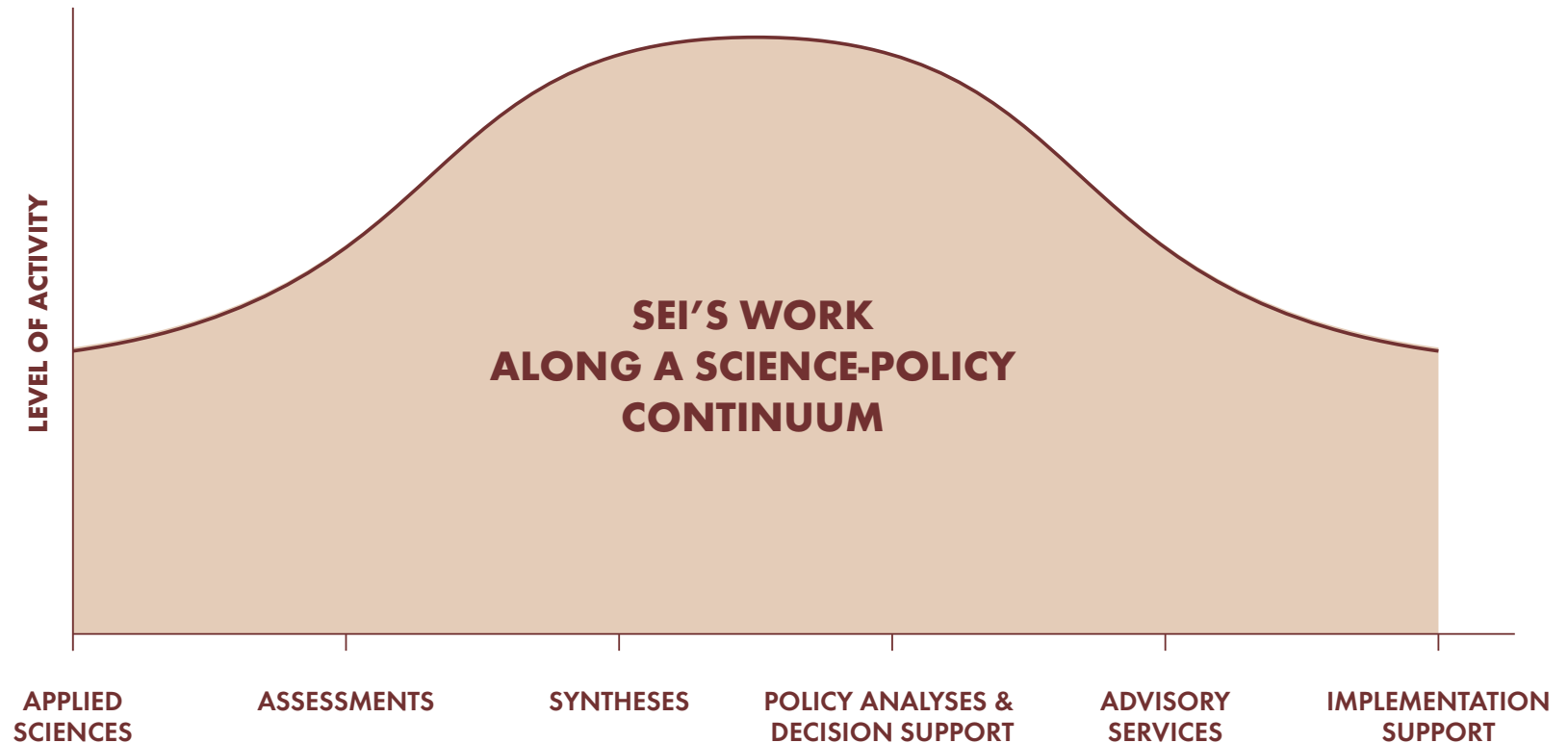
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## Centres



# What does SEI do?

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# SEI in Peru:

## Supporting Water Security

**Location:** Quilca Chili, Chancay Lambayeque, and Chira Piura

**Date of project:** 2015 – 2017

**Participating institutions:**

SEI, USAID, IADB

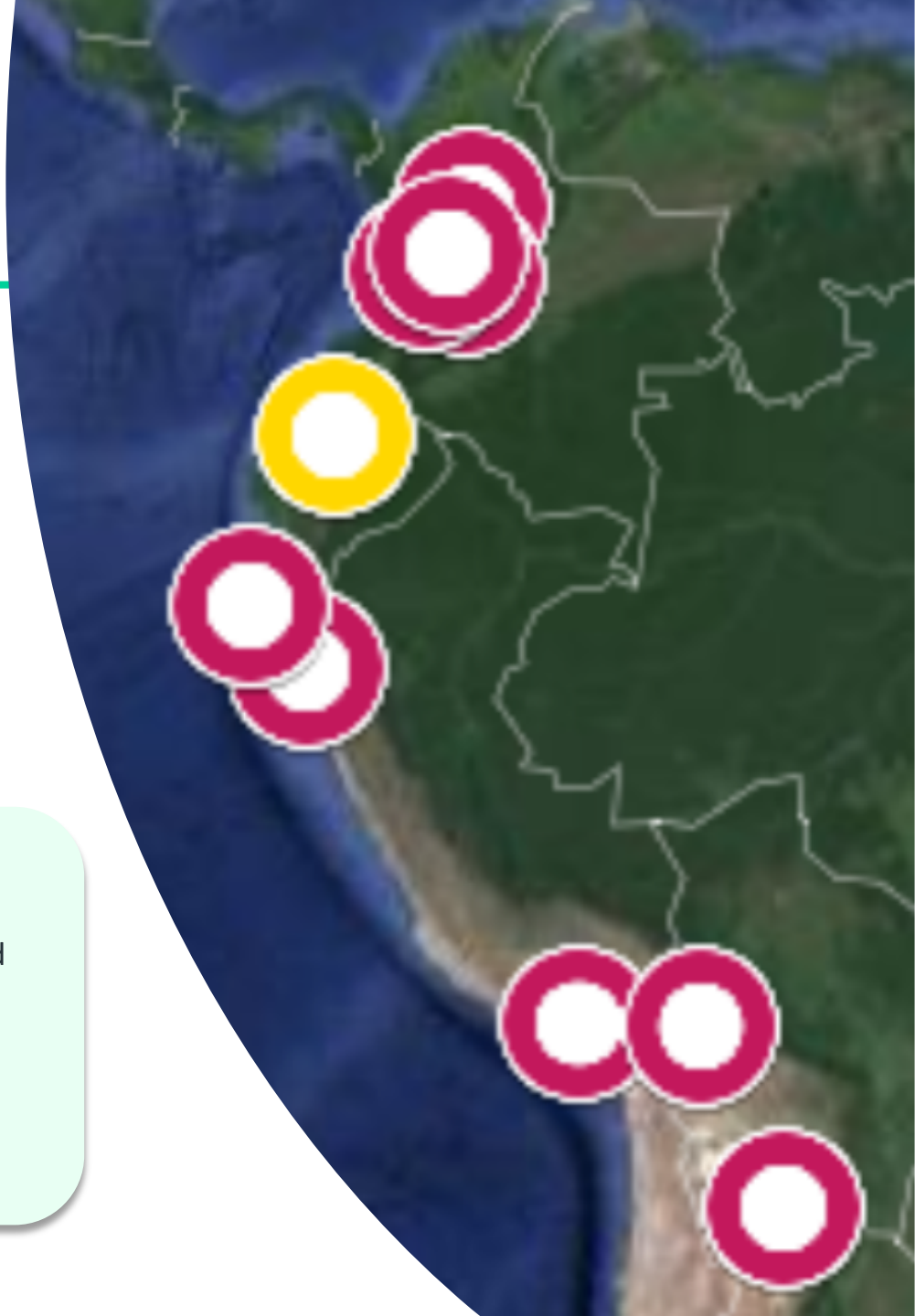
River Basin Councils and Technical Secretariats of local ANAs

Contact: Marisa Escobar, SEI-US

This project supported water resource planning and climate change adaptation processes in these regions.

Technical analysis and participatory processes enabled local institutions to test performance of different combinations of adaptation actions.

The process led to strong case for financing of best combinations to achieve more resilient watershed management.



# Background

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- Demand for metals and other materials will continue to increase to meet both Paris targets and 2030 Agenda
- But mining is associated with sustainability challenges related to GHG emissions, water quality and land use conflicts
- How to reconcile these?

# Sweden & mining

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- Arguably most important mining country in EU
- 90% of EU iron ore mined in Sweden
- 30% of EU lead, 10% of EU copper, 25% of EU silver, 25% of EU Zinc

# Mining in Sweden

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(<https://www.sgu.se/globalassets/mineralnaring/mineralanvandning-sverige-webbversion.pdf>, page 3)

(Pictures from Geological Survey of Sweden)



# Recent Swedish mining history

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- 1991: Minerals liberalisation
- 2000-2013: "mining boom"
- 2013: Mineral strategy
- 2013-today: lower metals prices, legal defeats, protests,...



(Iron ore price 2000-2019)

# Current issues

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- On the one hand: strong push for innovation and breakthrough projects
- On the other hand: controversy and long delays around permitting, esp for establishment of greenfield mines



Sustainable  
Underground  
Mining



<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-28547314>

# Project objective

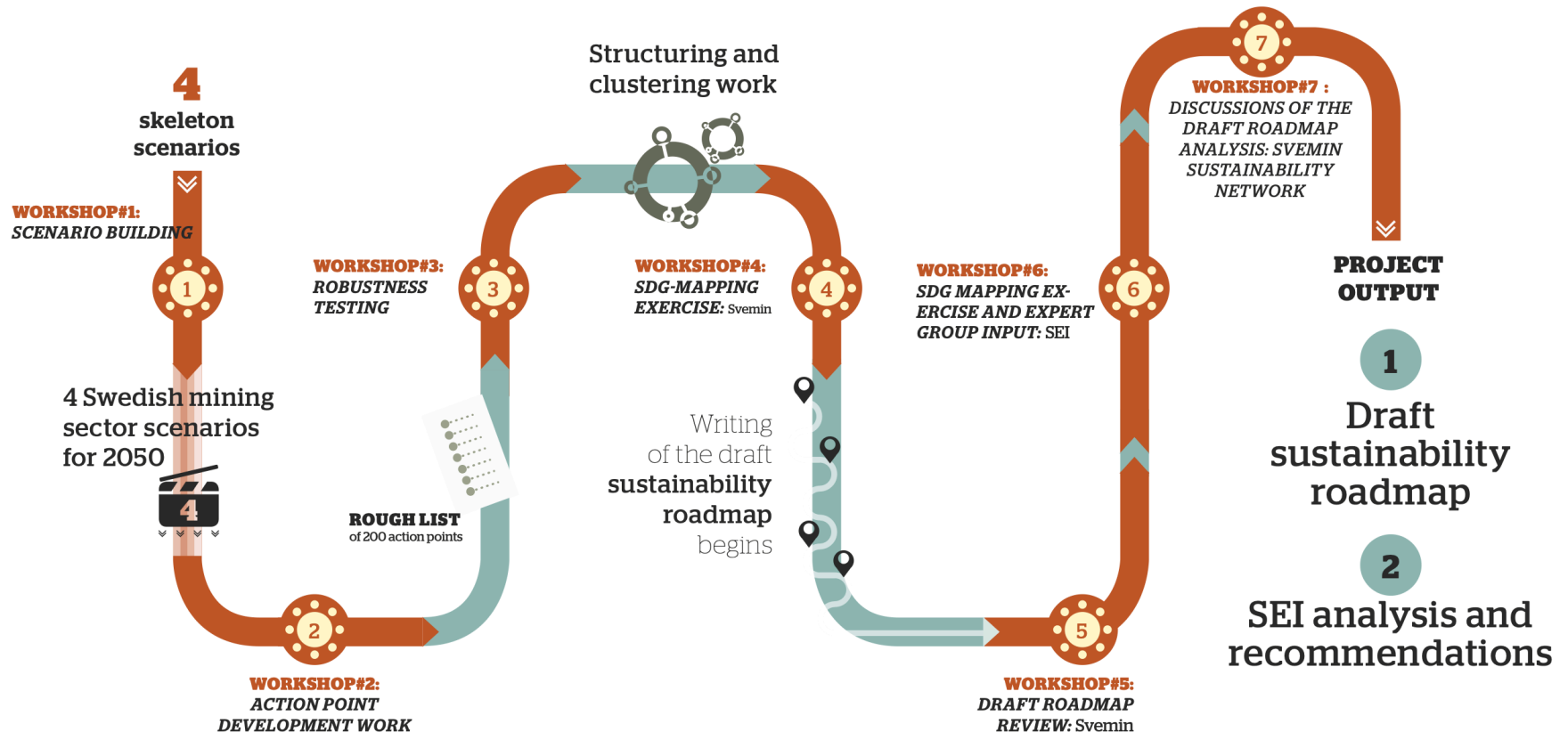
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*“...starting from a set of future scenarios, analyze the interaction between society and the Swedish mining sector in a sustainable societal transformation”*



<https://www.sei.org/publications/swedish-mining-sustainable-futures/>

# Project process



# Future scenarios

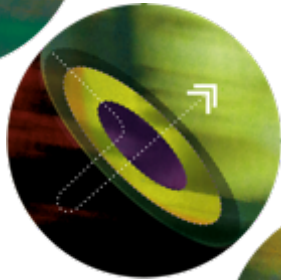
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Mining for a globalized sustainable world



New solutions in the wake of re-regionalization



Business-driven revival of the 2030 agenda



The "glocal" mine

# Different futures – reoccurring issues

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- Increased circularity
- Traceability and sustainability certification
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Addressing conflicts over land use

# 6 areas of action

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Make the mining sector an increasingly circular raw material hub for society



Define “sustainable mining” in dialogue with the global community



Develop permitting processes, taking a wide range of sustainability considerations into account



Build credibility and create business value through transparency and traceability



Strengthen engagement locally and nationally



Develop a collaborative approach to sustainable raw materials supply

# SEI analysis

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- Transforming high sustainability performance into higher product prices – difficult but necessary
- Strengthen ambition to resolve land use issues, especially related to reindeer herding
- The invisible mine – a moonshot project for Swedish mining?



# Thank you!

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