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FRAME is 20 months old and is now entering the phase of the critical technical deliverables

The highly motivated and dedicated FRAME team is making sure that the stage of data gathering, homogenisation and preparation is almost at an end. It is now time to manipulate that data and let it shed new light on the European potential for land based metallic mineral resources. However, some work packages such as WP4 ("Critical raw materials in phosphate deposits, and associated black shales") and WP7 ("Old mining sites revisited") are still working hard to generate that last bit of data to complete the analysis of the European phosphate deposits and the mineral potential of selected old mining sites.

The next 16 months of FRAME activities are going to see it gear up to unprecedented levels to produce innovative products such as predictability maps using machine learning techniques to highlight the resource potential of Europe and make exploration a less uncertain activity than it has been in the past.

All the while FRAME will interact within the consortium and the Mineral Resources Expert Group of EuroGeoSurveys as well as the other Raw Materials Projects to ensure complete and verified data.

Since the last newsletter FRAME focused on two main activities: Raw Materials Week 19 and the upcoming midterm review of the project in Ljubljana.

Raw Materials Week

Research and Innovation from exploration to the end-of-life of products remain crucial for the economic and social wealth of the European society.

MINDeSEA and FRAME are the GeoERA Raw Materials projects, in particular, that used the RMW's opportunity to delve into the collaboration options with innovation projects identified by the EC as success stories. Especially, developments in robotics convincingly provided potential for fruitful collaboration in research, monitoring of environmental issues related to seabed mining operations and even exploration of the shallow water environments.



Raw Materials Week provided an excellent and important network opportunity for experts covering academia, applied researchers, industry, decision makers and politicians from all aspects along the value chain of raw materials. For the fourth time, the event was hosted by the European Commission and addressed once more the key objectives of GeoERA Raw Materials in general. With its four research projects EuroLITHOS, FRAME, MINDeSEA and MINTELL4EU, GeoERA Raw Materials adds to an improved knowledge base ensuring the sustainable management of the subsurface by providing reliable and harmonised information.

Milan Grohol at RMW19 with the digital material of FRAME







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In addition, several satellite events organised by research groups and associations flanked the week. GeoERA Raw Materials, FRAME included, was invited to attend <u>EUMICON</u>'s Dinner Debate on "Future made in Europe" and the closing events of the EU-funded projects <u>MINLAND</u> and <u>ORAMA</u>.



FRAME and some of its collaborators at RMW19. (L-R) Pedro Delgado Arenas (IGME), Javier González (IGME; MINDeSEA project coordinator), Zoltán Horvárth (MBFSZ), Tom Hedal (NGU; EuroLITHOS project coordinator), Daniel de Oliveira (FRAME project coordinator), Antje Wittenberg (BGR; GeoERA Raw Material Theme coordinator), Frands Schjøth (GEUS), Håvard Gautneb (NGU), Katharina Lehner (RPF).

Midterm review

Stakeholders and GeoERA partners will meet in Ljubljana in the next few weeks to hear about the results so far and discuss how to run the last part of the programme to achieve the best results. FRAME will be in the limelight mid-March. Come and join us!

FRAME - Forecasting and Assessing Europe's Strategic Raw Materials Needs

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