

# The Role of Minerals & Mining in the Sustainability Transformation

...sustainable?



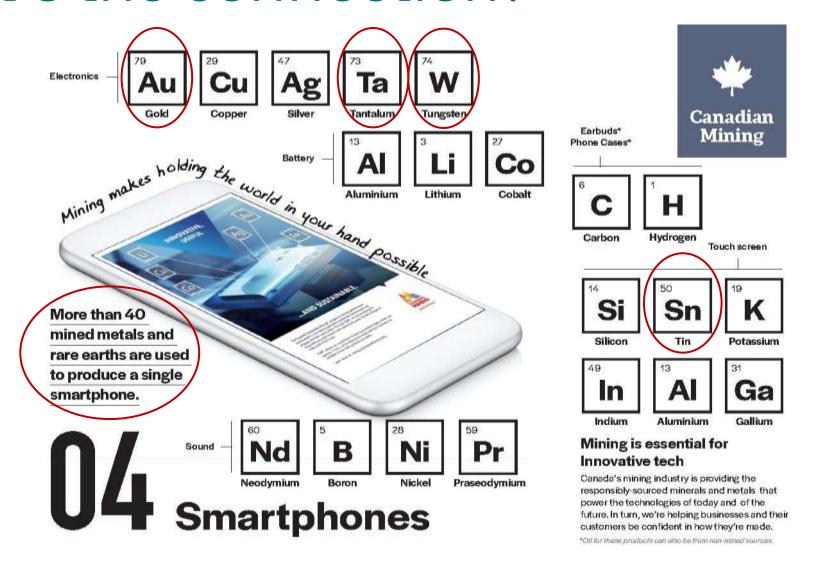






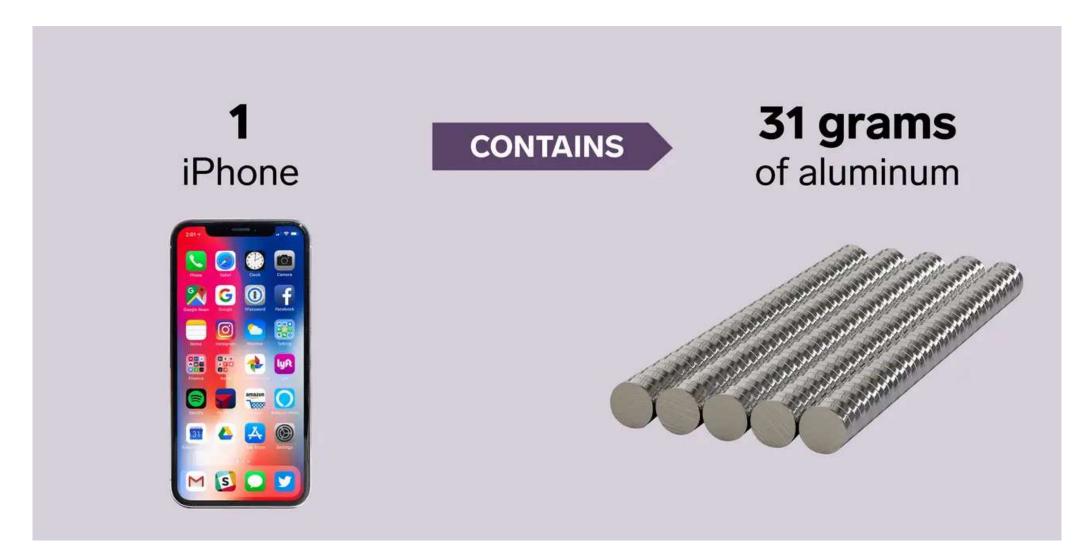
#### What's the connection?





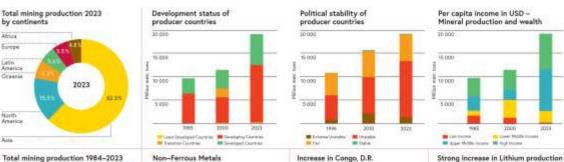


#### What's the value of these materials?



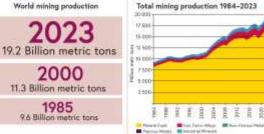
istock; Jenny Cheng/Business Insider

#### Minerals -Backbone of the economy





Major developments in global mining production based on World Mining Data 2025



China, USA, Russia and India

2023

are the 4 biggest mining nations

Oceania

Ratio of 4 base metals Al, Cu, Zn, Pb to all other Non-Ferrous Metals 98.7% to 1.3% Growth rate of Non-Ferrous Metals production 2000/2023 (2019/2023) 123.5% (8.8%) Growth rate of Aluminium production 2000/2023 (2019/2023)



(Li<sub>2</sub>O-Content)

Minerals production: Latin America surpassed Europe in 2023



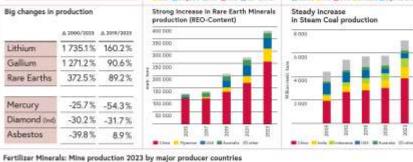
Iron and Ferro-Alloy Metals Ratio of Iron Ore to all other Ferro-Alloy Metals



2000/2023 (2019/2023) 360.8% (58.7%)

Growth rate of Nickel production 2000/2023 (2019/2023)

Asbestos



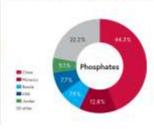
Copper production

China is world's largest producer of 28 different commodities:

- · 4 Iron and Ferro-Alloy Metals; Mo. TL W. V
- 14 Non-Fermus Metals: Al. Sb. Bi, Cd. Ga, Ga, In, Pb, Hg, REE, Se, Te, Sn, Zn
- · 1 Precious Metal: Au
- 7 Industrial Minerals: Fluoraper, Graphite, Gypsum, Magnesite, Phosphate Rock, Selt, Sulfur
- 2 Mineral Fuels Steam Coal, Coking Coal

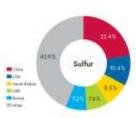


inde



187.2% (11.8%)





BMF. 2025



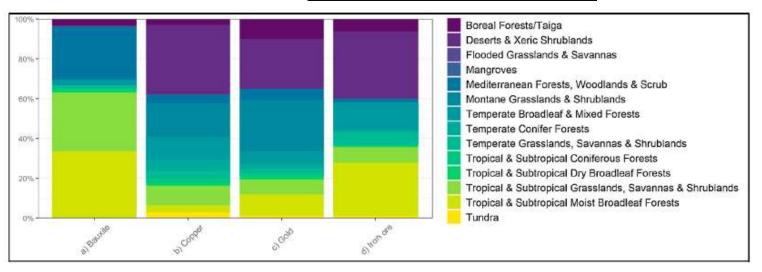


#### CO2 emissions, water use, land use / biodiversity

CO2 emissions 2016	Mt	%
Fossil fuel and industry	36000	
Fossil fuels	32000	100
of which industry	11520	36
Steel and Aluminium	4100	12,8
Mining 4 metals	190	0,6

Water withdrawals 2016	Gm3	%
Global	4180	
industry	794,2	100 (19% of total)
Steel and Aluminium	47,1	5,9
4 metals	4,9	0,6

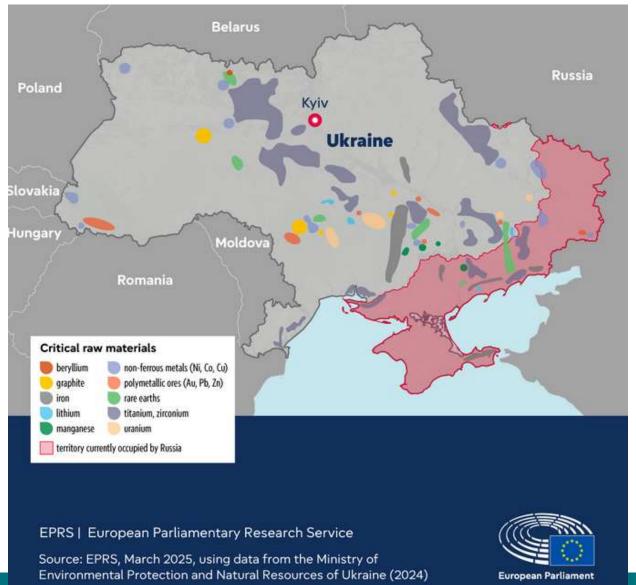
Land use 2016	ha
Al	106771
Cu	470839
Au	535507
Fe	315394
Total	1428511



Tost et al. 2018, 2020

### Why does this matter?

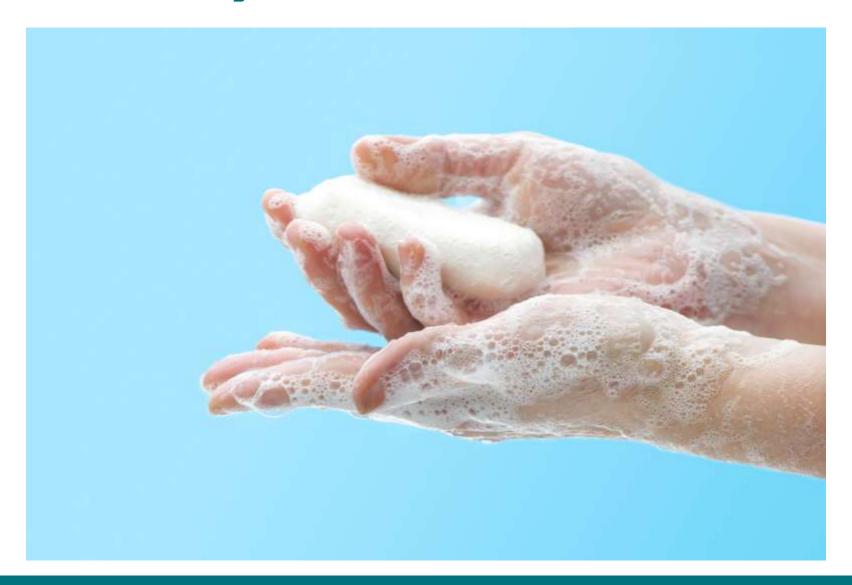




Move mountains 8



# Sustainability – what's that?

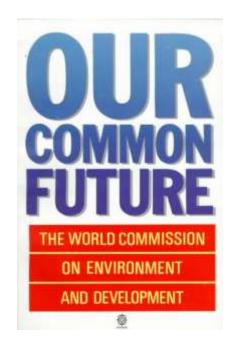






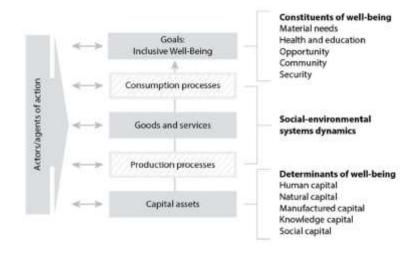
well-being

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.





A realization that our ability to prosper now and in the future requires increased attention not just to economic and social progress, but also conserving Earth's life support systems: the fundamental environmental processes and natural resources on which our hopes for prosperity depend.

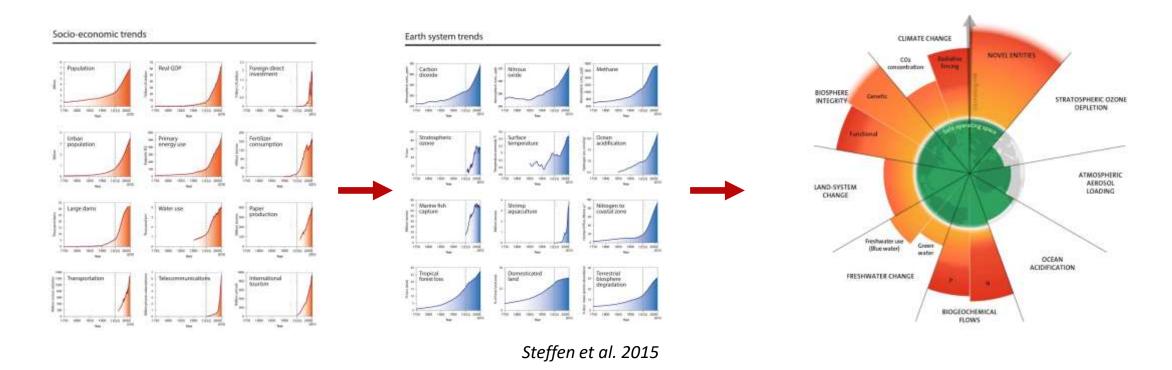


WCED 1987

Matson, Clark and Andersson 2016



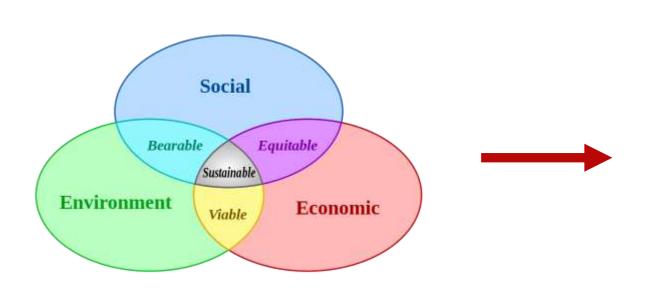
# Sustainability – human development within environmental limits



Richardson et al 2023



Sustainability – from pillars to integrated views



climate change income health education gender equality resilience equity voice nothullog leatmens losolog photosoms

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability

Raworth 2017



#### Sustainability transitions

#### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Paris Agreement
- Convention on Biological Diversity

#### SUSTAINABLE GOALS



13 CLIMATE



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

14 LIFE BELOW WATER















6 CLEAN WATER







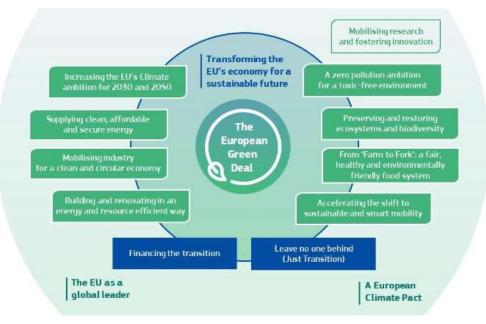






UN 2015

#### European Green Deal

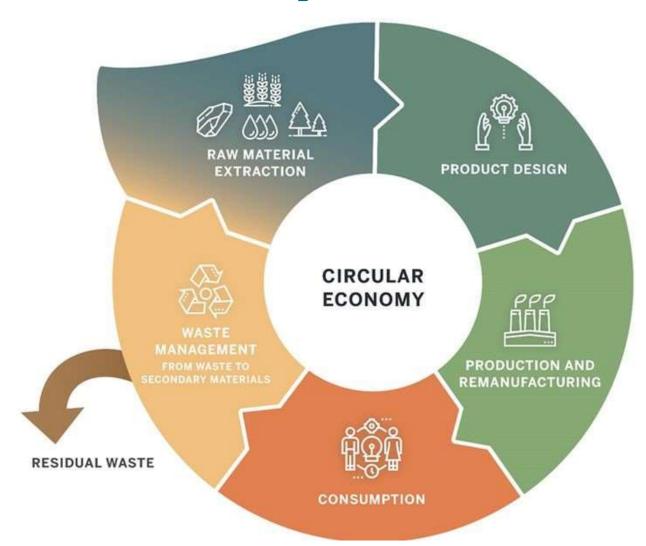


EC 2019

Move mountains 13



### Circular economy



EC 2019



# What does this mean for mineral raw materials and mining?

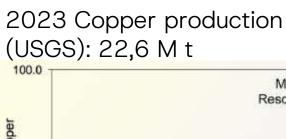


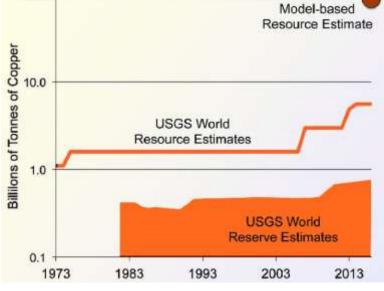
# The non-renewability of minerals

2023 Lithium production (USGS): 240.000 t

Li Resource (millions of tonnes)	Reference	
13.8	USGS (2009)	
19.2	Tahil (2008)	
23.6	Mohr et al. (2012)	
29.9	Evans (2008)	
31.1	Kesler et al. (2012)	
34.5	Evans (2010)	
39.0	Gruber et al. (2011)	
39.5	USGS (2016)	
64.0	Yaksic and Tilton (2009)	

Arnt et al. 2017

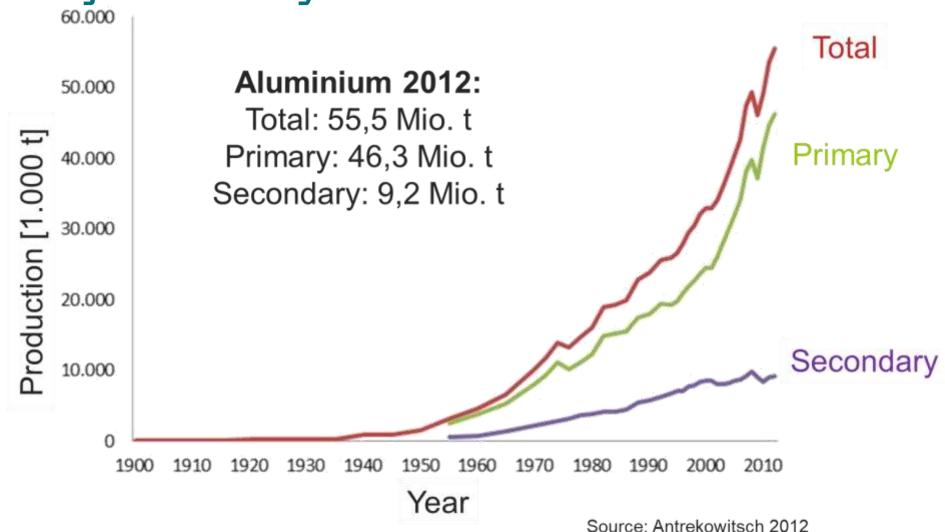




Chat GPT: "Tellurium is the tightest, with only about 32 years of currently identified reserves at present global production rates."



### Let's just recycle





### We will still need mining, BUT...

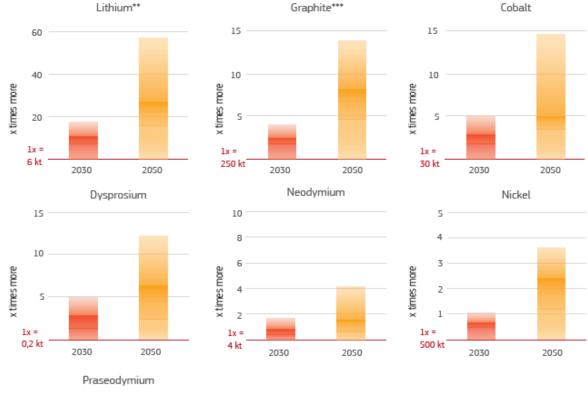


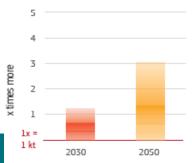
#### ...we need to differentiate what we mine ...

Additional material consumption batteries, fuel cells, wind turbines and photovoltaics in renewables and e-mobility only

in 2030/2050 compared to current EU consumption\* of the material in all applications

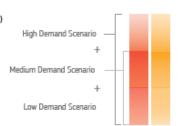






- \* See the methodological notes in Annex 1 and all data in Annex 2  $\,$
- \*\* of refined supply (Stage II) instead of ore supply (Stage I)
  \*\*\* increase in demand of all graphite in relation to natural graphite

Aluminium, borates, cadmium, chromium, copper, gallium, germanium, indium, manganese, molybdenum, platinum, selenium, silicon metal, terbium, tellurium, silver, steel and zinc have a negligible additional demand (< 10%) compared to the current EU share of global supply



EC 2020

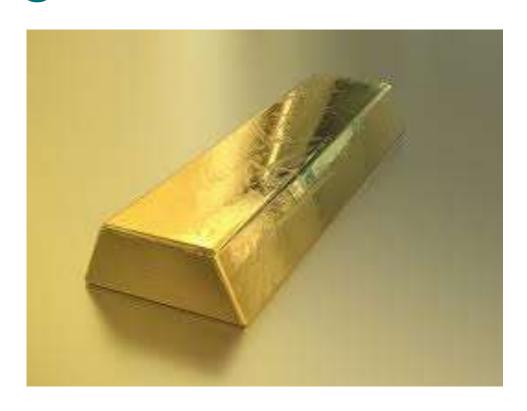
#### Less demand for coal?







# Can we still afford to mine for luxury goods?

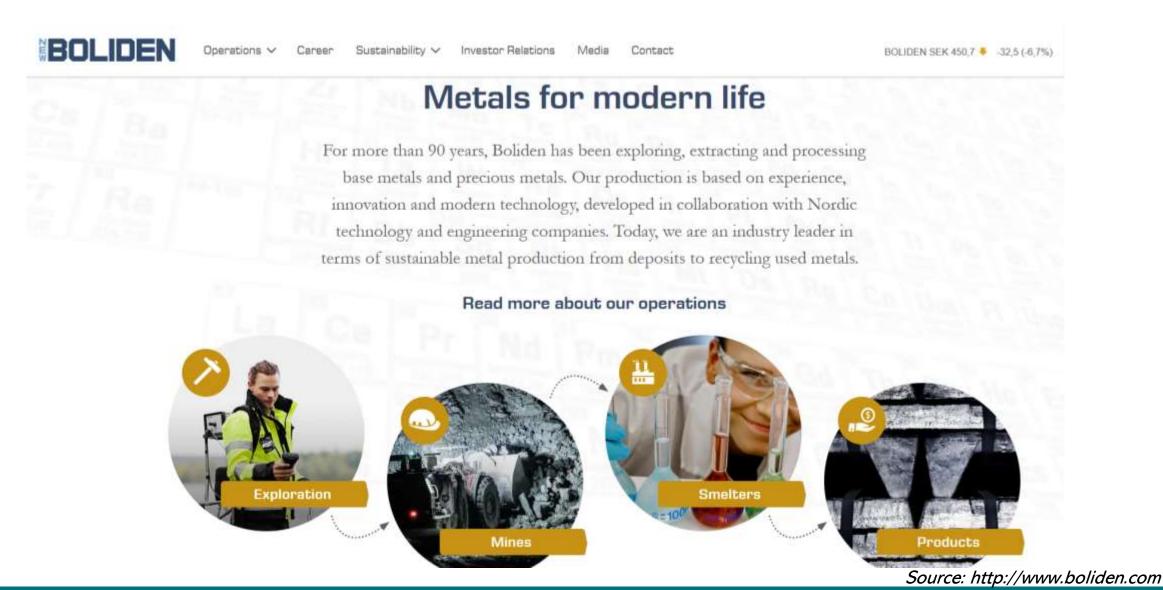




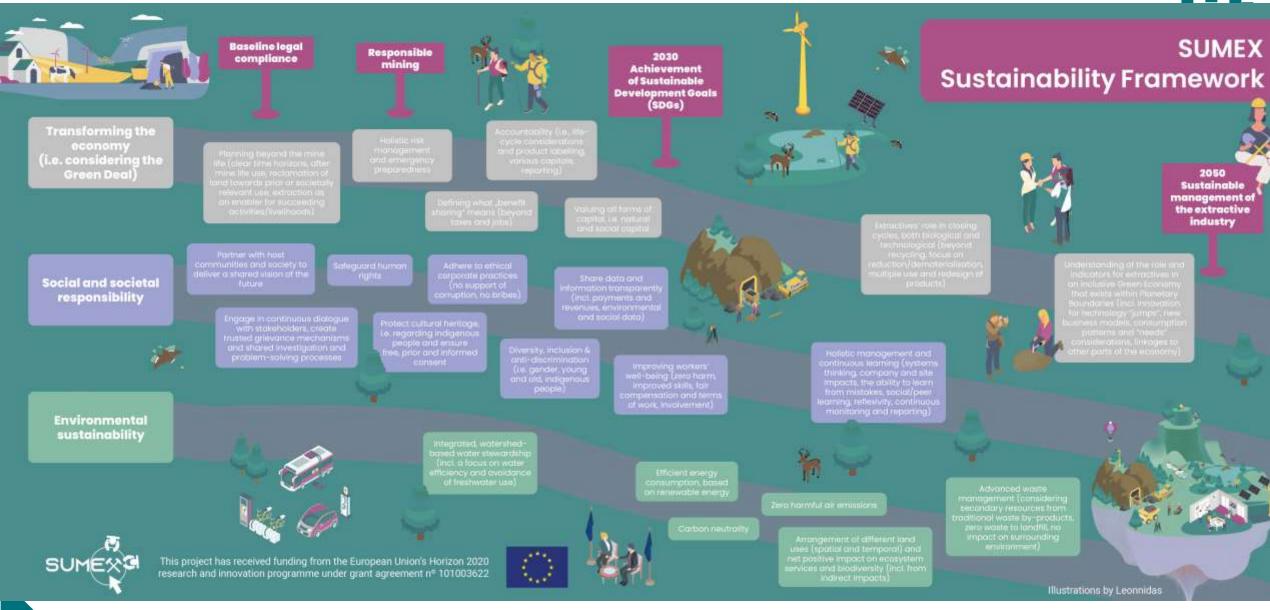


### ...mining itself needs to change

# Mining company vs. materials company 📭

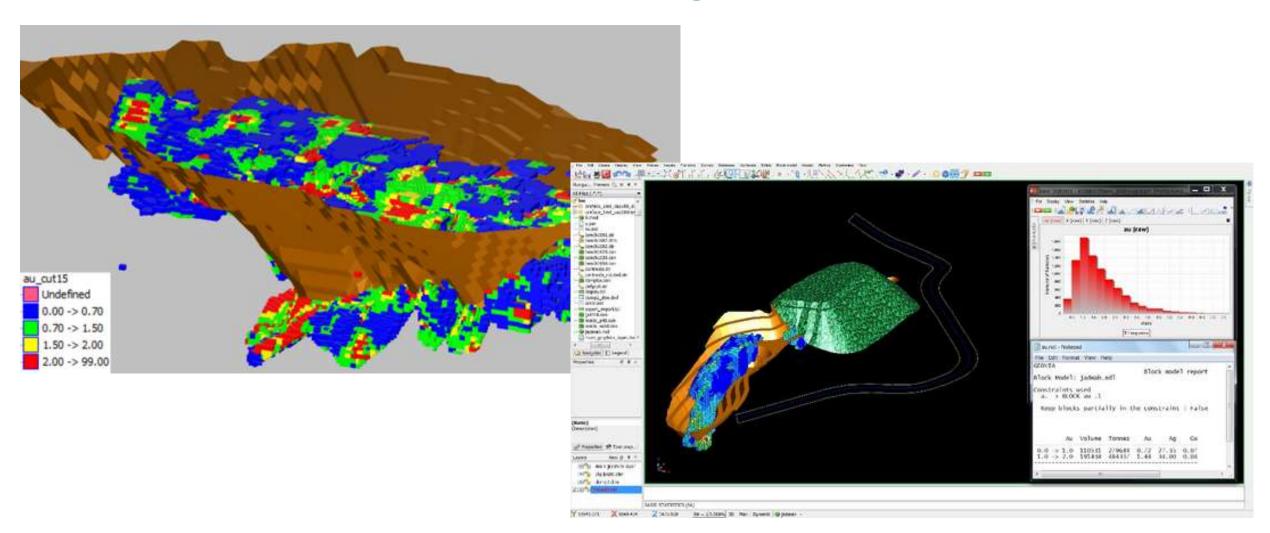






# Mine planning and Al



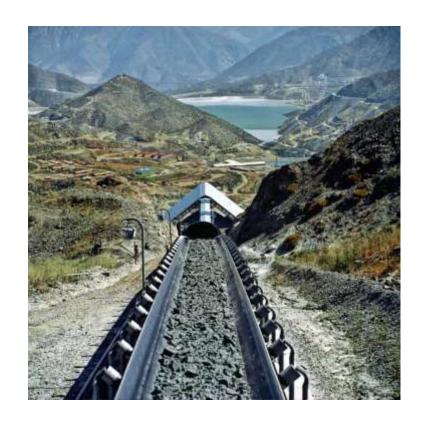


Geovia, 2021

#### Elektrifizierung - Förderung







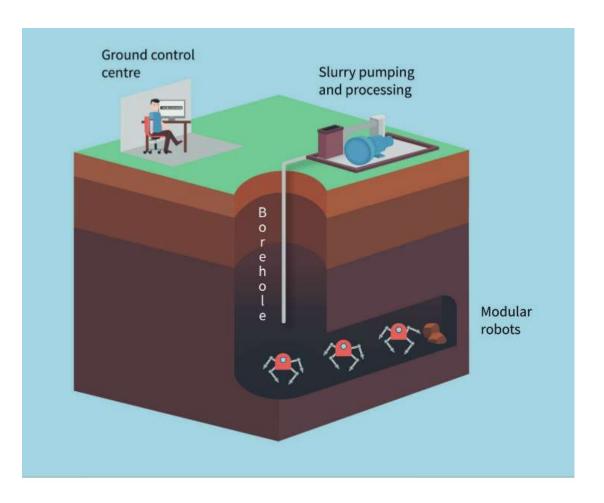
Siemens

VA Erzberg

#### Robominers





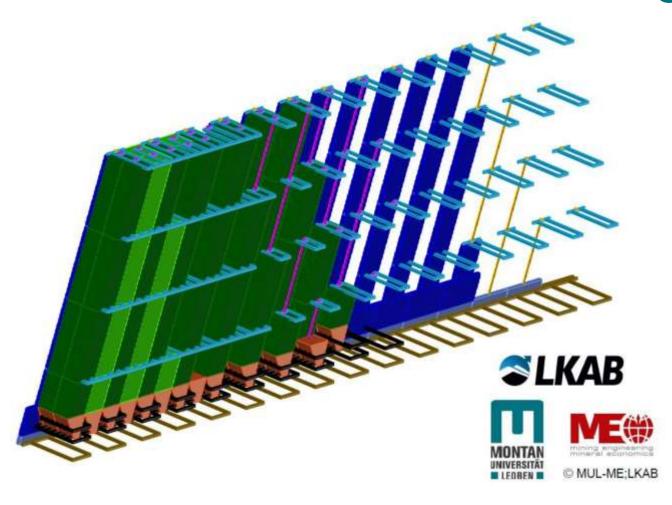


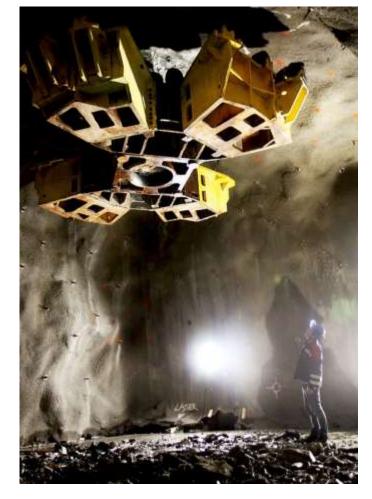
Komatsu

Robominers, 2020



# Underground mining Raise caving







# Post-mining



Max Siegmayer (Wikipedia)



Lithium

So, can mineral raw materials be sustainable?

