



European Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

Regulation establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials
(entered into force 23 May 2024)

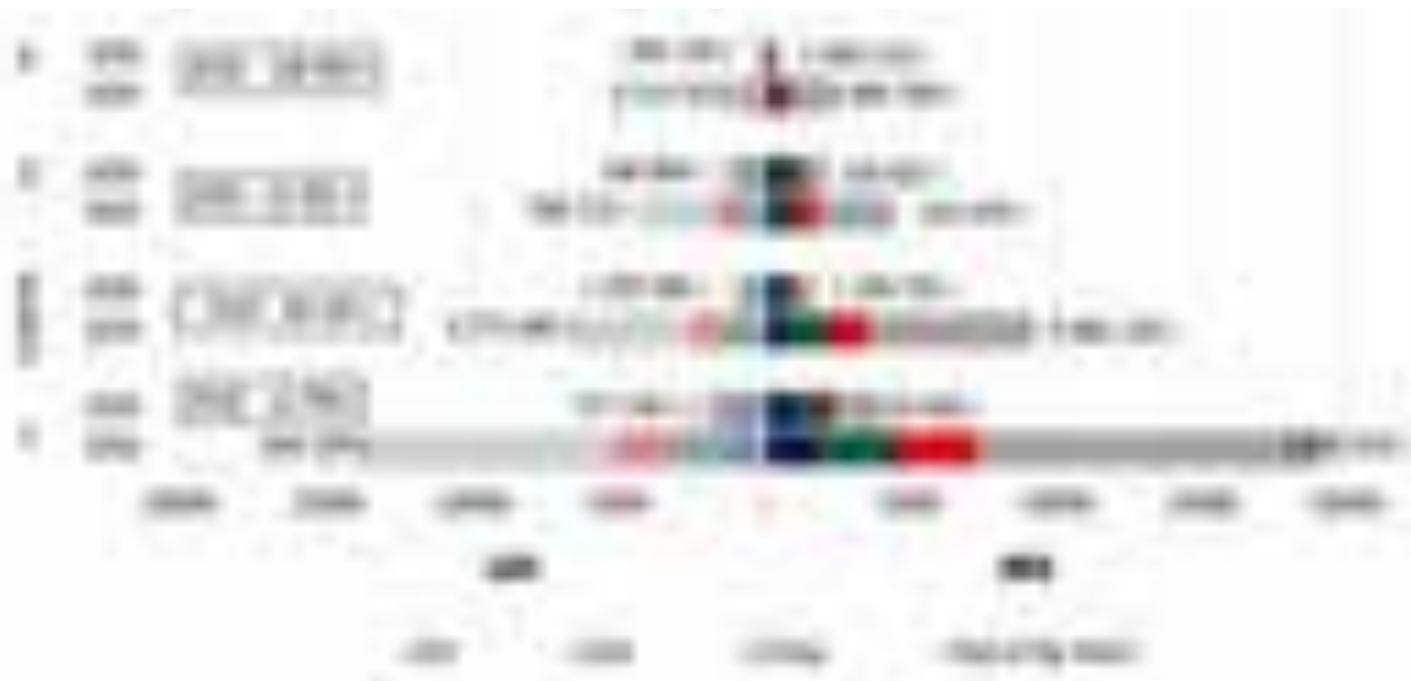
Helena Cavaco Viegas

Unit I1 - Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Critical raw materials (CRMs) and the EU economy

- Driven by the twin transition and defence needs, significant growth in CRM demand, with risk of global supply/demand imbalance
- EU is heavily dependent on third country supply for CRMs that are key for strategic technologies
- Strategic dependencies and risk of supply chain disruption

Estimated demand forecast - EU industry - 2024



Source: European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA)

European Critical Raw Materials Act

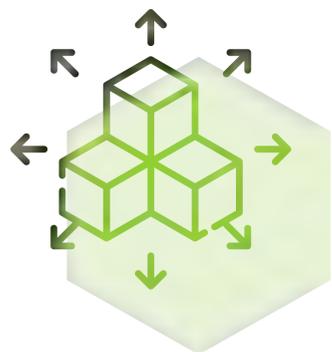
Ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials for the Union



Strengthen all stages of the European CRM value chain



Improve EU capacity to monitor and mitigate risks of disruption to CRM supply



Diversify EU CRM imports to reduce strategic dependencies



Improve CRM circularity and sustainability

Setting Priorities

DEFINING CRITICAL AND STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS

CRM

Whole EU economy, based on :

- supply risk
- economic importance

SRM

SRM are a subset of CRM:

- Key for strategic technologies (green, digital, defence and space)
- Forecast demand risks outstripping supply

2030 BENCHMARKS

Towards more SRM supply security

- EU's extraction capacity cover at least **10%** of the EU's SRM consumption
- EU's processing capacity cover at least **40%** of the EU's SRM consumption
- EU's recycling capacity cover at least **25%** of the EU's SRM consumption

Towards more diversification of supply

- Not more than **65%** of EU consumption of each SRM should come from a single third country.

Critical Raw Materials

Note: A subset of the CRMs are classified as „**strategic raw materials**“ due to their use in strategic technologies and strong projected demand growth. Certain measures under the CRMA apply only to them.

34 RAW MATERIALS DEFINED AS CRITICAL BY THEIR HIGH

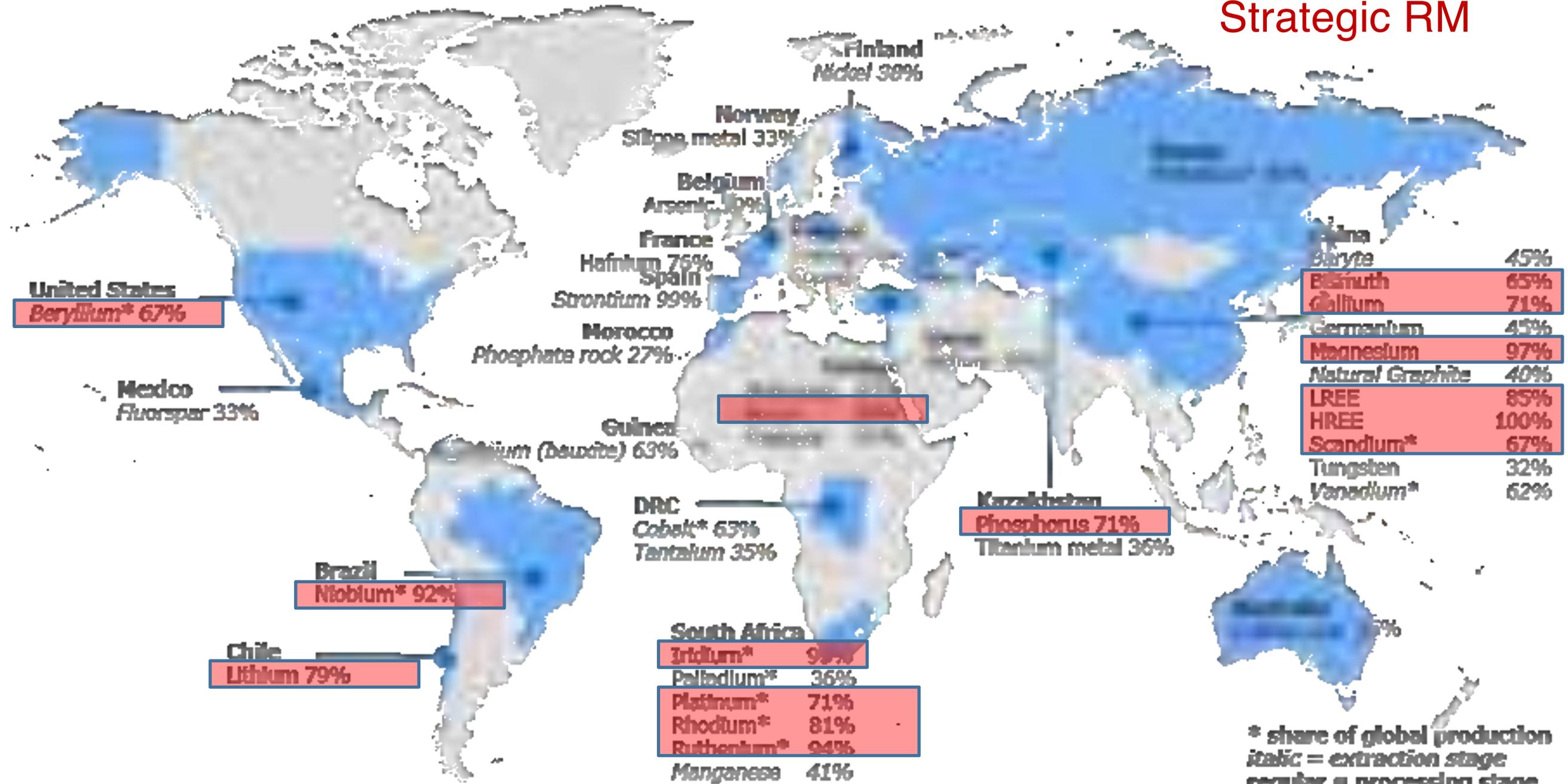
- Economic importance
- Supply risk

... based on a regular assessment of available data in an established methodology

- Antimony
- Arsenic
- **Bauxite/Aluminium**
- Baryte
- Beryllium
- **Bismuth**
- **Boron**
- **Cobalt**
- Coking Coal
- **Copper**
- Feldspar
- Fluorspar
- **Gallium**
- **Germanium**
- Hafnium
- Helium
- **Heavy Rare Earth Elements**
- **Light Rare Earth Elements**
- **Lithium**
- **Magnesium**
- **Manganese**
- **Graphite (Natural and synthetic)**
- **Nickel – battery grade**
- Niobium
- Phosphate rock
- Phosphorus
- **Platinum Group Metals**
- Scandium
- **Silicon metal**
- Strontium
- Tantalum
- **Titanium metal**
- **Tungsten**
- Vanadium

Dependencies in the EU supply of CRMs

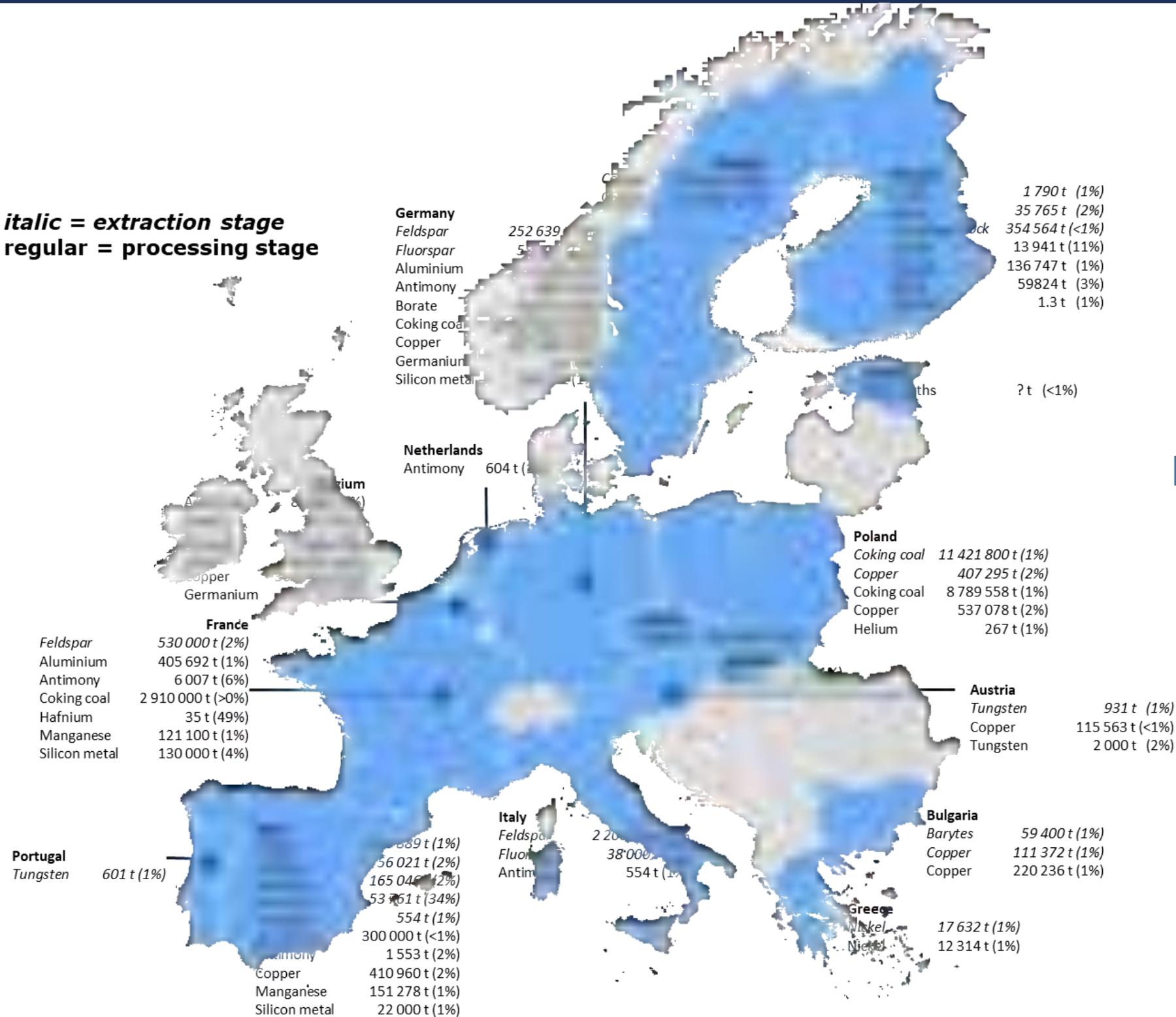
➔ Diversification benchmark of 65% for Strategic RM



Source: *European Commission, Study on the Critical Raw Materials for the EU 2023— Final Report*

EU producers of CRMs (shares of global supply, 2016-2020)

italic = extraction stage
regular = processing stage



Extraction and processing capacity benchmark of 10% and 40% for Strategic RM

Recycling's contribution to meeting materials demand for SRMs



→ Recycling capacity benchmark of 25% for Strategic RM

Strengthening the value chain

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Across the whole SRM value chain: extraction – processing – recycling
and for production of substitute materials

Selected by the Commission with advice from the Board based on

- Contribution to security of supply
- Sustainability
- Technical feasibility
- Cross-border benefits in **EU**/ Economic and social benefits in **third countries**

Non-Regulatory Measures

- Financial Support
- Standardisation
- Skills
- Research and Innovation

BENEFITS

- **Priority Status in national and EU law:** for administrative and judicial procedures
- **Points of Single Contact in Member States**
- **Permitting - Legal time-frames**
 - Extraction: 27 months
 - Processing & Recycling: 15 months
- Provisions to facilitate and timely deliver **environmental assessments and authorisations without weakening environmental and social protection**
- **Enabling conditions to implement Strategic Projects**
 - The Critical Raw Materials Board provides coordination and advice to secure remaining financing
 - Provisions to facilitate the conclusion of off-take agreements

Timeline for the STRATEGIC PROJECTS



Strategic Project – Website



Applicants can find all necessary information on a dedicated website:

- Online application form
- Guide for Applicants
- Recording & slides info event
- FAQs

Dedicated Helpdesk at:

grow-crma-strategic-projects@ec.europa.eu



[Strategic projects under the CRMA - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)

Strategic Partnerships Raw Materials



Partnerships with third countries on **sustainable** raw materials **value chains** (exploration, extraction, processing, refining, recycling)

Partnerships are based on **mutual benefits**, have a **holistic approach** and are structured along five axes:

Three axes for developed countries:

- Integration of (critical) raw materials value chains
- Cooperation on research and innovation
- Alignment on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Criteria and international standards

Two additional axes for emerging markets and developing countries:

- Deployment of infrastructure for projects development
- Capacity Building, training and skills along raw materials value chain

Partnerships are about **concrete actions** agreed with the partner country (1)

Integration of (critical) raw materials value chains

- **Facilitate networking** amongst all relevant actors of the raw materials value chains (including governments, up/mid/downstream industries, investment/funding organisations, R&I entities, technology and services suppliers and infrastructure developers).
- Facilitate **new business models**, including horizontal and vertical integration of raw materials value chains and needed infrastructure to scale up related investments.
- Help to **leverage private investment** and ensuring that **mutual benefits are achieved**.
 - Ensuring that EU companies can participate on a level playing field in projects taking place in developing countries. Regulatory cooperation could be helpful in this respect.
 - CONNEX assistance, including on wealth management

Partnerships are about **concrete actions** agreed with the partner country (2)

Cooperation on research and innovation

- Developing a **local minerals intelligence**
- Develop or **empower local geological surveys**
- Accessing the economic potential of extractive wastes
- **Support exploration programmes**
- Managing mining liabilities with economic, environmental and safety drivers
- Assessing the economic potential of landfills
- **Education and training programmes**
- Develop EO based services, using Copernicus, for exploration programmes and environmental monitoring

Partnerships are about **concrete actions** agreed with the partner country (3)

Alignment on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Criteria and international standards

- Support partner countries to **improve mineral resources' management and production sustainability**, through improved local governance and dissemination of responsible mining practices, including suitable policy and legal frameworks and wealth management, creating in turn value added in the mining sector and drivers for economic and social development.
- Support **engagement at global, regional and multilateral level**, in particular with reputed initiatives and organisations as Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (conflict minerals, guidance on raw materials, responsible sourcing), United Nations (global outlook, environmental pressures, resource management, mineral governance)

Partnerships are about **concrete actions** agreed with the partner country (4)

Raw materials value chains as drivers for infrastructure development (Global Gateway)

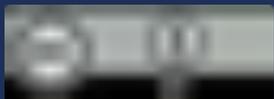
- Mobilize **funding for infrastructure projects** (roads, ports) taking into account traditional and innovative approaches such as PPPs, blending of grants and loans, as well as proper cost and risk allocation and the difference between social and economic infrastructure.
- Mobilize funding for **renewable energy** production, including green hydrogen
- Mobilize funding for **water** infrastructure

Partnerships are about **concrete actions** agreed with the partner country (5)

Capacity Building, training and skills along raw materials value chain

- Capacity building on ESG criteria for raw materials operations along the raw material value chain
- Capacity building for sectoral legal frameworks, including on wealth management programmes
- Capacity building with the aim of getting alignment on due diligence and certification schemes for sustainable production/sourcing of raw materials along the entire value chain (including recycling)
- Capacity building for **artisanal and small-scale mining**
- Capacity building for entrenching **Environmental Impact Assessment** for mining projects
- Training programmes for developing the **skills and qualified workforce** along the raw materials value chain

Thank you



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