



Preventing potential shortages

Cobalt is one of the resources that has become indispensable for energy and digital transition technologies. By 2035, annual cobalt requirements could increase in Europe by nearly 30 000 tonnes. This rise is related to the boom of rechargeable batteries used in mobile phones and electric cars. For Europe, meeting such a demand as well as ensuring the supply of cobalt poses a real challenge: according to data derived from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), it would be necessary to open as many cobalt mines, every 3 years, as Russia (as the second world producer of cobalt). Based on geological and economic data, the European Commission updated a list of critical raw materials in 2017 (27 raw materials made this list, including cobalt). The European project SCRREEN intends to reinforce the dynamic and prospective aspect of the analysis (diversification of sources of supply, alternative solutions...), in order to anticipate potential supply risks in the best possible way.

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The superpowers of the new critical raw materials is a communication campaign organised by SCRREEN, a European project which has received funding from the Horizon 2020 under Grant Agreement n°730227.

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