

7 October 2026

MADAGASCAR NAMED FOUNDING COUNTRY IN UN CRITICAL MINERALS MECHANISM

One of six countries to receive dedicated UN support, as Evion advances its permitted, EU-recognised Maniry Project.

Key Highlights

- **The United Nations Secretary-General has launched a new Country Support Mechanism on Critical Energy Transition Minerals**, announced in New York on 23 September 2026.¹
- **Madagascar is one of six founding partner countries** selected to receive dedicated support through the Mechanism, alongside Guinea, Indonesia, Nigeria, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- **The Mechanism will deliver coordinated United Nations technical and capacity-building assistance**, prioritising governance, value addition, industrial development, and environmental and human safeguards.
- **Evion's Maniry Graphite Project is permitted and holds European Union Strategic Project status**, following the grant of Mining Permits in July 2026² and recognition under the European Union Critical Raw Materials Act.³
- **Evion believes Madagascar's selection is constructive for the governance and investment framework** within which Maniry is being advanced toward development and financing.
- **The Company is arranging a meeting with United Nations representatives in Madagascar** to discuss how Maniry may contribute to the Mechanism's objectives.

Evion Group NL ("Evion" or "the Company") (ASX: EVG) notes the launch by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres of a new Country Support Mechanism on Critical Energy Transition Minerals ("the Mechanism"), and the selection of Madagascar as one of the first six countries to receive dedicated support under it.

Madagascar hosts the Company's Maniry Graphite Project. Evion considers the selection a clear signal of international commitment to the responsible development of Madagascar's critical minerals sector, and to ensuring that the benefits of that development are retained in-country.

¹ United Nations press release, "UN Secretary-General launches Country Support Mechanism on Critical Energy Transition Minerals to build equity, justice, and sustainability", New York, 23 September 2026.

² ASX announcement 21 July 2026.

³ ASX announcement 5 June 2025.

The Country Support Mechanism

The Mechanism is designed to assist resource-rich developing countries to build sustainable, responsible and resilient mineral value chains, so that the benefits of critical mineral development reach the countries and communities where those minerals are found.

It is led by the United Nations Development Programme (“UNDP”) and the United Nations Development Coordination Office. The Mechanism consolidates expertise from across the United Nations system into a single offer to participating countries. Working on the ground through the United Nations' country presence, it will identify each country's specific needs and respond with tailored assistance focused on governance, value addition, industrial development, and environmental and human safeguards.

The Mechanism forms part of the work of the United Nations Task Force on Critical Energy Transition Minerals, co-led by UNDP, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme. It is guided by the principles and recommendations of the Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals, which seek to ensure equity, justice and sustainability in mineral extraction.

Madagascar's Selection

The six founding countries were selected to represent diverse mineral profiles and development contexts. Madagascar's inclusion places it among a small group of countries that will receive coordinated United Nations support on mineral governance and value chain development from the outset of the initiative.

Madagascar has a long history as a source of natural flake graphite, a critical input for lithium-ion battery anodes and a range of industrial applications. In announcing the Mechanism, the Administrator of UNDP described its purpose as providing on-the-ground expertise to help ensure that critical mineral wealth translates into stronger opportunities for people and communities.

Maniry and Madagascar's Critical Minerals Agenda

Evion holds the Maniry Graphite Project in southern Madagascar. Mining Permits over the Project were granted in July 2026 following the signing of the formal CSR Mining Contracts, securing long-term tenure and providing a pathway to advance Maniry from exploration to development.⁴

Maniry is the only graphite project outside Europe recognised by the European Union as a Strategic Project under its Critical Raw Materials Act.⁵ The Company has also executed its first binding offtake commitment for the Project, a binding terms sheet with an established German graphite purchaser for the supply of natural flake graphite concentrate.⁶

The priorities set for the Mechanism - governance, value addition, local benefit and environmental safeguards - align closely with the basis on which Maniry is being advanced. Maniry is designed to mine and process graphite ore into concentrate within Madagascar. **Evion believes a permitted project with European Union Strategic Project status positions the Company as a credible partner for the Government of Madagascar and its international partners as the Mechanism is implemented.**

⁴ ASX announcement 21 July 2026.

⁵ ASX announcement 5 June 2025.

⁶ ASX announcement 25 August 2026.

The Company also considers coordinated United Nations support for mineral governance in Madagascar to be constructive for the broader investment environment in which Evion is engaging with European and international financiers, including the European Investment Bank, on the development of Maniry.⁷



Figure 1 – Food aid distribution at the Maniry project site in Reambohitse Ambany in April 2025, following the passage of Tropical Cyclone Honde in February 2025.

Evion Managing Director, David Round, commented:

“Madagascar's selection as one of six founding countries under the United Nations' new Country Support Mechanism is a meaningful signal for the country's critical minerals sector. The priorities the Mechanism has set - good governance, value addition, local jobs and strong environmental safeguards - are the standards against which we are advancing Maniry.”

“Maniry is permitted, recognised by the European Union as a Strategic Project and has its first binding offtake commitment in place. We believe that positions the Project to demonstrate how responsible graphite development can create jobs and lasting value in southern Madagascar.”

“We look forward to meeting with United Nations representatives in Madagascar and to continuing our work with the Government of Madagascar as the Mechanism is implemented.”

Next Steps

- Meeting with United Nations representatives in Madagascar regarding the Mechanism and the Maniry Graphite Project.
- Continuing engagement with the Government of Madagascar on the development of Maniry.
- Advancing the remaining workstreams required to reach a Final Investment Decision for Maniry, including financing, strategic partnerships and offtake.⁸

⁷ ASX announcement 21 July 2026.

⁸ ASX announcement 25 August 2026.

About Evion Group NL

Evion Group NL (ASX: EVG) is a vertically integrated critical minerals company spanning mining and downstream processing across allied jurisdictions. The Company holds an option over the high-grade Carp Fluorspar Project in Lincoln County, Nevada, comprising 59 unpatented lode claims covering approximately 493 hectares on Bureau of Land Management administered land⁹. Evion also holds the Maniry Graphite Project in Madagascar, recognised by the European Union as a Strategic Project under its Critical Raw Materials Act, and a 50:50 interest in the Panthera Graphite Technologies downstream processing joint venture in India, which commenced shipments of expandable graphite to the United States and Europe in 2025.¹⁰

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Evion Group NL.

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This announcement refers to an initiative of the United Nations. The Company is not a party to, and is not a recipient of support under, the Country Support Mechanism on Critical Energy Transition Minerals. The Company makes no representation as to whether, when or in what form any support may be provided to the Government of Madagascar under the Mechanism, or as to any resulting change in policy, regulation or investment conditions in Madagascar, all of which are outside the control of the Company.

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Where the Company refers to Exploration Results in this announcement (referencing previous releases made to the ASX), the Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcements.

⁹ ASX announcements 12 May 2026 and 25 May 2026.

¹⁰ ASX announcements 12 March 2025 and 28 August 2025.