Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060

Economic drivers and environmental consequences

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With Martin Benkovic, Jean Chateau, Rob Dellink, Elisa Lanzi U.S. EPA Sustainable Materials Management Web Academy Webinar, 23 May 2019







• The economic drivers of materials use

- Materials use projections to 2060
- Environmental consequences
- Conclusions and policy implications



Material Resources Outlook in a nutshell

- Global assessment (disaggregated to 12 large economies + 13 regions)
- 2060 time horizon
- 50+ economic sectors

60 materials

assumptions on demand and production

Demographics

Labour

Capital accumulation

Total factor productivity

Macro model **ENV-Growth**

Multisectoral model **ENV-Linkages**

Structural change

Material extraction data

Recycling technologies data

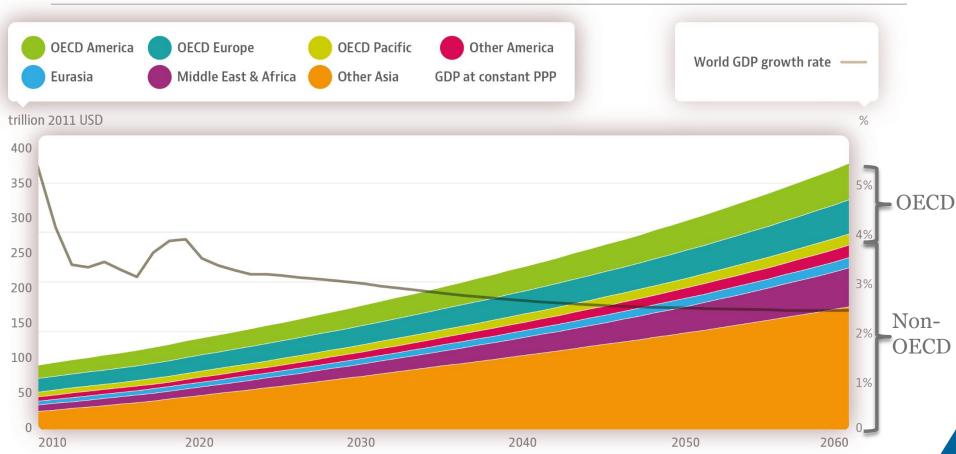
Economic projections

Materials use projections

Environmental impacts



Global economy to triple ...



...but global growth slows down

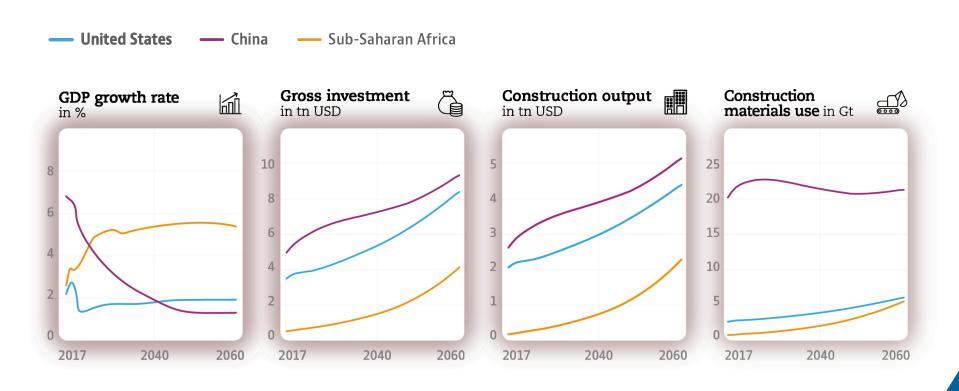


Living standards will converge to current OECD levels





Investment increases over time and construction follows



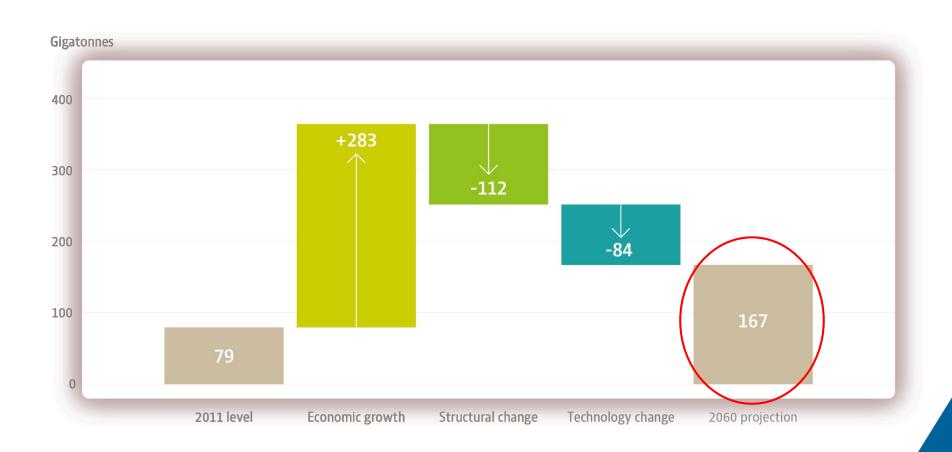


Structural change shifts activity away from material intensive sectors





Competing forces lead to near doubling of materials use





Growth in material use differs widely across materials



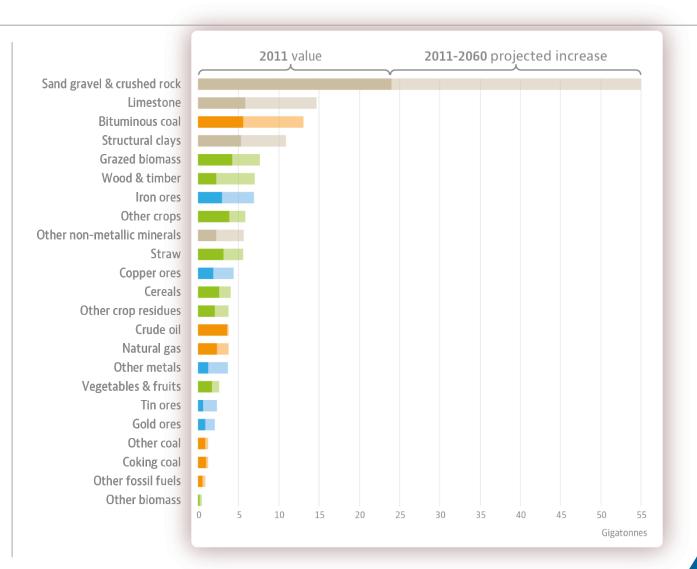






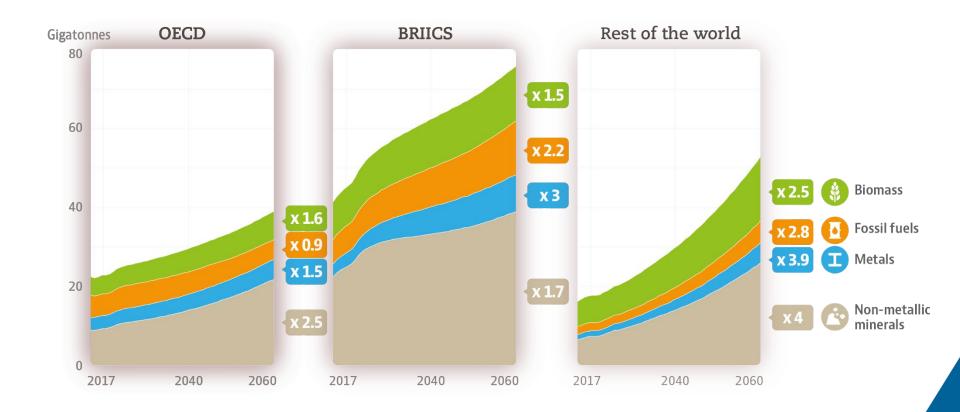
Non-metallic minerals





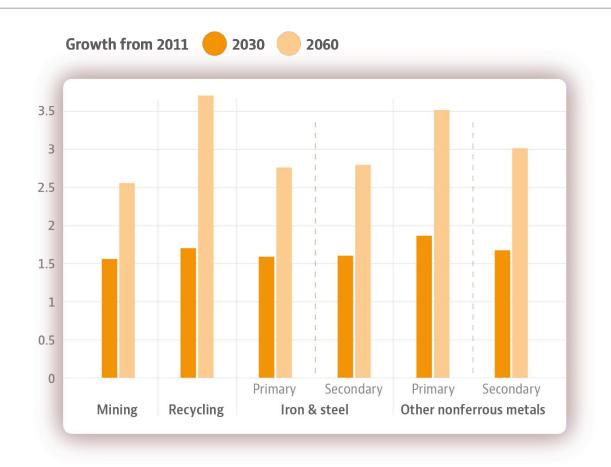


.. And across countries





Recycling grows faster than mining ..

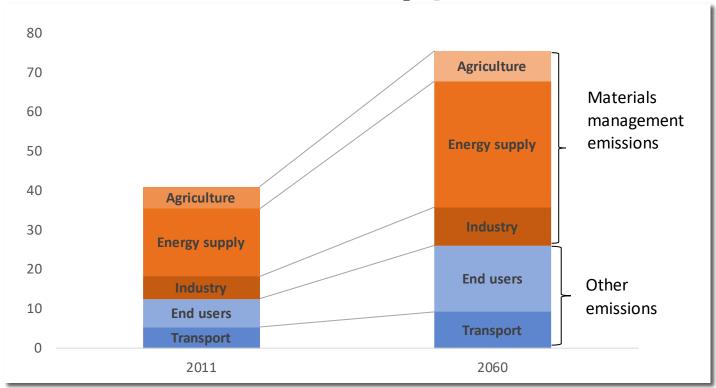


.... but remains a small share of the economy



Greenhouse gas emissions related to materials management will more than double

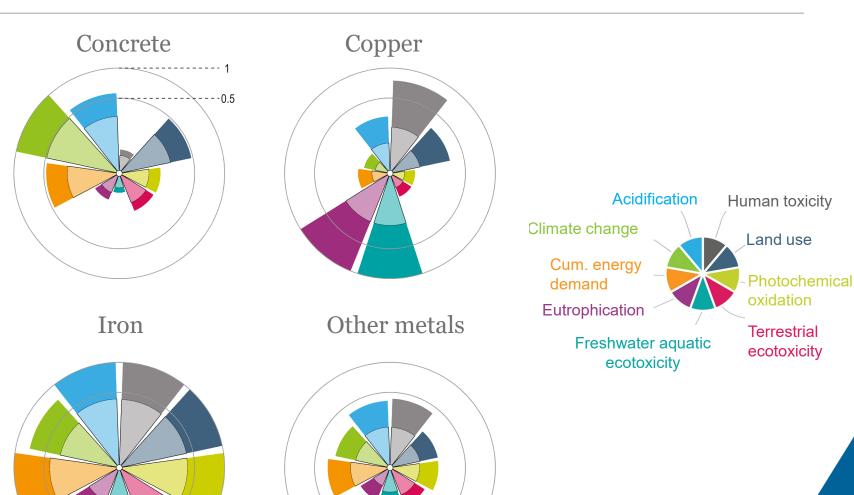




12% of total GHG emissions 12% of total GHG

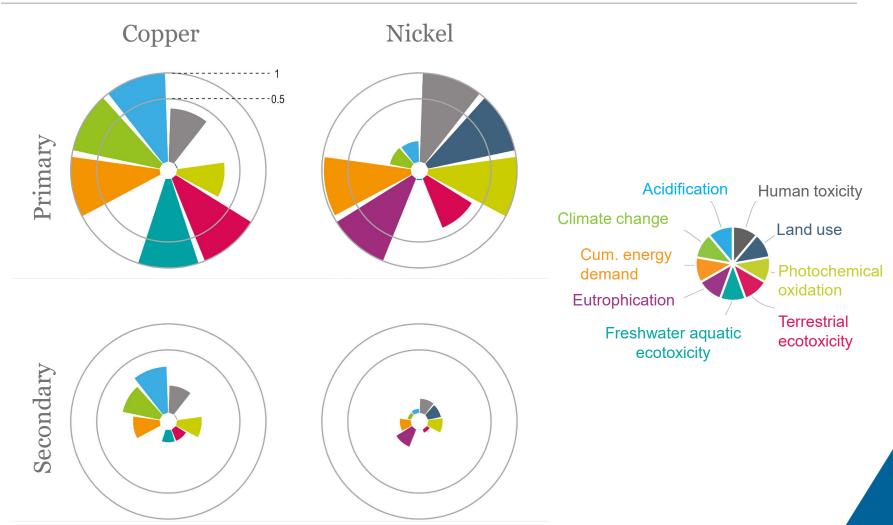


Environmental impacts from extraction and processing will more than double, but vary widely by material



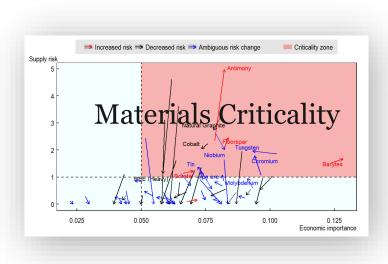


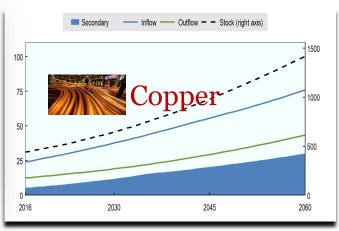
Primary materials cause much more environmental damage

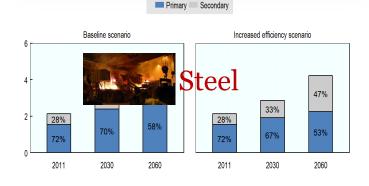


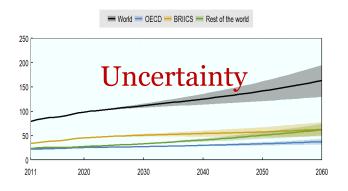


The Outlook also covers projections of ...





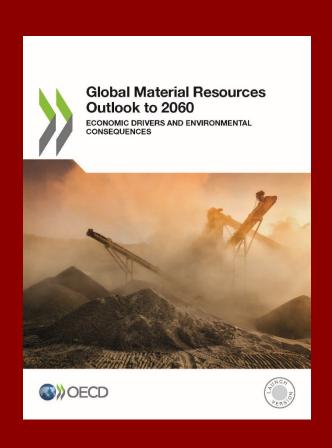






- Conflicting socio-economic trends will drive materials use. Despite structural and technological change, **global materials use will double** between now and 2060, translating into a **relative decoupling**.
- This exacerbates a **wide range of environmental impacts**, and is on a collision course with meeting the objectives of the Paris Climate Accord.
- While **recycling** becomes more competitive over time it is not sufficient to shift the balance between primary and secondary materials use.
- Given the stark differences between materials we need greater **granularity for resource efficiency policies**, motivated by environmental concerns.
- Greater **coherence** is needed between resource management and climate policies, as well as other policies, such as trade and innovation.

Thank you for your attention!





Find the report, highlights and explore the data at:

oe.cd/materials-outlook

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