

# **Agenda**

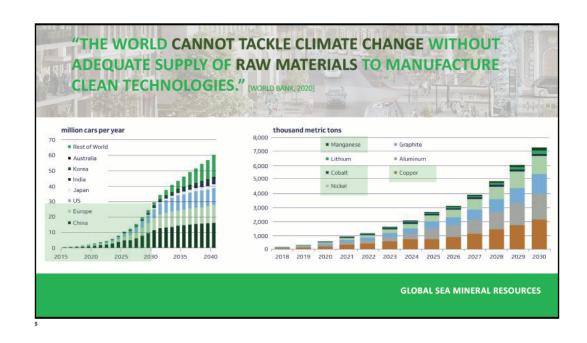


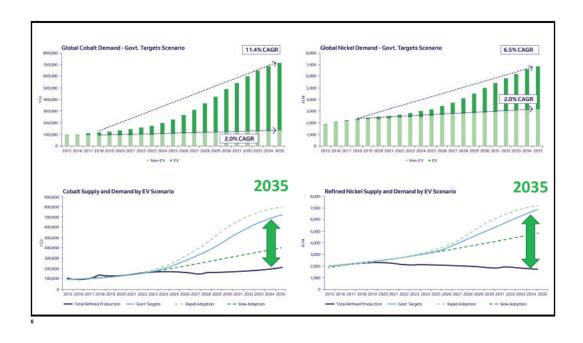
- Demand & Supply for Resources
- Polymetallic Nodules & GSR
- Position of Belgium
- Positon of NGOs
- Potential for Europe in the context of the ERMA
- Call for action



# DEMAND & SUPPLY FOR RESOURCES

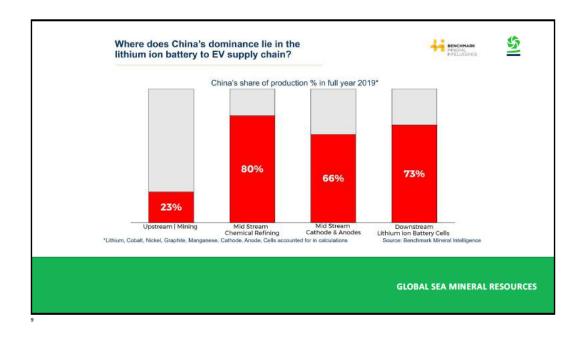








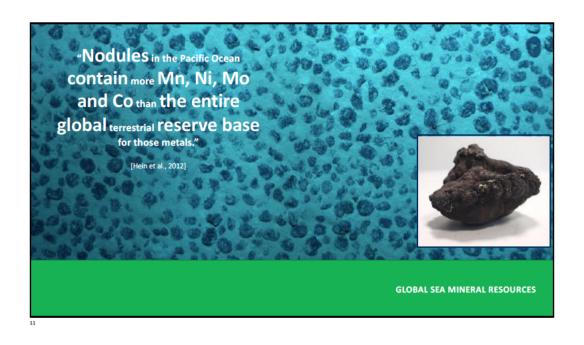


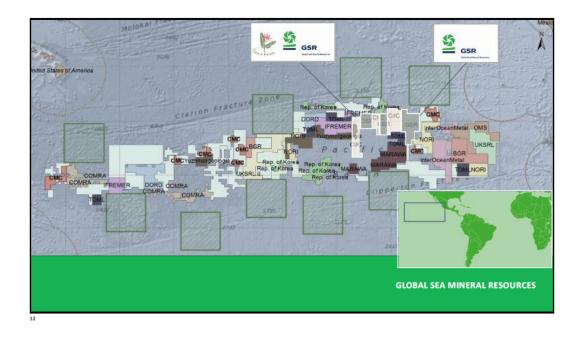




# POLYMETALLIC NODULES AND GSR

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Deployment of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) flying five meters above the seabed, taking pictures every two seconds.



Pictures of the seabed are collated into a Geographic Information System (GIS), denotating the exact position and collating with other sample and survey information.



**Step 3**Raw pictures are analyzed and transferred into binary pictures being able to identify nodule dimensions.



Step 4
Software analyzes the different dimensions of nodules and determines the nodulecoverage of each picture.



Volume and weight for each nodule can be deduced based on the physical data measured on the nearest box core sample.



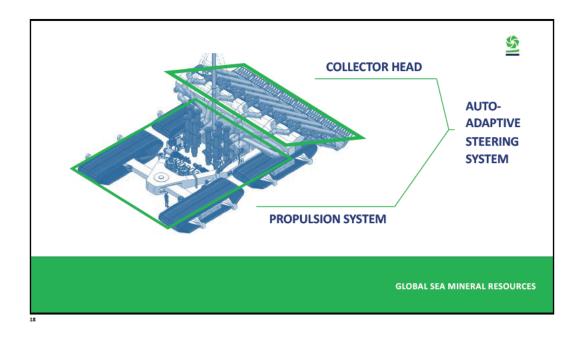
#### Step 6

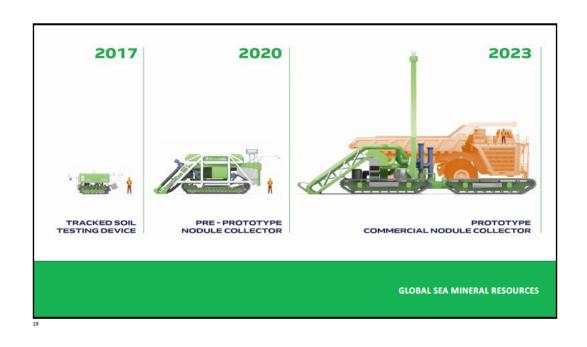
Correlation between calculated nodule abundance, side scan sonar imagery and backscatter intensities will complete our methodology for an optimal estimation of the mineral resource.













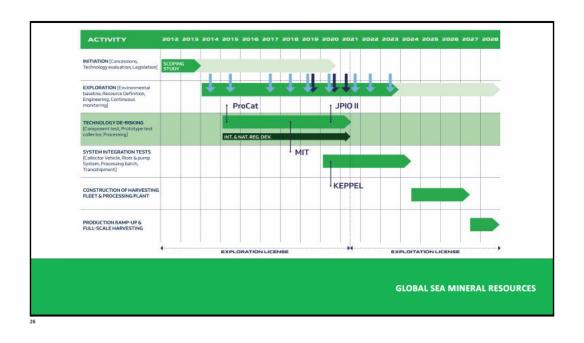














## **POSITION OF BELGIUM**

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#### **PARLIAMENTARY HEARING**



- 23 June 2020
- #7 experts
- #2 biologist, #1 geologist, #1 ngo, #1 policy makers, #1 industry, #1 regulator
- Concenssus that a moratorium is not the right tool
   Instead "Need for time"

#### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT



- 1. To be listened to, you have to participate
- 2. A Belgian moratorium will not put a stop to ISA negotiations
- 3. Scientific research currently depends largely on investment through exploration
- 4. We have an opportunity here to set the bar high
- A moratorium could impact upon other international processes, such as the BRNI
- 6. We need to consider what will happen after the moratorium
- 7. Different stakeholders, including NGOs, have different views on the moratorium

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#### **COALITION AGREEMENT, 30 September 2020**



"Scientific research and data collection related to deep-sea mining is further supported. By participating at the international level, we ensure that environmental legislation and the precautionary principle are observed during the development of the exploitation rules."

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## POLICY STATEMENT OF DEP. PM, 18 October 2020



"Our voice at the table is being heard as we argue for further scientific research and data collection related to deep-sea mining. Belgium will ensure that strict environmental norms and standards as well as the precautionary principle are taken into account."

https://www.dekamer.be/FLWB/PDF/55/1610/55K1610005.pdf

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#### **POSITION OF NGOs**

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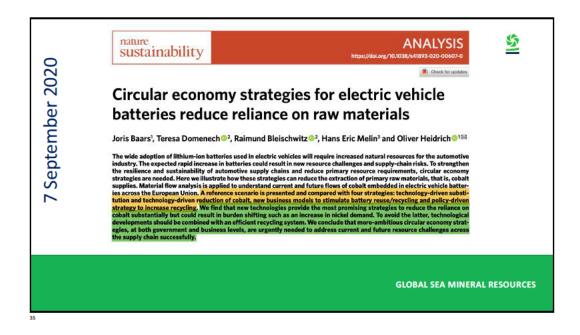
# POTENTIAL FOR EUROPE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EUROPEAN RAW MATERIALS ALLIANCE

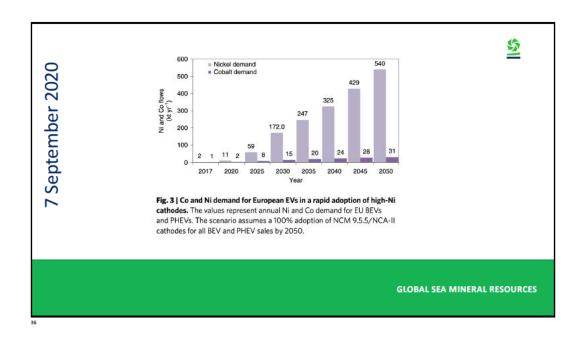
SCIENTIFIC PAPERS ON:

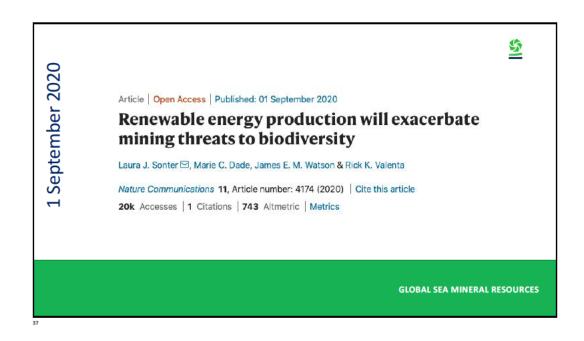
EU DEMAND IMPACT ON LAND IMPACT OF OCEAN

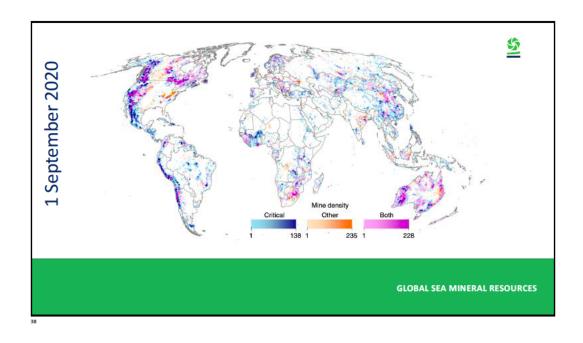
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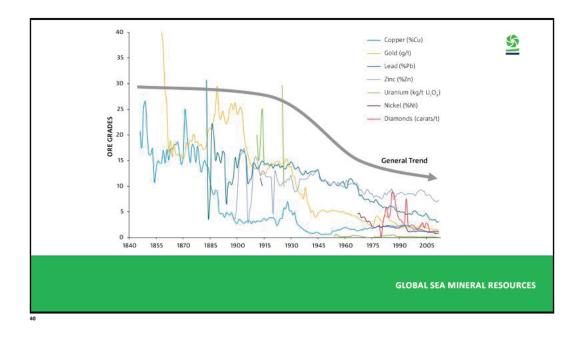
# 1 September 2020

#### Abstract

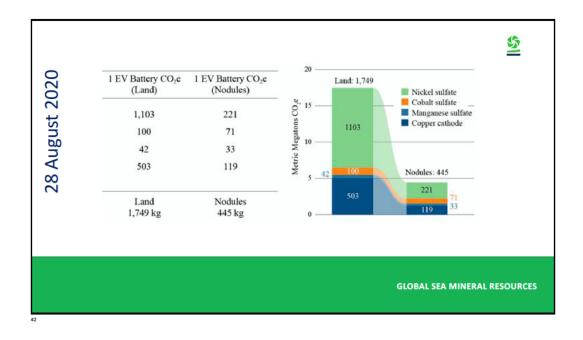


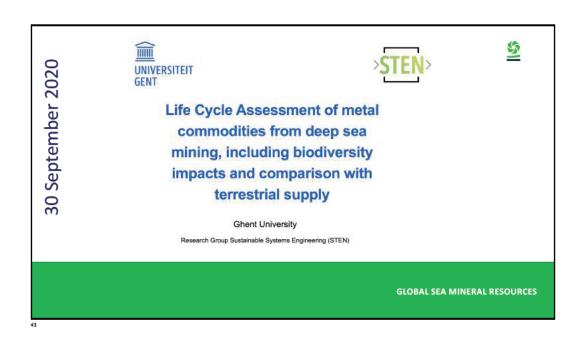
Renewable energy production is necessary to halt climate change and reverse associated biodiversity losses. However, generating the required technologies and infrastructure will drive an increase in the production of many metals, creating new mining threats for biodiversity. Here, we map mining areas and assess their spatial coincidence with biodiversity conservation sites and priorities. Mining potentially influences 50 million km² of Earth's land surface, with 8% coinciding with Protected Areas, 7% with Key Biodiversity Areas, and 16% with Remaining Wilderness. Most mining areas (82%) target materials needed for renewable energy production, and areas that overlap with Protected Areas and Remaining Wilderness contain a greater density of mines (our indicator of threat severity) compared to the overlapping mining areas that target other materials. Mining threats to biodiversity will increase as more mines target materials for renewable energy production and, without strategic planning, these new threats to biodiversity may surpass those averted by climate change mitigation.

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## **CALL FOR ACTION**

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## **Call for Action**



- Include potential of DSM in the strategic vision of the ERMA
- Call out to four EU countries with contracts
- Support research into comparing biodiversity loss and GHG emission between land-based and seabed
- Carefully study GSR business case
- Evidence-based decision making

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