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the European Union

Exploitation pathways of recycling Lithium from secondary sources: a sustainable transition

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Introduction

Lithium (Li) has become one of the **key raw materials** in strategic EU sectors such as energy storage and mobility. Mitigating supply risks is therefore critical to achieving the EU's Green Deal plan. However, the extraction, use and recycling of Li raises **new environmental, economic, political and societal concerns** in planning for a sustainable future.



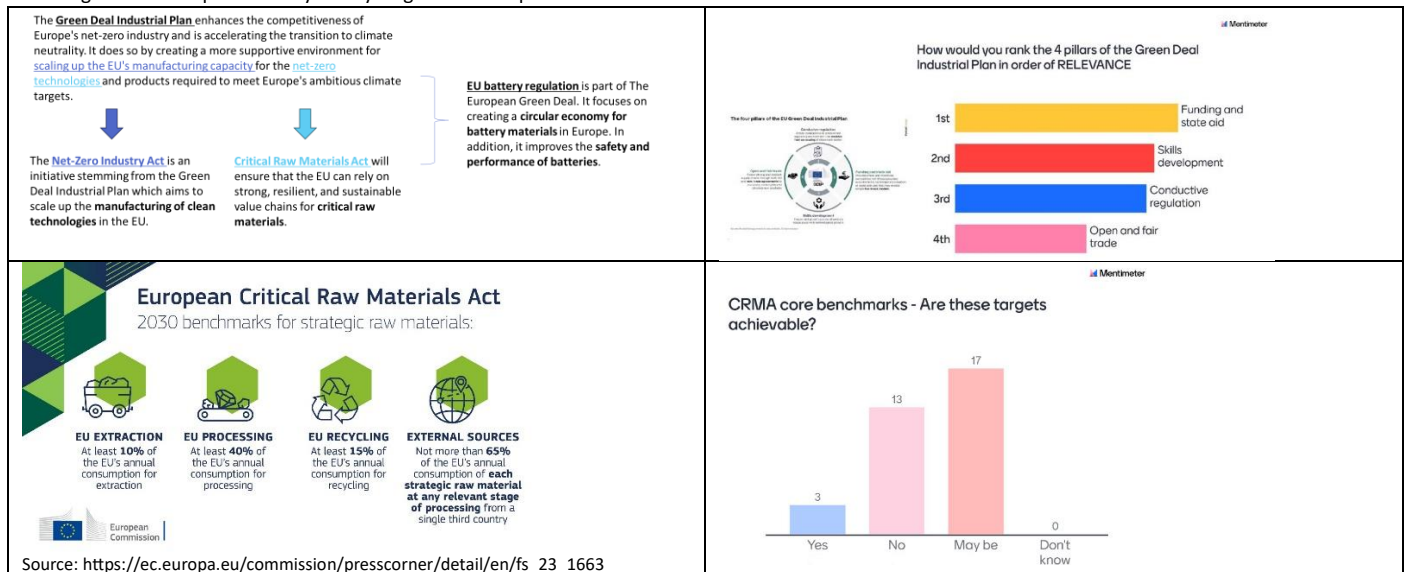
Aim of work

This study builds on the **exploitation pathways** of the EU-funded project RELIEF (www.lithium-relief.eu) and provides an overview of the work carried out and the potential use of the results generated. It also highlights the importance of clustering with other Horizon Europe projects to **develop synergies** by showing how RELIEF has benefited from **sharing knowledge, experience, and best practice** through activities such as **workshops and conferences** within the Materials for Batteries cluster hub.



Results

During the Cluster Hub Annual Meeting, TechConcepts B.V. led an interactive session for mapping the European Battery Recycling landscape. - For exploitation, knowledge of the European battery & recycling sector is required



The **exploitation** of RELIEF's results comprises a global perspective aiming at discussing:

- ➔ The **environmental** dimension – exploiting newly developed processes while ensuring environmentally friendly extraction and recycling of Li;
- ➔ The **economic** dimension - ensuring economic benefits from Li recycling at local, regional, national and European level;
- ➔ The **political** dimension – demonstrating how the exploitation of new results must meet the requirements of EU funding bodies and external stakeholders such as policy makers in order to make the ideas a success;
- ➔ Finally, the **societal** dimension - to provide further reflections on how the involvement of all stakeholders in Li recycling can work for the benefit of European citizens.



Conclusions

While building on established exploitation pathways, RELIEF offers in the frame of recycling Lithium untapped opportunities that will on the mid- and long-term contribute to decrease the dependency of the EU on imported critical raw materials.

Acknowledgments

This work was financially supported by the European Commission within the RELIEF (GA No. 101069789) project.

