



FRAME

FORECASTING AND ASSESSING EUROPE'S
STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS NEEDS

Newsletter

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Welcome to FRAME Newsletter #4!

It has been a busy time for FRAME in particular for WP8 (Link to the Information Platform). This work package is currently delivering the final data package to the Information Platform as well as testing of internal means in terms of data treatment and delivery.

Because data and data delivery is such an integral part of this work package, a workshop focusing on this topic was held in mid-September. A "Data Collection and Harmonisation" workshop with the work package leaders representing 7 EU countries (Portugal, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Finland and France) as well as members of Mintell4EU and several IT experts from various countries. This was a fruitful and useful workshop to streamline data for the supply of prospectivity maps for critical and strategic minerals. This workshop once again highlighted the connectivity and interaction between the Raw Materials projects and other current H2020 funded projects dealing with Raw Materials.



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Europe is largely dependent on raw materials markets and supply from international sources, a long mining history. FRAME WP7 investigates whether historic mine sites have the potential into Europe's future and not only the main commodities but CRM might still be contained in the remaining resources of those as well as in mining and processing wastes.

WP7 partners CGI, PGI and BGR together visit the historic mining area in the Czech Republic to collect more information on mine wastes and their potential for CRM

Kutná Hora

The polymetallic Kutná Hora ore district (Ag, Pb) located about 70 km E from Prague, represents characteristic Variscian vein type polymetallic mineralization in the Bohemian Massif. The vertical development of the mineralization shows similarities with ore deposits in the Freiberg area in Saxony. Mining activity can be traced back to the 10th century and continues until the 19th century in Kutná Hora. The area is known to contain Bi, Cd, In and Zn. Nowadays the mines are closed and flooded (since 1991) and the tailings pond from modern mining has been rehabilitated. Accessible dumps from mining activities exist in the area. From 1290 until 1991 Kutná Hora produced 2,500 t of silver. During the last mining campaign in the 20th century over 2.3 million tonnes with 2% of Zn and 0.4% Pb were excavated from the Turka mine in the northern part of ore district. The ore contained also up to 350 g/t Ag and 0.02 to 0.11wt.% Bi. It was calculated that the reserves and prospective resources contain 60

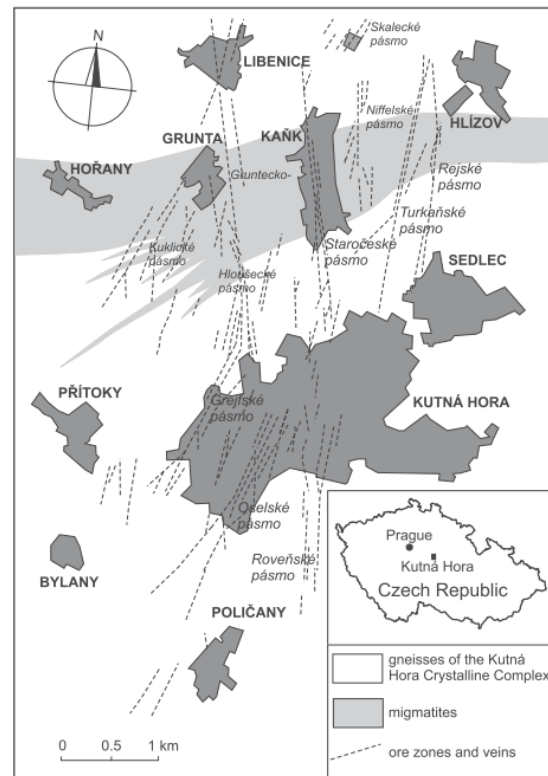


Figure 1: Schematic map of the Kutná Hora ore district

Today the Turka mine is rehabilitated by the state company DIAMO. Mine water with high content of As and other heavy metals is pumped to the surface for treatment before its release into a nearby stream.

Ancient mining activities are still influencing the landscape today. The collapse of a large mining chamber in the 19th century created an about 100 m long sinkhole, which is located in the village Kank.



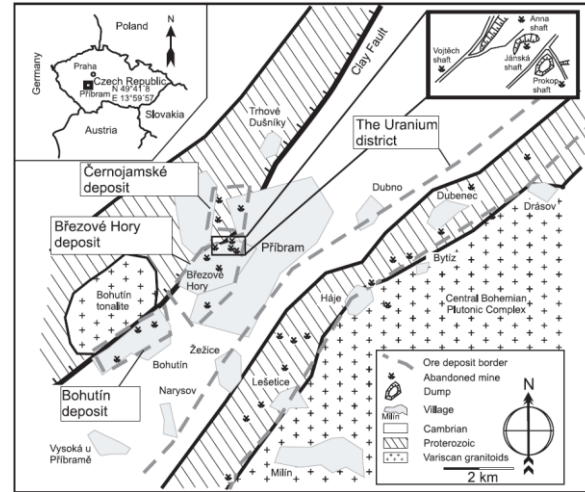


Figure 3: Schematic geological map of the Píbram district

The medieval adit St. Jiří is part of the historical exhibition in the Czech Museum of Silver and can be visited in the historic center of Kutná Hora. This adit was discovered during a hydrogeological survey.

Mining areas with polymetallic ores are rehabilitated, but the uranium mining left many dumps with an expected rest of base metals (CRM). The state company DIAMO is conducting a project for rehabilitation of these areas.

Píbram is located about 20 km from the world known polymetallic and uranium thermal deposit. The district contains perigranitic vein polymetallic deposits in two SW-trending zones which are about 25 km long and 1 km wide. The northern zone contains the polymetallic mineralization with Ag, Pb and Zn, the southern zone is mostly uranium, but with occurrences of polymetallic minerals.

The dumps with a total volume of over 25 million m³ of mining waste will be removed to one central dump for sorting the materials for base metals (CRM, U ores and building stones). In general, the entire area is well documented from the geological point of view, but there is only little information about the content of minerals in the dumps.

Polymetallic base metal ores with Ag, were mined from 11th century on, while uranium mining started after the 2nd World War. Potential CRM containing polymetallic ores were overlooked during the mining of U ores and were left on large dumps. At the end of the mining activity in 1991 the rehabilitation of this area began.

During their visit, the FRAME partners had the opportunity to see the radiometric sorting of the company Ecoinvest and a test facility of the company DIAMO, where sorting is based on the daily analysis of the rock.





7 - Brod Mining country with huge dumps

During the period between 1945 and 1991 the ore district produced more than 65,000 t of ore grade 1.34 %, 509 t of Ag (Ag ore grade 37,600 t of Zn (Zn ore grade 0.85 %), of 150 (Sb ore grade 0.25 %) and 48,432 t of U (max up to 100 kg U/m²). In total 23 km of shafts, 2,188 km mine tunnels were built. As the first in the world the depth of 1,000 m was reached in 1,875. The deepest shaft in the district was shaft No. 16 (1,850 m)



Figure 5 - Ecoinvest (company Ecoinvest)

Presently the only mining activity is from the company Ecoinvest. Annual production is 400,000 t of sorted and crushed building stone additionally 400 t of U ore (uraninite and antr

is extracted from the dumps and sent to the processing facility in Dolní Moravia for U extraction.

Today DIAMO uses former buildings of shaft No. central archive. The Mining Museum - known mineralogical collection and exposition



Figure 6 Native silver on the carbonate (Barbara veir

Acknowledgements

The participants of this field trip thank DIAMO allowing access to the mining objects and for detailed explanations. Many thanks to the Czech Museum in Kutná Hora and also to part of the GeoERA FRAME project this field trip supported by Czech Geology

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Preliminary prospectivity mapping on energy critical elements (Lithium, Graphite) in Europe

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The FRAME project is part of the H2020 (unclassified) occurrences in Europe. The platform and consist of partners from different geological surveys in Europe. A working group collected raw data related to energy critical elements from partners and partners countries across Europe (Gautneb et al., 2019). One main objective of WP3 is predictive targeting based on exploration tools and prospectivity assessments at continental scale for the targeted energy critical elements (Lithium, Graphite).

It aims at producing mineral prospectivity maps on geostatistical tools, of high potential in provinces covering all EU member states and neighbouring countries. These prospectivity assessments will benefit from the latest developments in "data driven" mineralisation allow mapping at continental scale, such as the "Cell Based Association" method (CBA). CBA is an alternative to GIS supported prospectivity methods. It has been developed to better manage uncertainties related to cartographic data (significant at continental scale) (more details methodology can be found in Tourlière et al., 2015). In addition, other methods will also be used: a Cell Based Association (CBA) method and hybrid fuzzy membership (WofE) model for mineral potential mapping generates fuzzy predictor patterns based on knowledge based fuzzy membership values and databased conditional probabilities applied to comparison of the results.

Lithium:

Lithium mineralisation can be categorised into: (Greisen); Li (Pegmatite); Li (rare metal granite); Li (sedimentary hydrothermal); Li (Brine) and

unclassified) occurrences in Europe. The distribution of lithium in Europe shows a strong cluster highlighting the Li potential of the Variscan south and central Europe.

Graphite:

Graphite occurrences can be categorised into different types; amorph, flake and unclassified. The classification carried out by WP5 in the project. Some of graphite occurrences occur in Archean or Proterozoic rocks in Fennoscandia, Ukraine as well as Austria and graphite.

Cobalt:

Cobalt can be found as associated elements in different type of mineralisation such as IOC laterite, magmatic-Ti-V associations, magmatic Ni-Cu-Co associations, sedimentary hosted elements etc. In Europe, most of the hosting deposits show clusters in the Nordic countries. In the part of Europe most Co mineralisation are associated with sedimented hosted to lateritic while in the countries Co mineralisation are associated with magmatic Ni / Fe-V and VMS deposits.

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NOBEL prize to Lion battery inventors

By Håvard Gautneb

The 2019 Nobel prize in chemistry was awarded to John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino "for the development of lithium-ion batteries." This is a very good example of how research is a long and wise process. Stanley Whittingham started in the 1970s to investigate on technologies that could lead to free energy. He discovered an anode made of Li metal with a strong property to release energy. Goodenough found out that even greater potential and more energy release was achieved by using oxide intercalated with cobalt. Akira Yoshino created the first lithium-ion battery in 1985, it used petroleum coke intercalated with lithium.

The first lithium-ion battery entered the market in 1991, instead of petroleum coke it used graphite material. Lithium-ion batteries have deeply affected our lives and our transition to a fossil free fuel has the greatest benefit to our environment.

This story and the technology that lie behind the batteries, starts with the 3 basic raw materials: cobalt and graphite, commodities that are all found in Europe. Batteries as well as their raw materials are presently for the most part produced outside Europe. The main aim of the FRAME project is to assess occurrences and potential for all raw materials in our fossil free future.

Link: <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/2019/summary/>



John B. Goodenough M. Stanley Whittingham Akira Yoshino
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