



ReSiLex

18/01/2024

Critical raw materials. What is at stake?
WEBINAR



Santiago Cuesta-López

Executive Director at ISMC Cluster
General Manager in ICAMCyL Foundation



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MAIN PERSONS INVOLVED IN RESILEX COORDINATION



Santiago Cuesta-López
Executive Director at ISMC
Cluster and General Manager in
ICAMCyL Foundation

- Expert promoting international activity in raw materials (S3P-Batteries & Mining)
- Representative as member state in the EU EIP Raw Materials Operational Groups (until 2020).
- Directed more than 50 EU FP7/H2020/Horizon EU projects (15 EU projects as coordinator), mobilizing >200 M €
- Author/co-author >150 publications & technical communications to industry, >10 scientific reputed awards.



Francisco J. Luque-Ruiz
Senior Project Manager at
ISMC Cluster

- Masters in environmental technologies and water management (Oxford University) combined with research work at USA, India, Spain and UK
- Experience in research, exploitation, dissemination and management sides of EU-funded R&I projects on industrial and environmental issues since 2005
- Expert evaluator of EU-funded R&I proposals



www.ismc-iberiamine.com



ISMC comprises over 80 regional, national and international companies that join efforts to consolidate the strengths of the mining sector and its associated services



ISMC covers a wide range of raw materials & CRMs and the whole mining value chain



Cross fertilisation – Circular Economy

+



Core Capacities



Ensuring 17 CRMs and a wide range of Raw Materials

Antimony	Cobalt	Hafnium	Natural Graphite	Phosphorus	Vanadium
Baryte	Coking coal	Heavy rare earths	Natural Rubber	Scandium	Bauxite
Beryllium	Fluorspar	Light rare earths	Niobium	Silicon metal	Litium
Bismuth	Gallium	Indium	PGMs	Tantalum	Titanium
Borate	Germanium	Magnesium	Phosphate rock	Tungsten	Strontium



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6 interdisciplinary working groups with specific goals

- WG1: International projects, technological projects and grants
- WG2: International business development and financing
- WG3: Technology surveillance
- WG4: Training, health and safety in the workplace
- WG5: Communication and marketing
- WG6: Legislation, European regulations and certifications
- WG7: Environment and sustainability

SERVICES ASSOCIATED TO SUSTAINABILITY

PRODUCTION & ANALYSIS

PROCESSING & RECYCLING



EXPLORATION

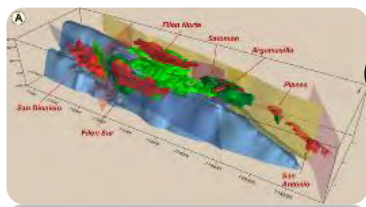
EXTRACTION

PILOTS EXPERIENCE

1 Raw Materials recovery pilots from tailings



2 CRMs including REEs extraction and processing pilots



3 Advanced digitization across the mining value chain

EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROJECTS

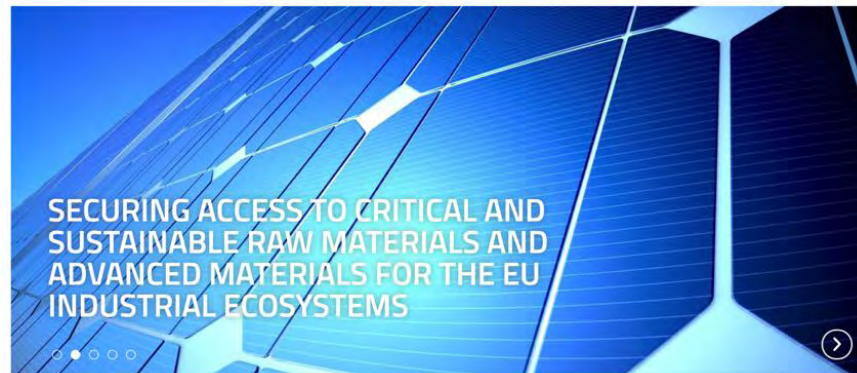


Logos of participating organizations and projects: European Union, TerraVision (EO Mining Platform), Batmass, SINK, Maditrace, 5304i, Mine.The.Gap, 14-Green, ReSiLex, RawMaterials, Echo, ExpSkills-Rem, Junta de Castilla y León, Clusternet, InnoBase, and VIGITECYL 22 MINAS.

Brussels, 3.9.2020
COM(2020) 474 final

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

Critical Raw Materials Resilience: Charting a Path towards greater Security and Sustainability



Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Home Single market and standards Industry Entrepreneurship and SMEs Access to finance Sectors Tools and databases

Home > Sectors > Raw materials, metals, minerals and forest-based industries > The European Innovation partnership (EIP) on raw materials

The European innovation partnership (EIP) on raw materials

The European innovation partnership on raw materials is a stakeholder platform that brings together representatives from industry, public services, academia and NGOs. Its mission is to provide high-level guidance to the European Commission, EU countries and private actors on innovative approaches to the challenges related to raw materials.

The EIP plays a central role in the EU's raw materials policy framework

- it reinforces the [raw materials initiative](#) (2017-2020) by translating the strategic policy framework into concrete actions and by mobilising the stakeholder community to implement them
- it has been instrumental in [securing R&I funding](#): while framework programme 7 (the R&I funding tool for the period 2007-2013) only included approximately €180 million for raw materials R&I, [Horizon 2020](#) (the R&I funding tool for 2014-2020) reserved €600 million for research on the challenges related to raw materials.

The [European Innovation partnerships](#) (EIPs) are a new approach to EU research and innovation. By bringing together actors from the entire research and innovation value chain they aim at streamlining efforts and accelerating market take-up of innovations that address key challenges for Europe.



**Study on the EU's list of
Critical Raw Materials
(2020)**

Final Report

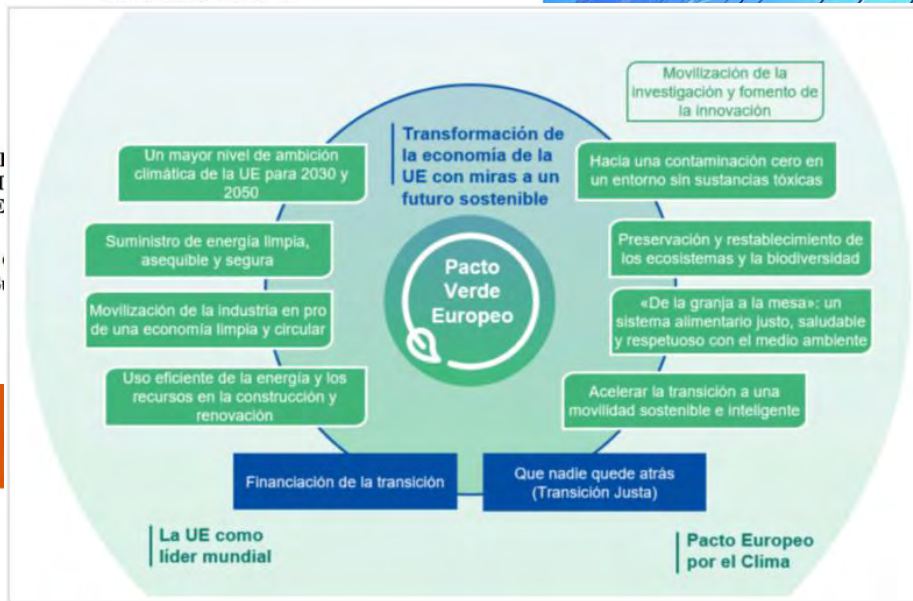


Brussels, 3.9.2020



COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK AND THE EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

Critical Raw Materials Resilience: A Study



Partnership and SMEs

Partnership and SMEs | Access to finance | Sectors | Tools and databases

Based industries > The European Innovation partnership (EIP) on raw materials

Innovation Partnership (EIP) on raw materials

A stakeholder platform that brings together academia and NGOs. Its mission is to support innovation in, EU countries and private actors in critical raw materials.



Study on the EU's list of Critical Raw Materials (2020)

Final Report

Critical Raw Materials for Strategic Technologies and Sectors in the EU
A Foresight Study

Included approximately €180 million for raw materials R&I Horizon 2020 (the R&I funding tool for 2014-2020) reserved €600 million for research on the challenges related to raw materials.

The European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs) are a new approach to EU research and innovation. By bringing together actors from the entire research and innovation value chain they aim at streamlining efforts and accelerating market take-up of innovations that address key challenges for Europe.

SECURING CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS IN THE EU

The role of trade and external actions

To become a net-zero economy, the EU needs Critical Raw Materials (CRMs). The EU will never be self-sufficient in CRMs and will continue to rely largely on imports. Therefore, in addition to making the most of its own CRM reserves and enhancing circularity, the EU needs to strengthen its global engagement to develop win-win partnerships with reliable partners. Here's how¹.



CRM Club

Establish a raw materials alliance with partners to strengthen supply chains and diversify sourcing.



Strategic Partnerships on Raw Materials

Expand our network of strategic raw materials partnerships.



Trade and Investment Agreements

Leverage and expand our trade agreements as regards raw materials extraction, processing and trade.



Global Gateway

Support critical raw material supply projects, including on infrastructure, connectivity and sustainability.



Enforcing Trade Rules

Continue to combat unfair trade practices, especially when they concern trade investment in or access to critical raw materials.

Critical Raw Materials: ensuring secure and sustainable supply chains for EU's green and digital future



European Critical Raw Materials Act

2030 benchmarks for strategic raw materials:



EU EXTRACTION

At least **10%** of the EU's annual consumption for extraction



EU PROCESSING

At least **40%** of the EU's annual consumption for processing



EU RECYCLING

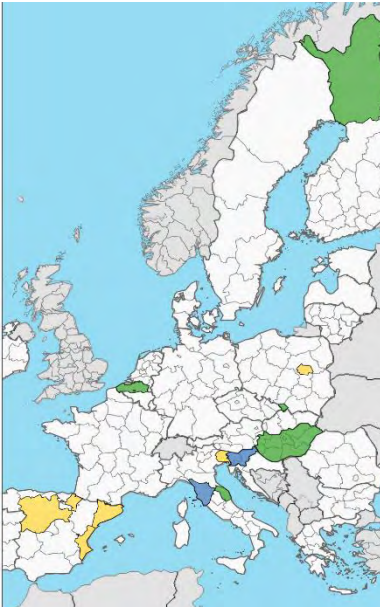
At least **15%** of the EU's annual consumption for recycling



EXTERNAL SOURCES

Not more than **65%** of the EU's annual consumption of **each strategic raw material at any relevant stage of processing** from a single third country





SME integration to Industry 4.0

Leading regions

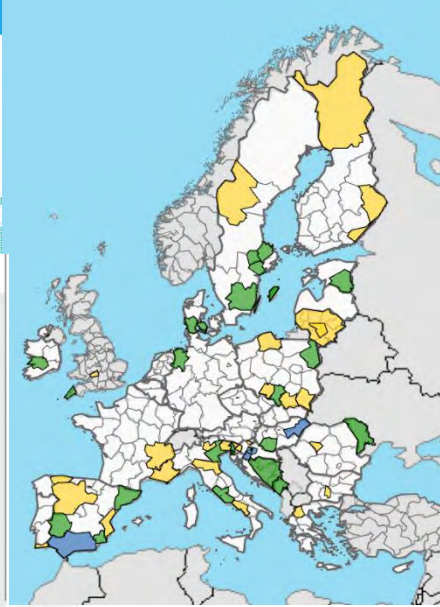
Slovenia (SI)
Tuscany, Italy (IT)

Participating regions

Castile and Leon, Spain (ES)
Catalonia, Spain (ES)
Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy (IT)
Mazowieckie, Poland (PL)
Navarra, Spain (ES)
Valencia, Spain (ES)

Interested regions

Bielsko-Biala, Poland (PL)
Flanders, Belgium (BE)
Hungary (HU)
Lapland, Finland (FI)
Marche, Italy (IT)



Sustainable Buildings

Leading regions

Andalusia, Spain (ES)
North Great Plain (Észak-Alföld), Hungary (HU)

North West Croatia, Croatia (four NUTS 3: HR041, HR042, HR04D, HR043) (HR)

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North West Croatia, Croatia (four NUTS 3: HR041, HR042, HR04D, HR043) (HR)

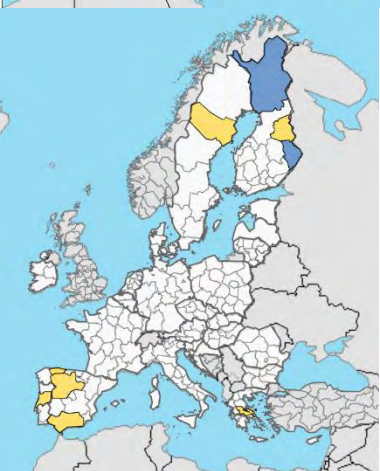
North West Croatia, Croatia (four NUTS 3: HR041, HR042, HR04D, HR043) (HR)

Participating regions

Alba County (Centru), Romania (RO)
Algarve, Portugal (PT)
Asturias, Spain (ES)
Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy (IT)
Campania, Italy (IT)

Castile and Leon, Spain (ES)
Central Slovenia, Slovenia (SI)
Drava (Podravska), Slovenia (SI)
Emilia Romagna, Italy (IT)
Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy (IT)
Gloucestershire, UK (UK)
Jämtland, Sweden (SE)
Kaunas County, Lithuania (LT)

Lapland, Finland (FI)
Lithuania (LT)
Malopolska, Poland (PL)
North Karelia, Finland (FI)
Opolskie, Poland (PL)
Plovdiv, Bulgaria (BG)
Podkarpackie, Poland (PL)
Pomorskie, Poland (PL)
Rhône-Alpes, France (FR)
South Karelia, Finland (FI)
South Region (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur) France (FR)
Upper Carniola (Gorenjska), Slovenia



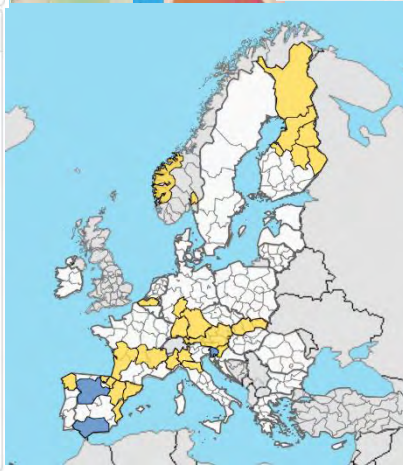
Mining industry

Leading regions

Lapland, Finland (FI)
North Karelia, Finland (FI)

Participating regions

Andalusia, Spain (ES)
Asturias, Spain (ES)
Castile and Leon, Spain (ES)
Centro, Portugal (PT)
Kainuu, Finland (FI)
Stereia Ellada (Central Greece) (EL)
Västerbotten, Sweden (SE)



Advanced materials on batteries

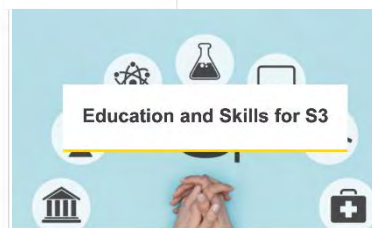
Leading regions

Andalusia, Spain (ES)
Castile and Leon, Spain (ES)
Slovenia West, Slovenia (SI)

Participating regions

Aragon, Spain (ES)
Austria (AT)
Auvergne Rhone-Alpes, France (FR)
Baden-Württemberg, Germany (DE)
Basque Country, Spain (ES)
Bavaria, Germany (DE)
Brussels-Capital Region, Belgium (BE)
Catalonia, Spain (ES)
Central Ostrobothnia, Finland (FI)
Emilia Romagna, Italy (IT)
Flanders, Belgium (BE)
Galicia, Spain (ES)
Hessen, Germany (DE)
Kainuu, Finland (FI)
Lapland, Finland (FI)
Lombardy, Italy (IT)
Metropol Region Eindhoven (NL)
Navarra, Spain (ES)
North Karelia, Finland (FI)

North Karelia, Finland (FI)
Northern Ostrobothnia (Pohjois-Pohjanmaa, Oulu subregion (city of Oulu), Finland (FI)
Northern Savoonia (Pohjois-Savo), Finland (FI)
Nouvelle Aquitaine, France (FR)
Piedmont, Italy (IT)
Slovakia (SK)
Slovenia East, Slovenia (SI)
Valencia, Spain (ES)
Viken, Norway (NO)
Western Norway (Vestlandet), Norway (NO)



S3P Mining Industry partnership at a glance:

Mining industries and global value chain thematic partnership

- Securing a sustainable supply and industrial value chains are crucial for the future EU
- Primary production will remain important coming decades - minimisation of the environmental impacts and risks linked to RM production is vital
- Regions are the operational starting point for the industrial value and supply chains
- Regional ecosystems are the focal points and the playgrounds in the development of sustainable raw material production –

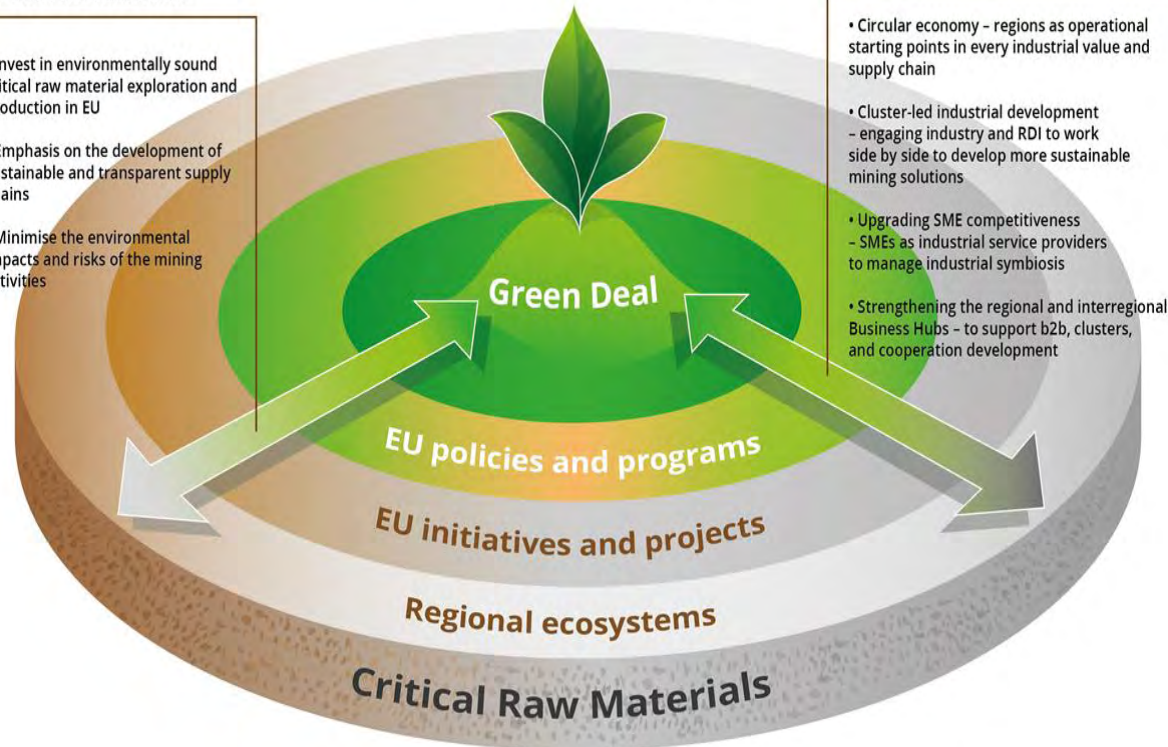
Mines are always place-based, depending on geology and cannot be moved

Contradictory fact is that when we are trying to reduce the use of the natural resources, we must increase the use of the other natural resources like the mineral ones

Sustainable availability of the raw materials

- Invest in environmentally sound critical raw material exploration and production in EU
- Emphasis on the development of sustainable and transparent supply chains
- Minimise the environmental impacts and risks of the mining activities

European mining & metallurgical ecosystem



S3P Mining Industry partnership at a glance:

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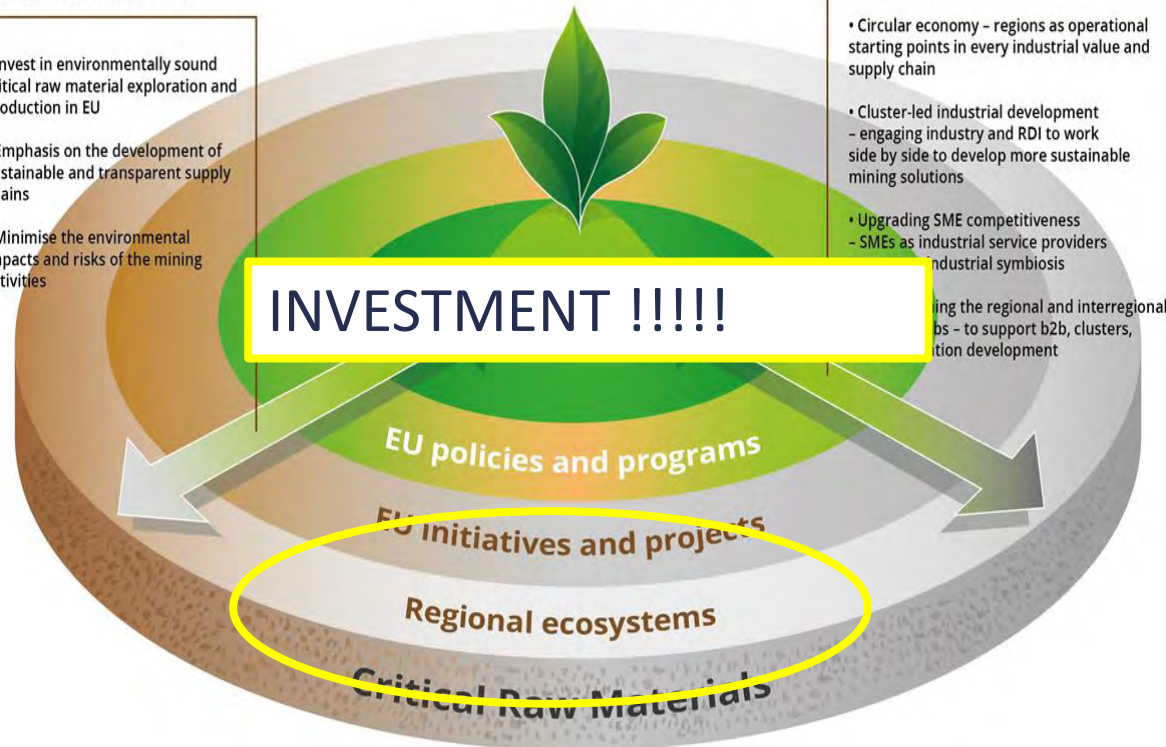
Sustainable availability of the raw materials

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- Minimise the environmental impacts and risks of the mining activities

European mining & metallurgical ecosystem

Strategic interregional collaboration

- Circular economy – regions as operational starting points in every industrial value and supply chain
- Cluster-led industrial development – engaging industry and RDI to work side by side to develop more sustainable mining solutions
- Upgrading SME competitiveness – SMEs as industrial service providers
- Industrial symbiosis
- Supporting the regional and interregional jobs – to support b2b, clusters, innovation development





Funded by the European Union

Grant Agreement Number 101058583

RESiLEX project

www.resilex-project.eu



Context : Development of technological solutions for reusing Silicon, recycling PV modules and designing new products in the fields of mining, solar & batteries

The RESiLEX Consortium gathers **24** participants from **8** different countries:

Industries & SMEs



Industry-driven Clusters & Associations



RTOs



Project ambition

Demonstrate **7 industry-driven technological and business innovative solutions** covering the full **Silicon value chain**

- ✓ the **resilience and sustainability** of this **critical raw material value chain in Europe**

ASSESS the **economical, social and environmental impact** of these solutions

Identify, roadmap, provide open-source policy-making recommendations to accelerate the replication of the ones with the highest potential

Address **challenges** from the European mining industry with pilot transversal demonstration.



Funded by the European Union

Grant Agreement Number 101058583

RESiLEX project

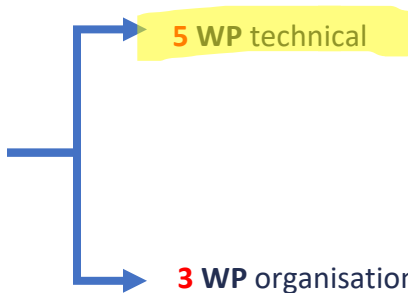
www.resilex-project.eu



- Budget → 12 M €
- Duration → 4 years, started on June 2022
- 7 Technologies → 8 Demonstrations



- Work packages → 8 WP



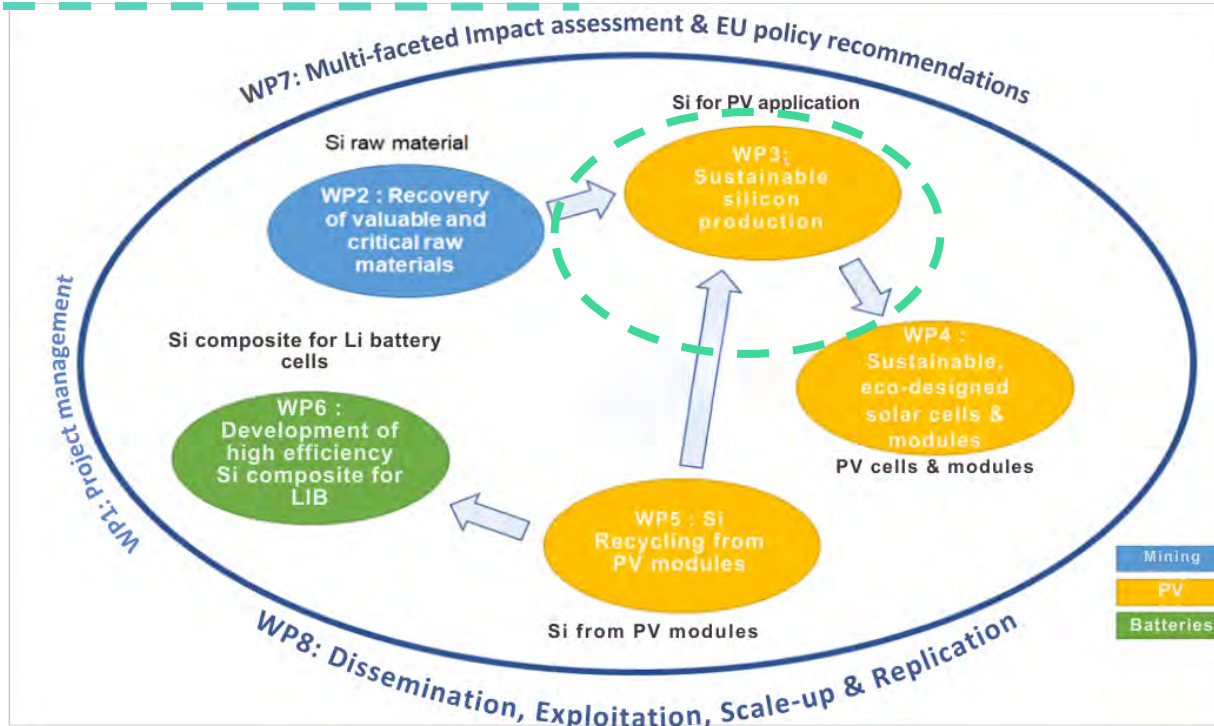
- WP2 : Mining & Raw materials extraction
- WP3 : Production of Solar-grade polysilicon
- WP4 : Cells & modules manufacturing
- WP5 : Recycling of PV panels
- WP6 : Manufacturing of Si-based anodes for Li batteries

- WP1 : Project management
- WP7 : LCC, LCA, social impact, ...
- WP8 : D&C + Exploitation strategy

- ISMC role



Project methodology and structure



The project activities will revolve around the development of three value chains, each one will valorize a specific waste stream, to transform into new valuable products, reducing the EU dependence from abroad

1

Critical Raw Materials from waste



Mining activities

Mining waste and acid waste waters

Recovery of Critical Raw Materials



2

PV modules from recycled silicon



End of Life Solar panels or kerf

Recycling Treatment and Purification

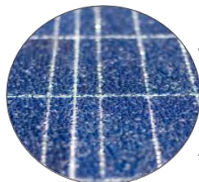
Ingots from recycled silicon

Wafers and solar cells



3

Anodes for batteries



End of Life Solar panels

Recycling Treatment and Purification

Silicon based anode




Silicon is used in most of the strategic renewable energy applications: improving its value chain is of major importance for the resilience of the entire European Union and for the energy transition.

Project scientific objectives

- **Circular CRM** recovery process for waste streams in mining industry
- Al-thermic slag reduction using different secondary silicate and Al-containing raw materials for **Si production**
- **Crystalline nano-powder** production with thin carbon-coating layers from purified kerf & end-of-life solar cells
- **Solar cells** using wafers made from revalorized Si waste
- **In-free and Ag-free solar cells** with passivated contacts
- PV modules with **bio-sourced encapsulant** and recycled frame
- **Froth flotation and electrostatism** for Silicon separation in end-of-life PV modules
- Development of Silicon composite material for **Li-ion battery** cell

Project scientific objectives (progress)



Demonstrate and develop a new carbon-free, sustainable, and more efficient process for production of Si and Si alloys compatible with c-Si ingot production for solar applications.

- **Si alloy produced using the SisAl method has been produced in different g and kg scales**
- **Dissolution of kerf into the metal is now under investigation**
- **Next step will be to refine the formed metal to expected quality**


Project scientific objectives (progress)

A circular inset image showing a field of solar panels under a sunset sky. The panels are dark blue with white grid lines, and the sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

Develop more efficient, sustainable, eco-designed and cost-competitive photovoltaic solar cells and modules.

- **On track and successful collaboration between CEA, CSEM and CRNS teams on CRM-free PV panels**
- **70% Indium reduction reached with means covering this goal**
- **Promising results in reduction of Ag and on new eco-designed materials for module encapsulation towards better recyclability**

Project scientific objectives (progress)

A large green recycling symbol composed of three arrows forming a circle, made of a textured, grass-like material.

Demonstrate a highly efficient Silicon recycling process from end-of-life PV modules, in order to substitute primary Silicon source in major applications such as Silicon wafers or anodic materials.

- **Excellent progress on: sourcing and characterization of PPV panels; tracing of Si concentration in treatment residues; plant trials for Si extraction optimization; lab-scale Si refining testworks on preliminary samples**
- **Currently studying if leached Si can be upgraded from battery grade to PV grade**
- **Change in the methodology for separation pilot line: electrostatism was chosen against froth flotation**

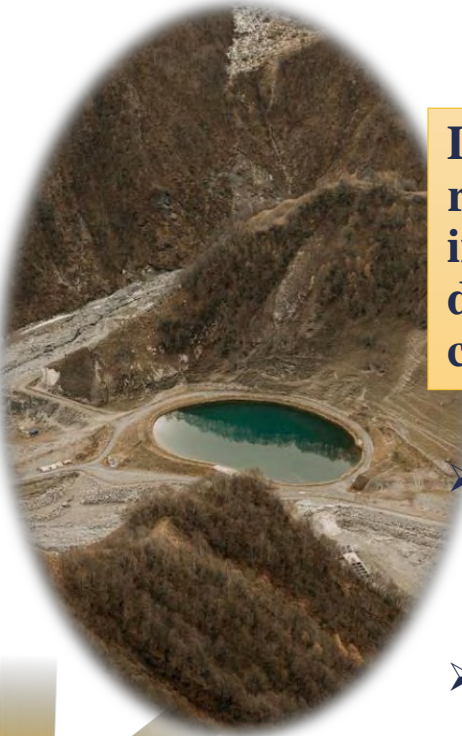
Project scientific objectives (progress)

A circular inset image showing a close-up of solar panels with blue photovoltaic cells and brown metal frames.

Demonstrate high energy density 2 Ah Li-ion battery from secondary raw Silicon locally produced in the EU.

- **Initial specifications developed. Final design will be ready by May 2024**
- **The preparation of the Si/C composite as anode materials for lithium-ion batteries is achieved using crushed solar panels as source of Si**

Project scientific objectives (progress)

An aerial photograph of a mining site. A large, circular, turquoise-colored pond is the central feature, surrounded by brown, rocky terrain and some sparse vegetation. The pond is situated in a valley-like area.

Demonstrate a sustainable circular process to recover waste critical raw material in the mining industry, targeting 80% reduction of mining water discharge waste into the environment at a very low cost.

- **Different acid mine waters and wastes were analysed in order to understand the concentration of CRM to be recovered and the presence of the other pollutants that will need to be removed**
- **All pilots are expected to be working during the first half of 2024**

Resilex Network

Keep up to date with our latest news and analysis by joining the RESILEX Network.
Write to our e-mail address if you have inquiries and be sure to follow the LinkedIn page.

I have read the [informed consent](#) form and would like to become a member of the Resilex stakeholder network, I hereby authorize the use and processing of my personal data in compliance with EU Regulation no. 2016/679 GDPR.

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 [Resilex Project](#)

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AND EVENTS!



Stakeholder Engagement Event in Brussels



When: afternoon 23rd May 2024

Framework: Annual Conference of the European Technology and Innovation Platform (ETIP PV) in cooperation with the HE project EVERPV

MORE INFORMATION HERE
<https://etip-pv.eu/events/etip-pv-conference>



ReSiLex

PROJECT TEAM



ReSiLex

Thank you!

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 RESiLEX Project

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 @ISMCluster

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