

VERSION HISTORY

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conflict-free diamond

DEFINITION: A diamond purportedly free of conflict as described by the narrow definition of 'conflict diamond' in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). The KPCS definition of 'conflict diamond' does not include commonly accepted types of conflict found in diamond sourcing, production, and trading.

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme was established in 2003 in response to civil wars in diamond producing countries via United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/56. The KPCS defines 'conflict diamonds' as 'rough diamonds used by rebel movements or their allies to finance armed conflicts aimed at undermining legitimate governments' and attempts to exclude these diamonds from trade.

This definition does not include commonly accepted types of conflict, including but not limited to corrupt practices, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation perpetrated by governments and others in the pursuit of rough diamonds. The KPCS also does not weigh in on other areas of diamond production, such as cutting and processing, which can include worker safety issues, pay inequity, and child and indentured labor.