

## Race to the Bottom: Mica, Episode 4

Bodem in Zicht: Mica

Without steel there would not be a car or chef's knife. Without gold there would not be a wedding ring to put on a finger. And without lithium there would not be a battery for your laptop, telephone or electric car. Yet hardly anyone wonders where these raw materials come from and under what circumstances they were extracted from earth. Without realising it, we depend on raw materials for almost all things we use every day.

In Race to the Bottom Eva Cleven and Anna Gimbrère investigate the origin of the most important raw materials. They dive into the worlds behind the raw materials that form the basis of our modern existence. Anna and Eva want to know what price we actually pay to heat our houses, to drive our cars or to login online on our computers. From where do we extract which raw materials? And who is extracting them? Do we have plenty of raw materials available, or are we racing towards the bottom? We dive into the world of one raw material per episode. What is it used for, where does it come from, and under what circumstances is it extracted? Eva and Anna travel to the source and visit mines and places we usually never get to see. But they also visit companies in the Netherlands that process the raw materials into the end products that we all use. To what extent are the producers concerned with the origin of the raw materials and the way in which they have been extracted from the soil? We explore the worlds of and stories behind gold, coal, iron, mica, lithium and phosphate.

Submitting organisation: **BlazHoffski Productions BV/ Dahl TV**  
Contact: **Kirstin Gortz – [kirstin.gortz@blazhoffski.nl](mailto:kirstin.gortz@blazhoffski.nl)**  
Author: **Maarten Remmers**  
Director: **David Bezemer**  
Camera: **Albert Stokke**  
Commissioning editor: **Jan van Holsteyn**  
Producer: **Barbara Coronel**  
Production company: **BlazHoffski Productions BV/Dahl TV**  
Titel of series: **Race to the Bottom**  
Episode: **4 : 6**  
Length: **41 min**  
Original language: **Dutch**  
First broadcast by: **NTR / NPO3**  
Date of first broadcast: **19 March 2020, 21:00**  
Competing for: **Best European TV Investigation of the Year**