

### The Jadar Project

# **Cultural Heritage**

### Preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the Jadar Valley

The preservation of the Jadar Valley's rich cultural and archaeological heritage is of vital importance to the Jadar Project and has been factored into all project proposals. We are undertaking cultural heritage studies in partnership with archaeologists, universities, government institutions and other experts to build a deep understanding of the cultural heritage of the Jadar valley and apply best practice to preserving and promoting it effectively.

## Co-operation with local cultural institutions and communities

The Jadar valley is home to the Paulje necropolis, an archaeological site over 3,500 years old and originated in the Bronze Age.

Throughout all stages of the project, we have cooperated with the Jadar Museum in Loznica, which has coordinated the excavation of cultural artefacts with the local community and consultants. Together, we are ensuring the careful excavation of the site, its burial mounds and associated archaeological finds – which include pottery, stone tools, and bronze-made objects. Rio Tinto financially supports these activities, applying the highest standards of archaeological methodology, both during on-site work and laboratory analysis of excavated finds. Our collaboration dates back to 2010, and this site receives the highest quality of research and analysis.

# Introducing new technology and research for archaeological discovery

The immediate surroundings of the Paulje cemetery have been surveyed with LiDAR technology, enabling an extensive survey of the necropolis and accurately identifying excavation areas. The use of this innovative technology has improved the precision of the excavation work in uncovering culturally significant objects.

Archaeological research that we have supported has also found evidence of human activity dating from the Neolithic period to late medieval times. Artefacts such as pottery, polished stone and flint tools, jewellery and arms are kept in the Jadar Museum. All of this suggest long-term settlement of this area. The findings provide a look at different aspects of people's lives at the time, such as traditions around burial, rituals, social stratification, technological development, and jewelry making. These are important archaeological discoveries for Serbia, and we are honoured to contribute to their preservation.

### Achieving impeccable ESG credentials

Achieving best in class Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards is key to our global operations, and the Jadar Project would be no different. We strive for impeccable environmental credentials, particularly relating to the preservation of natural resources, climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, pollution, energy efficiency and water management.

We are also committed to ensuring that all our operations provide a safe, inclusive workspace that is representative of the communities in which we operate, where everyone can achieve their full potential.

Our code of conduct is clear; we do not offer, pay, or accept bribes, no matter where we operate, the situation or who is involved.





We know that responsibly managing our business impacts is fundamental if we want to continue to grow and deliver on our strategy to benefit all our Serbian stakeholders, just as we do worldwide.

We recognise and take seriously the trust that communities worldwide place in us to access critical materials and make them available for society's benefit. We work in partnership with others to support fair, more sustainable and inclusive communities in the Jadar valley.

While doing so, we aim to make more sustainable and meaningful contributions to local communities and Serbian society.

### Our global social performance

We know that our operations have a far-reaching impact on society. We are engaging with our stakeholders to learn how we can play our role. Our ability to collaborate with local communities to deliver positive outcomes is increasingly important as society comes together to address global challenges.

The concerns of all communities that are local to where we live and work, including in the Jadar valley, are fundamental to our operations as a business. These communities include local residents, landowners, governments, business partners, civil society groups, neighbours and our colleagues. We aim to contribute to a shared future and positive legacy by developing lasting relationships with local people, learning about and supporting their goals and aspirations, avoiding or mitigating adverse impacts and respecting their connections to the land.



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