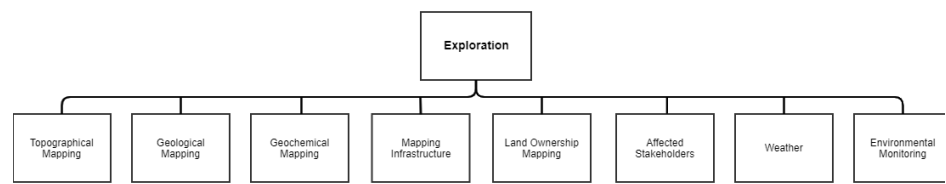


Exploration Challenges



The exploration of minerals in the extractive industry sector has many facets and most mineral exploration projects do not progress to the next phase of the mine life cycle. This is due to insufficient data, inability to discover sufficient mineral resource to make an economic ore reserve and other reasons such as environmental or regulatory issues.

The acquisition and interpretation of data is fundamental to the Exploration phase. The process of exploration typically includes a range of methods including, remote sensing, geophysics, geochemistry, trenching and core drilling.