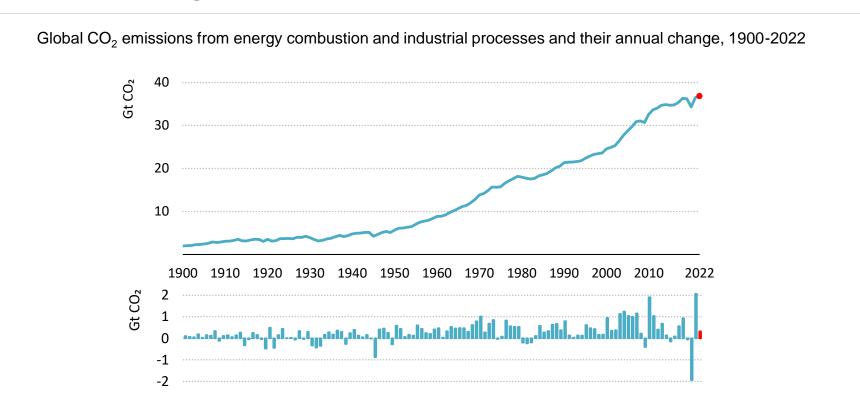


The Role of Critical Minerals in Clean Energy Transitions

Tae-Yoon Kim, Senior Energy Analyst 17 July 2023

International Energy Agency

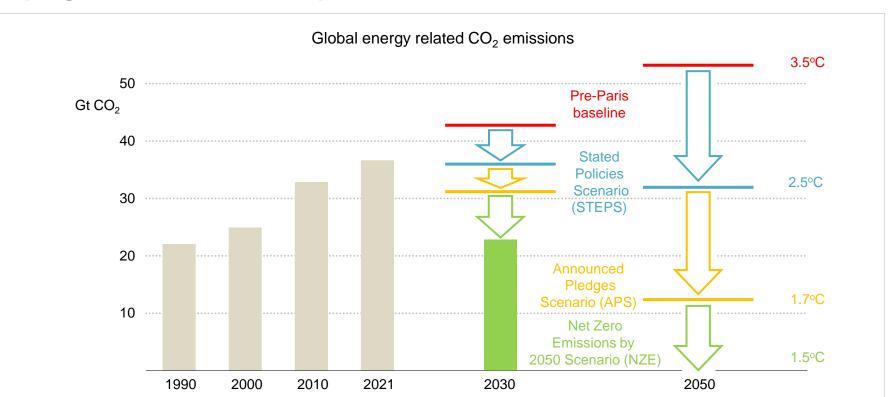
Global emissions grew in 2022, but less than feared



Global energy-related CO₂ emissions grew by 0.9% or 321 Mt in 2022, reaching a new high of over 36.8 Gt

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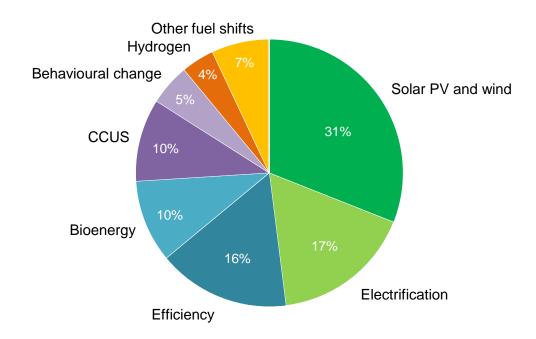
Keeping the door to 1.5 °C open



Policy and technology progress since 2015 has shaved 1 °C off projected warming, a step in the right direction; but much more needs to be done in order to avoid severe climate disruptions

What brings energy-sector emissions to net zero?

Global cumulative energy sector CO₂ emissions reductions by lever, 2021-2050

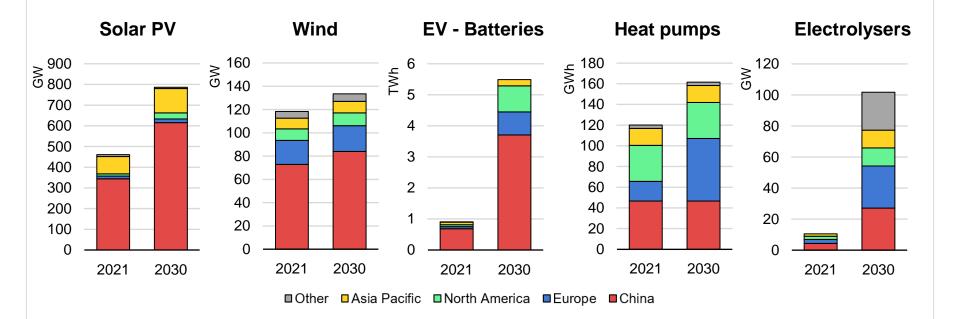


Renewables, electrification and energy efficiency play a major role in reducing emissions, but further technology innovation will be essential to aid the pursuit of a 1.5°C stabilisation

Clean energy manufacturers prepare the ground for faster transitions

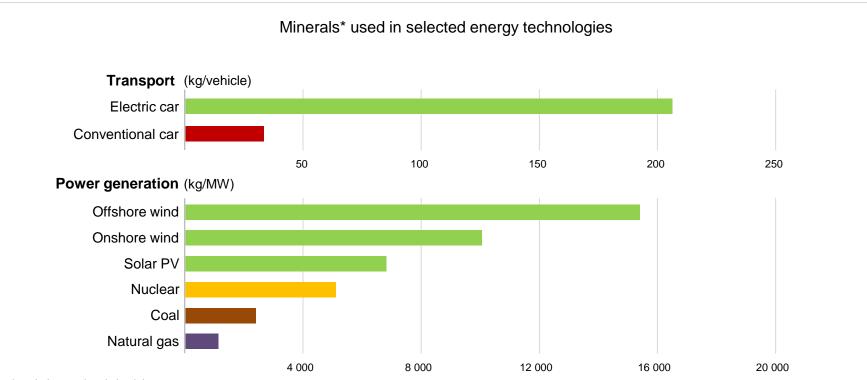


Today's and announced future manufacturing capacity for selected clean energy technologies



Clean technology manufacturing is increasing rapidly, owing in part to short project lead times

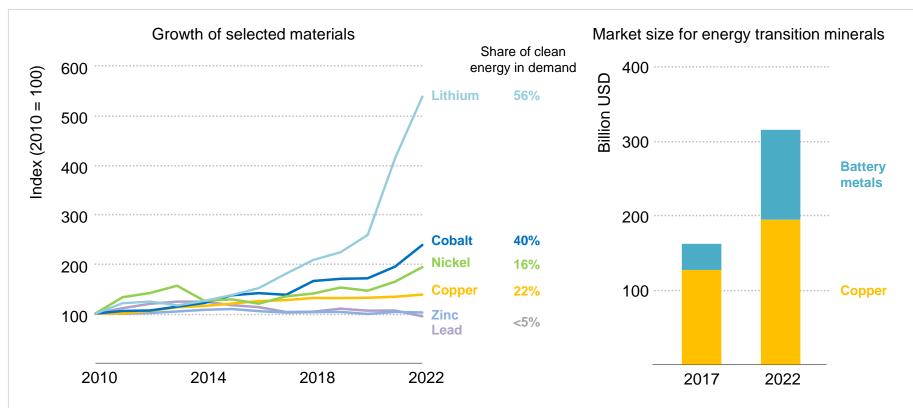
The shift to a more mineral-intensive energy system



* excludes steel and aluminium

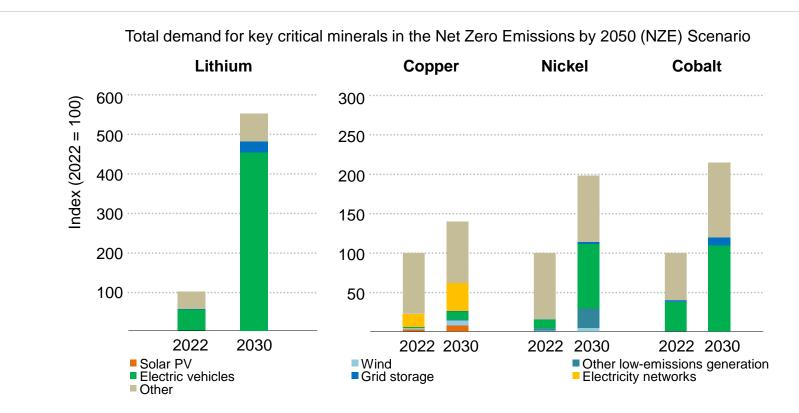
A typical electric car requires six times the mineral inputs of a conventional car, and an offshore wind plant requires thirteen times more mineral resources than a similarly sized gas-fired power plant

Clean energy is driving unprecedented growth for critical minerals



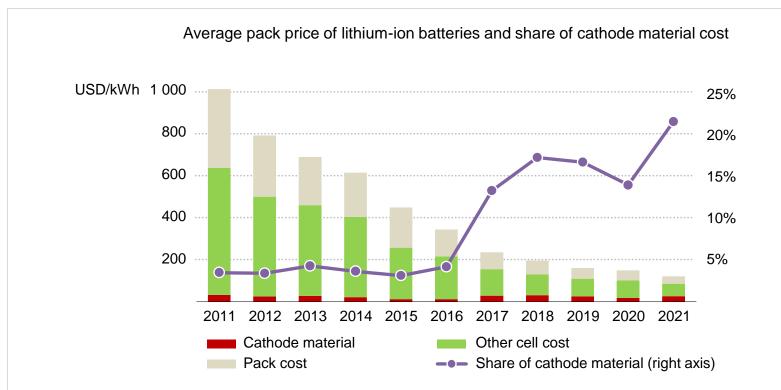
Rising deployment of EVs and renewables has underpinned major growth in mineral demand, leading to a doubling of market size for key energy transition minerals over the past five years

Meeting climate goals means further rapid growth this decade



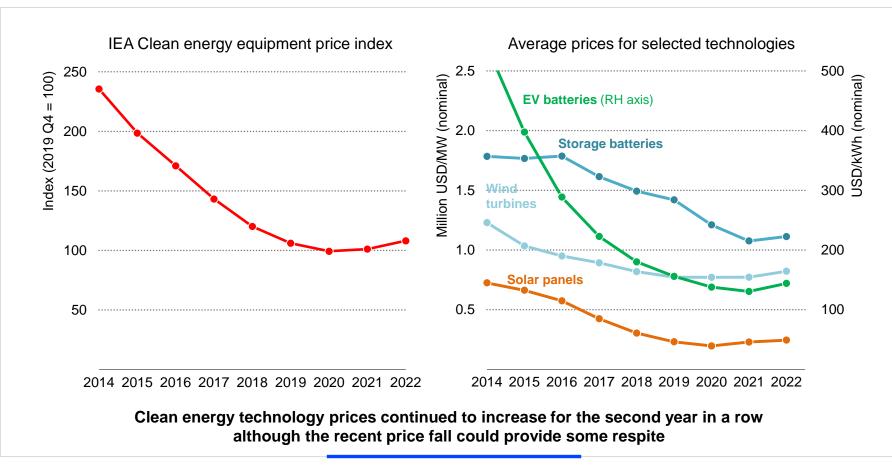
Getting on track to limit global warming to 1.5°C would mean a further rise in mineral demand for clean energy by three and a half times to 2030

Growing impacts of commodity prices on clean technology cost

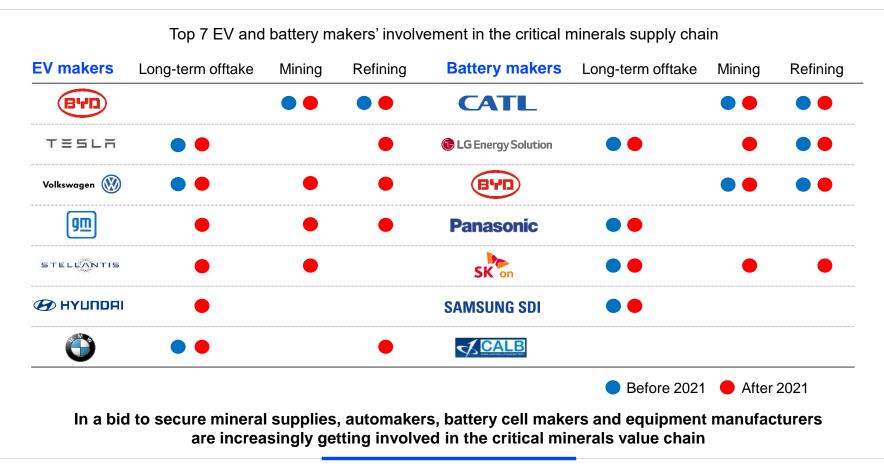


As learning and economies of scale bring down other cost components, raw materials account for an increasingly large share of the total cost of batteries and other key clean energy technologies

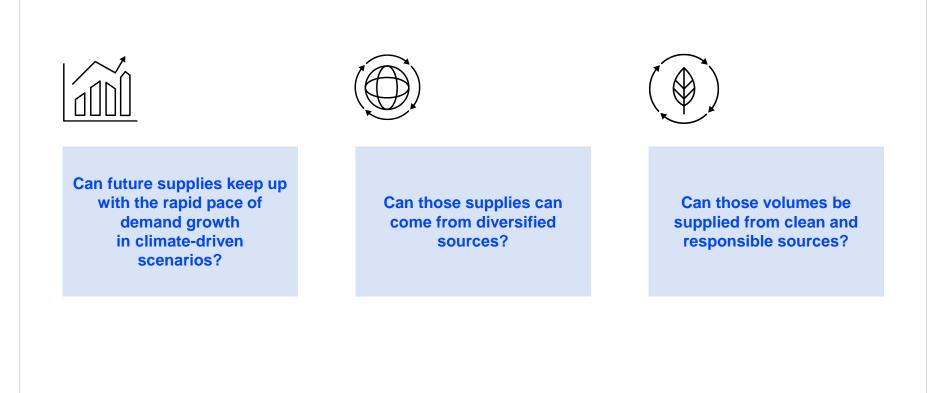
Uphill battle for continued cost reductions for clean energy



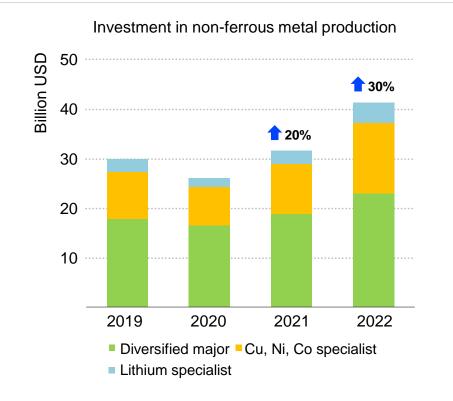
Consumers are getting serious about mineral supplies

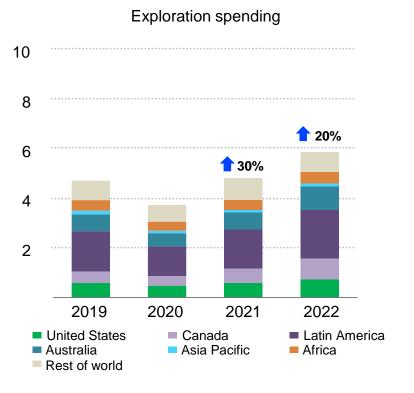


Three supply-side challenges



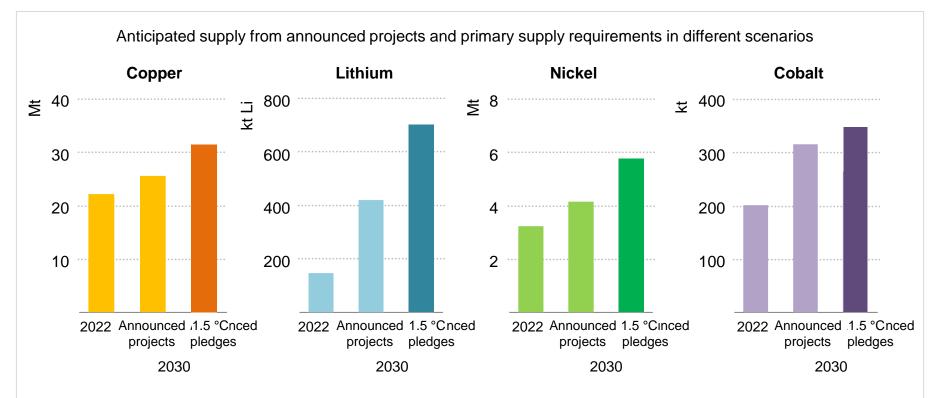
Investment in critical mineral supplies on the rise





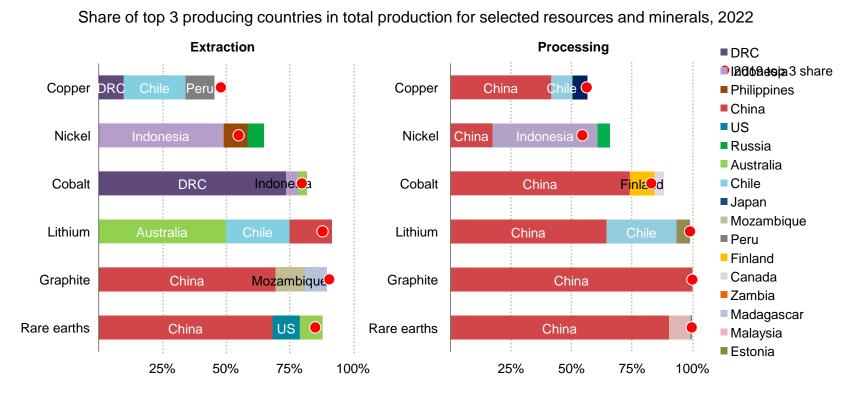
Higher prices & strong expectations for demand have produced new strategies and investments from resource-rich countries – spending on critical minerals exploration and development is up sharply since 2020

Announced projects are matching announced climate ambitions



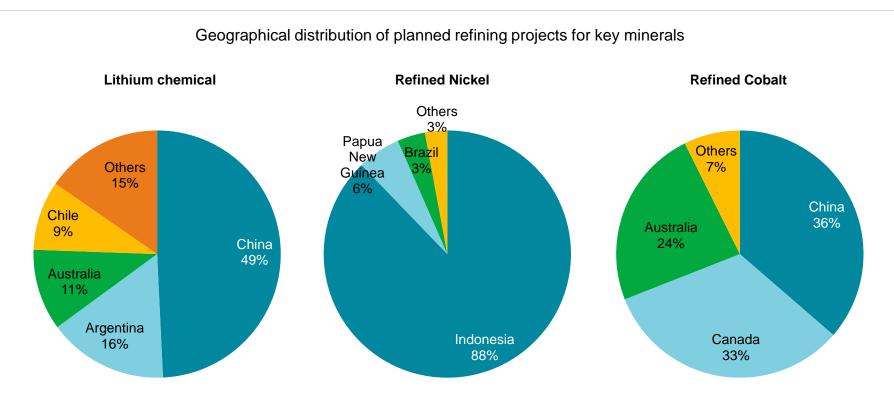
A host of newly announced projects, if implemented as planned, would be sufficient to meet countries' clean energy ambitions for some minerals, but the adequacy of future supply is far from assured

But concentration of supply remains high



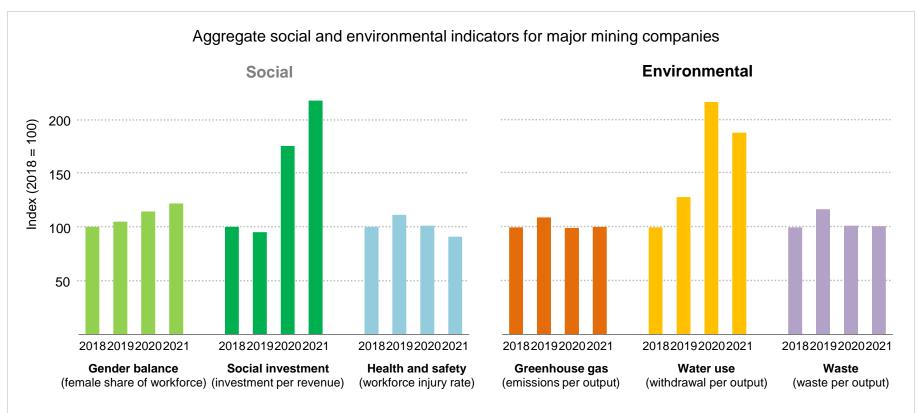
Limited progress has been made to diversify supply sources in recent years and, in some cases, the level of concentration has risen – announced projects would not change this picture dramatically

Today's refining project pipeline does not imply diversified supplies



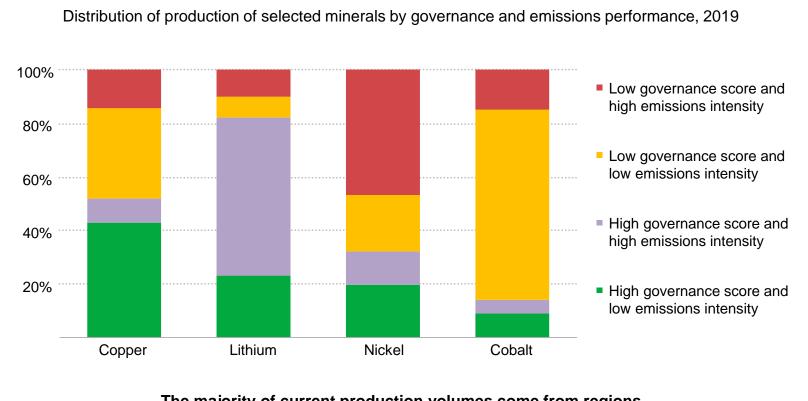
Analysis of project pipelines indicates that, in most cases, the geographical concentration of refining operations is likely to stay in the near term

Mixed progress towards sustainable and responsible mining



There are some signs that responsible social practices are taking hold across the mining industry, but industry-wide progress is still missing in key areas, especially on environmental sustainability

Strong linkage between ESG and supply security



The majority of current production volumes come from regions with low governance scores or high emissions intensity

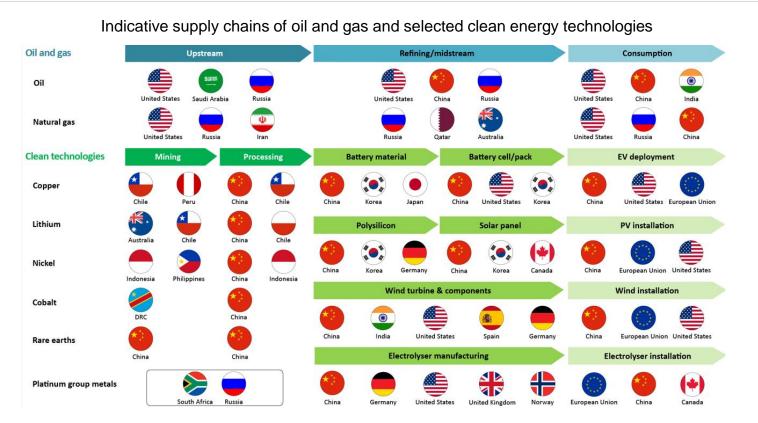
IEA plan of action: a comprehensive approach to mineral security

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Building on the IEA's leadership role in energy security, these six key areas of action can ensure that critical minerals enable an accelerated transition to clean energy

- 1. Ensure adequate investment in diversified sources of supply
- 2. Promote technology innovation at all points along the value chain
- 3. Scale up recycling
- 4. Enhance supply chain resilience and market transparency
- 5. Mainstream higher environmental, social and governance standards
- 6. Strengthen international collaboration between producers and consumers

New energy trade patterns and geopolitical ramifications

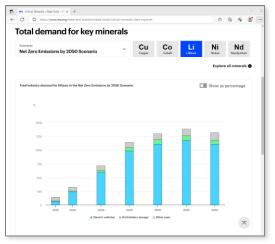


The transition brings new energy trade patterns, countries and geopolitical considerations into play

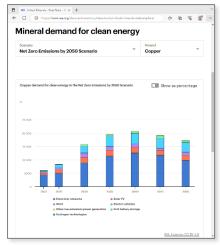
IEA Critical Minerals Data Explorer

- Alongside today's new market report, the IEA is releasing an interactive online tool that allows users to easily access the IEA's scenario data for critical minerals
- This provides full access to the demand projections under various energy scenarios and technology evolution trends

Total demand for focus minerals



Demand by mineral



Demand by technology

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https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/data-tools/critical-minerals-data-explorer



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