GB MINERAL CORRIDOR REPORT

The GB Mineral Corridor Report 2026

Licensed mining concessions, commodity supply, and the investment climate across Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan.

Published by Durr & Zircon Consortium, the trading name of three separately registered operating companies: Durr Mines and Minerals (PVT) LTD, Zircon Mines (PVT) LTD, and Earth Lux Mines & Minerals (PVT) LTD. Together they hold ten licensed concessions across seven districts of Gilgit Baltistan, four of them currently producing.

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This report compiles publicly available survey findings, government policy figures, and this consortium's own licensed concession data. It is not a geological or investment prospectus. Boundary coordinates, assay data, and full geological reports are shared directly with verified investors and buyers on request.

WHY THIS REGION, WHY NOW

The investment case

Gilgit Baltistan carries more than 43,000 sq km of mining area, and the region's own Secretary of Minerals, Shahzeb Sheikh, said in February 2026 that most of it remains unexplored. Roughly 1,840 sq km have been granted exploration licences and around 898 sq km sit under active mining leases: together, about 6 percent of the mapped area. Pakistan's government has put the country's total mineral wealth at close to $8 trillion, but the Center for Strategic and International Studies noted in April 2026 that more than 95 percent of the country's mineral terrain is underexplored and that no internationally certified reserve estimates back that number. Read the opportunity as real and the headline figure as aspirational; the two are not the same claim.

Pakistan's National Minerals Harmonisation Framework, unveiled in 2025, targets an investor rate of return around 18 percent as part of a push toward domestic value addition rather than raw ore export, alongside simplified licensing and a dispute resolution mechanism. Each province still has to adopt it individually, which has been slower in some provinces than others.

Three international commitments landed in 2025 and 2026, and each is publicly documented:

United States. A $500 million partnership between Pakistan and US Strategic Metals, signed September 2025, covering the full mineral value chain from exploration through refining. The first shipment, in October 2025, carried antimony, copper concentrate, and rare earth elements including neodymium and praseodymium.

Saudi Arabia. A pursued 15 percent stake in Pakistan's Reko Diq copper-gold project, reportedly worth $540 million. Reko Diq's own reserves are reported at 13.1 million tonnes of copper and 17.9 million ounces of gold, with a mine life projected past three decades.

China and the wider field. The Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum in Islamabad, held April 8 to 9, 2026, drew more than 5,000 delegates from over 50 countries and produced 16 signed MOUs, up from 14 the previous year. Copper, gold and rare earths were the forum's stated focus, and Pakistan is targeting an estimated $6 to 8 billion in annual mineral export potential from the resulting pipeline.

None of these three commitments is specific to Gilgit Baltistan. The commodity mix they target, copper, gold and antimony above all, is exactly what this region's licensed concessions carry.

OPERATOR-LEVEL DATA

Licensed concession registry

Ten licensed concessions across seven districts, held by three registered operating companies. Minerals listed are drawn directly from field results; boundary coordinates and full geological reports are not published here and are shared with verified counterparties on request.

Concession	District	Minerals	Area	Status	Access
Hilal Abad	Kharmang	Premium nephrite jade, serpentine, copper	9.97 sq/km	Producing	Road
Bagicha	Skardu	Copper (vein exposed), marble, ruby, lithium, quartz	20 sq/km	Producing	Road
Skardu Placer Gold	Skardu	Placer gold, black sand	26 km riverbed	Producing	Road
Jutial Nala	Gilgit	Copper veins, lead, silver	9.97 sq/km	Producing	
Mahdi Abad	Kharmang	Serpentine, nephrite (early samples), copper, iron, silver	9.9 sq/km	Exploratory	Road
Shigar (Askoli)	Shigar	Gold, lead, lithium, copper, gemstones	8.87 sq/km	Exploratory	
Gultari	Gultari	Copper, gold, molybdenum, antimony, lead	20 sq/km	Exploratory	
Gojal Antimony	Hunza	Antimony, molybdenum indications	10 sq/km	Exploratory	
Ishkoman Granite	Ghizer	Antimony, granite	10 sq/km	Exploratory	
Gupis	Ghizer	Copper, granite, marble	10 sq/km	Exploratory	

Operator key: Durr Mines and Minerals (PVT) LTD holds Bagicha, Gultari, Mahdi Abad and Skardu Placer Gold. Zircon Mines (PVT) LTD holds Hilal Abad, Shigar, Gojal Antimony and Ishkoman Granite. Earth Lux Mines & Minerals (PVT) LTD holds Jutial Nala and Gupis, and is offered for outright acquisition. Four of the ten blocks are currently producing; the remaining six are at exploration or reconnaissance stage.

SUPPLY

Commodities and demand context

Copper. Sourced from Hilal Abad, Bagicha, Gultari, Shigar, Gupis, Jutial Nala and Mahdi Abad, seven of our ten blocks. Demand is driven by EV batteries, solar infrastructure and grid electrification.

Nephrite jade. Premium-grade nephrite is the primary target at Hilal Abad, with serpentine and early nephrite samples also recovered at Mahdi Abad. Samples have cleared review from specialists with more than twenty years in nephrite specifically, and separate buyer approval in China, the stone's principal market.

Antimony. Sourced from Gultari, Gojal (Hunza) and Ishkoman. On most Western critical-minerals watch lists, driven by flame retardants, battery chemistries and semiconductor manufacture.

Placer gold. A licensed 26 km riverbed concession in Skardu, scaled for mechanised recovery and already producing.

Hard-rock gold. A separate, earlier-stage product from placer gold: lode gold in ore at Shigar (Askoli) and Gultari, both at exploration stage.

Lead. Sourced from Gultari, Jutial Nala and Shigar, alongside associated silver and mineralised copper veins.

Quartz & silica. Sourced from Bagicha, alongside that site's ruby, marble and lithium indications.

Granite & marble. Sourced from Gupis, Ishkoman and Bagicha, within a documented dimension-stone belt running over 100 km through Ghizer district.

No licensed block on this registry is a rare earth claim. Documented rare earth occurrences in Pakistan sit in Chagai (Balochistan) and in granites in Dir, Swat and Kohistan; treat any Gilgit Baltistan rare earth claim you encounter elsewhere with the same scrutiny we apply to our own figures.

PARTICIPATE

How investors engage

Mineral titles in Gilgit Baltistan can only be granted to a locally incorporated entity. Foreign investors participate through one of four routes:

Joint venture. Structured against one of our three registered operating companies, combining an existing licence, local incorporation and field team with outside capital and technical resources.

Farm-in / earn-in. A stake earned through defined exploration spend rather than an upfront payment, suited to junior exploration companies evaluating our six earlier-stage blocks.

Equity participation. Direct equity in one of the three operating companies rather than a single concession, for portfolio-level exposure.

Outright acquisition. Earth Lux Mines & Minerals (PVT) LTD, holder of the Jutial Nala and Gupis licences, is offered for complete acquisition.

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Sources: Gilgit-Baltistan Mines & Minerals Department published figures and Secretary of Minerals Shahzeb Sheikh, February 2026; Pakistan National Minerals Harmonisation Framework, 2025; Center for Strategic and International Studies, April 2026; public reporting on the Pakistan-US Strategic Metals partnership (Sept-Oct 2025), Saudi Arabia's Reko Diq stake pursuit, and the Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum, April 2026. Full citations available on request. This document does not constitute investment advice or a guarantee of return; the 18 percent figure cited is Pakistan's stated national policy target, not a return promised by this consortium.