

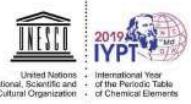
ELEMENTI CHIMICI E CIVILTÀ TECNOLOGICA: UNA QUESTIONE MOLTO INTRICATA

Nicola Armaroli

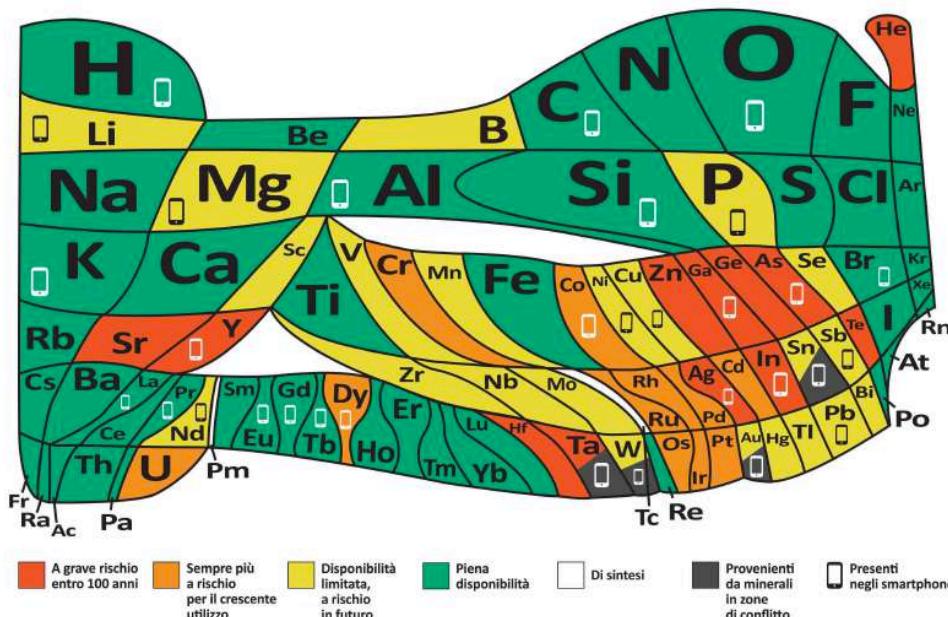
*CNR – Istituto per la Sintesi Organica e la Fotoreattività
nicola.armaroli@cnr.it — www.isof.cnr.it/armaroli-nicola*



Università degli Studi di Milano - Bicocca, 5 Aprile 2019



90 elementi chimici e la loro disponibilità relativa sulla Terra. Ci basteranno?



Inspirato a W.F. Sheldene's A Periodic Table with Emphases, pubblicato in Chemistry, 1975, 49, 17-18

ELEMENT SCARCITY: The EuChemS Periodic Table



Scopri di più e divertiti su www.euchems.org/IYPT

ZANICHELLI

- ➡ www.euchems.eu/euchems-periodic-table/
- ➡ aulascienze.scuola.zanichelli.it/2019/03/04/bastera-il-litio-chiedilo-all-a-tavola-periodica/

EVOLUZIONE MATERIALE DELLA CIVILTÀ

Età del Rame (6000 a.C.) – Età del Bronzo (3000 a.C.) – Età del Ferro (1200 a.C.)

Fino a ca. **1950**



1990

Meno di **20** elementi
in un'intera casa

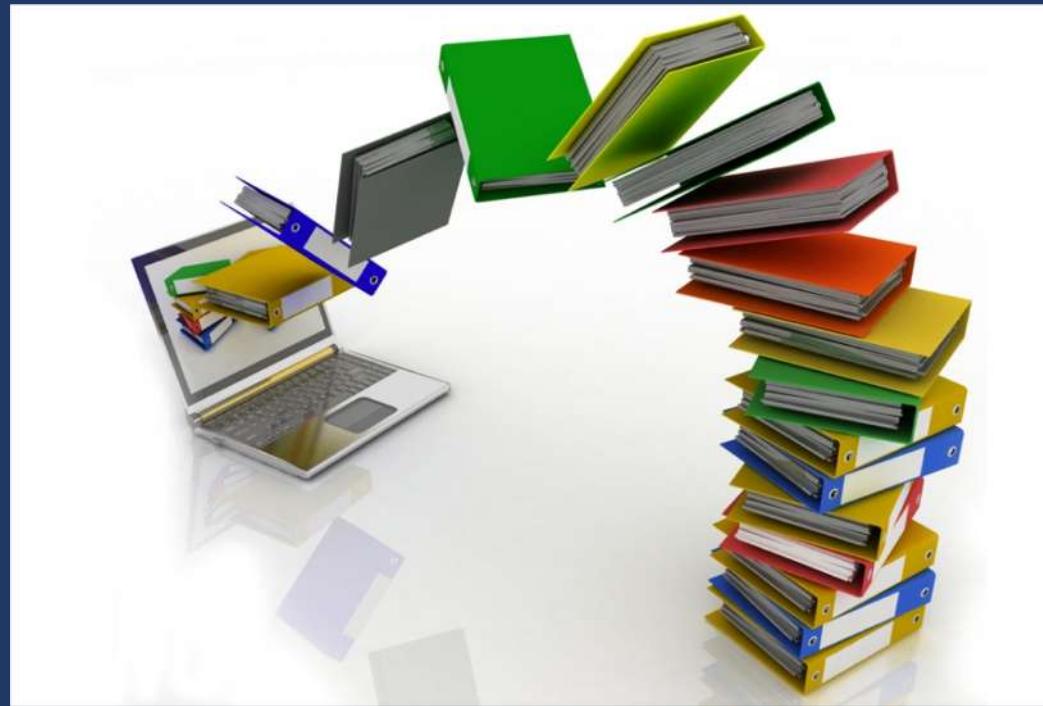


2019

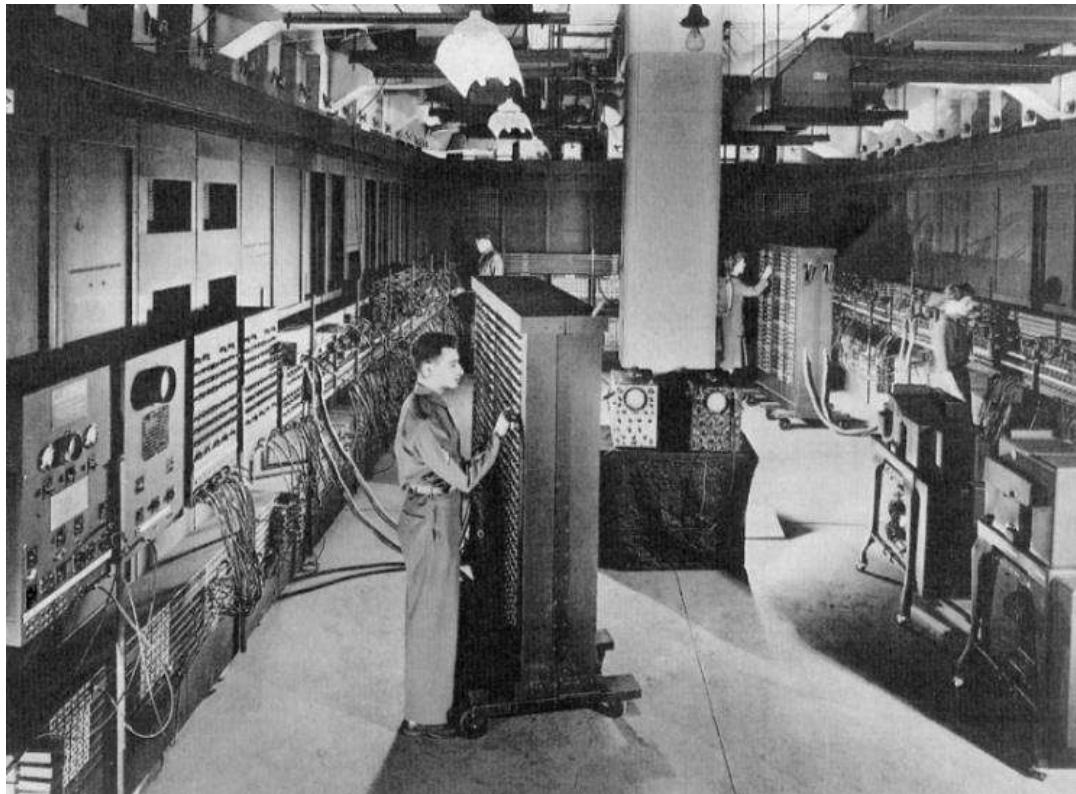
Circa **40** elementi chimici
sul palmo di una mano



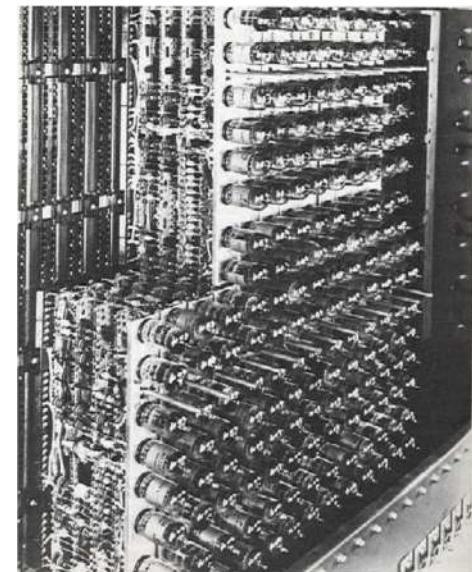
DEMATERIALIZZAZIONE



ENIAC: il primo computer elettronico (1944)



- Peso: \approx 30 ton
- Valvole: 19 000
- Consumo: 200 000 W



QUESTO COMPUTER

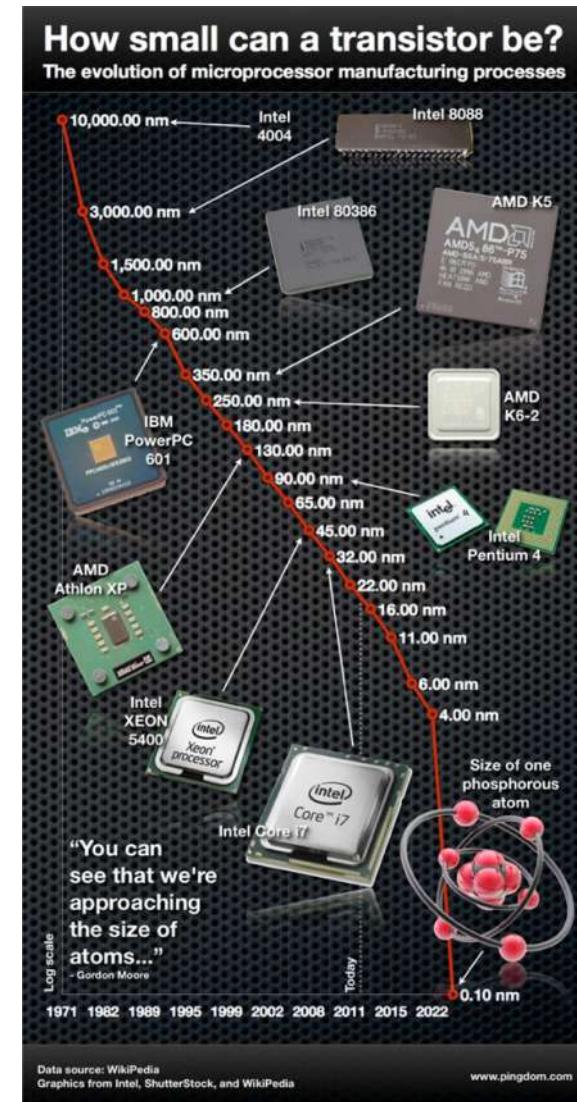


Peso: 1.5 kg

Consumo: 30 W

1.3 miliardi di transistors

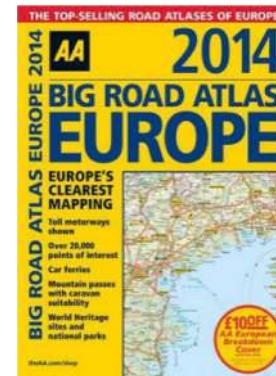
Dimensione media: 22 nm



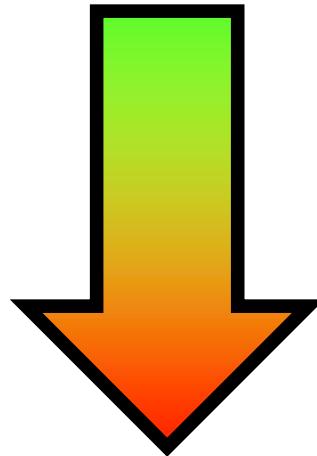
IL CAMPIONE DELLA DEMATERIALIZZAZIONE



148 grammi



DEMATERIALIZZAZIONE



INTENSIFICAZIONE MATERIALE

LA MINIERA: IL NOSTRO MINUSCOLO PIANETA TERRA

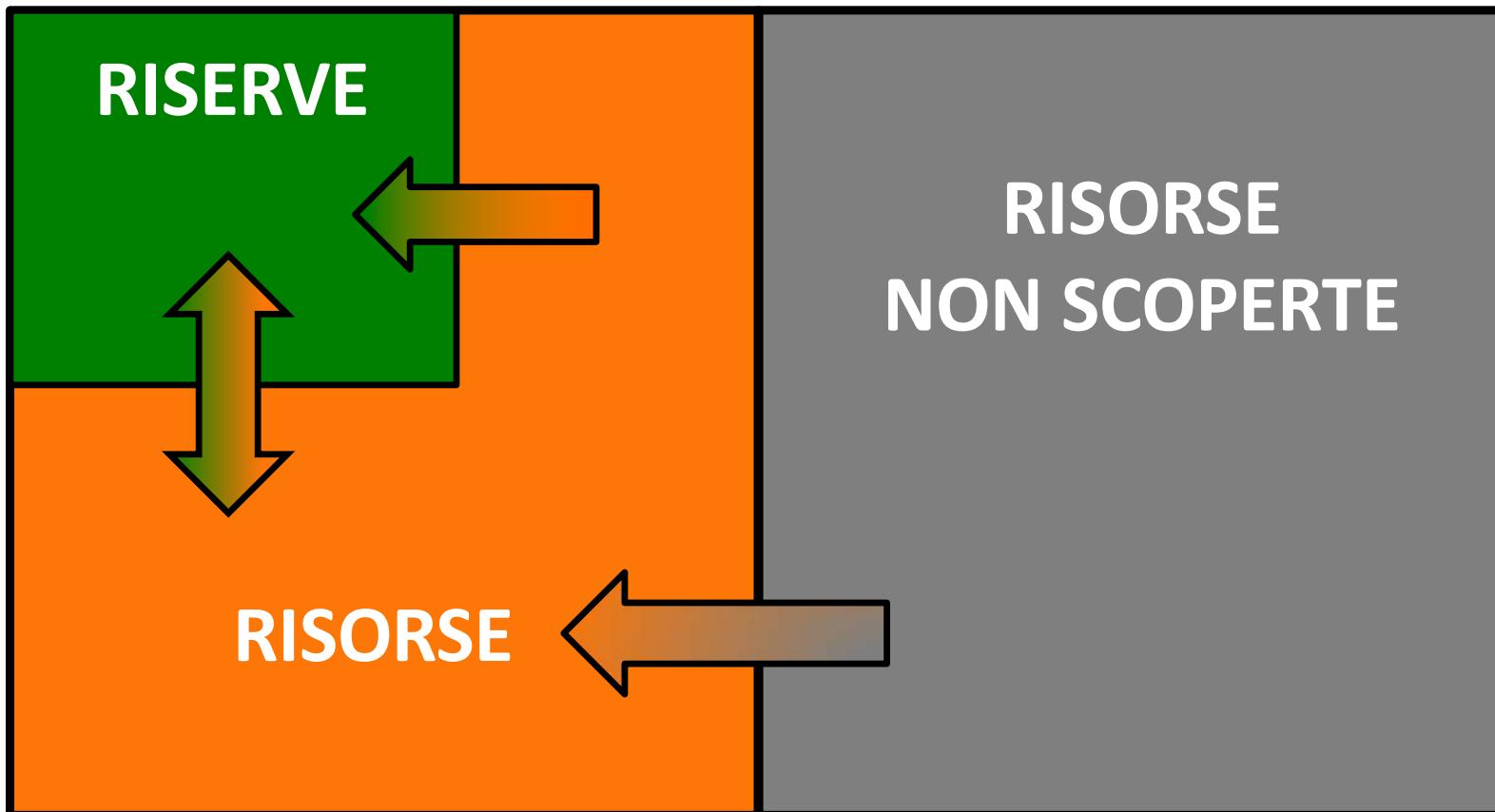


Siamo in grado
di estrarre
fino a circa
5 km



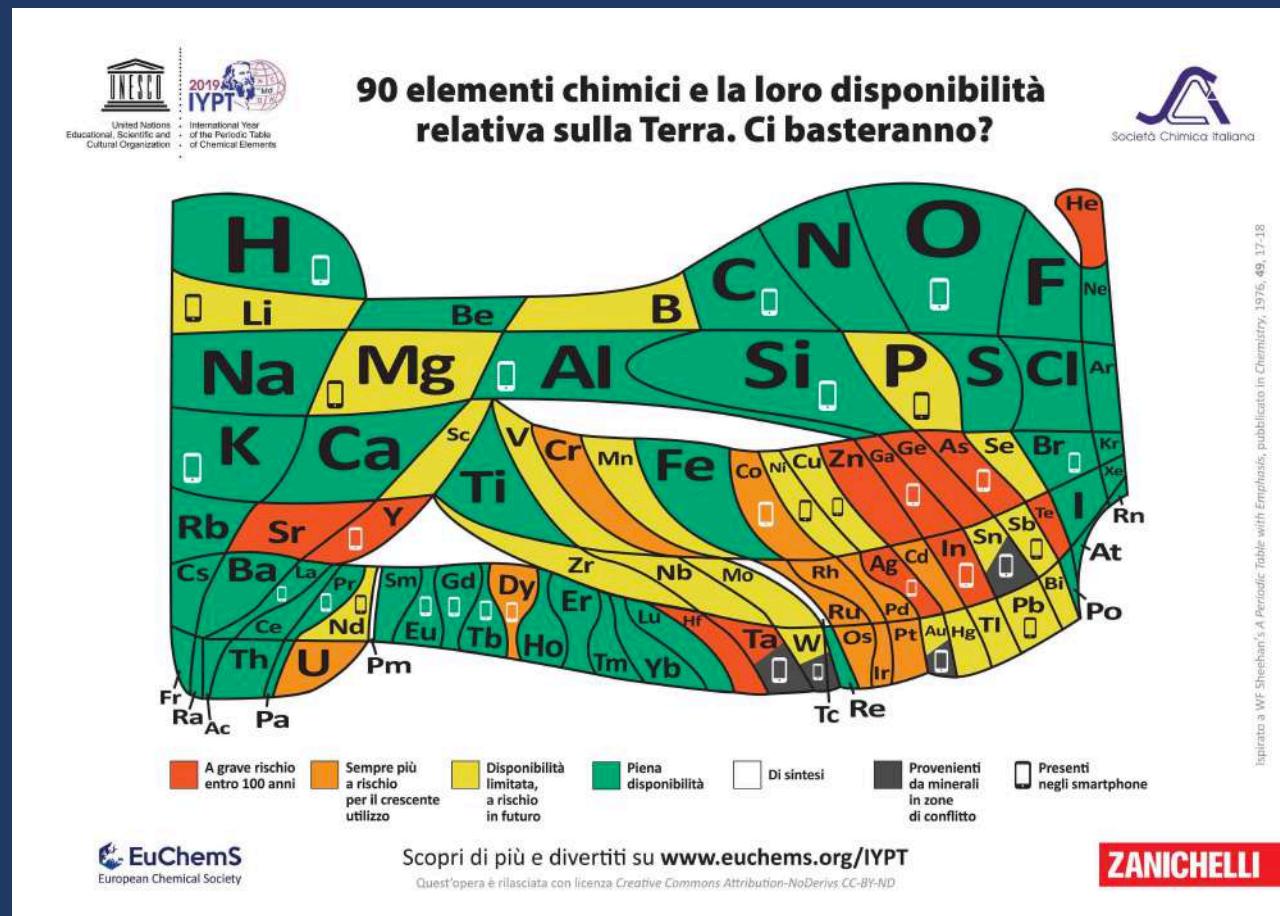
Nicola Armaroli, CNR-ISOF – *HorizonChem 2019* – Università di Milano - Bicocca, 5 Aprile 2019

“RISORSE” E “RISERVE” MINERALI

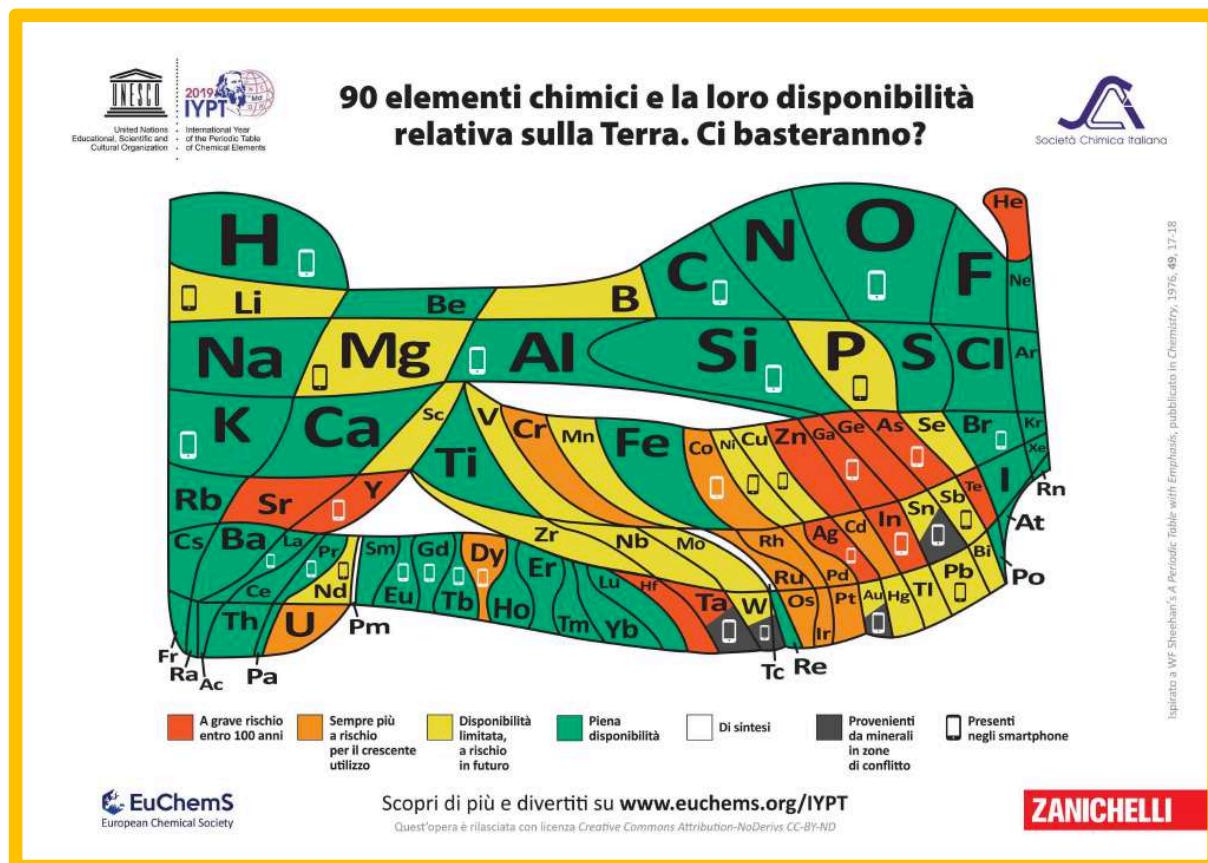
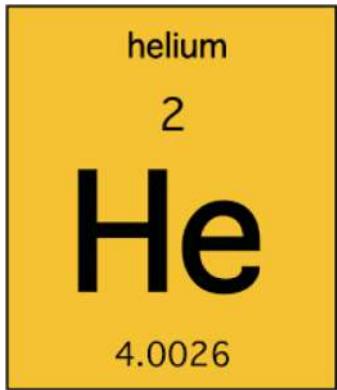


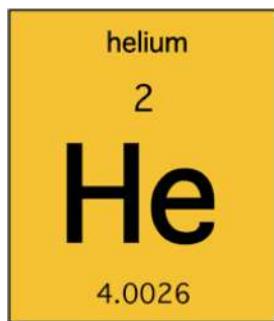
Critical Raw Materials for the EU, The European Commission, 2010

FOCUS SU ALCUNI ELEMENTI



ELIO

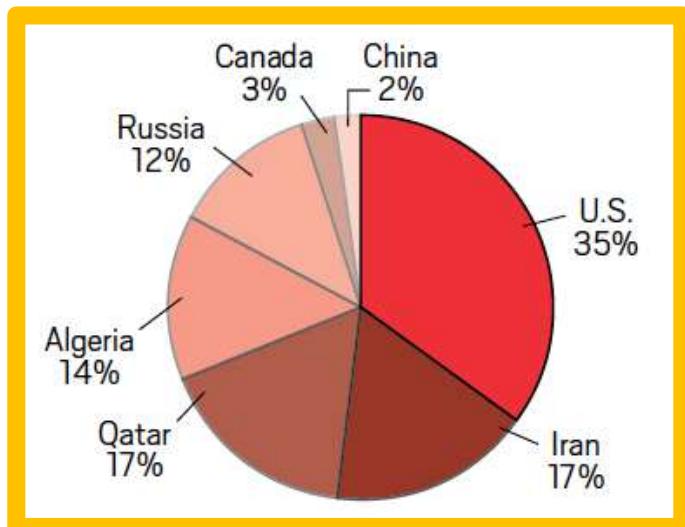




GAS – 2° elemento più abbondante dell'Universo
Molto raro sulla Terra, si perde nello spazio
(0.0005% del volume dell' atmosfera)

Origine: giacimenti di gas (fino al 7% in volume)

Risorse mondiali: 59 Gm³

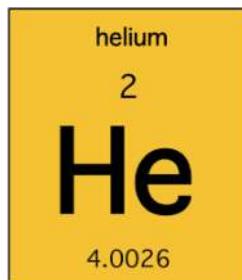


**USA: da sempre primo detentore mondiale
di riserve, grazie alla Federal Helium
Reserve in Texas (in vendita ...)**

Consumo annuale: 180 Mm³

C&EN 2017, July 24, 22

ELIO: PROPRIETÀ FISICHE UNICHE



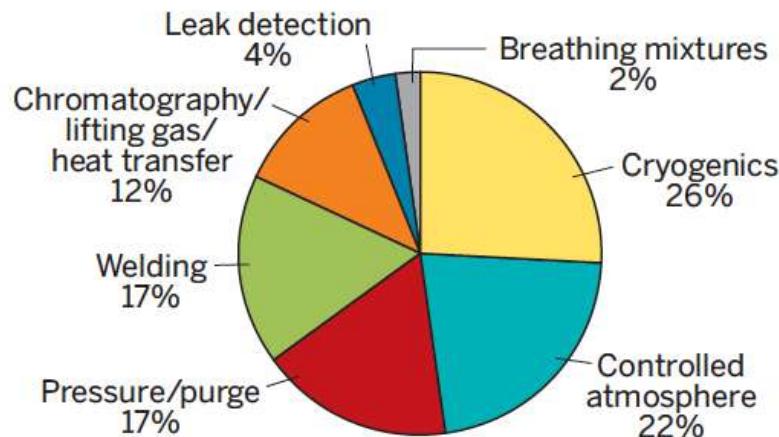
Punto di ebollizione: -268,93 °C (4.22 K)

Punto di fusione: -272,20 °C (0.94 K)

Sotto 4K diventa un "superfluido" senza viscosità apparente
e con una straordinaria conducibilità termica.

Perfetto per utilizzi criogenici "estremi" (NMR)

UTILIZZI

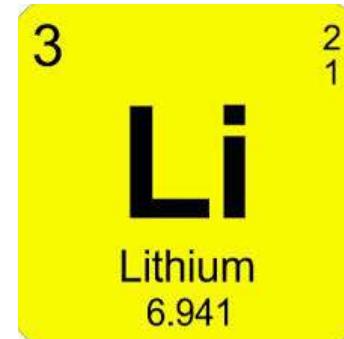
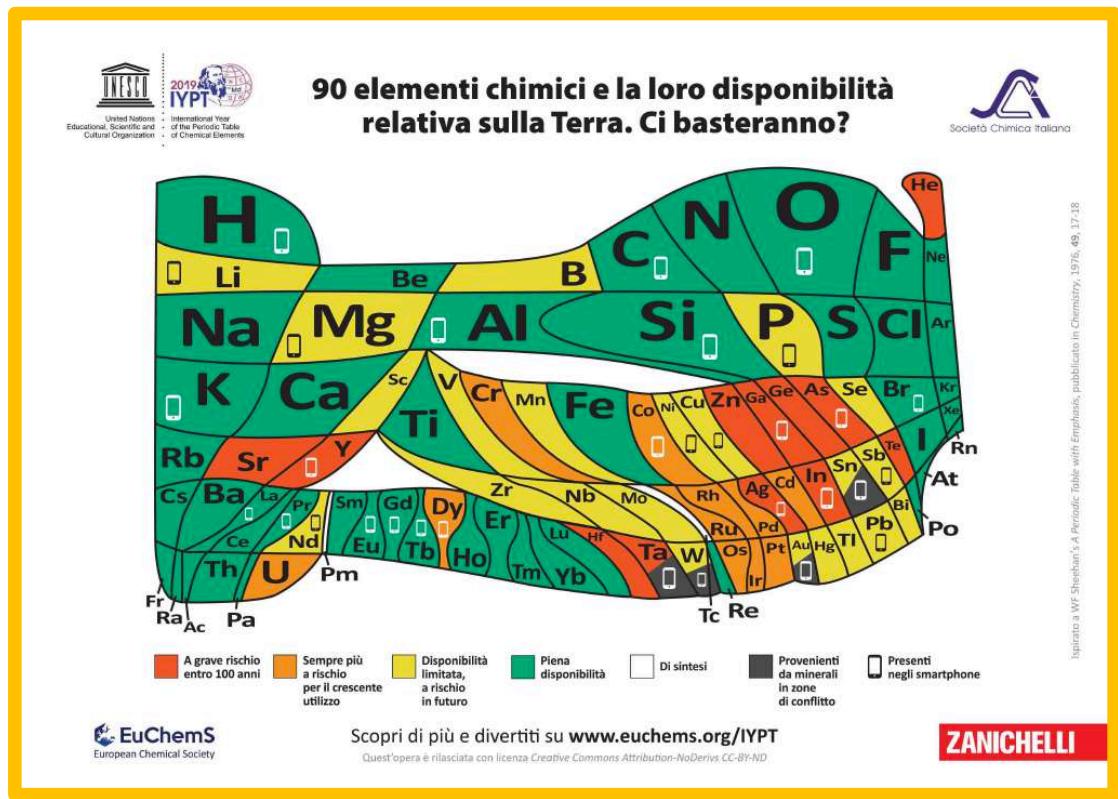


Chem. Eng. News 2015, July 27

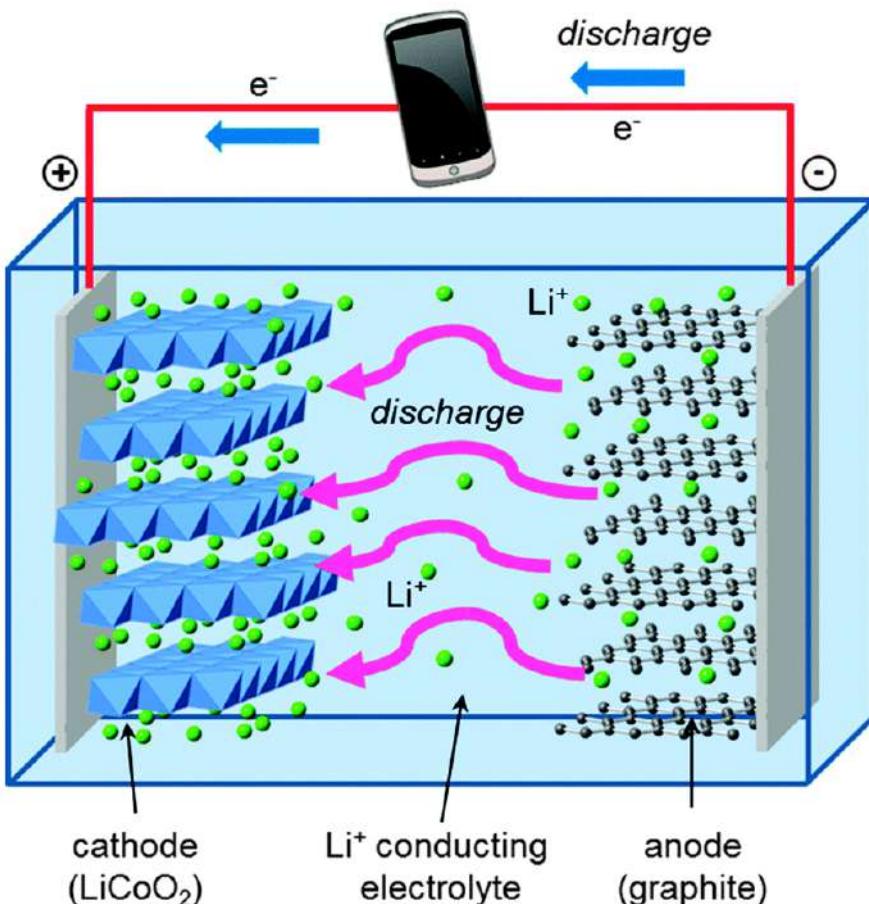
La domanda sale, l'offerta
(e il prezzo) oscillano

GRANDE problema nei
laboratori di ricerca e negli
impianti tecnologici

LITIO



BATTERIE AGLI IONI DI LITIO



Il metallo solido più leggero e più piccolo e con uno dei più elevati potenziali elettrochimici

Elevata densità di energia
Elevata velocità di carica
Lunga durata

IDEALE PER LE BATTERIE

LITIO

METALLO – Molto instabile in aria e acqua.

Maggiori produttori attuali: **Australia, Cile, Argentina**

RISERVE stimate: 16.0 Mton; RISORSE > 53 Mton

La più grande risorsa mondiale:
Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia - 10,000 km²

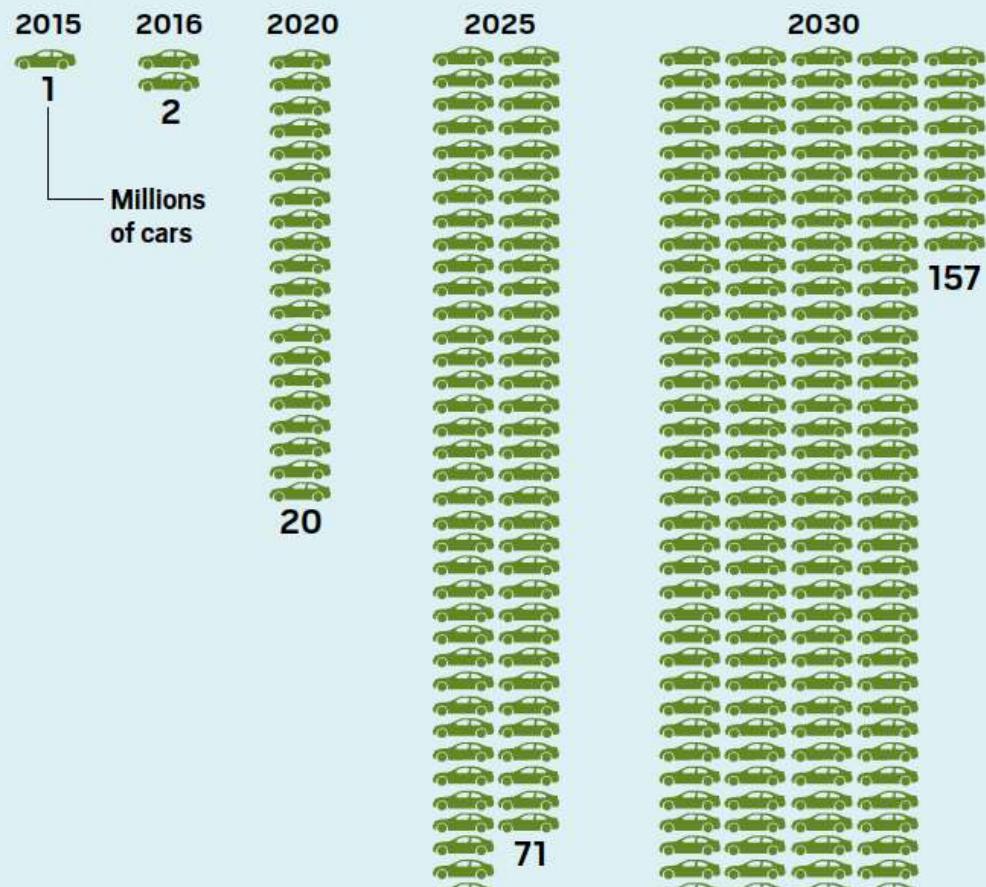


PREVISIONI DI CRESCITA AUTO ELETTRICA

Chem. Eng. News 2017, Sept 18

Electric rise

Government policies to limit increases in global warming are expected to spur electric car adoption.



Source: International Energy Agency

BASTERÀ IL LITIO?



Auto vendute annualmente nel mondo: **80 milioni**
Se elettriche: **$\approx 800\ 000\ \text{ton/a}$** di Litio (10 kg/auto)
Attuale produzione mondiale di Litio:
43 000 ton/anno (USGS, 2017)

Il litio non serve solo per le batterie delle auto:
Dispositivi portatili, lubrificanti, leghe, ...
TRIZIO (fusione nucleare)

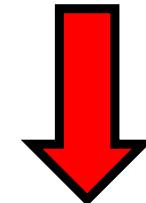
RICICLARE, RICICLARE, RICICLARE

MOLTO LITIO MA ... POCO PETROLIO



BATTERIA CARICA AL 100%

40 kWh



Equivalenti a

4 LITRI DI BENZINA

Autonomia : 300 km

VECCHIA AUTO

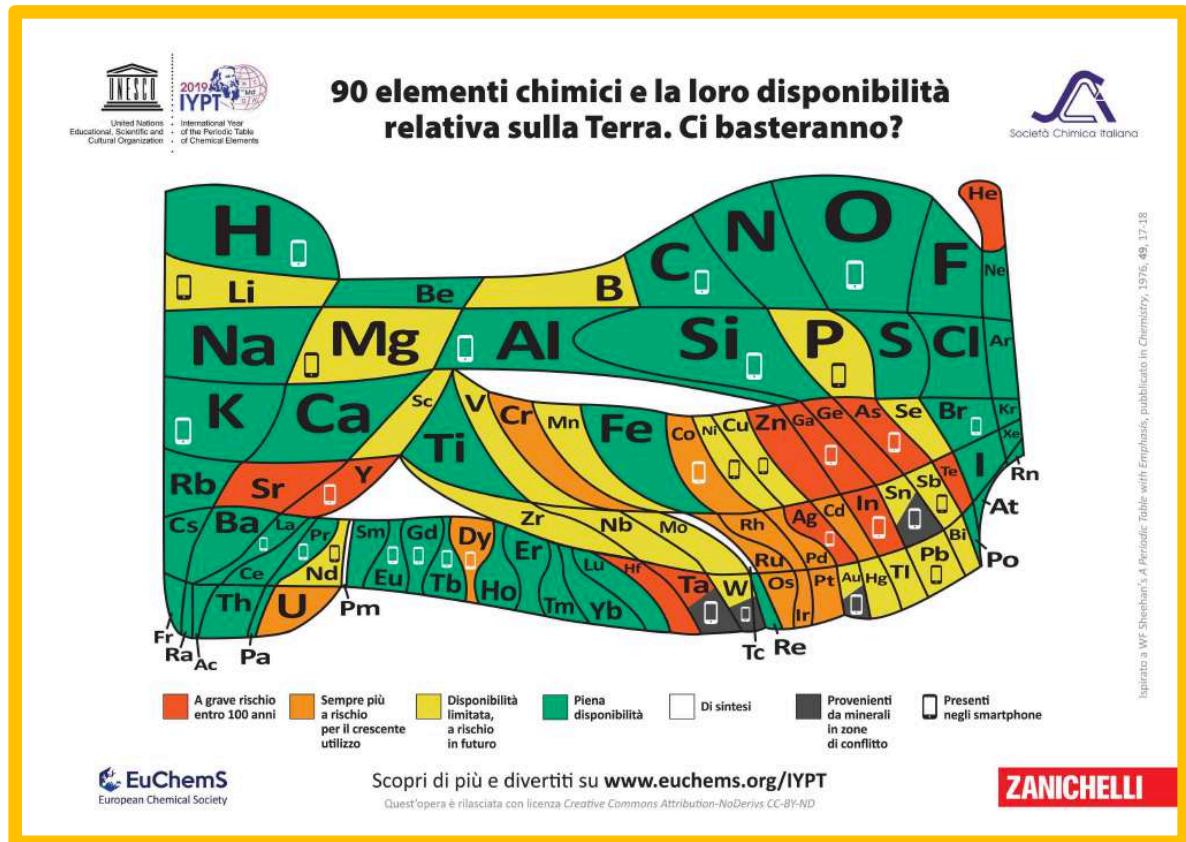
11 ton gasolio

> 7 volte il suo peso

> 21 volte il suo peso in CO₂

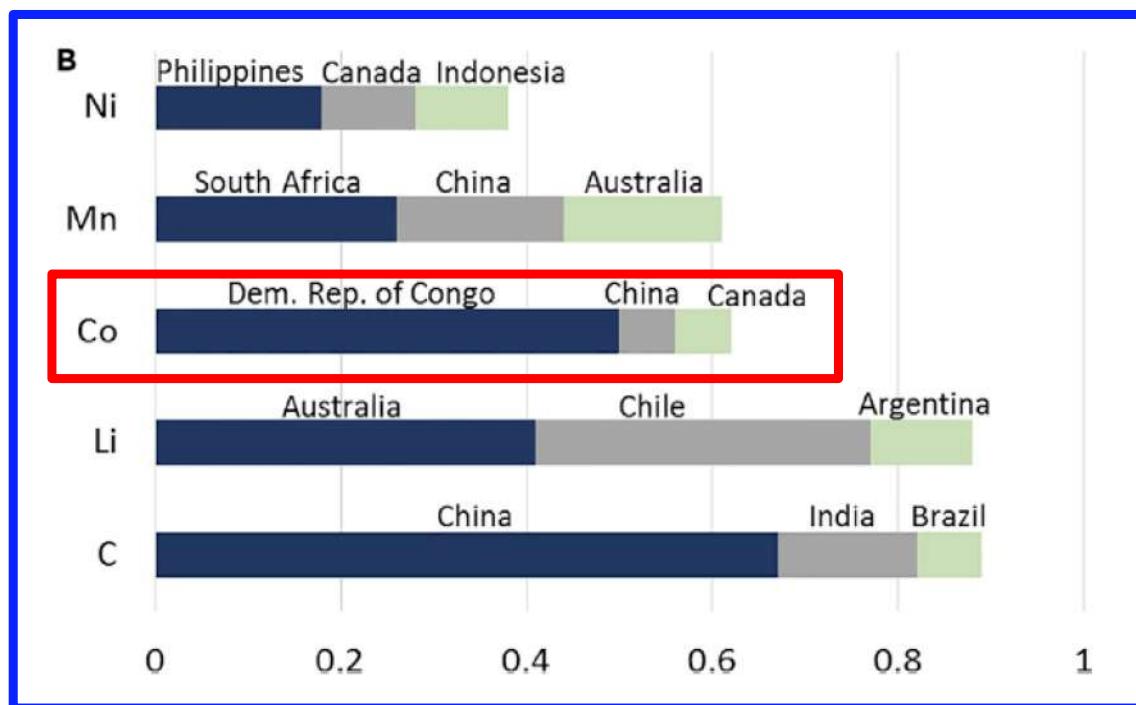
"L'AUTO DA 75 km/l" ESISTE GIÀ ...

COBALTO



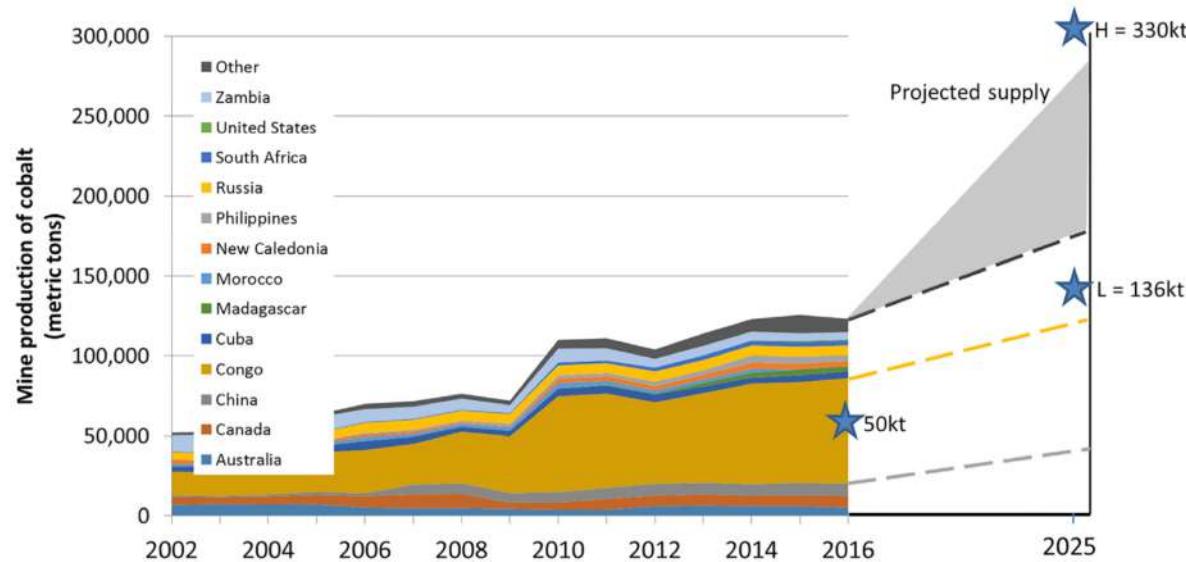
Catodo delle batterie al Litio

PROVENIENZA DEGLI ELEMENTI CHIMICI NECESSARI NELLE BATTERIE AL LITIO



Joule 2017, 1, 229

COBALTO: DOMANDA OGGI E DOMANI



"While the supply of materials for LIBs will likely meet the demand for the near future, there are potential risks associated with the supply of Co."

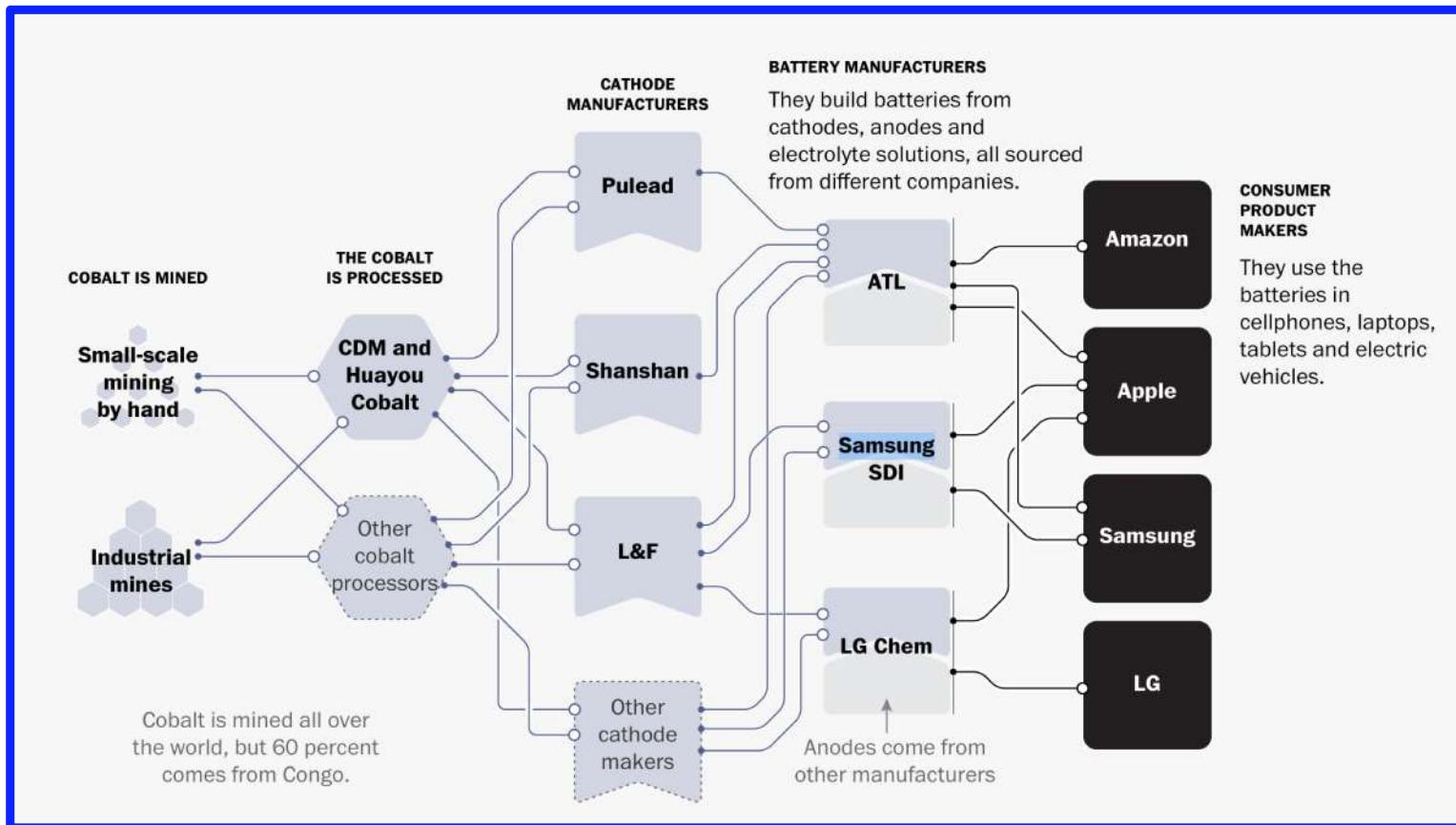
Joule 2017, 1, 229

MINIERE DI COBALTO IN R.D. CONGO



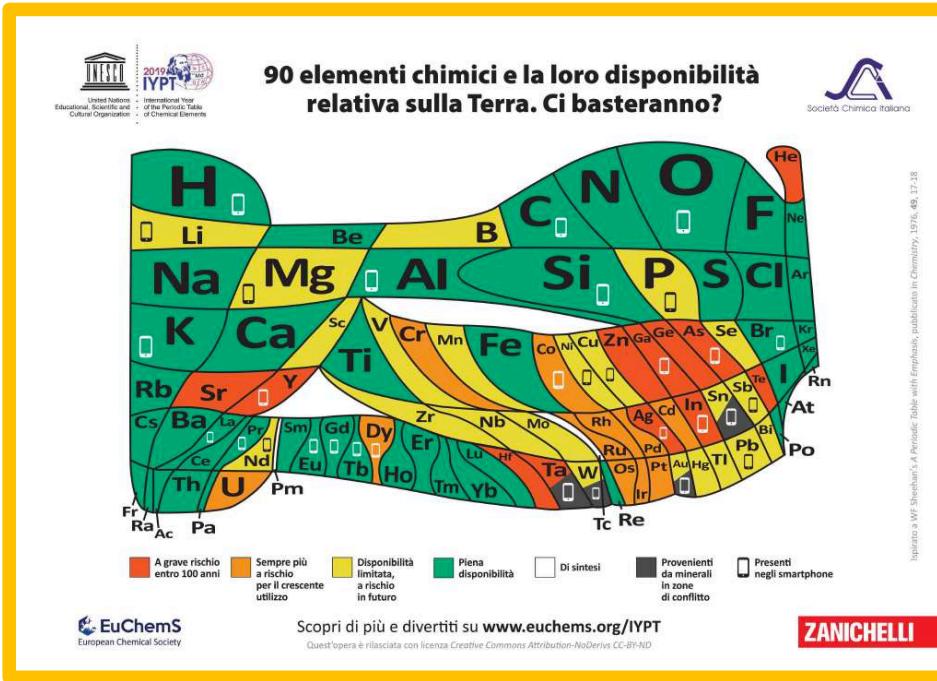
"The Cobalt Pipeline", *Washington Post*, 30 Settembre 2016

COBALTO DENTRO (E DIETRO) AI NOSTRI DISPOSITIVI



"The Cobalt Pipeline", *Washington Post*, 30 Settembre 2016

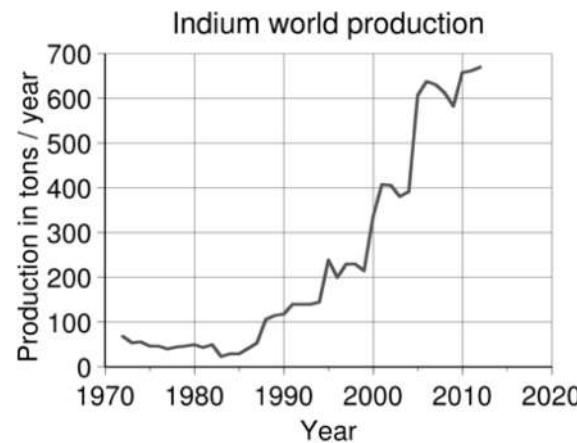
INDIO



INDIO

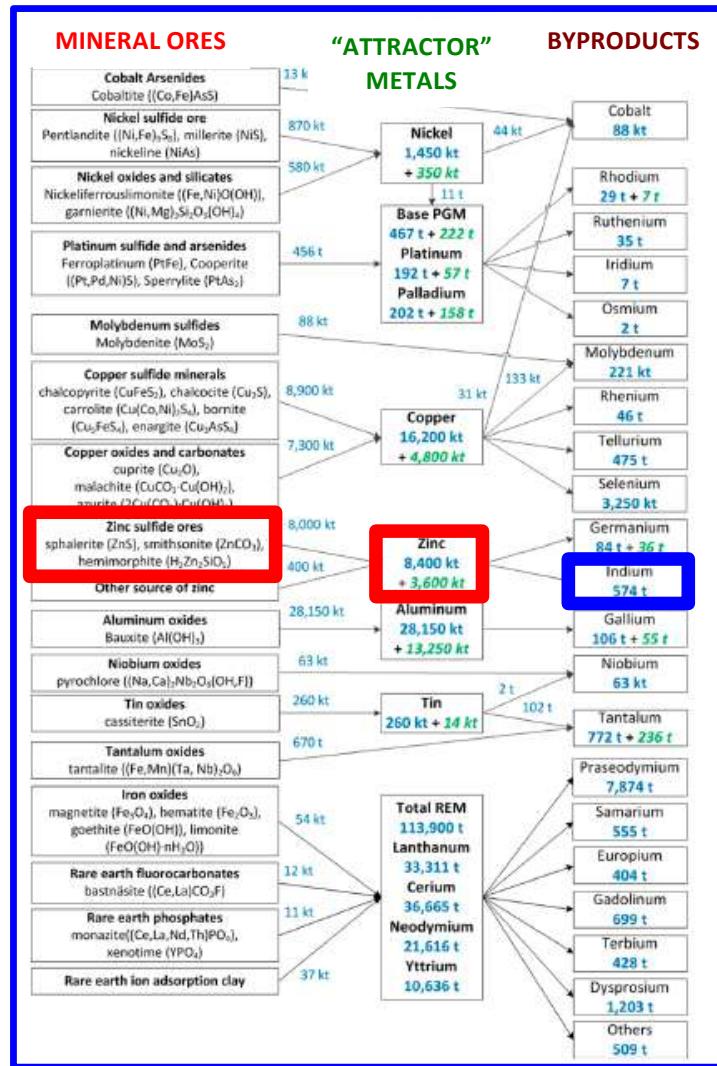
METALLO – Tenero, stabile in aria e acqua. Principali produttori: **Cina, Corea del Sud, Giappone.**
Riserve stimate: ignote (USGS, 2019)

Praticamente inutile fino a 30 anni fa, poi ...



Indium Tin Oxide (ITO)

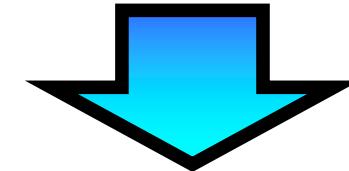
Trasparente, conduttore, si lega molto bene al vetro



Environ. Sci. Technol. 2013, 47, 2939

**L'INDIO NON È PRODOTTO
DIRETTAMENTE**
METALLI "ATTRATTORI"
(Pt, Pd, Cu, Zn, Al, Sn, La, Ce, Nd, Y)

"AUTOSTOPPISTI"
**(Co, Rh, Ru, Ir, Os, Mo, Re,
Te, Se, Ge, In, Ga, Nb, Ta,
terre rare pesanti)**



**Volatilità dei prezzi,
rischio di interruzione incontrollata
delle forniture**

TERRE RARE (REE)

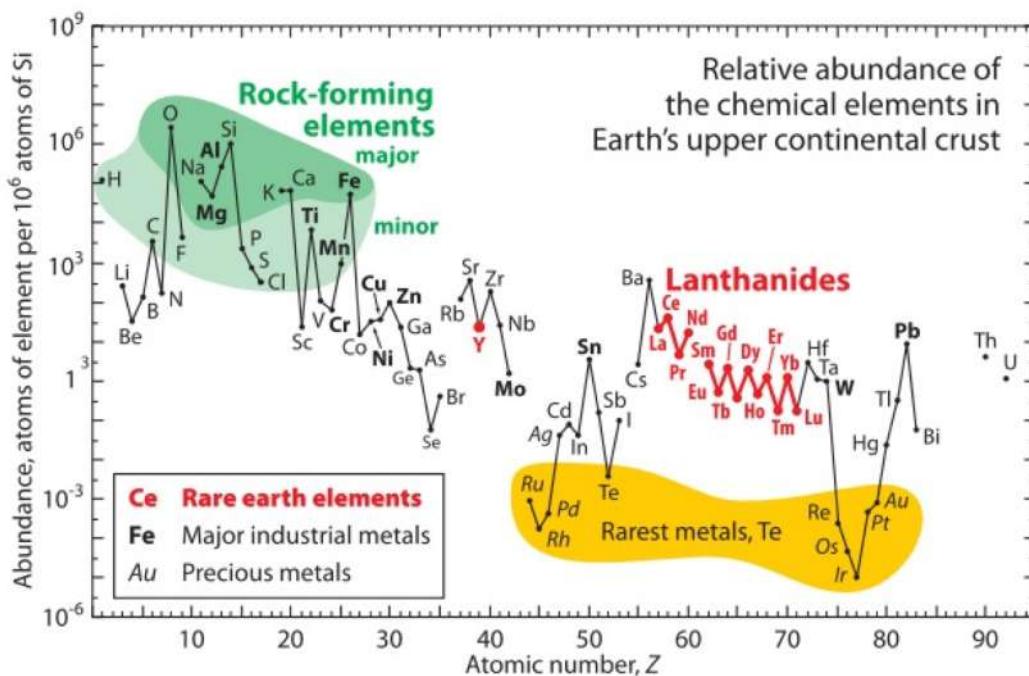
H	Rare Earth Elements														He		
Li	Be																
Na	Mg																
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba	*	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	**	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	Fl	Uup	Lv	Uus	Uuo
*	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu		
**	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr		
	Light Rare Earth Element															Heavy Rare Earth Element	

Comportamento chimico
molto simile:
oltre un secolo per
individuarli tutti!

Proprietà
MAGNETICHE
LUMINESCENTI
OTTICHE
CATALITICHE

14 “LANTANIDI” (no Pm) + Sc and Y

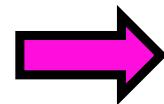
CONCENTRAZIONE RELATIVA DEGLI ELEMENTI (crosta continentale superiore)



REE NON SONO COSÌ RARI,
MA SONO RARAMENTE
CONCENTRATI AD UN LIVELLO
CHE NE PERMETTA UNO
SFRUTTAMENTO
ECONOMICAMENTE
CONVENIENTE

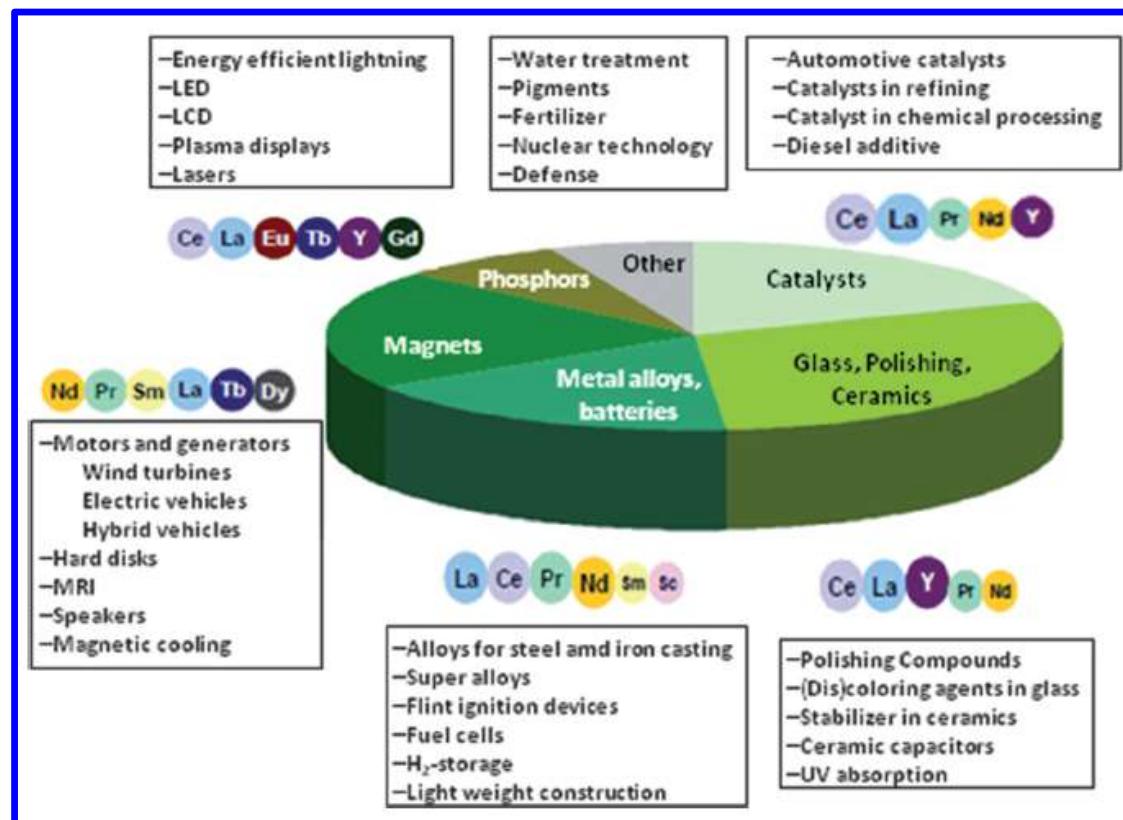
Leggeri : Sc, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Pm, Sm, Eu

Pesanti : Y, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu



Tipicamente più rari

REE: ESSENZIALI PER TANTISSIME APPLICAZIONI TECNOLOGICHE



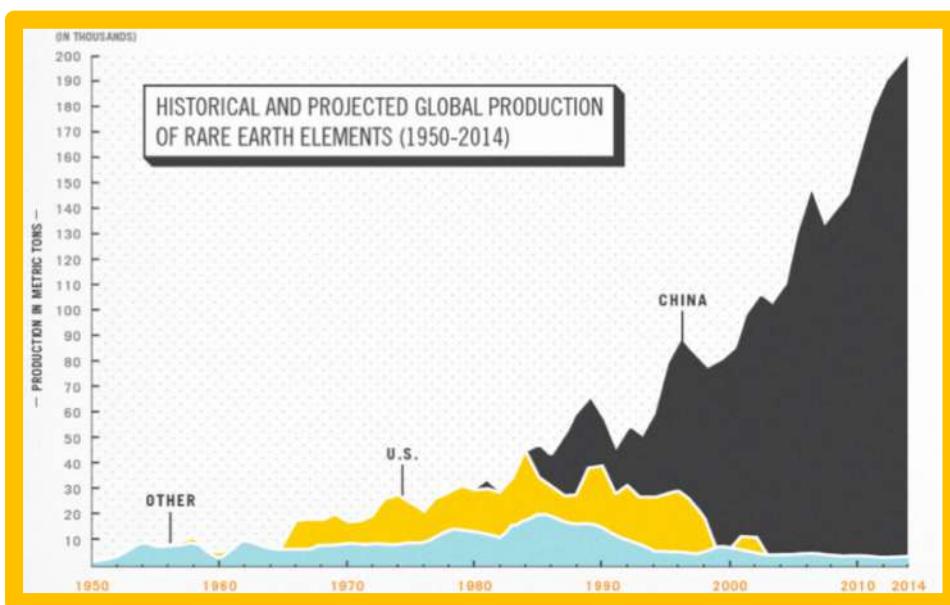
ChemSusChem 2013, 6, 2045

REE NEGLI SMARTPHONE

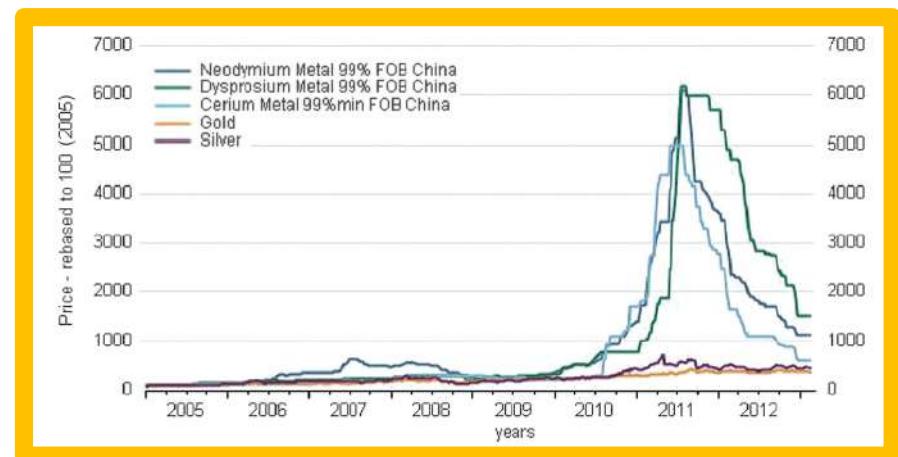


<http://www.rareelementresources.com>

REE: PRODUZIONE MONDIALE DOMINATA DALLA CINA

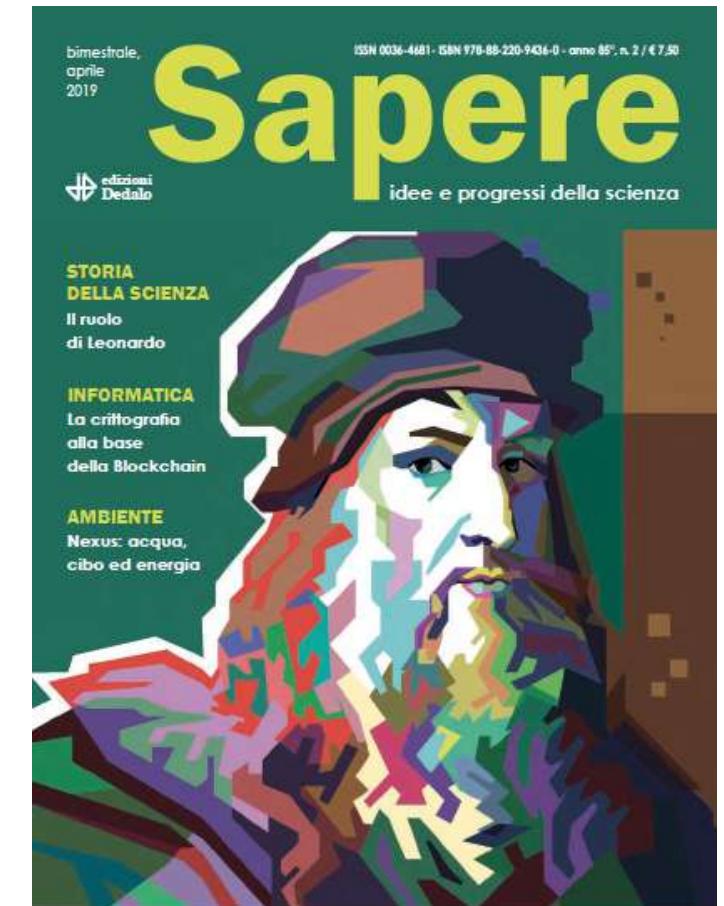
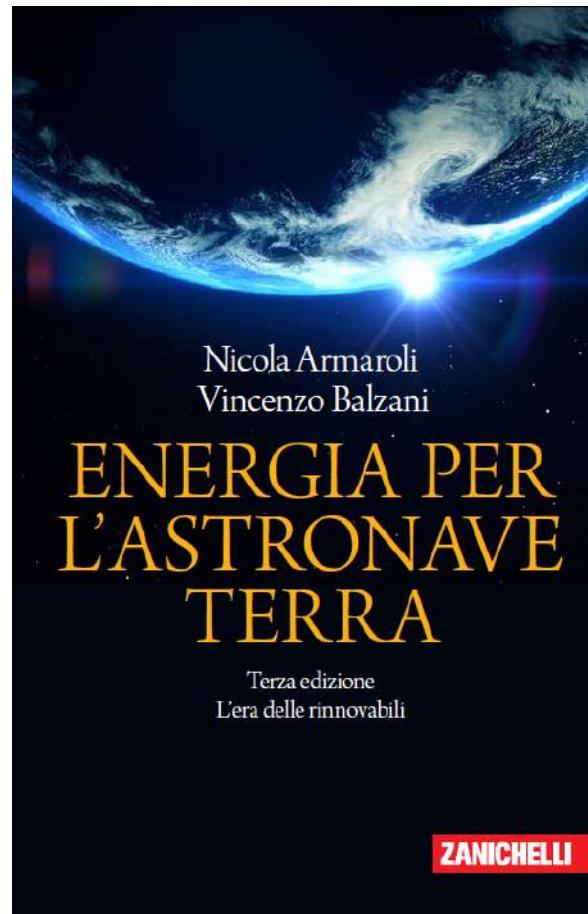
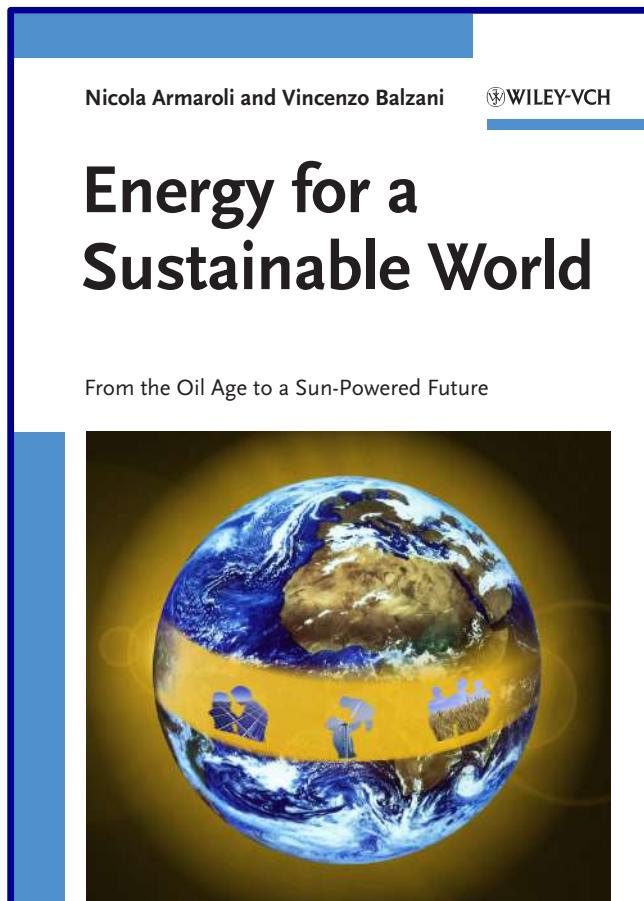


La crisi del 2010-2011
(ora superata)

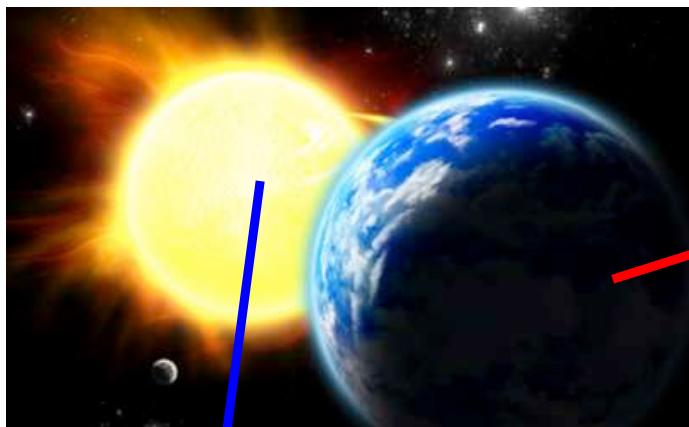


https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/rare_earths/

ELEMENTI CHIMICI IN PERICOLO E LA TRANSIZIONE ENERGETICA



LE TECNOLOGIE RINNOVABILI SONO AD ELEVATA "INTENSITÀ MATERIALE"



ENERGIA SOLARE
Input “extraterrestre”
largamente superiore
al nostro fabbisogno

Occorrono **CONVERTITORI** E
ACCUMULATORI DI ENERGIA SOLARE:
fatti di materiali “terrestri”, quindi
disponibili in modo limitato



ELEMENTI CHIMICI NELLE TECNOLOGIE ENERGETICHE, EFFICIENTI E DIGITALI



Nd, Pr, Dy

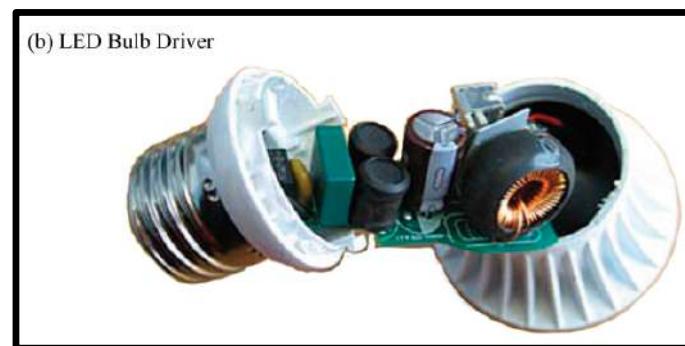
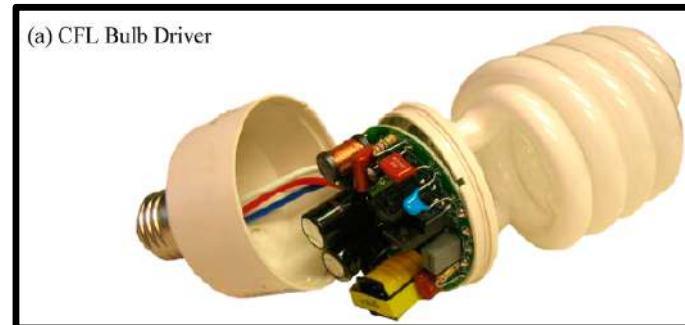


Nd, Pr, Dy, La, Ce; Li, Co



CIRCA
40
ELEMENTI!

EFFICIENZA NELL'ILLUMINAZIONE: COSTO MATERIALE



CONTENUTO DI METALLI

Environ. Sci. Technol. 2013, 47, 1040

L'ESTRAZIONE DI MINERALI PRODUCE RIFIUTI

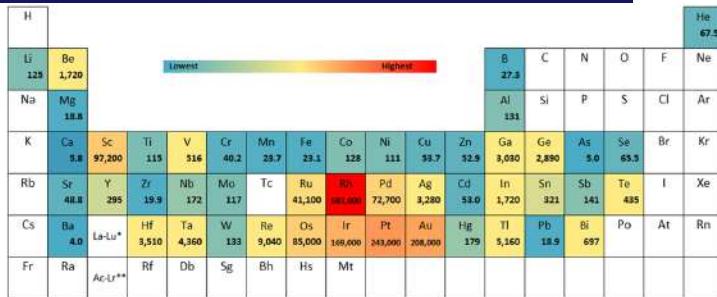
Prelievi minerari e produzione di scarti (Mton/y)
(estrazione totale: > 50 miliardi ton/anno)

Mining activity	Total	Refined product	Waste
Coal	18,444	3,787	14,657
Building stone	14,186	10,430	3,756
Lignite	9,024	930	8,094
Copper	4,190	9.3	4,181
Petroleum	3,489	3,065	424
Iron	3,138	604	2,534
Gold	2,138	0.002	2,138
Phosphate	477	119	358
Nickel	403	0.72	402
Aluminum	302	101	201

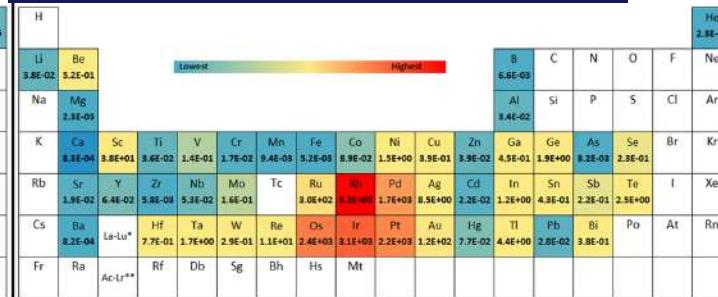
Annu Rev. Environ. Resourc. **2010**, 35, 109

LA TAVOLA PERIODICA DELL'IMPATTO AMBIENTALE

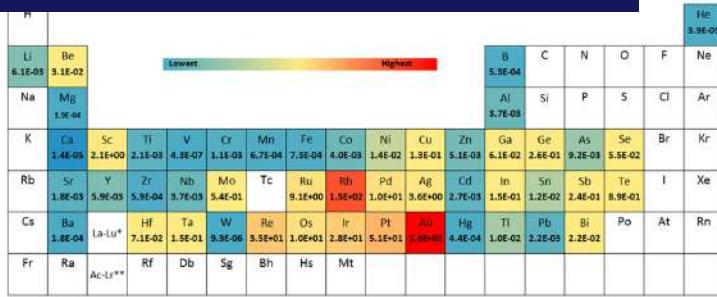
Cumulative energy demand (Mj-eq/kg)



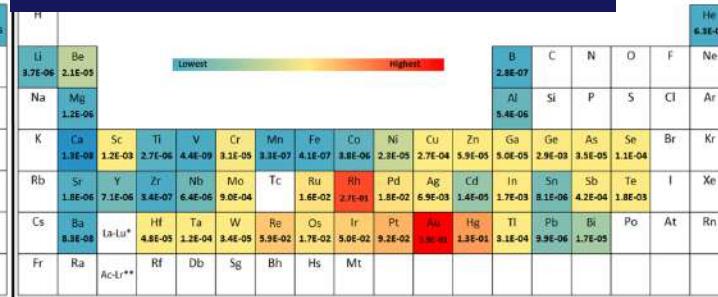
Terrestrial acidification (kg SO₂-eq/kg)



Freshwater Eutrophication (kg P-eq/kg)



Overall Human Toxicity (CTUh/kg)



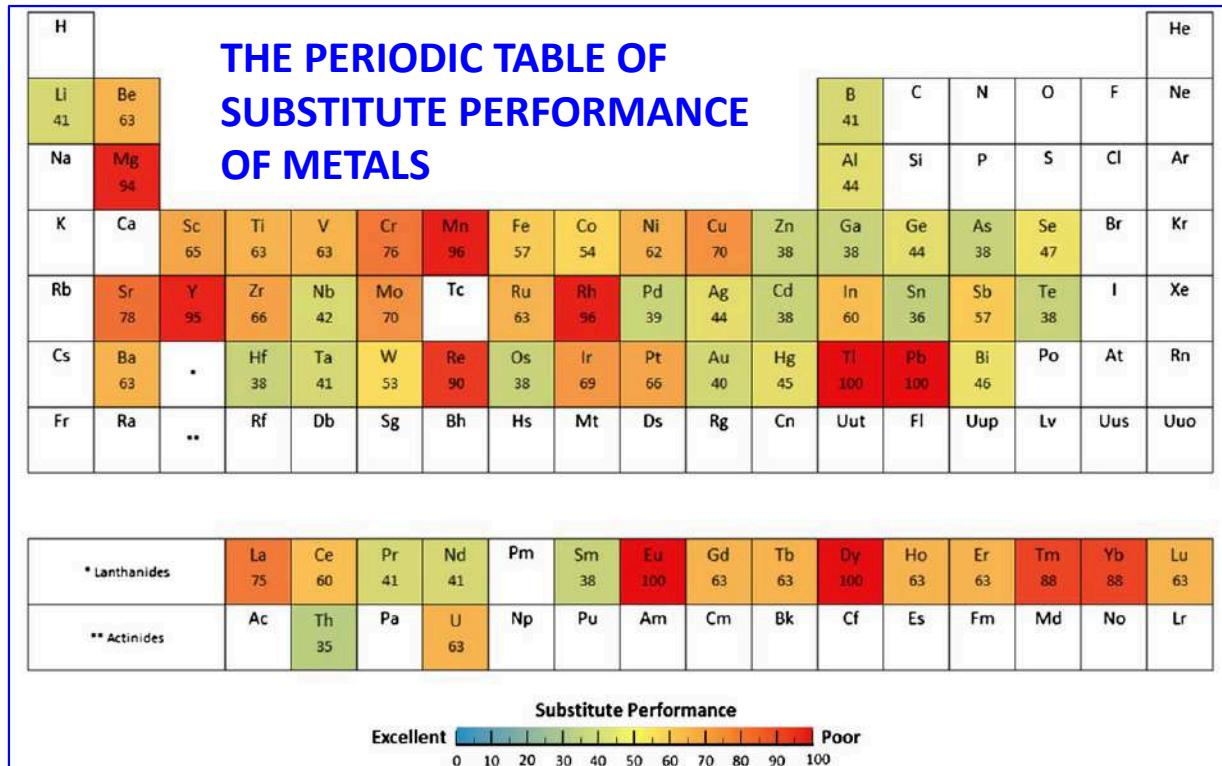
*Group of Lanthanide	La 215	Ce 252	Pr 376	Nd 344	Pm	Sm 1,160	Eu 7,750	Gd 914	Tb 5,820	Dy 1,170	Ho 4,400	Er 954	Tm 12,700	Yb 2,450	Lu 17,600
**Group of Actinide	Ac 1,260	Th 1,260	Pa 1,270	U	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr	

*Group of Lanthanide	La 4.3E-03	Ce 5.0E-03	Pr 7.5E-03	Nd 6.8E-03	Pm	Sm 2.3E-02	Eu 1.5E-01	Gd 1.8E-02	Tb 2.2E-01	Dy 2.5E-02	Ho 8.8E-02	Er 1.9E-02	Tm 2.5E-01	Yb 4.9E-02	Lu 5.5E-01
**Group of Actinide	Ac 3.0E-02	Th 2.9E-03	Pa 5.2E-02	U 1.8E-03	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr	

PLOS One 2014, 9, e101298

Nicola Armaroli, CNR-ISOF – HorizonChem 2019 – Università di Milano - Bicocca, 5 Aprile 2019

SOSTITUZIONE? SPESSO NON (ANCORA) POSSIBILE



Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 2015, 112, 6295

0 : esistono esempi di sostituti per TUTTI gli usi principali

100 : NO esempi di sostituti con performance adeguate per tutti gli usi principali

E L'EUROPA?

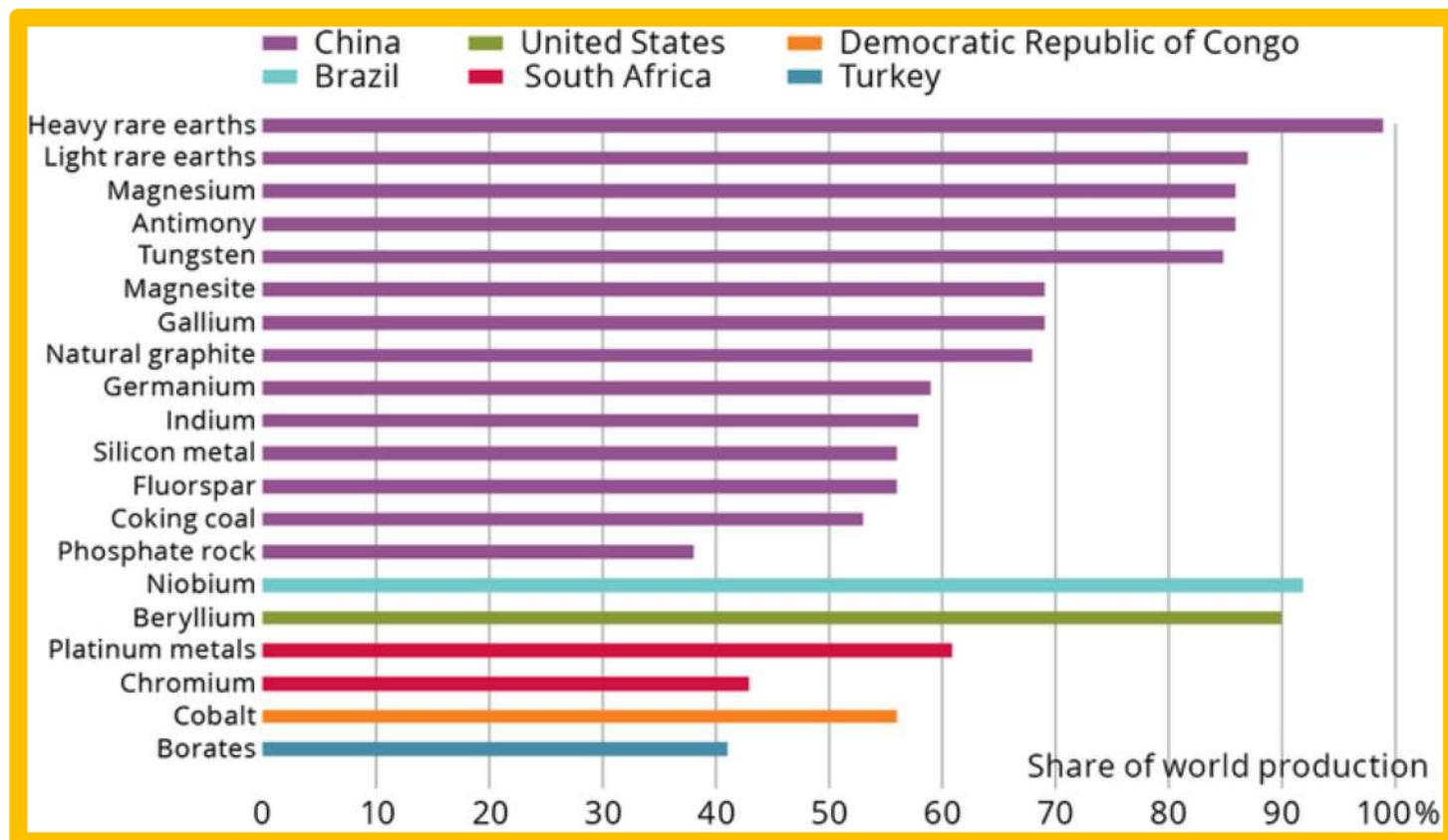


I 27 MATERIALI CRITICI PER L'ECONOMIA EU

2017 CRMs (27)			
Antimony	Fluorspar	LREEs	Phosphorus
Baryte	Gallium	Magnesium	Scandium
Beryllium	Germanium	Natural graphite	Silicon metal
Bismuth	Hafnium	Natural rubber	Tantalum
Borate	Helium	Niobium	Tungsten
Cobalt	HREEs	PGMs	Vanadium
Coking coal	Indium	Phosphate rock	

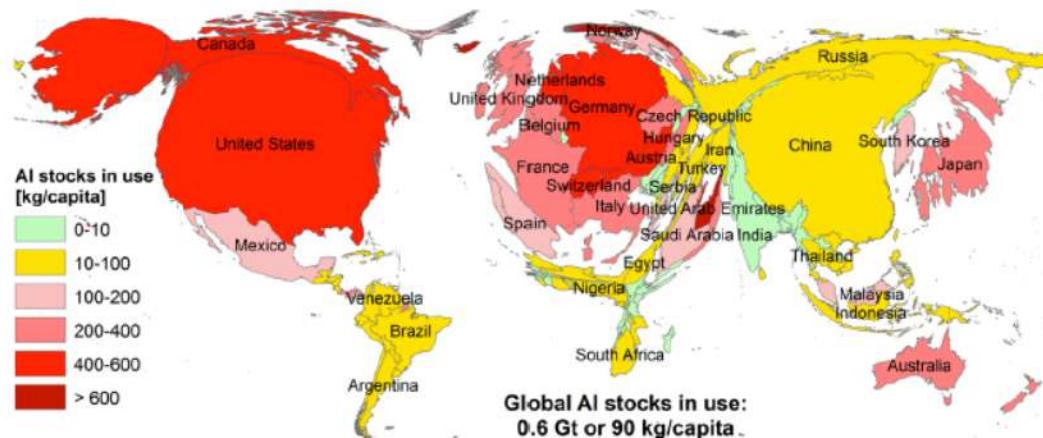
http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/raw-materials/specific-interest/critical_en

MATERIALI CLASSIFICATI COME CRITICI DALL'UNIONE EUROPEA: PERCENTUALE DI PRODUZIONE DA UNA SINGOLA NAZIONE



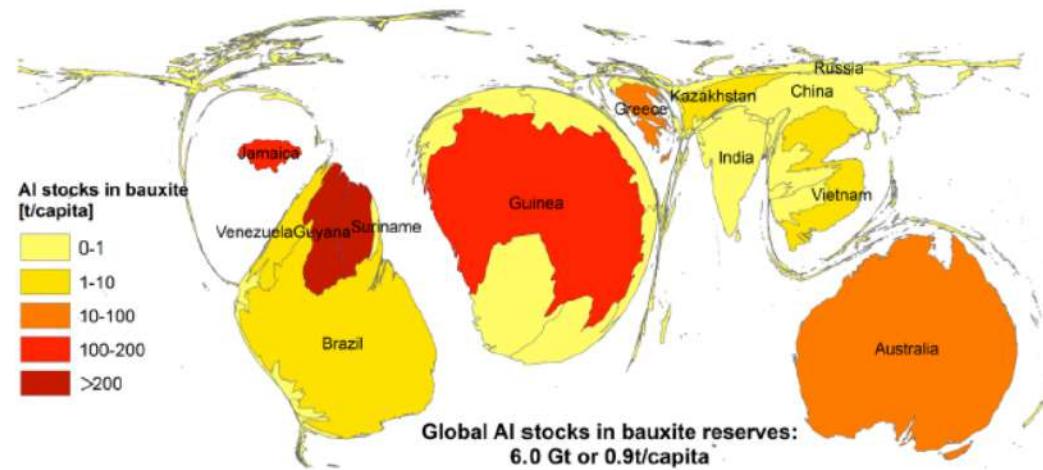
European Environment Agency, 2015

Largo impiego, no stock: il caso dell'ALLUMINIO



IN USE

90 kg/capita

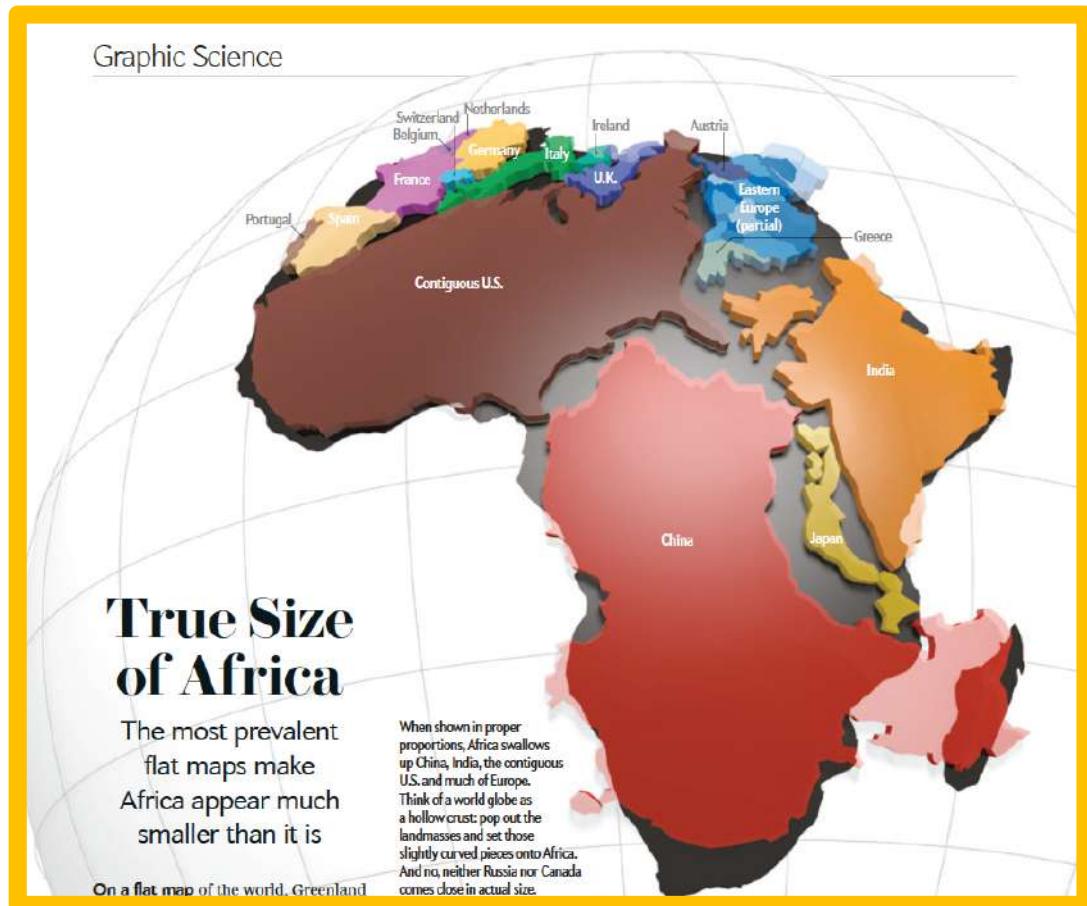


RESERVES
IN BAUXITE

900 kg/capita

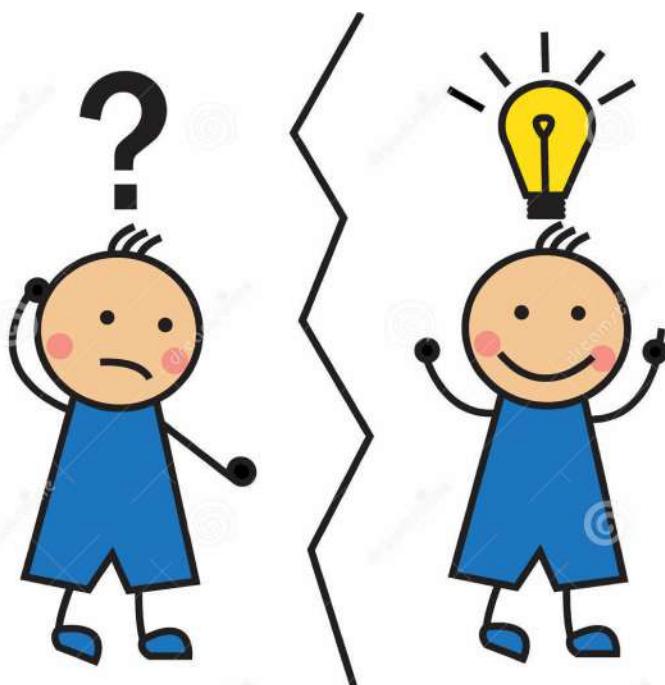
Environ. Sci. Technol. **2013**, *47*, 4882

AFRICA: IMMENSA E PIENA DI RISORSE



Sci. Am. 2015, July 2015, 80

SOLUZIONI?



ASTEROIDI COME MINIERE?

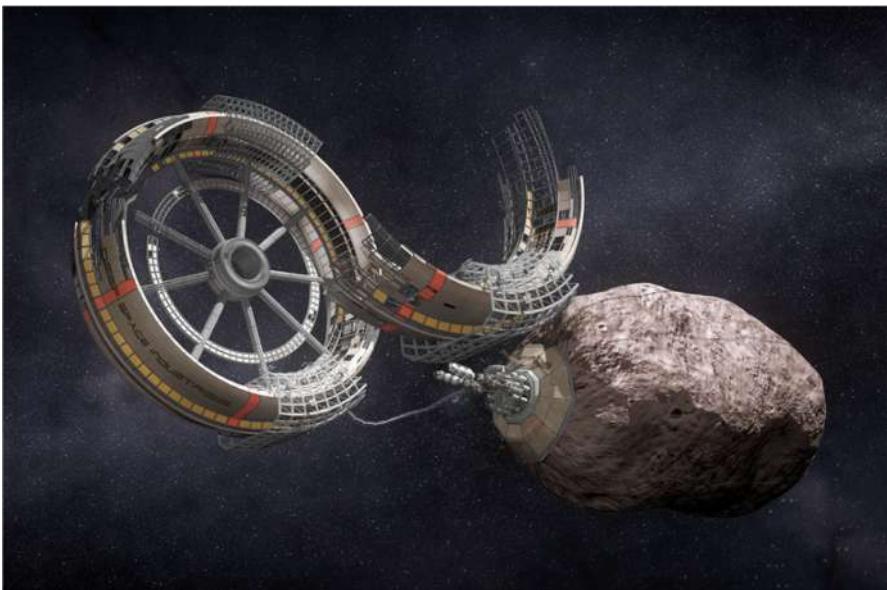


Photo Credit: National Geographic

**NON è una opzione
realistica!**

CONCENTRAZIONE (ppb)

Terra Asteroidi

Pt Platinum 195.08	5	1400
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Ir Iridium 192.22	1	760
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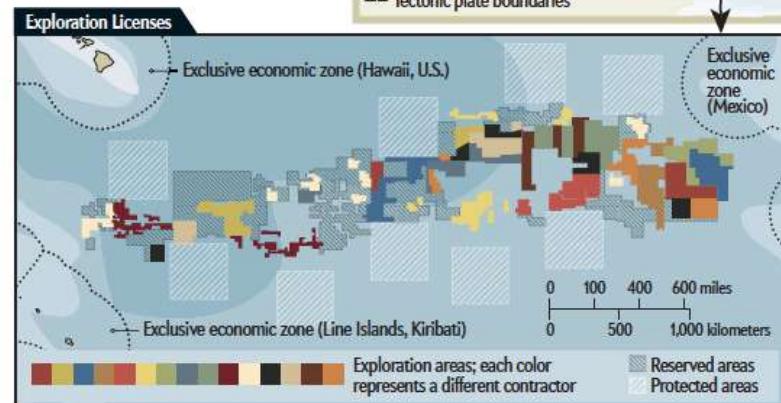
Pd Palladium 106.42	15	870
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Au Gold 196.967	4	215
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MARE PROFONDO (Mn, Co)?

Treasure Hunt

Many countries and companies mine the shallow ocean floor for oil, sand and diamonds. Now they are exploring the deep seabed for critical metals such as nickel and cobalt. Researchers have mapped three types of deposits in international waters that seem particularly promising (colored regions). Manganese nodules may be the most economical to extract.



International Seabed Authority

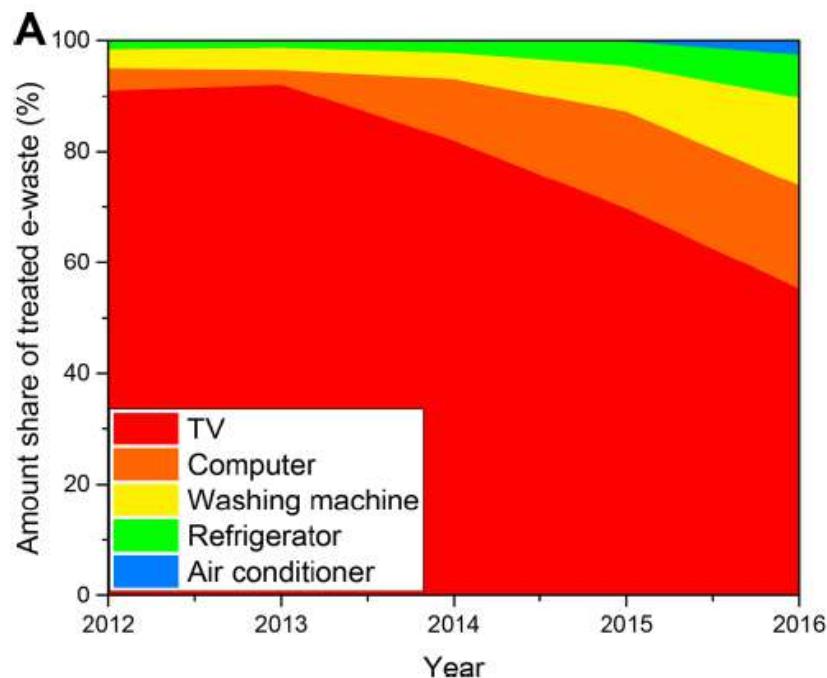
Opzione
FUTURIBILE(?)

Sci. Am. 2018, 318 (5), 72

MINIERE URBANE ("URBAN MINING")

Urban Mining of E-Waste is Becoming More Cost-Effective Than Virgin Mining

Xianlai Zeng,[†] John A. Mathews,^{*,‡} and Jinhui Li^{*,†}



"In this work, we demonstrate utilizing real cost data from e-waste processors in China that **ingots of pure copper and gold could be recovered from e-waste streams at costs that are comparable to those encountered in virgin mining of ores.**"

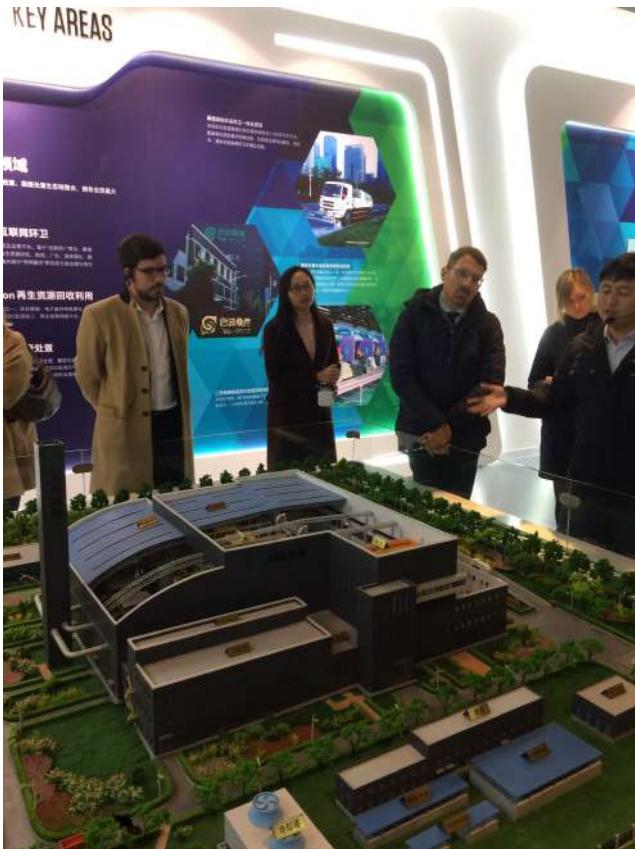
Environ. Sci. Technol. **2018**, *52*, 4835

RIFIUTI ELETTRONICI IN CINA



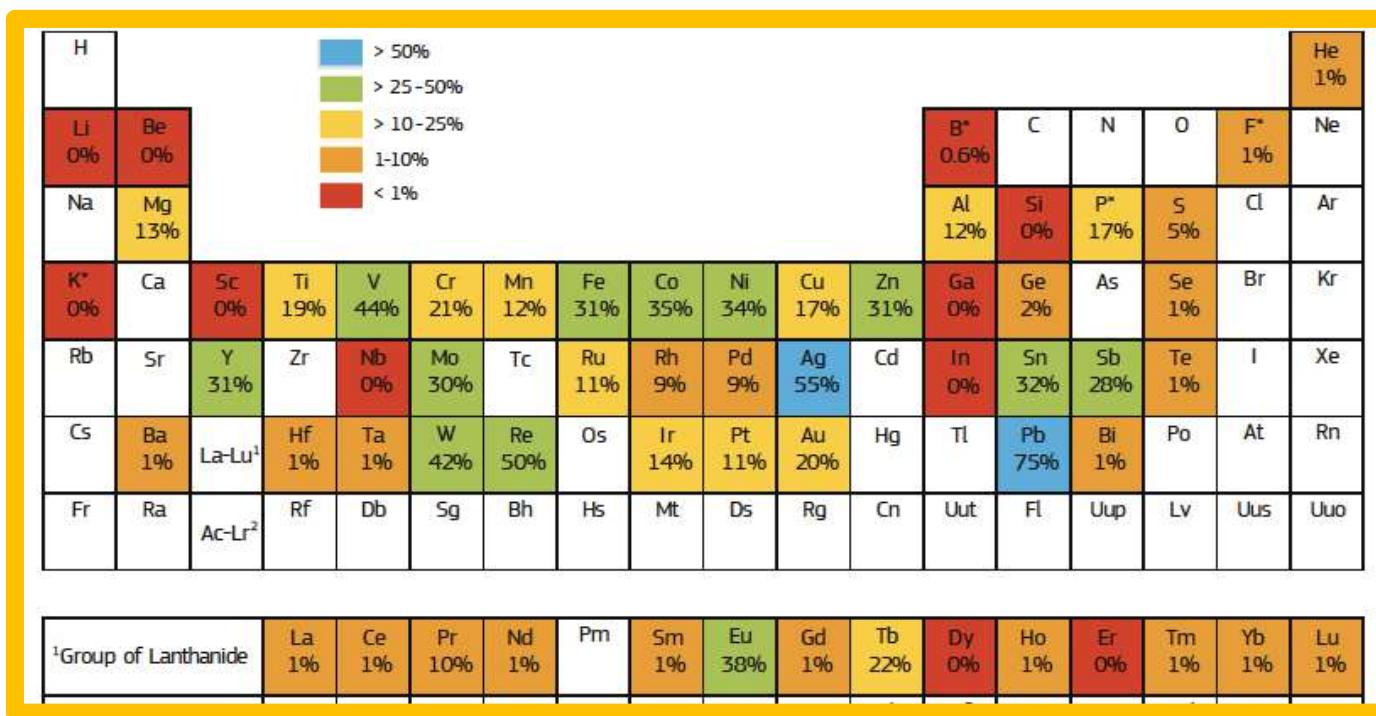


SONO IMPIANTI VERI!



<http://en.tusholdings.com>

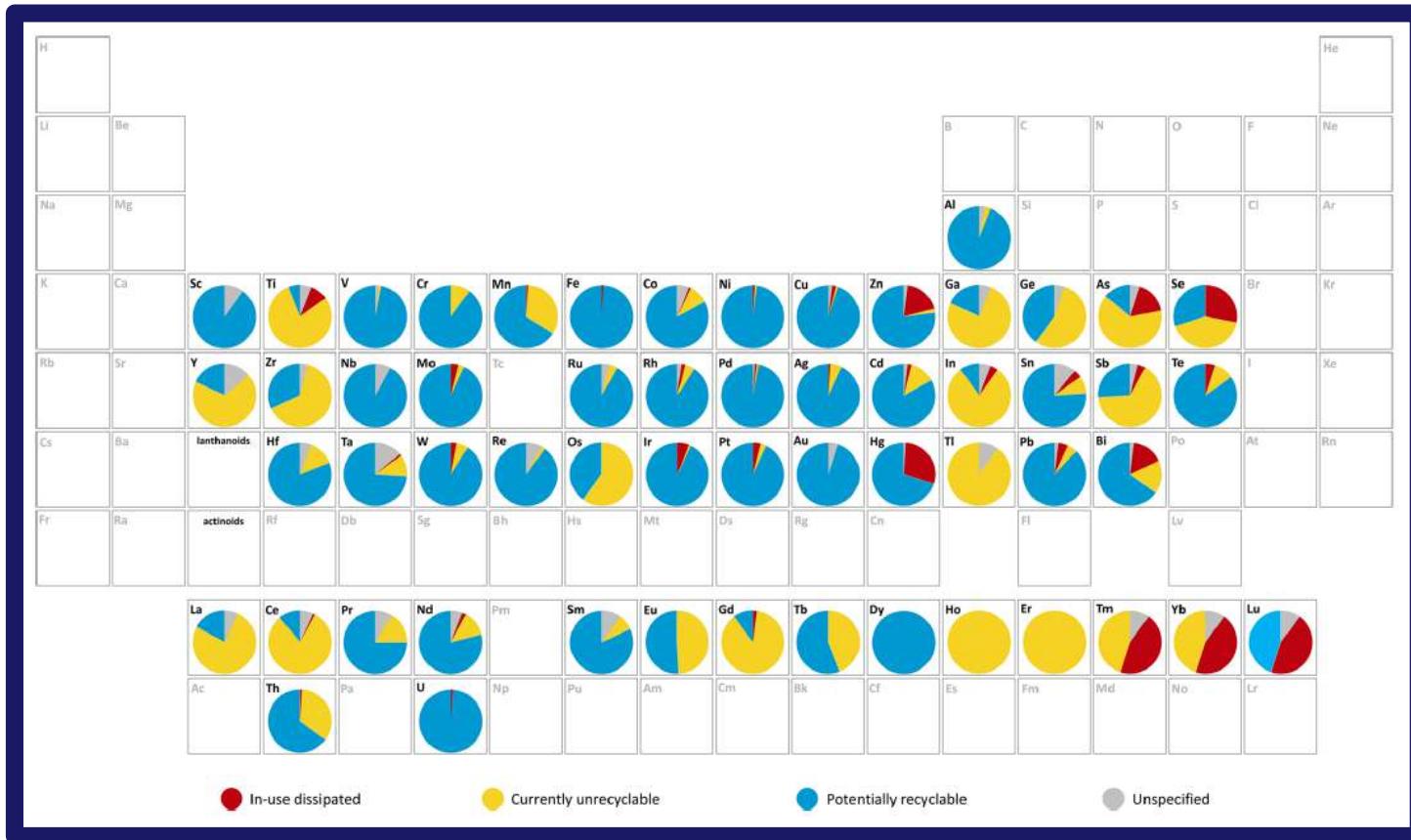
EU-28, TASSO DI RICICLO A FINE VITA



Raw Materials Scoreboard, *The European Commission, 2018*

Gli attuali tassi di riciclo sono TOTALMENTE insostenibili

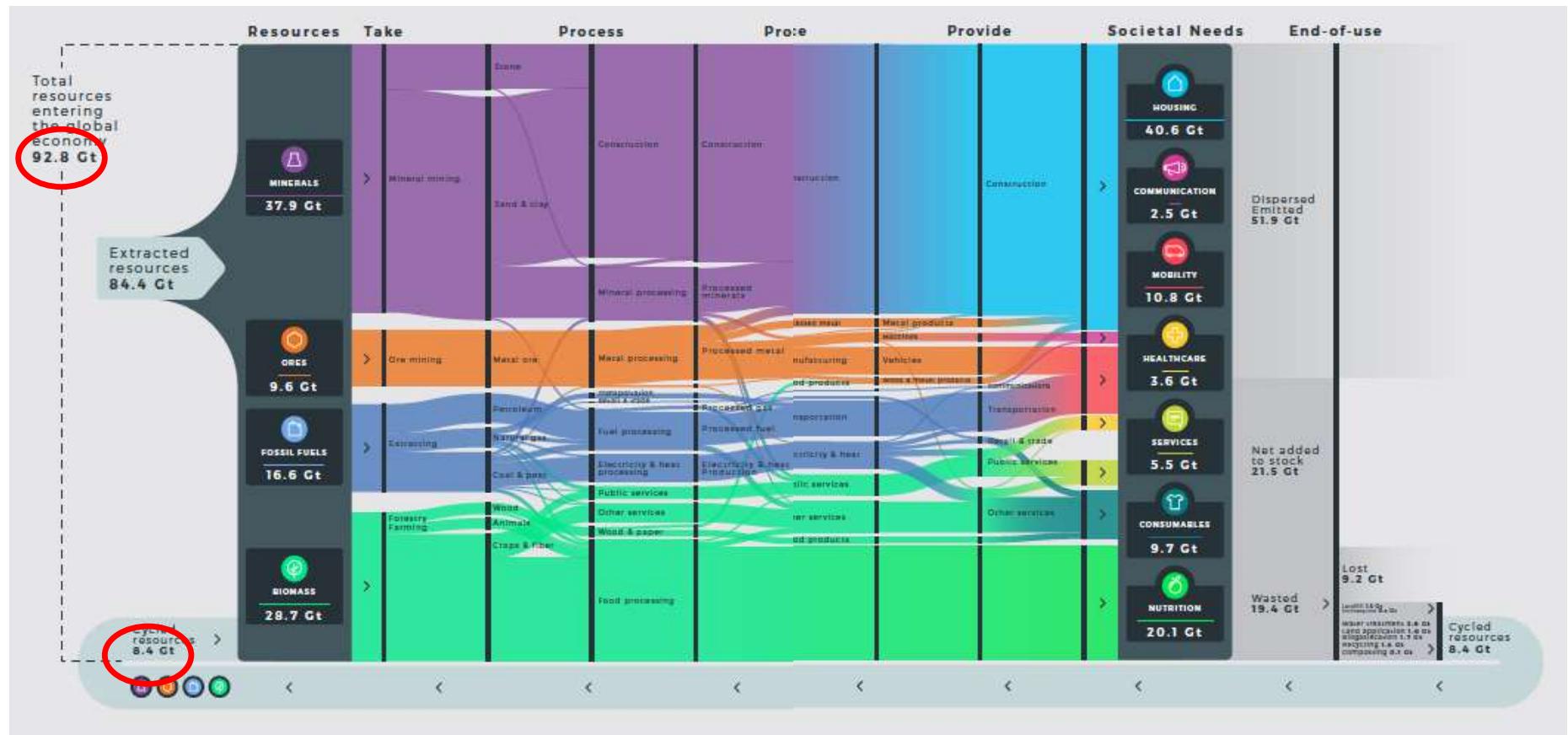
NB: IL RICICLO HA DEI LIMITI



**IMPORTANZA
CRUCIALE
DEL DESIGN
DEGLI OGGETTI**

L. Ciacci et al. "Lost by Design", Environ. Sci. Technol. 2015, 49, 9443

L'ECONOMIA MONDIALE È CIRCOLARE AL 9%



The Circularity Report Gap, *The Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE)*, 2019

