



Prepared on 21/03/2017 by Liz Cooper.

# Living Lab project brief – conflict minerals beyond 3TG

## Description of the paper

This paper outlines a potential dissertation topic regarding conflict minerals and resources beyond the most known cases of tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which could inform the University's engagement with its suppliers on their social responsibility efforts.

## Draft research question

**What other minerals (and other resources?) are linked to funding conflict beyond 3TG (tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold) in the world today, and what does current best practice look like to combat their link to conflict?**

## Background

The University has a policy on conflict minerals, which makes a commitment to doing what we can to eliminate conflict minerals in our supply chains, through raising awareness, engaging with suppliers, and working to include questions on conflict minerals in tenders. The most famous example of conflict minerals is in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where important work is taking place to establish conflict free smelters. However, less is known about conflict minerals/resources in other parts of the world. The findings of this research could help inform the approach taken in the University to engage with its suppliers of goods containing these minerals regarding their social responsibility efforts.

## Objectives

- Research other minerals/resources that are found to be linked to funding conflict, beyond 3TG
- Identify current best practice regarding combating the link between these resources and armed conflict
- Make recommendations regarding the University's engagement with suppliers regarding these resources