

'Peru is key': Government and the private sector present record delegation for IMARC 2026 in Sydney



The Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINEM) has officially confirmed the participation of the largest Peruvian delegation in its history at the International Mining and Resources Conference – IMARC 2026, to be held in late October in Sydney, Australia. Declared to be of sectoral interest, the mission will seek to showcase the country's geological potential and attract investment under the slogan "Peru is key: your strategic ally for mining". The trade strategy in Australia will include an institutional pavilion, bilateral meetings with investment funds and strategic meetings at the ASX Stock

Exchange. The Australian Ambassador to Peru, James Yeomans, highlighted the "natural complementarity" between the two nations in the face of the global energy transition. Meanwhile, Carlos Castro, president of the Australia-Peru Chamber of Commerce (APCCI), emphasised that the country's fifth consecutive year participating consolidates a relationship based on long-term credibility. Castro pointed out that the major challenge facing the delegation — which will feature an exclusive block of over five hours called 'Peru Time' — is to turn Peru's

vast wealth of critical minerals into a genuine competitive advantage. Finally, the Minister for Energy and Mines, Guillermo Shinno Huamaní, stressed that geological potential alone is not enough; it requires urgent support in the form of innovation, exploration and specialised professionals — areas in which Australia is a world leader. The minister confirmed that the national delegation will convey a unified and strong message to international markets: Peru is open to investment, to the adoption of cutting-edge technology and to the forging of long-term strategic partnerships. ●

IMARC 2026 y el puente tecnológico hacia el futuro

La próxima edición de IMARC 2026 en Australia representa para el Perú mucho más que una vitrina comercial; es una oportunidad inmejorable para acelerar nuestra modernización minera integral. En una era donde los yacimientos superficiales escasean, la exploración profunda y la operación responsable exigen ciencia de vanguardia.

En este escenario, Australia se alza como el socio estratégico ideal. Su liderazgo global en la gestión de información geocientífica —reflejado en hitos como su National Virtual Core Library y el uso de Inteligencia Artificial para mapear prospectividad mineral— marca la pauta de lo que nuestra industria requiere. La urgente digitalización de nuestro patrimonio y el fortalecimiento del INGEMMET deben nutrirse de este valioso *know-how* internacional.

Pero el aporte australiano va más allá de los estudios tempranos. Las empresas METS (Equipos, Tecnología y Servicios Mineros) de ese país siguen firmes en la carrera de la innovación, procurando brindar constantemente a las operaciones mineras nuevas herramientas y soluciones disruptivas que garanticen la eficiencia, la seguridad y una auténtica mejora continua.

Adoptar estándares de datos abiertos para reducir el riesgo exploratorio e integrar estas innovaciones METS en nuestras minas es una ventaja competitiva indispensable. IMARC 2026 debe consolidar esta alianza bilateral: el Perú posee una riqueza indiscutible y Australia tiene la llave tecnológica para potenciarla.

Mónica Belling Salas

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Backed by a growing wave of investments and a shared commitment to sustainability, the mining alliance between Australia and Peru is reaching new heights. Ahead of Peru's historic participation at IMARC 2026, ProActivo spoke exclusively with Australian Ambassador James Yeomans about critical minerals, the integration of artificial intelligence, and how Australian technology is helping optimize Peruvian operations for the future.

By Mónica Belling

After your first few months as Ambassador, how do you see Australian capital assessing the competitiveness of mining projects in Peru compared with other markets in the region?

Australian investors continue to have confidence in Peru and in the potential of its mining sector. This year, we have seen clear examples of that confidence through significant Australian investments in the industry. For instance, Australian company Fortescue has invested in the Cañariaco copper project in Lambayeque, which is regarded as one of the most promising copper projects in Latin America. Another example is Australian company Bradken, which inaugurated its steel mill liner manufacturing plant in Chilca, Cañete. Through this investment, Bradken has established Peru as its regional hub. Both examples reflect the long-term commitment and confidence of Australian investors in the country.

In addition, during her recent visit to New York, President Fujimori participated in the Australia-Latin America High-Level Dialogue organised by CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, reaffirming her commitment to creating favourable conditions for foreign investment in Peru. This sends a positive signal for attracting additional international capital.

As the sector works towards modernisation by 2031, what opportunities for cooperation and technical dialogue could strengthen the partnership between Peru and Australia?

Engagement between Australian and Peruvian mining stakeholders is already frequent. However, IMARC and PERUMIN continue to be essential platforms for strengthening bilateral cooperation and technical dialogue. They provide valuable opportunities to exchange solutions to shared challenges, from energy transition and decarbonisation to technological innovation. Many of the partnerships, projects and investments we see today began with conversations initiated at these forums. IMARC 2026 represents an excellent opportunity to deepen the relationship. Peru will participate with the largest delegation in its history, comprising more than 50 representatives, including government authorities, technical and regulatory bodies, leading mining companies and business organisations.

This year, IMARC was once again declared an event of national interest by the Peruvian Government, and for the first time, the Ministry of Energy and Mines organised an official launch event for the Peruvian delegation attending the conference. This demonstrates the growing interest in strengthening ties with Australia and learning from the experience of one of the world's leading mining nations.

How are Australian Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) companies helping to improve productivity and safety in mining operations in Peru?

The global mining industry faces the challenge of ensuring a responsible supply of resources for both present and future generations. Achieving a balance between mineral production and sustainable operations is therefore essential.

In this context, Australian METS companies, with their strong focus on innovation and sustainability, are key partners for the global mining industry and, naturally, for Peru's mining sector. Australian METS companies are at the forefront of developing and implementing innovative practices and technologies across the entire mining lifecycle. Some of their specialised solutions are already contributing to Peruvian mining operations in areas such as operational decarbonisation, waste reduction, improved water resource management and minimising environmental impacts.

As major mining nations, how can Peru and Australia strategically collaborate to strengthen their position in the global critical minerals value chain?

Australia and Peru are both key global suppliers of the critical minerals needed for the energy transition. This year at IMARC, a dedicated dialogue on critical and strategic

IMARC 2026: Australia and Peru's Shared Vision for Mining Innovation

"During her recent visit to New York, President Fujimori participated in the Australia-Latin America High-Level Dialogue organised by CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, reaffirming her commitment to creating favourable conditions for foreign investment in Peru."



minerals will be held for the first time, providing a concrete opportunity to showcase and strengthen cooperation between our two countries.

As mining operations increasingly adopt Artificial Intelligence, what lessons from the Australian model could help develop local talent and support this transition?

Artificial Intelligence and other advanced technologies are already integral components of the Australian mining model, and we have many lessons to share. For example, Australian companies that also operate in Peru are using AI to analyse operational data, predict equipment failures and improve mining efficiency.

Recently, during the XVI International Mining Symposium organised by the SNMPE, Peruvian executive Iván López, Vice President of Value Engineering at BHP Australia, delivered valuable insights on this topic. He emphasised that the starting point should be linking technological training with the ability to understand real business challenges, as improving equipment or processes in isolation is not enough.

Iván's experience also highlights the value of professional exchange between our countries and demonstrates how

■ ■ For Australia's mining industry, academia is a close and strategic partner. The relationship goes beyond aligning university curricula with industry needs; it also encompasses strong collaboration in research and development."

Peruvian talent and Australian expertise can generate outstanding outcomes for the mining industry.

How does academia engage with the Australian mining sector, and what lessons or experiences could be shared with Peru?

For Australia's mining industry, academia is a close and strategic partner. The relationship goes beyond aligning university curricula with industry needs; it also encompasses strong collaboration in research and development. This will also be a focus area for the

Peruvian delegation at IMARC, as there are significant opportunities for collaboration between Australian and Peruvian academic institutions and mining companies.

Looking ahead to IMARC 2026, what types of commercial partnerships, investments and technology exchanges do you expect to emerge from Peru's participation?

We share the vision of the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the position expressed by Minister Shinno during the IMARC launch event. This forum will provide an opportunity both to strengthen existing relationships and to foster new conversations that could lead to future projects and investments. Peruvian delegates will have the opportunity to showcase concrete investment opportunities in the country, including Peru's project pipeline, its critical minerals potential and, importantly, the outcomes of the Women for Sustainable Mining Australia-Peru Fellowships program, which highlights bilateral cooperation in talent development and women's leadership in the mining sector.

I am confident that Peru's participation in this year's IMARC will be highly successful. ●

Carlos Castro: How the Australian Connection is Transforming Peruvian Mining

The value lies not only in learning about new technologies, but in connecting the specific operational needs of Peruvian companies with solutions that have already been tested in some of the most demanding mining environments globally

As Peruvian mining faces increasingly complex operational, environmental, and high-altitude challenges, adopting world-class innovation has become a strategic priority. In an exclusive Q&A, Carlos Castro, President of the Australia-Peru Chamber of Commerce (APCCI), discusses how participation in the International Mining and Resources Conference (IMARC) is driving technology transfer, accelerating digital adoption, and elevating the competitiveness of local suppliers.

How does IMARC accelerate the adoption of Australian METS to solve Peru's operational challenges?

There is a phrase that sums up the relationship between mining and METS (Mining Equipment, Technology and Services) very well: "without METS there is no mining and without mining there is no METS". Mining activity requires innovation, technology and specialized services to improve its productivity, safety and environmental performance, while METS suppliers need a dynamic industry where their solutions can be developed, validated and scaled.

In this context, IMARC (International Mining and Resources Conference + Expo) occupies a unique position because it brings together in the same space the entire mining value chain: mining companies, technology and service providers, investors, researchers, authorities and industry leaders. This allows conversations about innovation to be directly linked to the real challenges faced by mining operations. For Peru, participation in IMARC provides direct access to one of the most advanced METS ecosystems in the world. The value lies not only in learning about new technologies, but in connecting the specific operational needs of Peruvian companies with solutions that have already been tested in some of the most demanding mining environments globally.

The Peruvian delegation plays an important role in bringing Australian suppliers closer to the reality of our industry, facilitating a better understanding of the country's specific



Carlos Castro

challenges and opportunities. Ultimately, the goal is to accelerate the adoption of innovative solutions that contribute to a more competitive, efficient and sustainable Peruvian mining.

Given Peru's geographic, social, and environmental challenges, which innovations are most urgent for safety and profitability?

Peru faces particular challenges that condition the competitiveness of its mining operations: deposits located in remote and high mountain areas, greater environmental demands, a growing demand for efficiency in the use of resources and the permanent need to strengthen people's safety. Given this, there are several technologies whose adoption is especially relevant. Among the most important are automation, artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics, remote monitoring, and operational safety technologies. These tools allow large volumes of information to be processed in real time to predict failures, optimize equipment maintenance, improve

risk management, and increase the productivity of operations.

Likewise, solutions such as digital twins allow operating scenarios to be simulated and alternatives to be evaluated before implementing them, while the zero-entry approach seeks to minimize people's exposure to high-risk areas through automation and remote controls. From a sustainability perspective, technologies aimed at optimizing water and energy consumption, reducing emissions, improving mineral recovery and advancing the electrification of fleets and equipment are also priorities. These innovations not only contribute to more responsible mining, but also generate operational efficiencies and reduce costs in the long term.

The Australian experience is especially valuable because Australia has developed many of these solutions to face challenges similar to those of Peru: remote operations, long distances, complex geographical conditions and constant pressure to improve safety, productivity and environmental performance. Precisely for this reason, spaces such as IMARC allow us to learn about technologies already tested in the field and evaluate how to adapt them to the reality of Peruvian mining.

How can IMARC allow Peruvian companies to shorten their learning curve in artificial intelligence and fleet electrification?

IMARC's main contribution is that it allows companies to move from concepts to actual implementation cases. For a company that is evaluating the use of artificial intelligence or fleet electrification, being able to interact directly with technology providers, developers, and mining companies that have already traveled that path significantly reduces uncertainty and accelerates decision-making.

The value is not only in knowing new technologies, but in understanding how they are implemented in practice: what the infrastructure requirements are, what operational and organizational changes they require, what challenges other companies faced, and what the results have been in terms of productivity, safety,



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costs, and sustainability.

IMARC also offers the possibility to compare experiences from different regions of the world and to access technologies at different levels of maturity. This helps Peruvian companies identify solutions that really fit their needs, avoiding lengthy trial and error processes and optimizing their investments.

A particularly valuable aspect is the opportunity to converse not only with technology providers, but also with end users. Hearing directly from those who already operate electrified fleets or use artificial intelligence for predictive maintenance, process optimization and decision-making allows practical lessons to be drawn that are difficult to gain through presentations or case studies. In short, both artificial intelligence and electrification represent much more than the adoption of new tools; they imply a transformation of processes, capabilities and work models. IMARC allows Peruvian companies to learn from experiences already proven internationally, shorten their learning curve and accelerate a technological transition that will be key to the future competitiveness of Peruvian mining.

How will APCCI help the Peruvian delegation secure commercial agreements and technology transfers?

The role of the Australia-Peru Chamber of Commerce (APCCI) is to act as a bridge between the mining, technological and innovation ecosystems of both countries. Our objective is not only to accompany a delegation to IMARC, but to generate the conditions for Peruvian companies and institutions to arrive with a clear agenda of relationship, cooperation and development of opportunities. To do this, we work beforehand identifying the interests, challenges and objectives of the participants, which allows us to facilitate strategic connections with METS companies, research centres, specialised institutions and Australian and international technology providers. We also promote B2B meetings, high-level networking spaces and meetings aimed at generating concrete opportunities for collaboration. Our approach is that these interactions transcend the event and can become commercial agreements, innovation projects, training programs, technology transfer or long-term alliances. To that end, IMARC constitutes an exceptional platform to establish direct relationships with those who are developing and implementing the technologies that are transforming mining worldwide. We have already seen concrete examples



Carlos Castro y James Yeomans

"The objective should not only be to adopt technologies developed in other markets, but also to promote collaboration processes that strengthen national capacities and develop increasingly sophisticated, competitive suppliers with export potential."

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of the value of this type of linkage. Based on contacts generated in Australia, OSINERGMIN was able to establish a relationship with the Victorian Tunnelling Centre (VTC) in Holmesglen, which later led to a cooperation agreement. Cases like this show that a meeting initiated within the framework of IMARC can evolve into initiatives with a tangible impact on capacity building and knowledge exchange. For this reason, at APCCI we understand that the success of the delegation is not measured only by its participation in the event, but by the relationships, projects and opportunities that are generated subsequently. Our goal is that each connection has the potential to translate into concrete collaboration and that the Peruvian delegation returns with tools, alliances and knowledge that contribute to strengthening the competitiveness and sustainability of Peruvian mining.

How does the Australian ecosystem enable Peruvian tech providers to

elevate their standards and global competitiveness?

The relationship between Peru and Australia should not be understood only as a way to incorporate new technologies, but as an opportunity to strengthen the capacities of the Peruvian supplier ecosystem. Exposure to leading companies in innovation, automation, digitalization and sustainability allows local suppliers to learn first-hand about the trends that are transforming global mining and adapt their value propositions to respond to these new challenges. Contact with the Australian ecosystem opens up opportunities that go beyond a customer-supplier relationship. It can lead to strategic alliances, representation agreements, joint development of solutions, knowledge transfer and even the incorporation of Peruvian companies into international supply chains. All this contributes to raising the standards of innovation, quality, safety and environmental performance of the local supplier sector.

In addition, Peruvian suppliers have an important advantage: they have a deep understanding of the particularities of national mining, from its geography and operating conditions to its social and regulatory challenges. When this local knowledge is combined with the technological and innovative experience of Australian companies, opportunities are generated to develop more efficient solutions that are better adapted to the reality of Peru.

In this regard, the objective should not only be to adopt technologies developed in other markets, but also to promote collaboration processes that strengthen national capacities and develop increasingly sophisticated, competitive suppliers with export potential. ●



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Maribel Quispe: A Woman Who Paves the Way in Mining

"I am very happy to be part of the Antapaccay family, where our achievements are recognized and help us grow professionally"

Since she was a child, Maribel Quispe Olarte watched the large mining trucks pass through Tintaya, in Espinar, Cusco, Peru. To her, these vehicles moving through the land where she grew up were more than just part of the landscape: they sparked her curiosity and admiration and gradually inspired an idea that would eventually become a goal.

While still at school, she began to imagine herself operating one of these machines. She did not know then how far that interest would take her, but she was certain that she wanted to learn how to operate them.

"At school, I would see the mining trucks operating here in Tintaya, and I saw it as a passion to be able to study and, as soon as I finished school, the first thing I did was study heavy equipment operation," she recalls.

That was the first step on a path that has led her to her current role as an auxiliary equipment operator at Antapaccay. Maribel is trained to operate a range of equipment, including rollers, motor graders and large mining trucks such as the CAT 793 and CAT 797 and the Komatsu 980.

Her story tells of a personal goal achieved, but it also reflects a broader change taking place in Peruvian mining: the gradual incorporation of more women into a sector where they have historically been underrepresented, particularly in roles directly related to operations.

According to the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINEM), women accounted for 10.1% of formal mining employment in 2024, up from 6.2% in 2015. Over that period, female participation increased by 3.9 percentage points. In Cusco, the region where Espinar is located, 1,403 women were employed in the mining sector in 2024.

These figures help illustrate a transformation that women like Maribel experience firsthand in their daily work.

When Spaces Begin to Change

When Maribel started working at Antapaccay, she recalls that there were only two women on her shift. Today, there are six.

The number may seem small compared with the scale of a mining operation, but to her, it represents something

significant: the opportunity to work alongside more women and see more of them finding their place in spaces traditionally occupied mainly by men. "So that's nice, isn't it? Working with more girls," she says.

The growing presence of women in operations is not reflected solely in the number of female employees. It also means that younger generations can find role models close to them and envision career opportunities that may once have seemed out of reach.

In November 2025, MINEM reported an increase of more than 22% in female employment in administrative, managerial and operational positions compared with 2024. That month, women held 23,799 positions in the mining subsector.

Against this backdrop, Maribel's experience takes on particular significance. Her work does not take place behind a desk. It is directly linked to heavy equipment operations and the technical demands of an industry that requires training, responsibility and specialized knowledge.

"I am proud to be able to operate this

giant equipment and that if I can, we can all do it," she says.

Preparing to Occupy New Spaces

Maribel's story also highlights the importance of technical training as a gateway to the world of work. For her, studying heavy equipment operation was a decision she made shortly after finishing school. That training allowed her to turn an interest that began in childhood into a specialty and, eventually, a profession. Technical education is also one of the areas Antapaccay supports through its development initiatives in Espinar. One example is CETPRO Ñaupay, an initiative promoted and funded by Antapaccay that provides free technical and vocational training for young people and adults in the province. Its programs include livestock management, cooking and dressmaking, helping participants develop skills that can contribute to productive activities, employment and local entrepreneurship. The purpose of this type of initiative goes beyond providing technical knowledge. It seeks to help people in Espinar gain access to tools that enable them to develop their skills, obtain certification recognized by Peru's Ministry of Education and expand their options for pursuing a career or starting a business.

In August 2026, 54 young people and adults from Espinar received technical qualifications after completing their training at CETPRO Ñaupay. The institution has welcomed more than 3,200 students to its classrooms and more than 400 people graduated. In this way, technical training forms part of a broader ecosystem of opportunities that can connect young people and adults with a range of productive activities. In Maribel's case, specialized training was the starting point for entering a field that had captured her interest since childhood.

More Women, More Possibilities

Women's progress in mining is not limited to administrative positions. As Maribel's experience shows, it is also reflected in professions and activities at the heart of the business, including engineering, geology, sustainability, innovation and operations. MINEM has highlighted the growing participation of women in these areas, emphasizing the importance of continuing to create opportunities for more women to enter the country's strategic industries and develop their skills within them.

At Antapaccay, this process has been accompanied by training and employability initiatives aimed at women

"We women can fulfill our dreams, that nothing is impossible, that we have no limits as long as we are persevering. Everything is difficult, but nothing is impossible."

in the company's area of influence. In 2022, for example, Antapaccay trained 64 local women in activities such as truck operation, welding and maintenance. That same year, the company brought 33 new women into its operations. These experiences show that expanding women's access to mining involves more than opening vacancies. It also requires creating the conditions for women to prepare, acquire the necessary skills and compete for job opportunities. For Maribel, that opportunity became a reality.

A Motivation Close to Home

Behind the operator who takes control of large pieces of equipment essential to mining operations every day is also a mother who finds her greatest motivation in her family. Her daughters are her greatest motivation. "My greatest motivation is my family, my daughters, who are what I love most in this life. It is for them that I am here," she says. Her work means much more to her than achieving a professional position. It is also a way to show her daughters that there are different paths to building a future and that choices pursued with dedication can open new possibilities. This perspective also explains the pride with which she speaks about her work and her sense of belonging to Antapaccay. "I am very happy to be part of the Antapaccay family, where our achievements are recognized and help us grow professionally," she says. Along her journey, preparation was essential, but so was her decision to pursue a profession that, in her surroundings, may have seemed unusual for a woman.

Paving the Way for Those Who Follow

Maribel began by watching the equipment from the outside. Today, she is the one operating it. Between those two moments lie years of



Maribel Quispe

learning, work and experience. But there is also a change she can observe within her own shift: where there were once two women, there are now six. This everyday change helps illustrate how transformations in mining are also shaped by individual experiences.

Every woman who joins an operational team, every young woman who chooses to pursue technical training and every worker who develops a specialized skill helps broaden the perception of who can take on certain roles within the industry. Maribel sums it up through her own experience:

"We women can fulfill our dreams, that nothing is impossible, that we have no limits as long as we are persevering. Everything is difficult, but nothing is impossible," she says.

Her story began with an image that stayed with her from childhood: the large mining trucks she saw in Tintaya. Today, Maribel is part of the very scene that once captured her imagination. At the controls of heavy equipment, she is not only fulfilling a goal that began in childhood. She is also part of a generation of women taking on new roles in Peruvian mining.

And perhaps that is the greatest significance of her story: showing, through experience rather than words alone, that a girl who once watched a mining truck can learn, train and eventually operate one herself. Her path is her own. Yet, as she moves forward, she also paves the way for new generations of women who dream of taking on leadership roles in the mining sector and contributing, from there, to the development of Espinar and the country. Through her example, she also makes that path more visible and shows other women that they, too, can build their own future in mining. ●

INGEMMET: Datos e innovación en la exploración minera

"Nuestra aspiración es posicionar al Perú como un proveedor estratégico y diversificado de minerales esenciales para la economía y las tecnologías del futuro"

Con un fuerte respaldo financiero internacional y miras a consolidar alianzas estratégicas en la cumbre minera de Australia (IMARC 2026), el Instituto Geológico, Minero y Metalúrgico (INGEMMET) ha puesto en marcha un ambicioso plan de modernización institucional. El objetivo de la entidad estatal es claro: reducir el riesgo exploratorio, gestionar los pasivos ambientales y posicionar al Perú como un actor clave en la transición energética global. Así lo manifestó su presidente, el Ing. Walther León Lecaros, en conversación con ProActivo.

El sector minero peruano vive una transformación tecnológica, respaldada por un estratégico financiamiento del Banco Mundial. A través del INGEMMET, el país busca dar un salto cualitativo en sus capacidades científicas. Estos fondos servirán para impulsar iniciativas fundamentales para la geología nacional, como la nueva Litoteca Nacional de Testigos de Perforación y el Laboratorio de Geocronología.

Esta inversión va más allá de construir un simple almacén geológico; representa la consolidación de un centro de datos de primer nivel. "Nuestra visión es que la Litoteca no sea únicamente un espacio de conservación de muestras geológicas, sino una infraestructura científica moderna, capaz de integrar información mineralógica, geoquímica, espectral y geológica en plataformas digitales de acceso público", afirmó la autoridad.

En esta materia, la National Virtual Core Library de Australia es un referente que León Lecaros visitará en el marco de IMARC 2026, con el propósito de lograr la transferencia de conocimientos y asistencia técnica para replicar este modelo en territorio peruano. Según indicó, el compromiso es transformar el patrimonio geológico en nuevas oportunidades para la exploración minera.

Datos abiertos y competitividad global

Asimismo, afirmó que el objetivo del INGEMMET es que la disponibilidad de información geocientífica de libre acceso reduzca la incertidumbre y los costos en las etapas tempranas de los proyectos. Si bien el Perú ya cuenta con la reconocida



Walther León

plataforma GEOCATMIN, el reto estatal es lograr una interoperabilidad basada en estándares internacionales.

La meta a corto plazo, explicó, es que los inversionistas globales dejen de depender exclusivamente de los mapas tradicionales. En su lugar, el Estado proveerá modelos tridimensionales, data descargable y herramientas geoespaciales de última generación. "La información geocientífica debe convertirse en una ventaja competitiva del Perú para atraer inversiones responsables en exploración minera", sentenció, tras destacar que el conocimiento del territorio en manos del Estado es vital para dinamizar la economía.

La IA y los minerales críticos

Más allá de los metales tradicionales como el cobre, el oro y el zinc, el INGEMMET está redefiniendo el mapa de riqueza del país al enfocarse en los minerales estratégicos del futuro. Actualmente, sus equipos de investigación despliegan estudios sobre el potencial de litio en el sur del país; cobalto y níquel en la franja costera; grafito natural en Áncash, y germanio asociado a depósitos polimetálicos.

Para acelerar estos hallazgos y atraer capital extranjero, afirmó que la entidad ha comenzado a emplear Inteligencia Artificial (IA). Mediante el uso de algoritmos de aprendizaje automático (machine learning), el INGEMMET procesa variables geológicas, geoquímicas y estructurales para elaborar mapas de prospectividad mineral de altísima precisión. Esta metodología, basada en el análisis de sistemas minerales, tiene sus raíces en Australia.

"Nuestra aspiración es posicionar al Perú como un proveedor estratégico y diversificado de minerales esenciales para la economía y las tecnologías del futuro", sostuvo Walther León.

Cartografía y la seguridad

"Nos interesa conocer y evaluar tecnologías utilizadas en Australia, como la interferometría radar satelital, los levantamientos LiDAR, la cartografía geológica tridimensional y los sistemas de monitoreo geoespacial, que permiten identificar deformaciones del terreno y comprender mejor los procesos geológicos", afirmó. Al respecto, precisó que dichas herramientas fortalecerán la capacidad analítica del Perú para brindar información científica más detallada frente a la deformación de terrenos, la gestión de depósitos de relaves y los peligros geológicos inminentes, para una mejor toma de decisiones.

"La innovación geocientífica no solamente debe favorecer el descubrimiento de recursos minerales; también debe contribuir a la seguridad de la población y a la sostenibilidad ambiental", subrayó el funcionario.

La infraestructura geocientífica

"El verdadero desafío consiste en desarrollar una infraestructura geocientífica integral que permita generar, sistematizar, procesar e interpretar grandes volúmenes de información del subsuelo con estándares internacionales", detalló.

Finalmente, Walther León reafirmó el compromiso de consolidar una nueva generación de investigación donde la IA, la data del subsuelo y la infraestructura digital trabajen de forma articulada, con el fin de reducir el riesgo exploratorio y asegurar la competitividad del Perú en la minería mundial de las próximas décadas. ●



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Soledad Campos de Parry

La estrategia de PROMPERÚ para captar inversiones de Australia tomará protagonismo en IMARC 2026, la cumbre minera más importante de la región Asia-Pacífico. En exclusiva para Revista ProActivo, Soledad Campos de Parry, Consejera Económico Comercial en Australia y Nueva Zelanda, desglosa la nueva era de las relaciones bilaterales. Desde un mercado altamente sofisticado, la alta funcionaria revela que hoy el inversionista australiano ya no solo mira al Perú por su indiscutible riqueza de cobre o zinc; busca un socio estratégico para garantizar el suministro de minerales críticos, coinnovar en inteligencia artificial y expandir el desarrollo de los proveedores tecnológicos (METS). A continuación, las claves para entender cómo nos ve una de las principales potencias mineras del mundo.

PROMPERÚ: Minerales críticos y coinnovación, un nuevo perfil tecnológico de la minería peruana que atrae a los inversionistas en **Australia**

Desde la perspectiva del mercado australiano y los inversionistas, ¿cuál es la reputación de la minería peruana en términos de estabilidad, riqueza geológica y competitividad operativa?

Desde Australia, el Perú es reconocido como una jurisdicción minera de clase mundial, respaldada por una geología excepcional, operaciones de gran escala y la presencia de compañías mineras globales, ocho de las principales operan en el país. Perú produce 8 de los 17 principales metales asociados a la transición energética y se encuentra entre los principales productores mundiales: es segundo productor de zinc y plata, y tercero de cobre y plomo.

Lo que ha cambiado es el contexto. Hoy, Latinoamérica pesa mucho más en la agenda australiana de minería y minerales críticos, concentran el interés Perú, junto con Chile, Brasil y Argentina. Esto fue evidente durante el foro Latitudes of Opportunity, celebrado en junio de este año, que reunió en Melbourne a empresas, gobierno, academia e inversionistas en torno a minerales críticos, energía y seguridad de suministro, así como alimentaria.

El estado de Victoria tiene desde hace años una estrategia hacia la región y una oficina comercial en Santiago. Por su parte, Queensland acaba de lanzar su Queensland-Latin America Trade and Investment Strategy 2026-2028, con minería y minerales críticos

entre sus prioridades, así como seguridad alimentaria, que acompañó con una misión ministerial que pasó por el Perú. Por lo anterior, el contexto nos da la gran oportunidad para mostrar lo que ofrece el Perú. La industria australiana conoce nuestra geología y grandes operaciones, pero nos asocia sobre todo con el cobre. Queremos que nos vea también como destino de inversión y de tecnología, y como proveedor de los minerales que requiere la transición energética.

El inversionista australiano es sofisticado, además del recurso, evalúa predictibilidad, plazos, seguridad jurídica, infraestructura y licencia social, por lo que debemos hablar del Perú con realismo. Aunque existe desafíos en permisos, conflictividad social e infraestructura, también tenemos activos difíciles de replicar: décadas de experiencia minera, una cadena de proveedores consolidada, una cartera de inversión importante y una ubicación sobre el Pacífico que, con la nueva infraestructura portuaria, nos conecta cada vez mejor con Asia. Ese es el mensaje que llevaremos a IMARC 2026: el Perú como plataforma minera y de inversión para Asia-Pacífico.

¿Cuáles son las principales consultas que reciben desde los gremios y corporaciones australianas interesadas en ingresar al mercado peruano, y qué oportunidades

prioritarias identifican en el pipeline de proyectos mineros y de exploración?

Antes de entrar a una jurisdicción nueva, una compañía australiana quiere entender qué riesgo asume y cómo puede gestionarlo. El tamaño del recurso viene después.

Las preguntas que más recibimos tienen que ver con la estabilidad regulatoria, los plazos de los permisos, la seguridad jurídica, la conflictividad social y qué pasa con un proyecto cuando cambia el gobierno.

También preguntan con quién van a hacer negocios. Hacen *due diligence* de socios, proveedores y terceros: quiénes son los dueños, qué reputación y antecedentes de cumplimiento tienen y si pueden ejecutar lo que prometen. Es habitual que contraten firmas especializadas para ese análisis antes de comprometer capital.

Superada esa etapa, la conversación se vuelve comercial. Quieren saber qué proyectos avanzan, en qué etapa están, qué expansiones se vienen y dónde puede aportar una empresa australiana. Ahí vemos demanda en automatización y mantenimiento predictivo, gestión de agua y relaves, eficiencia energética y procesamiento de minerales.

Nuestro trabajo en PROMPERÚ es convertir la información general del sector en oportunidades específicas, para que el interés inicial de una empresa llegue a una decisión de entrada.

¿Qué información estratégica proporciona PROMPERÚ para atender a estos actores y cómo coordina con entidades de gobierno como Austrade?

Decirle a una empresa australiana que el Perú tiene recursos y una buena cartera de proyectos no alcanza. Hay que estar dentro del ecosistema minero australiano, entender cómo funciona y construir relaciones de largo plazo con empresas, gremios, centros de innovación y gobiernos. Por ejemplo, en mayo, cuando asistimos al GRX Global Resources Expo 2026 (Perth), uno de los principales encuentros de innovación y tecnología minera del país; y al mes siguiente, en Latitudes of Opportunity en Melbourne. En ambos eventos, conversamos con mineras de clase mundial y proveedores tecnológicos.

Trabajamos de forma permanente con **Austrmine**, la asociación que agrupa al sector METS australiano (equipos, tecnología y servicios para la minería), que este año llevó una delegación empresarial al World Mining Congress en el Perú. Con **Austrade**, agencia homóloga, tenemos un diálogo de colaboración con coincidencias en nuestras misiones institucionales.

Estar donde se dan esas conversaciones nos permite ver las tendencias antes de que se conviertan en negocio y poner al Perú en el radar. Además, este año iniciamos con el MINCETUR un proyecto de internacionalización de empresas peruanas hacia Australia de proveedores a la minería en donde hemos contado con la colaboración de **ALABC – Australia-Latin America Business Council** e **Invest Victoria**.

¿Cómo modifica la irrupción de la IA la oferta tecnológica y qué ventanas se abren para la coinnovación bilateral?

¿Conversa el ecosistema universitario y técnico australiano con el peruano?

En Perth visitamos un Integrated Remote Operations Centre (IROC) y vimos hacia dónde va la minería australiana: automatización, operación remota, integración de datos e inteligencia artificial. Me llamó la atención el peso que tiene la seguridad. La automatización reduce costos y sube la productividad, pero uno de sus motores principales es sacar a los trabajadores de las tareas peligrosas. Eso cambia el perfil de la gente que la minería necesita. El trabajo humano sigue ahí, con otras habilidades: mecatrónica, ingeniería eléctrica, software, análisis de datos y control.

La IA es parte de ese cambio. Sirve cuando resuelve un problema operativo: anticipar una falla, optimizar una planta o una flota, decidir con información en tiempo real. Perú ya avanza en esta dirección: el Índice Latinoamericano de Inteligencia Artificial (ILIA) 2025 lo ubica entre los países adoptantes de IA de la región, con avances destacados en gobernanza, regulación,

■ ■ Para el Perú hay una oportunidad de coinnovación. Tenemos operaciones grandes, geografía exigente y desafíos reales en agua, energía, seguridad y productividad. "

formación y vinculación internacional.

Para Perú hay la oportunidad de coinnovación. Tenemos operaciones grandes, geografía exigente y desafíos reales en agua, energía, seguridad y productividad. Son buenas condiciones para adaptar, probar y escalar soluciones entre mineras, proveedores METS, universidades y centros tecnológicos de los dos países. Desde la perspectiva METS, PROMPERÚ identifica oportunidades en digitalización y automatización, electrificación y descarbonización, manufactura y reparación de equipos, sostenibilidad ambiental y componentes mineros. Estas oportunidades se apoyan en la escala y experiencia de la minería peruana y en una cartera de inversión cercana a US\$ 64 mil millones, que abre espacio para que empresas australianas profundicen inversiones, alianzas estratégicas y se establezcan en el Perú.

Al mismo tiempo, el Perú cuenta con capacidades crecientes para avanzar hacia la innovación. Un estudio de PROMPERÚ muestra que cerca de 7 de cada 10 StartupTech operan bajo modelos B2B y más del 60% ya tiene clientes internacionales o está en proceso de internacionalización. La IA y la analítica de datos tienen una presencia importante, junto con verticales como Climate Tech (10%) y MineTech (4%), con aplicaciones para los desafíos de la minería. A ello se suma el marco del TLC Perú-Australia y el CPTPP.

En el ámbito académico ya existen vínculos entre instituciones australianas y actores del sector minero peruano en automatización, sostenibilidad y gestión de riesgos, con interés en profundizar la cooperación en investigación y desarrollo de capacidades. A ello se suma una base empresarial de innovación, con casos como Tumi Robotics: una empresa nacida de la innovación universitaria, cuyas soluciones para la minería han captado interés en Estados Unidos, Chile y México, y que también ha explorado oportunidades en Australia.

El paso siguiente es unir tecnología, industria y formación. Comprar automatización australiana es solo una parte. Necesitamos formar en el Perú a quienes van a implementar, operar, mantener y, con el tiempo, mejorar esa automatización.

En las iniciativas de promoción de la “Marca País” que lidera PROMPERÚ en Australia, ¿cuáles son los campos de estudio/investigación más buscados?

En minería y energía, son ingeniería de minas y metalurgia, geología, automatización y análisis de datos, gestión de agua y relaves, seguridad y descarbonización. Más que una disciplina, lo que se busca son perfiles que combinen lo técnico, lo digital y lo ambiental. La **Marca Perú** nos ayuda a presentar un país más amplio que el productor de minerales: un lugar para invertir, un socio para innovar y una fuente de capacidades especializadas. El mandato de PROMPERÚ es promover exportaciones, inversión y oportunidades económicas. Por eso, cuando hablamos de talento, lo hacemos desde la cooperación: intercambio de conocimiento, capacitación especializada, investigación aplicada y vínculos entre instituciones y empresas. Australia está cada vez más interesada en esos vínculos con América Latina, sobre todo en investigación aplicada y cooperación universidad-industria. Para el Perú, es la oportunidad de sumar a nuestros profesionales a proyectos conjuntos. ●

La industria peruana (METS) pasó de ser operativa a desarrollar software, ingeniería avanzada y metalmecánica a medida. ¿Qué se espera en IMARC 2026?

En IMARC 2026 queremos que esa evolución se vea de primera mano y que la conversación entre proveedores, mineras e inversionistas pase de la presentación institucional a acuerdos de colaboración. Nuestro programa, “**PERU IS KEY – Mining, METS & Energy Transition**”, junta tres cosas: los proyectos y el potencial de inversión del Perú, las necesidades tecnológicas de las operaciones y las capacidades de nuestros proveedores, que aportan conocimiento operativo, ingeniería, fabricación y soluciones, que complementan la experiencia internacional de las empresas australianas. La relación tiene que ser de doble vía: tecnología australiana para los desafíos de las minas peruanas, y empresas peruanas como socias, proveedoras y desarrolladoras. Buscamos más que visibilidad. Queremos que llegue capital a proyectos concretos, que esa inversión deje capacidades y capital humano, y que Perú se consolide como socio confiable en el Pacífico. **PERU IS KEY**: invertir, innovar y construir con el Perú.

Confipetrol Peru:

Experience, Innovation and Reliability at the Service of Industry

Sustainable value creation is an integral part of this vision. Among the results highlighted on its corporate platform is an energy efficiency project that achieved a reduction of more than 82.5 tons of CO₂ through the implementation of an Energy Management System based on the ISO 50001 standard.

Confipetrol Andina is a multinational company specialized in the operation and maintenance of industrial assets, providing comprehensive solutions for strategic sectors such as mining, energy, oil & gas, and industry. With more than 25 years of experience, the company works alongside its clients to optimize operational performance, increase asset reliability, and contribute to safer, more efficient, and sustainable operations.

In Peru, Confipetrol positions itself as a strategic partner for organizations seeking to strengthen the continuity and efficiency of their production processes. Its value proposition combines technical expertise, specialized talent, innovation, and technology, with solutions tailored to the specific needs and challenges of each operation.

Its portfolio includes maintenance, reliability and asset management, plant shutdowns, overhauls, facility management, and other specialized services. These solutions are designed to improve the availability and productivity of equipment and facilities, reduce operational risks, and extend the service life of critical assets.

One of Confipetrol's specialized services is plant shutdown management, where strategic planning, safety, precise execution, and the use of technology enable the company to manage critical interventions while minimizing downtime.



Safety

The company states that it has more than 20 years of experience in this type of operation and has executed more than 2,000 technical procedures under high safety and efficiency standards. In addition, it incorporates tools such as Digital Twins for the monitoring and analysis of critical assets. Innovation is another key component of its value proposition. Confipetrol leverages advanced reliability techniques, predictive diagnostics, and asset management practices to anticipate potential failures and improve decision-making regarding industrial equipment and processes. This approach enables organizations to move from reactive maintenance toward a management model focused on prevention, optimization, and continuous improvement.

Sustainable value creation

This is complemented by a strong commitment to safety, sustainability, and operational excellence. The company has an Integrated Management System certified by ICONTEC and recognized by IQNET, supporting its practices in quality, sustainability, safety, and energy efficiency.

Confipetrol's commitment also extends beyond operations. Through its corporate responsibility initiatives, the company promotes local employment, talent development, the growth of local suppliers, and programs focused on health, education, human rights, and road safety. It also declares its commitment to principles of ethics, transparency, and sound corporate governance.

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Technology

In this way, Confipetrol Peru combines knowledge, technology, safety, and sustainability to support its clients in addressing the challenges of an increasingly demanding industrial environment. Its approach is focused not only on keeping assets operational, but also on helping organizations achieve higher levels of reliability, productivity, and efficiency.

With a vision focused on innovation and value creation, Confipetrol continues to strengthen its role as a strategic partner for industrial sectors, supporting its clients in building safer, more reliable, efficient, and sustainable operations. ●

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