

INDUSTRIAL MINERALS & ROCKS MAP OF IBEROAMERICA

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The Industrial Minerals and Rocks (IM&R) mining sub-sector has, over the last few years, shown a steady and strong growth in most Iberoamerican countries. Such growth, directly related to the industrial and social development, has been founded in private independent mining enterprises, with very little national governmental support. It is clear that prospecting and mineral planning tools are needed if future enlargement for this mineral industry is desired. Financed by the CYTED Program, and within the Thematic network RIMIN, a new vision of the Industrial Minerals and Rocks in Iberoamerica has been drafted in cartographic form. The map pretends to show in a very visual and intuitive manner the IM&R potential of Iberoamerica in relation with its geological setting and origin. The map has a scale of 1:7 500 000 and occurrences are shown as symbols indicating substance, genesis, morphology, mining state and identified by a numeric code. Geological base includes lithology and age for sedimentary, volcanic and metamorphic rocks, and a colour code for plutonic acid, intermediate, basic and ultrabasic rocks. This map will be of special use for geoscientists, prospectors, mining companies and national mineral planning authorities.