

[View this email in your browser](#)[Twitter](#)[LinkedIn](#)[Website](#)[Helix](#)

RAWMINA NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2022

Read on for background, updates and events related to the RAWMINA Horizon 2020 Innovation Project on Mine Waste Valorisation

[Get this newsletter in your inbox](#)

RAWMINA in brief



Watch our quick intro to the project. [Prefer it in Spanish?](#)

Critical Raw Materials, EU Policy and the Circular Economy



A bright future

An integrated, innovative pilot system for recovery of critical raw materials from mine waste

[Learn More](#)



The EU's one-sided dependencies in the supply of resources considered "rare" and "critical" are a growing concern.

Policy-makers at all levels are thinking about the potential effects of losing access to "Critical Raw Materials" (CRMs) – metals and minerals that are used in countless everyday and industrial products.

Major changes in the materials we need are also expected as we switch to digital and sustainable (green) technologies. Solar panels, batteries for electric vehicles, circuitry for drones and other mobile devices all demand increased supply of CRMs.

Industrial adaptation and trade agreements will be part of the solution. However, we must also develop new, innovative technologies that help alleviate supply issues, and reduce future dependencies.

[How are CRMs defined? What is RAWMINA doing to solve this challenge, and how do we support the Circular Economy? Read more...](#)

RAWMINA Project News



RAWMINA 12M Consortium meeting held in Barcelona (Spain) on May 10-11th 2022.

One year into the RAWMINA programme and finally our partners had the opportunity to meet in person, discuss progress and visit LEITAT's facilities in Terrassa (Barcelona, Spain).

At this point, our achievements include optimisation of the main processes, and samples have been shared from our mine sites in the Iberian Pyritic Belt region (mainly from [Tharsis](#) and [Cobre las Cruces](#)), processed and characterised. The generated data are being used to define the parameters of the RAWMINA pilot.

Public results are expected later in the project along with site visits, industry consultations and scientific conferences in Europe and South America - [follow us to stay up to date.](#)



Catch BRGM at [SFGP Congress 2022 in Toulouse, 7-10 Nov](#) (a talk: *Tungsten recovery from sulfide-containing W-tailings: beneficiation tests and bioleaching for sulfide removal*).

And from there all the way to Perth, Australia, at the [International Biohydrometallurgy Symposium \(IBS\) 2022](#) 20 Nov), for "*Bioleaching of mining wastes: inoculum selection*"



In South America, look for us (LEITAT Chile) at [Mineral Processing and Geometallurgy](#) (Oct 5, virtual) and [Copper 2022](#) (Nov 13, Santiago de Chile).



Online, you can find RAWMINA on the European Commission's [Raw Materials Information System \(RMIS\)](#), a knowledge gateway for CRMs and secondary raw materials policy, data and development in the EU.

You may have missed...



LEITAT and BRGM contributed to the [2-day symposium “\(Re\)Mining extractive waste, a new business?”](#) in May, organised by the NEMO, SULTAN-ETN, TARANTULA and CROCODILE projects. We look forward to more events and collaboration with this mine-waste valorisation community.

Read "[5 lessons learned](#)" from the [symposium](#) by the NEMO coordinator.



ELENTEC Ltd invited all to an open day at an abandoned mine in Frongoch, Wales, to see the achievements of [LIFE DEMINE project](#) on decreasing environmental impact caused by abandoned mine effluents in water bodies. [Everyone had a great time with kit demonstration, science seminar and tour of Frogoch Mine.](#)



Raw Minerals Open Innovation Helix: Waste Valorisation & Critical Raw Materials circularity

Critical Raw Materials (CRMs) are crucial to Europe's economy, and for the green and digital transitions. They form a strong industrial base, producing a broad range of goods and applications, both current and future. Research into sustainable, reliable and resilient sources of CRMs and transfer of process technologies into use has never been more important.

Our community of researchers, technologists, innovators and policy makers are active on the [Crowdhelix platform](#) [subscription service].

Other projects in our innovation community



Since 2018, [the NEMO project](#) has been developing processes for near-zero-waste recycling of low-grade sulphuric mine tailings, and are now operating [multiple demo process pilots](#) in North and East Europe. NEMO and RAWMINA align in several areas, including bio-leaching, and we can see how RAWMINA will complement NEMO's progress with our combined pilot, and our focus on Iberia and South America. [Read HaDEA's showcase of the NEMO project](#), explaining how they contribute to the circular economy in the construction industry and demonstrate use for mine tailings in concrete products as well as recovering CRMs from sulfidic residues.

RAWMINA's research and innovation consortium





This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No 958252