

Teaching Resources on the Sustainable Management of Critical Raw Materials

Trainer's Manual for

Critical Raw Materials and Sustainable Development

January 2020





Sus Mat

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1 Context and Introduction to Training

This booklet is supplementing the teaching materials and the set of further supporting booklets that have been developed to support teachers in conducting training courses related to the sustainable management of critical raw materials.

SusCritMat aims to educate people from Master's student level up, both in industry and academia about important aspects of sustainable critical raw materials. In a novel concept, it introduces courses on these complex and interdisciplinary topics in a modular structure, adaptable to a variety of different formats and accessible to both students and managers in industry. These courses will develop new skills, which will help participants to better understand the impact and role of critical raw materials in the whole value chain; enabling them to identify and mitigate risks. Understanding the bigger picture and the interconnected nature of global business and society is increasingly necessary to and valued by industry.

SusCritMat is an EU-funded project that brings together the technical and pedagogical expertise of leading educational institutions and business partners. It uses and creates teaching materials which can be combined into different course formats.

The collection of training manuals presents the key messages related with the sustainable management of critical raw materials in three major sections:

- Introduction to criticality
- Analysis of criticality
- Solutions for sustainable management

In particular, the solutions part will be in the focus. The intention is to underline the possibilities that are available to approach and implement a circular economy for critical raw materials and the products bearing these. Doing so the concrete actions, i.e. the things that can be done, are highlighted, instead of only mentioning all sorts of associated problems or barriers in the context of CRMs.

The overall goal of the SusCritMat project is to qualify lecturers to teach the topics themselves. Therefore, the teaching resources do not only provide an introduction and improved insight into selected thematic issues, but also deliver a set of teaching materials "ready-to-use".

- Learning targets that will be reached after having taught the courses
- Presentations on the specific topics including also notes on how to present the slides and key messages.
- Group work exercises including the task or question to work on, if applicable further reading on the methodology and the solutions in case of tasks requiring calculations.
- \circ $\;$ Assessment questions and the correct answers for each specific topic.
- Additional reading for each topic.





1.1 Training Materials List

The *SusCritMat project* developed the following teaching materials:

1	Critical Resources for emerging technologies	
2	Circular Economy	
3	Criticality	
4	LCA	
5	Responsible Mining	
6	Responsible Sourcing/Certification	
7	Closing Loops on Product Level	
8	MFA	
9	Geopolitical aspects	
10	Metals & CRM scenarios	
11	Sustainability Assessment	
12	Waste Management	
13	Simulation-based Design for Recycling	
14	Restricted Substances Legislation	
15	Historical solutions for CRM	
16	Characterizing the Urban Mine	
17	Environmental Aspects	
18	Process Models based on LCA	
19	Responsible Business Practices	
20	Supply chain resilience	
21	Sustainable materials usage	
22	CRM and Sustainable Development	
23	Circular Business Models	
24	Economy of rare metals	
25	Supply Risk factors	
26	Recycling	
27	Good Use of Data	

1.2 Suggested timetable

The agenda contains a recommended timing for the lecture and exercises. However, depending on the pre-existing knowledge or group size the time can be extended.

Estimated time for the lecture: 45 minutes Estimated time for the quiz and discussion of the answers: 10 minutes







1.3 Key Messages

Our lifestyle and economic growth are currently involved with high environmental impacts (including climate change), a large need for primary resources, and global inequality. This is a challenge for a sustainable development. Although investments in cleaner production and resource efficiency have shown progress with the use of CRMs, much work is still needed to make other product life cycle phases (such as the end-oflife treatment of products) and current consumption patterns more sustainable. Therefore, a double decoupling is needed between economic growth, resource use, and environmental impacts. Whereas increased resource efficiency could be obtained by moving to a more circular economy, a challenge lies in aligning this transition with globally agreed targets: abating climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Critical Raw Materials are currently most often defined as materials that are important for the economic growth (of developed countries) or for clean technologies, with a risk of supply disruption due to socio-economic issues in supplying countries. Identifying which materials are critical for achieving the sustainable development goals related to social functions (e.g. access to clean energy and housing), the creation of jobs and infrastructure in developing countries is an area that needs further consideration.

1.4 Learning Objectives

This session will provide learners....

- An overview of current issues of global consumption patterns with regard to planetary boundaries and inequality
- Understanding of the need to decouple economic growth from resource use and environmental impacts in absolute terms and the role that CRMs play in this
- Understanding of the relevance of the Circular Economy to achieve resource efficiency
- Familiarity with the Sustainable Development Goals
- The ability to the relate the current discourse on CRMs to the Sustainable Development Goals
- A critical reflection on the potential role of CRMs in achieving the SDGs and the roles that governments and private actors could or should take
- The perspective to reframe Critical Raw Materials in the context of Sustainable Development and its Goals

1.5 Additional Reading

Agenda 21 (and the consumption challenge) <u>https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/outcomedocuments/agenda21</u> https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_04.shtml

Brundtland-Report (and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)







https://www.britannica.com/topic/Brundtland-Report

https://www.sustainabledevelopment2015.org/AdvocacyToolkit/index.php/earth-summit-history/historical-documents/94-jpoi

Ecological Footprint (and UN Human Development Index) <u>https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/ecological-footprint/</u> <u>https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/sustainable-development/</u>

Decoupling Natural Resource Use and Environmental Impacts from Economic Growth <u>https://www.resourcepanel.org/reports/decoupling-natural-resource-use-and-environmental-impacts-economic-growth</u>

Circular Economy

https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy/concept/

Sustainable Development Goals (and their clustering) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300 https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/research-news/2016-06-14-how-foodconnects-all-the-sdgs.html

Environmental sustainability indicator typology (and indicators for abiotic resources) <u>https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/TEC25</u>

UNE (2019) Global Guidance on Environmental Impact Assessment indicators – Volume 2

Raw material criticality (and the Circular Economy)

Schrijvers D, Hool A, Blengini GA, Chen W-Q, Dewulf J, Eggert R et al. (2019) A review of methods and data to determine raw material criticality. Resource Conservation and Recycling

European Commission. Report on Critical Raw Materials and the Circular Economy; 2018





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2 Slides and Notes

Include PP slides and notes here.

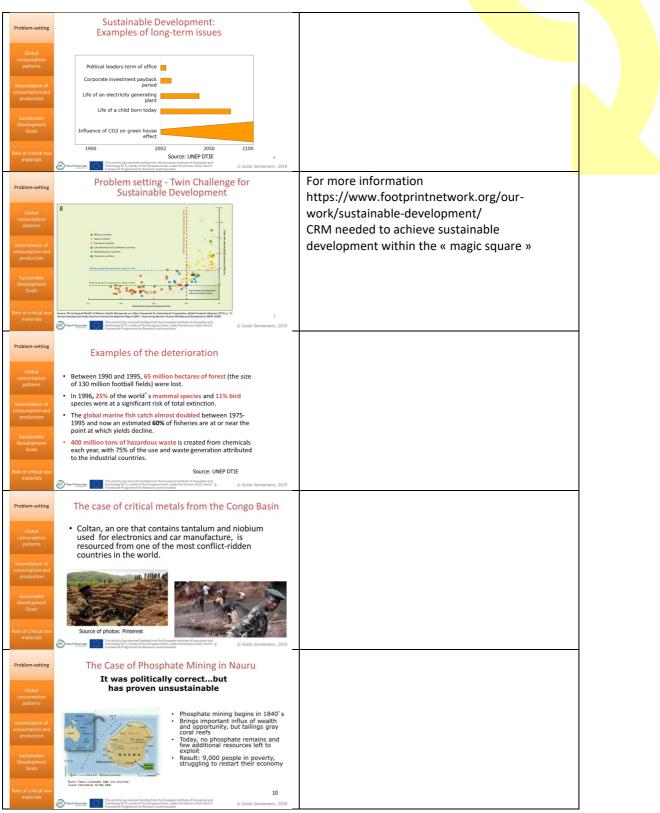






This activity has received funding from the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, under the Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation











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<figure> Include matrix Subardiant Bastardiant Bastardiant</figure>	For more information: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content /dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_04.shtml	
<page-header><text><text><text><text><text><list-item><list-item><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></list-item></list-item></text></text></text></text></text></page-header>	 1.3 billion people live on less than 1 US dollar a day and close to 1 billion cannot meet their basic consumption requirements. The overall consumption of the richest fifth of the world's population is 16 times that of the poorest fifth; Nearly 160 million children are mmalnourished. More than 880 million people lack access to health services · 1.5 billion lack access to sanitation and clean water, 1 billion do not have adequate housing. 	
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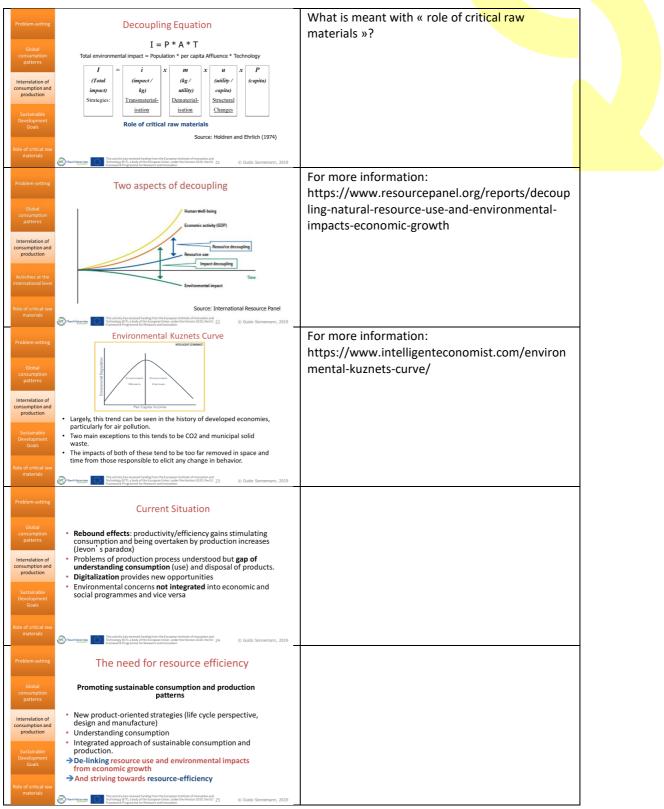


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Problem-setting Global consumption patterns	Interrelation of Cleaner Production and Sustainable Consumption • Over the last decade, we have seen significant improvements in Cleaner Production (pollution		
Interrelation of consumption and production Sustainable Development Goals	and the state of t		
Role of critical raw materials	Contraction and the second former from the Company involution of Inventions and the Second former former former and the Second former former former and the Second former and the Secon		
Problem-setting Global consumption patterns Interrelation of consumption and production Gouls Gouls Relate of critical row materials	<image/> <figure></figure>	The amount of municipal solid waste (MSW)per capita is half in Japan than US although both half a similar level of GDP. That means the Japanese economy is more resource-efficient with regard to MSW. Some European countries on the one or the other side of the curve but less extreme.	
Problem-setting Global consumption patterns	Figure 1. Resource and material intensity of OECD acconomies, total use and intensity of use relative to GOP, 1980-2020	The resource and material intensity is improving, while the absolute resource use is still increasing. The situation is much better for water than for MSW.	
Interrelation of consumption and production Sustainable Development Goals Role of critical raw	fundamental de la comparación		
materials	RenAutorem The Autor and Au		
Problem-setting Global consumption patterns Interrelation of consumption and production Sustainable Development Goals Role of cristeal even materials	Global relative decoupling trends (1980-2007)		
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Global consumption patterns Interrelation of consumption and production	Absolute and relative decoupling of excitonemental impact from economic growth.		
Role of critical raw materials	The upper grave line represents recomming prove the Take widels (detects) line shows as assassi prove the f extractances with line represents the resource true. Take line (detects) line shows a detects in extractance and impact. Source: UNEP DTIE 20 Of the shows and the provide the true has been been that the detect and the shows and t		















 Problem setting Grobing setting Gro	Resource efficiency means a win-win situation at the economic level by cost savings and at the same time environmental benefits. This is because raw materials have to be purchased and all emission and waste flows mean losses Moreover, these losses need to be treated (for instance air filter and wastewater treatment) which has a cost, similar to taxes such as for landfill or carbon emissions.
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<text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text>	
<figure></figure>	80% of overall effort to reduce environmental impact have focused in the past on 20% of the total risk. The hotspot of the environmental impacts of a product is not always in the manufacturing stage, where most efforts are traditionally positioned, but it can be the mining for instance. The environmental impact of mining CRM can reduced by recycling. And CRM can help to reduce the environmental in the use phase of cars for example.
<text></text>	For more information: https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circ ular-economy/concept/





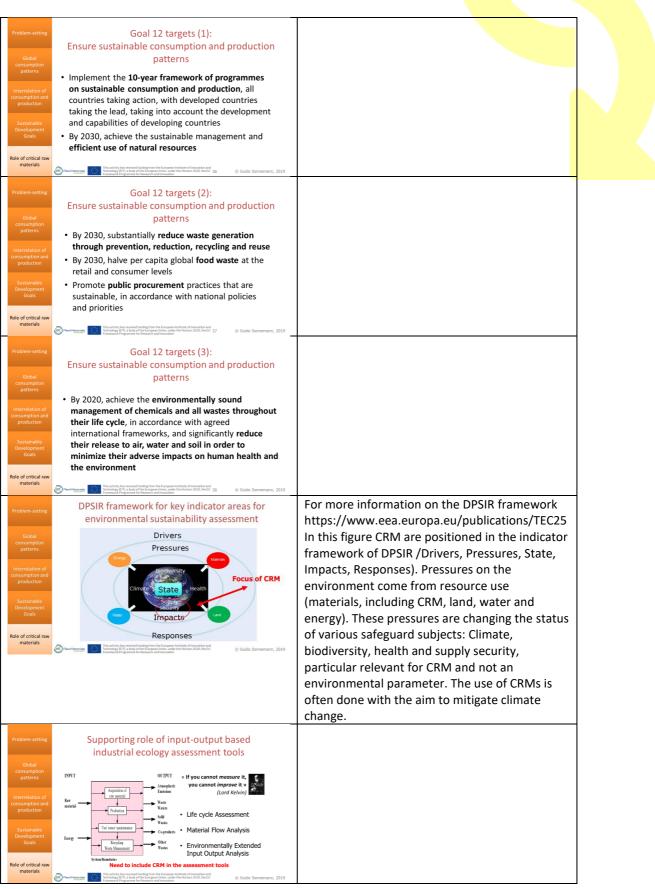








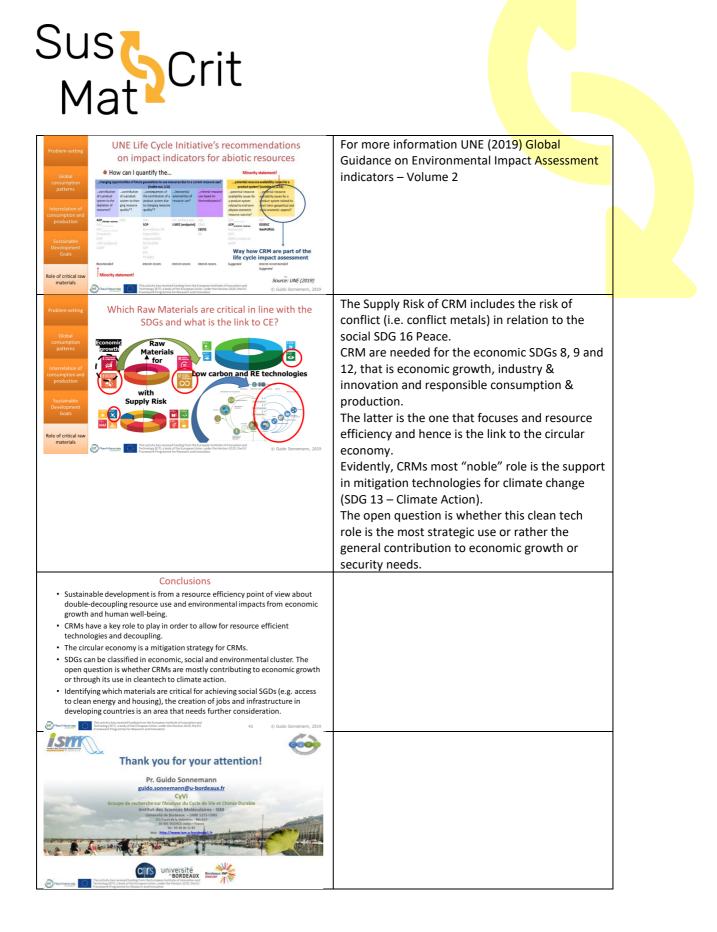
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3 Exercises

This course does not contain exercises.

4 Examination Questions

Include 10 multiple choice quiz questions and 4 possible answers here. Mark the correct answer(s) by putting "correct" in brackets behind it.

How many planets do we need in 2050 if we continue with current production and consumption patterns according to the Ecological Footprint approach?

Answer 1: 1,2 Answer 2: 1,5 Answer 3: 2 (correct) Answer 4: 10

Why resource efficiency is of economic interest?

Answer 1: Losses are costly because they need to be treated (correct) Answer 2: No taxes are paid for emissions Answer 3: Wastewater is directly emitted into rivers in most OECD countries Answer 4: Resource efficiency is only of environmental interest

Which element of the following is part of the decoupling equation?

Answer 1: Input Answer 2: Policy Answer 3: Age Answer 4: Technology (correct)

What decoupling is necessary for sustainable development?

- Answer 1: Decoupling of economic growth from human welfare
- Answer 2: Decoupling of economic growth from the increase of environmental impacts
- Answer 3: Decoupling of economic growth from resource use
- Answer 4: Decoupling of economic growth from resource use and total environmental impacts (correct)

What area still requires most improvement in order to decouple economic growth from environmental deterioration?

- Answer 1: Make production activities cleaner
- Answer 2: Change consumption patterns and decrease the production of waste (correct)
- Answer 3: Minimize population growth
- Answer 4: Decrease standards of welfare







What is the role of CRMs in the decoupling of economic growth from environmental deterioration?

Answer 1: CRMs are used in innovative technologies with lower environmental impacts over their whole life cycle (correct)

Answer 2: CRMs prevent the production of waste

- Answer 3: CRMs are easily recyclable
- Answer 4: CRMs can be supplied with low environmental impacts

How can the Circular Economy aid in sustainable development?

- Answer 1: The Circular Economy makes mining in developing countries less impactful
- Answer 2: The Circular Economy leads to lower economic activity
- Answer 3: The Circular Economy decreases the demand for the utility provided by products
- Answer 4: Resources are used more efficiently, hence more value can be extracted from primary material use (correct)

Which of the following is not a Sustainable Development Goal?

- Answer 1: Circular Economy (correct)
- Answer 2: Gender equality
- Answer 3: Good health and well-being
- Answer 4: Responsible production and consumption

For which SDG do we often consider material criticality at the moment?

- Answer 1: Education
- Answer 2: Health
- Answer 3: Economic growth (correct)
- Answer 4: Life below water

(How) could achieving the SDGs make materials less critical for the European Union (according to the current European method to evaluate criticality)?

- Answer 1: Improving social circumstances in mining countries decreases social-economic risk of material supply (correct)
- Answer 2: The SDGs do not contribute to decreasing criticality for the European
- economy, as European countries already have high human development standards
- Answer 3: Climate action decreases risks related to environmental impacts

Answer 4: Reduced inequality makes the European Union more stable







5 Acknowledgements and Authors

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The following authors have contributed to prepare the complete teaching material kit and intend to provide an overview of major topics surrounding the sustainable management of critical raw materials:

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Besides, many others invested their time and expertise to discuss and review this teaching material.

6 Citation

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