

# SCOTLAND'S MATERIALS DEMAND

Scotland's economy is **reliant on materials that are extracted from all over the world**. Right now, these materials are often extracted without proper consideration of local communities or environmental impacts. We are calling for policies that will reduce our need for these materials.

## IRON ORE

Used to make steel. Australia, Brazil and China supply two thirds of the world's steel

7% of global emissions come from steel production

In Brazil, two major dam failures from iron ore extraction sites within four years of each other have resulted in "immeasurable" damage, including the deaths of hundreds of people

## LITHIUM

Mainly comes from the "lithium triangle" in South America (Chile, Bolivia and Argentina), and Australia

Global demand is expected to grow by 600% by 2030

Used in batteries for electric vehicles and consumer devices

Lithium mining has consumed 65% of the water in the Atacama region in Chile, leaving little for Indigenous communities and nature

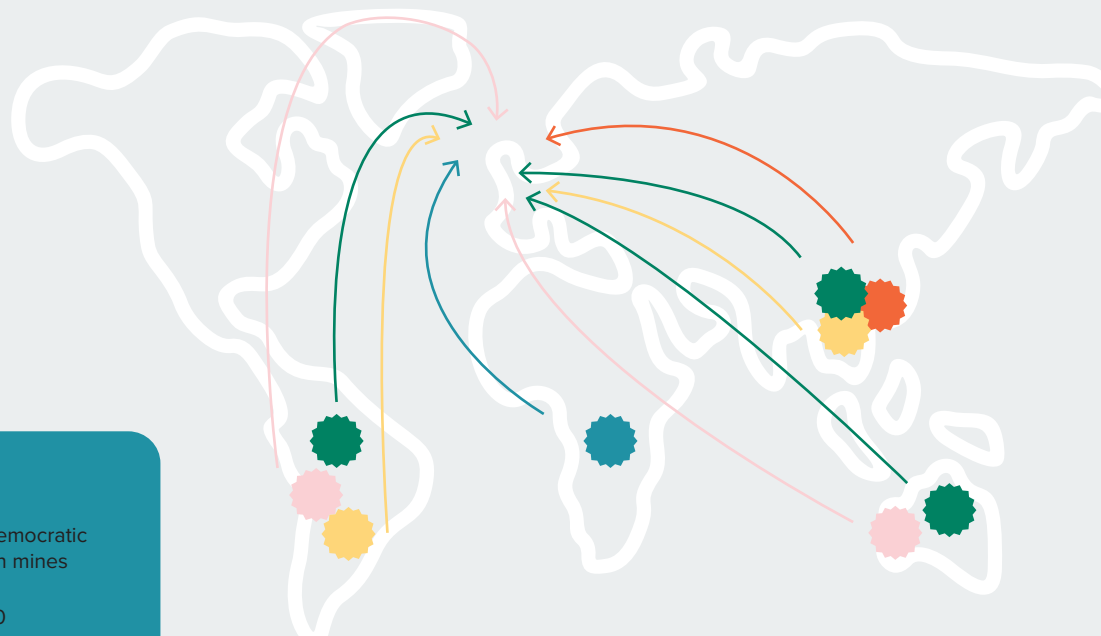
Less than 1% of lithium is recycled

## RARE EARTH ELEMENTS (REE)

76% comes from China, production expected to more than double by 2030

Used in magnets, essential to electric vehicles and wind turbine production

Huge toxic waste lakes created by REE production are poisoning people and wildlife



## COBALT

Over 60% of the world's cobalt comes from the Democratic Republic of Congo, where 40,000 children work in mines

By 2040, demand will be 5 times higher than 2010

Used in batteries for electric vehicles and consumer devices

## COPPER

UK sources mainly comes from South America and China

By 2050, we will need more copper than is available from mines and recycled materials

Used in wiring, power generation and transmission and electrification

In 2018, the International Institute for Sustainable Development said "Of all the metals, the aggregate potential for damage to human and environmental health is the greatest for copper"