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Sant'Anna  
Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa

## Il Progetto Tech4Lib:

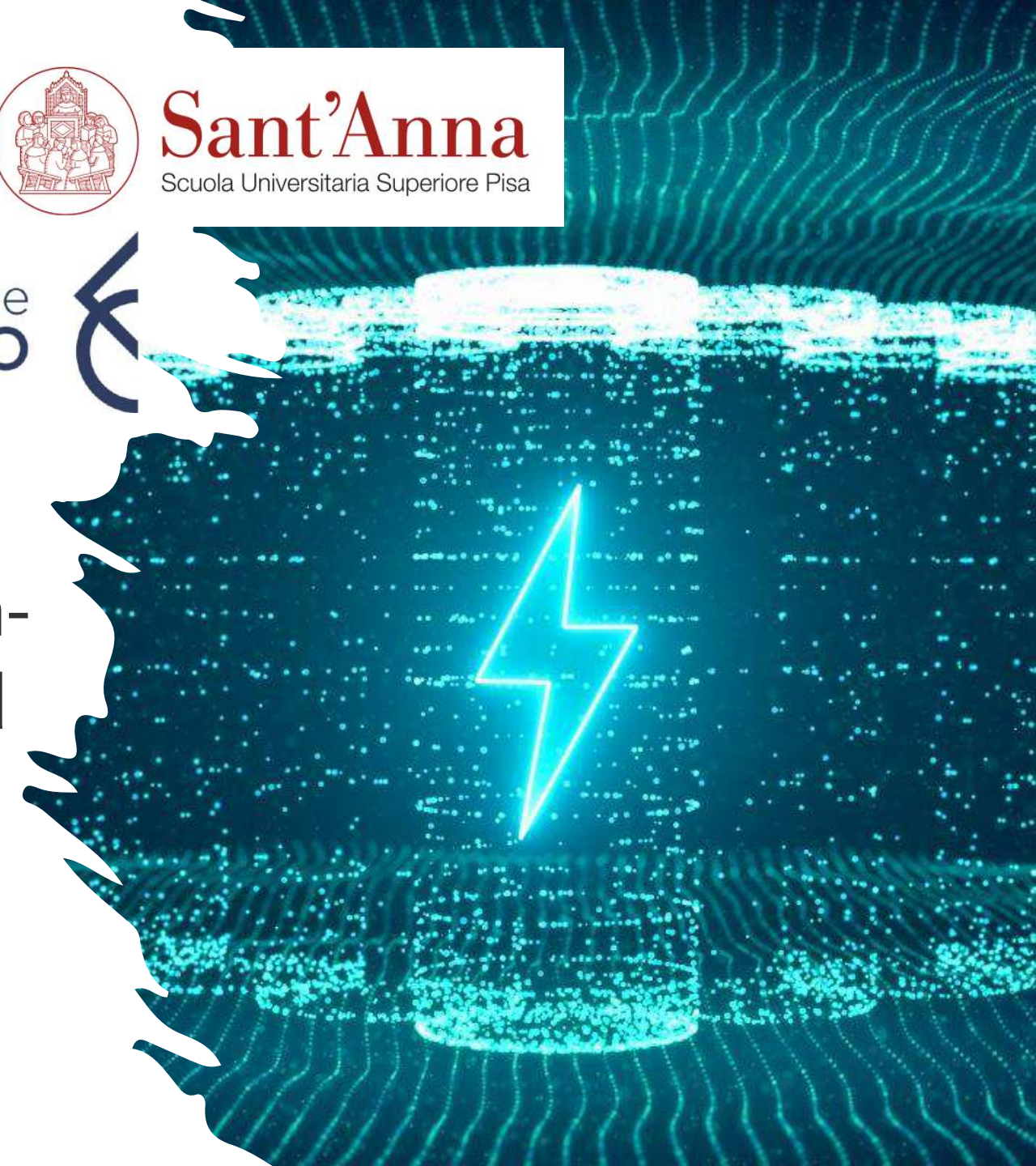
<https://tech4lib.unibs.it>

Fondazione  
**CARIPLO**

Low-energy technologies for  
circular economy of spent lithium-  
ions batteries based on enhanced  
microwave effects

Ivano Alessandri

INSTM and University of Brescia [ivano.alessandri@unibs.it](mailto:ivano.alessandri@unibs.it)



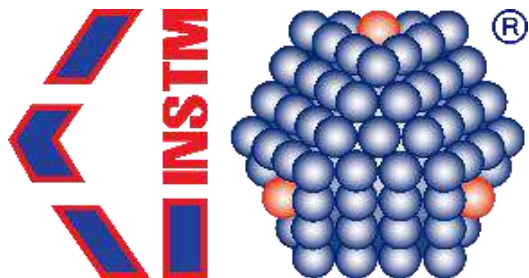
Fondazione  
**CARIPLO**



*Bando Economia Circolare 2022: promuovere ricerca per un future sostenibile*



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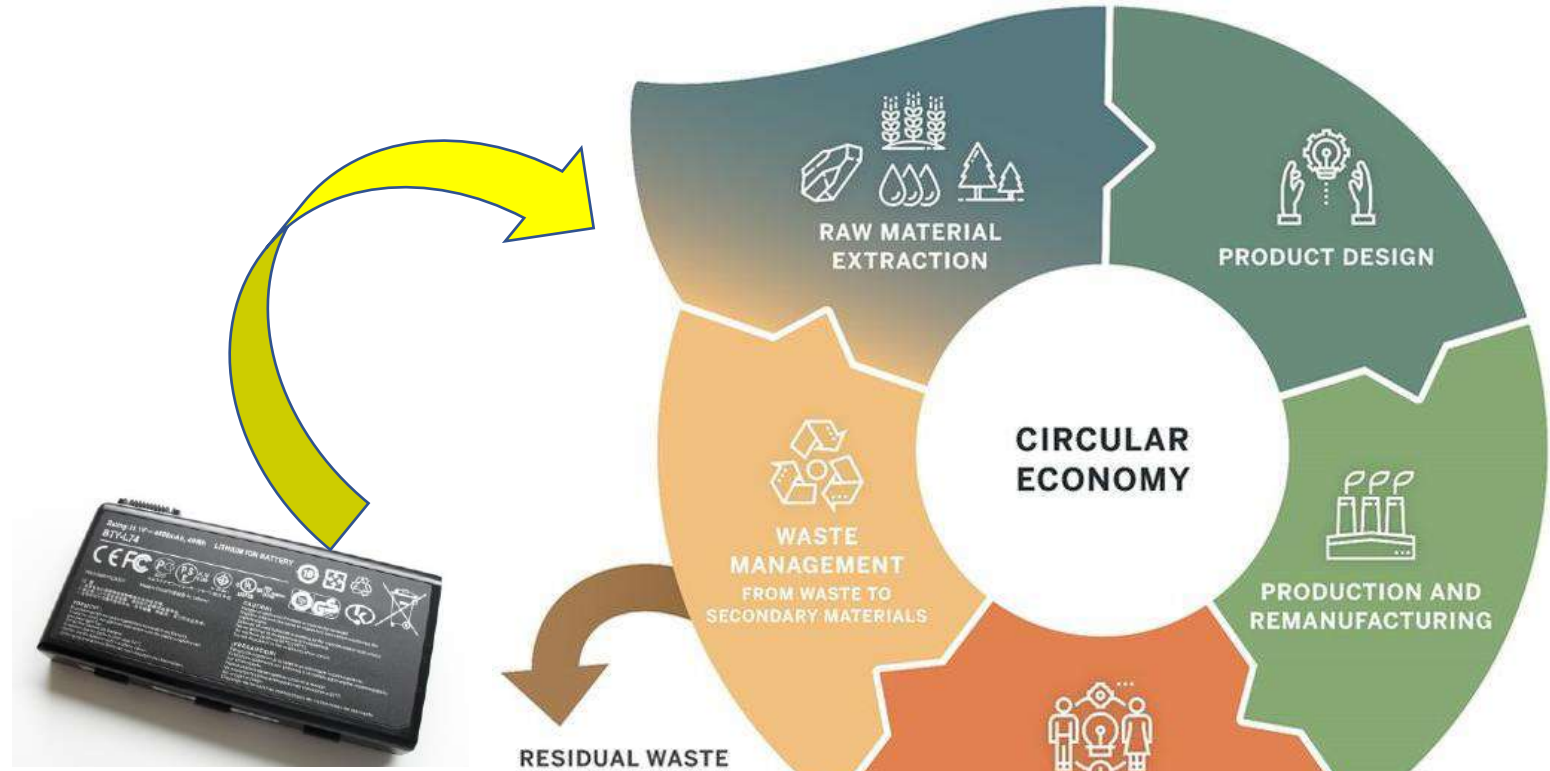
**Sant'Anna**

Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa

Coordinatore: Prof. Elza Bontempi, Università di Brescia

# Low-energy technologies for circular economy of spent lithium-ion batteries based on enhanced microwave effects

Recupero di CRMs

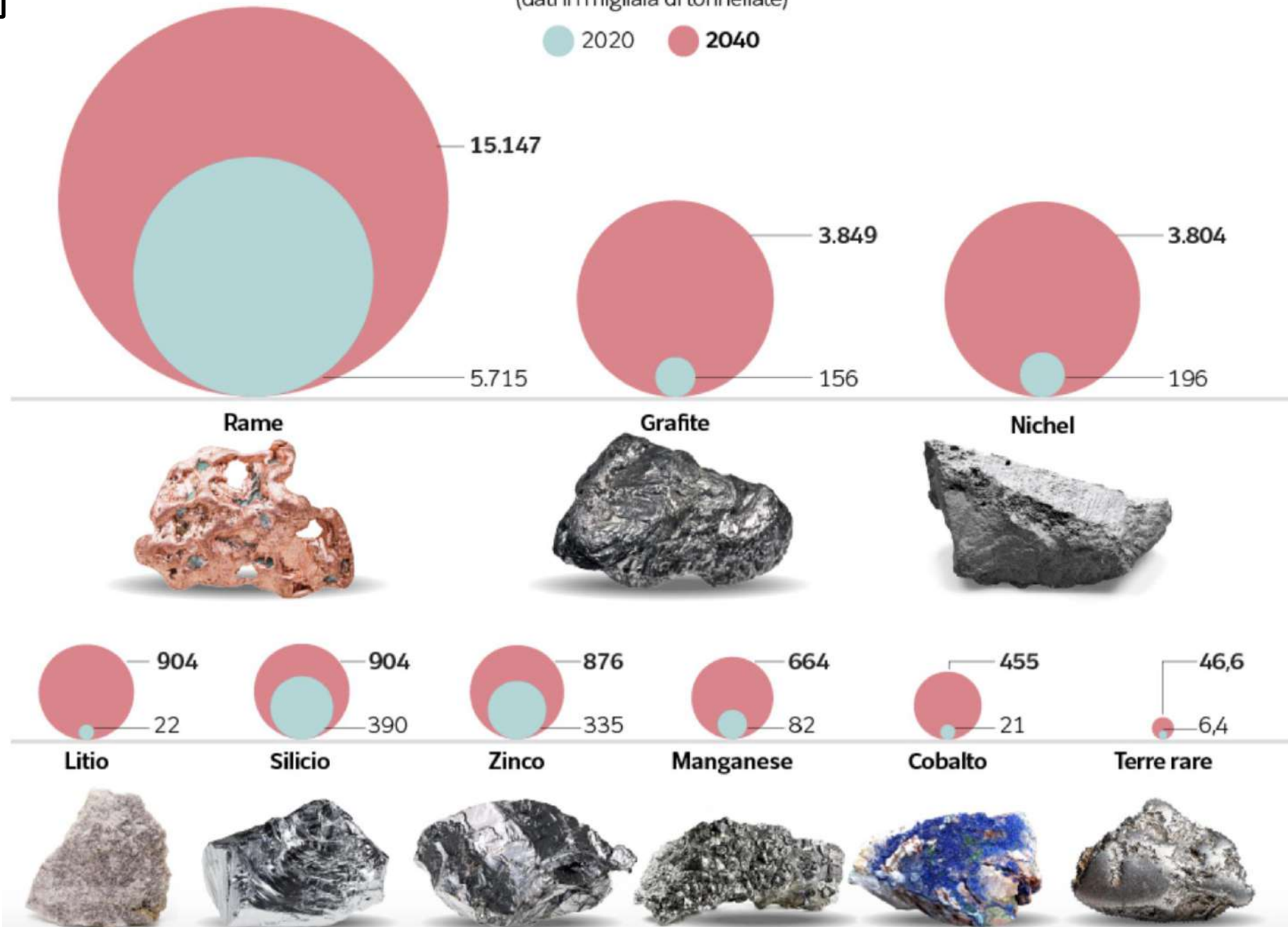


# Lo scenario

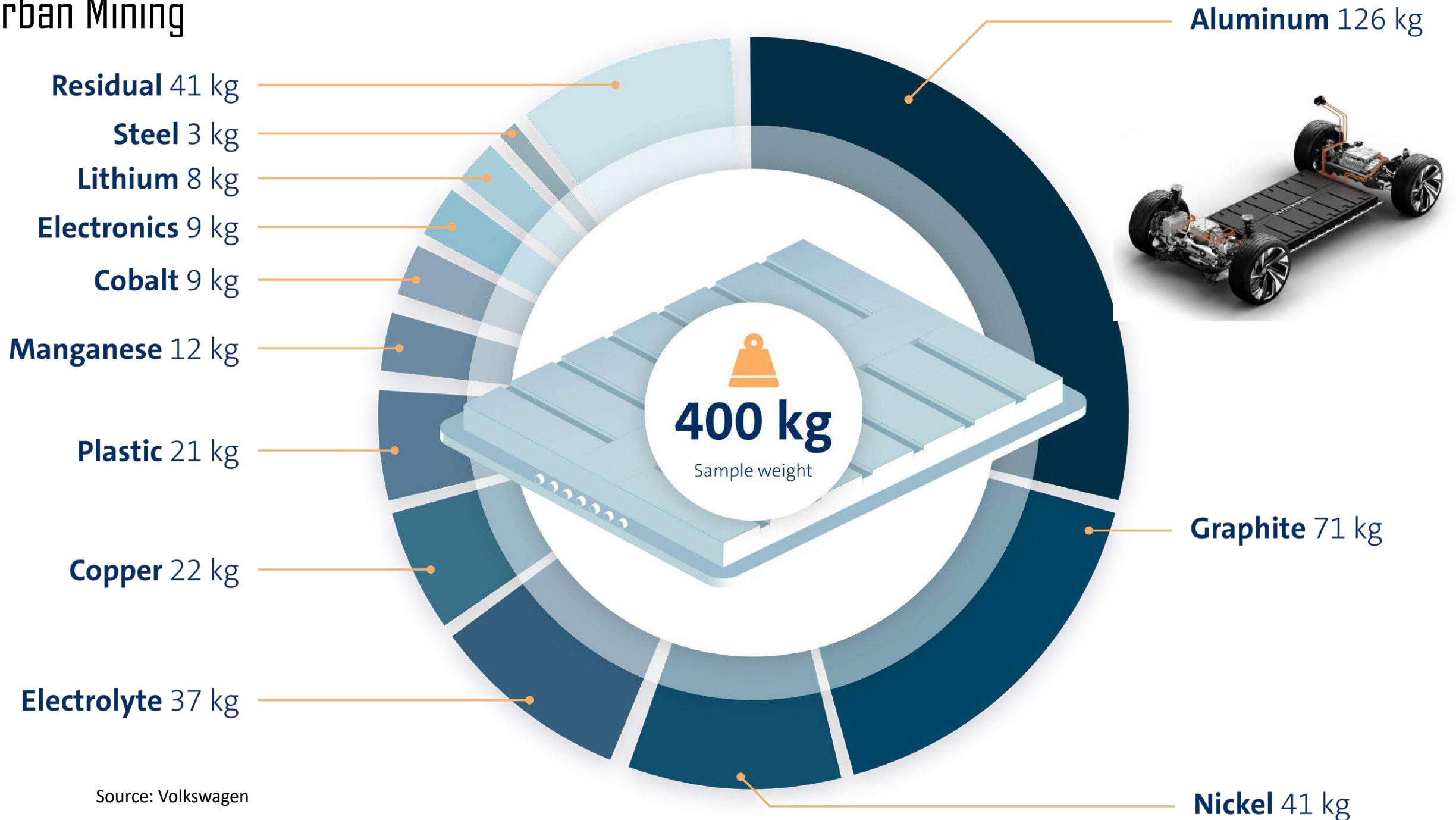
## Transizione ecologica e digitale: domanda di metalli

(dati in migliaia di tonnellate)

2020 2040

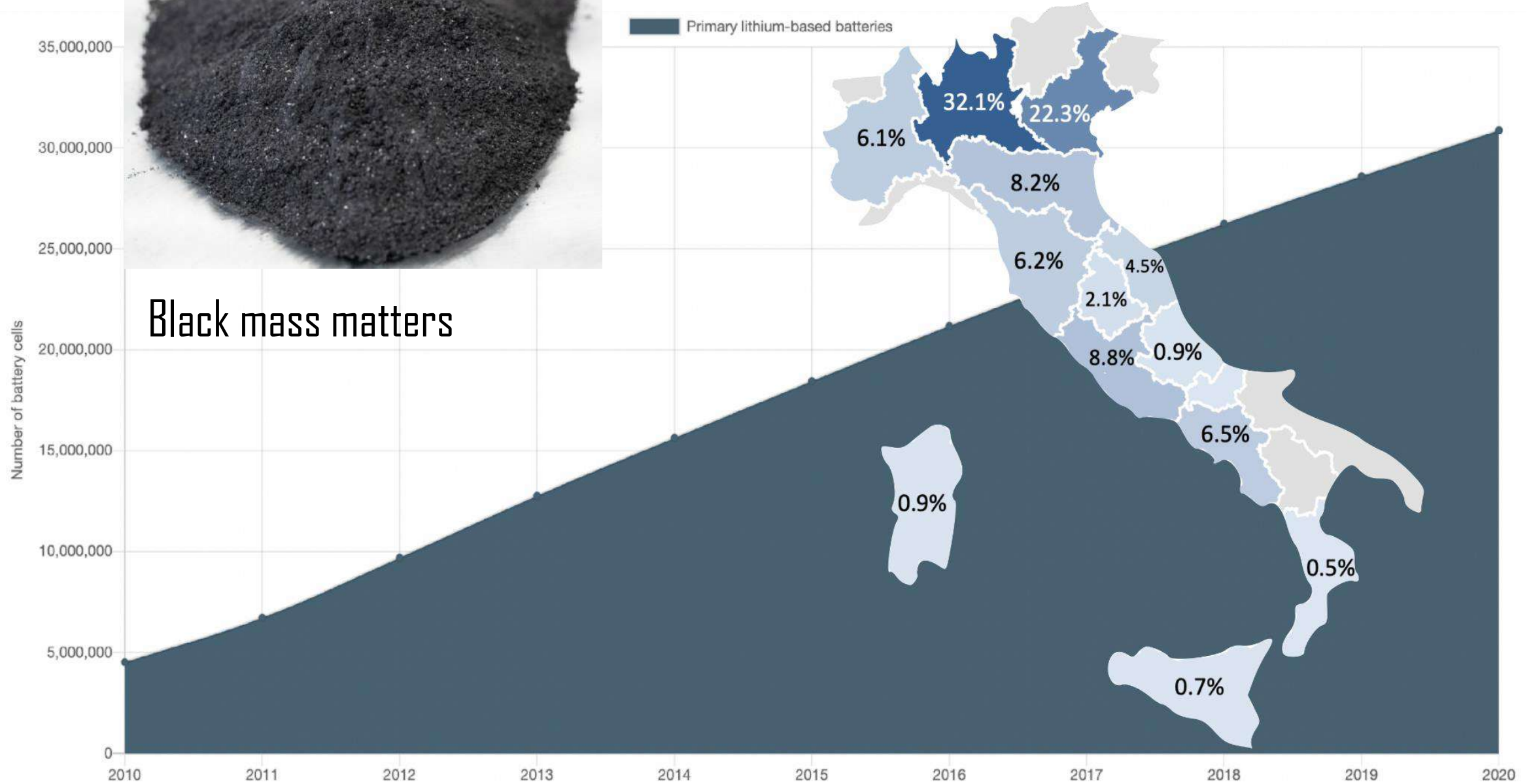


# Urban Mining

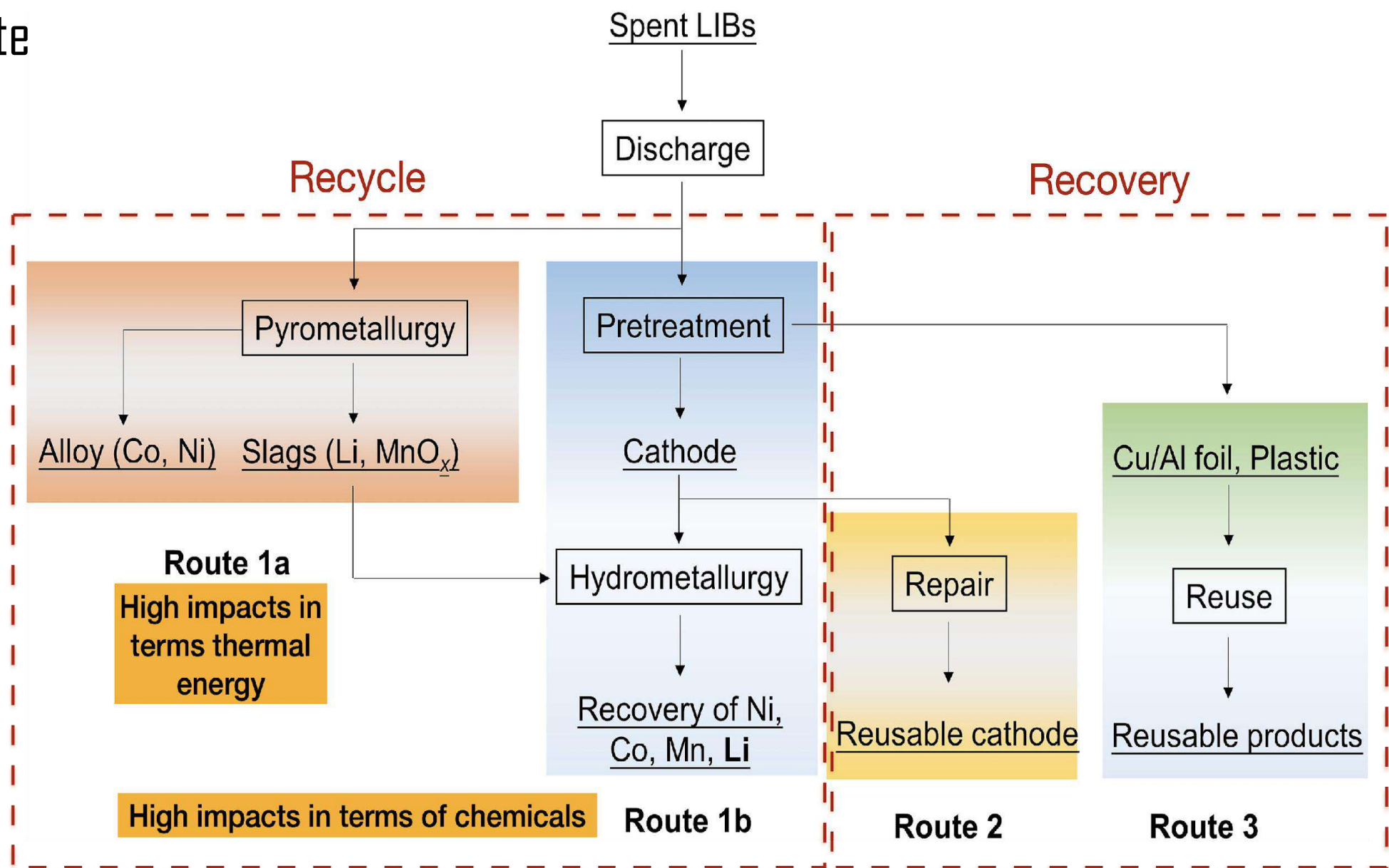




Black mass matters



# Stato dell'Arte



# Food waste

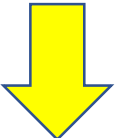
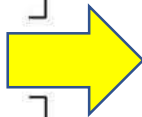
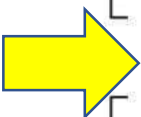
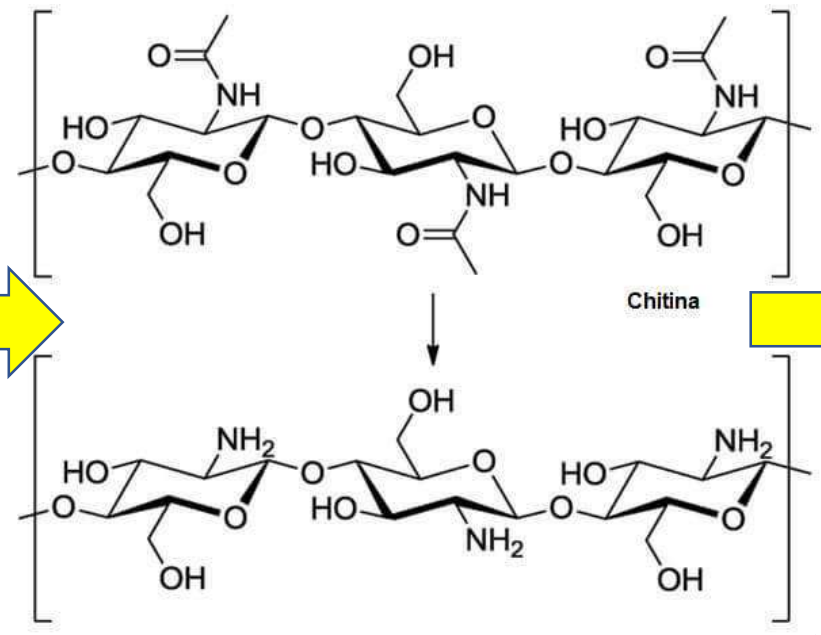
- 1,3 miliardi di tonnellate di rifiuti l'anno (circa 1/3 di quello che viene prodotto è sprecato)
- 3,3 miliardi di tonnellate di gas serra derivanti dai scarti alimentari
- Perdita di 936 miliardi di euro l'anno su scala globale



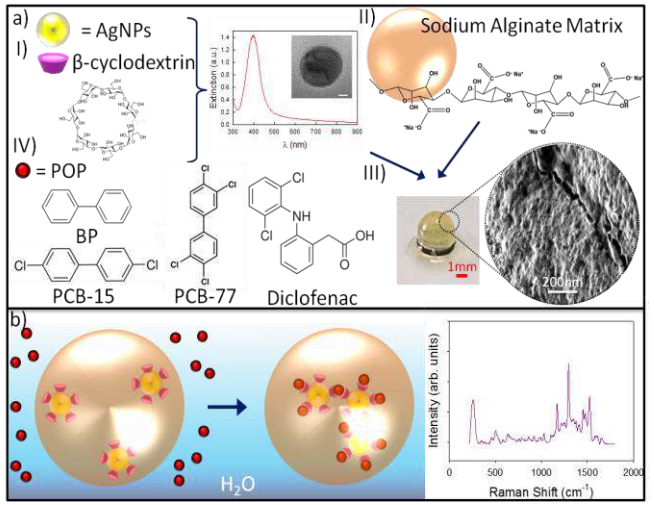
Esempio: nella sola UE, ogni anno 750mila tonnellate di **gusci di crostacei** diventano rifiuti



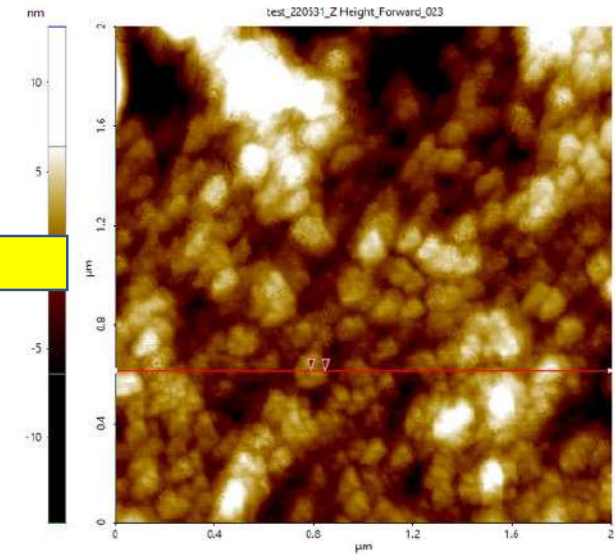
Chitosano estratto



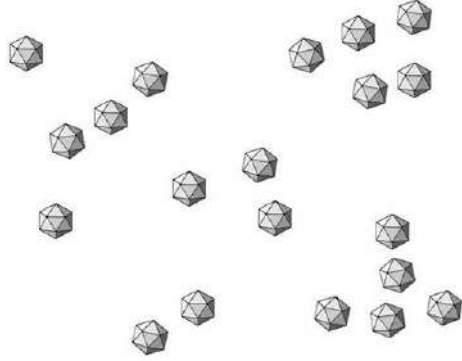
Hydrogel



Nanoparticelle



Tobacco Necrosis Virus

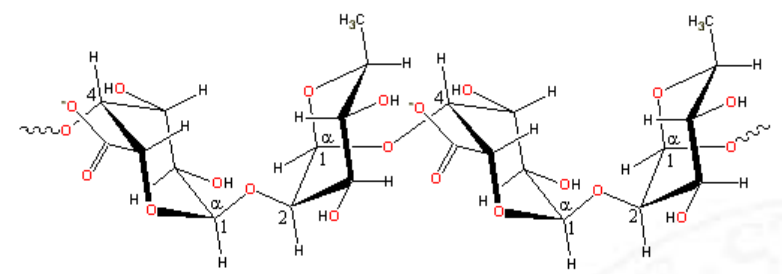


# All food waste-based membranes for Chromium(VI) removal

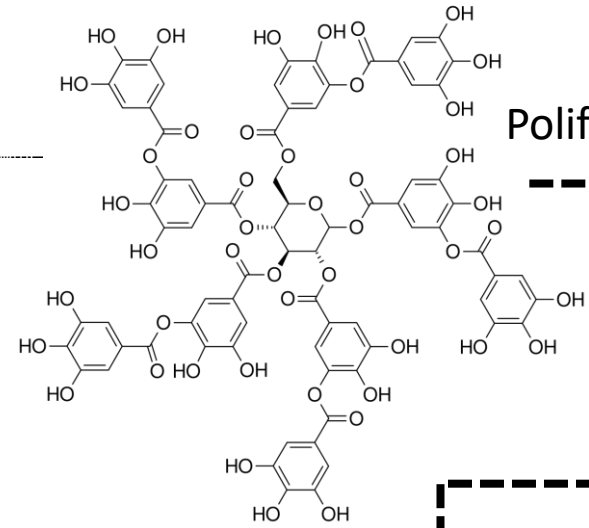
Irene Vassalini<sup>1,2,3</sup> · Marharyta Litvinava<sup>4</sup> · Ivano Alessandri<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

Europäisches Patent Nr.  
European patent No.  
Brevet européen n°

3587358



Pectina

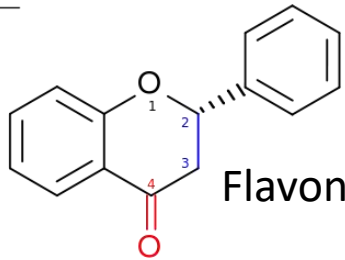


Polifenoli

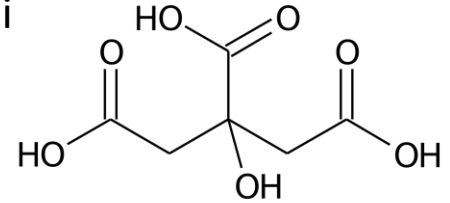


Acidi organici

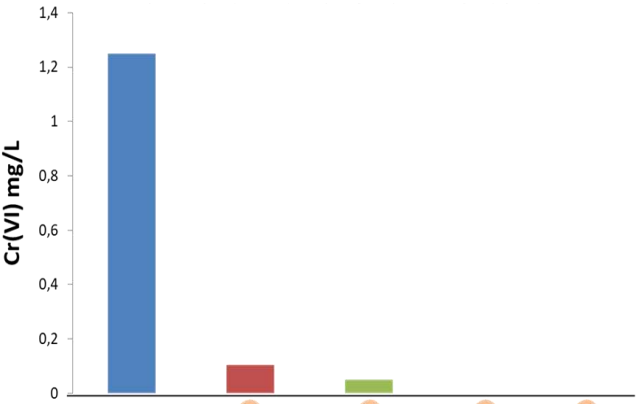
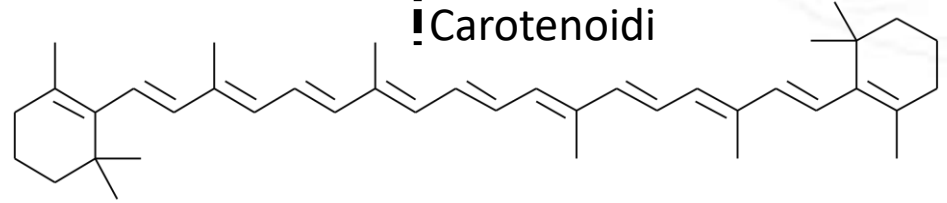
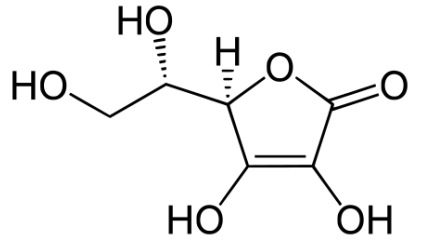
acido ascorbico 0.025 M  
acido citrico 0.075 M



Flavonoidi

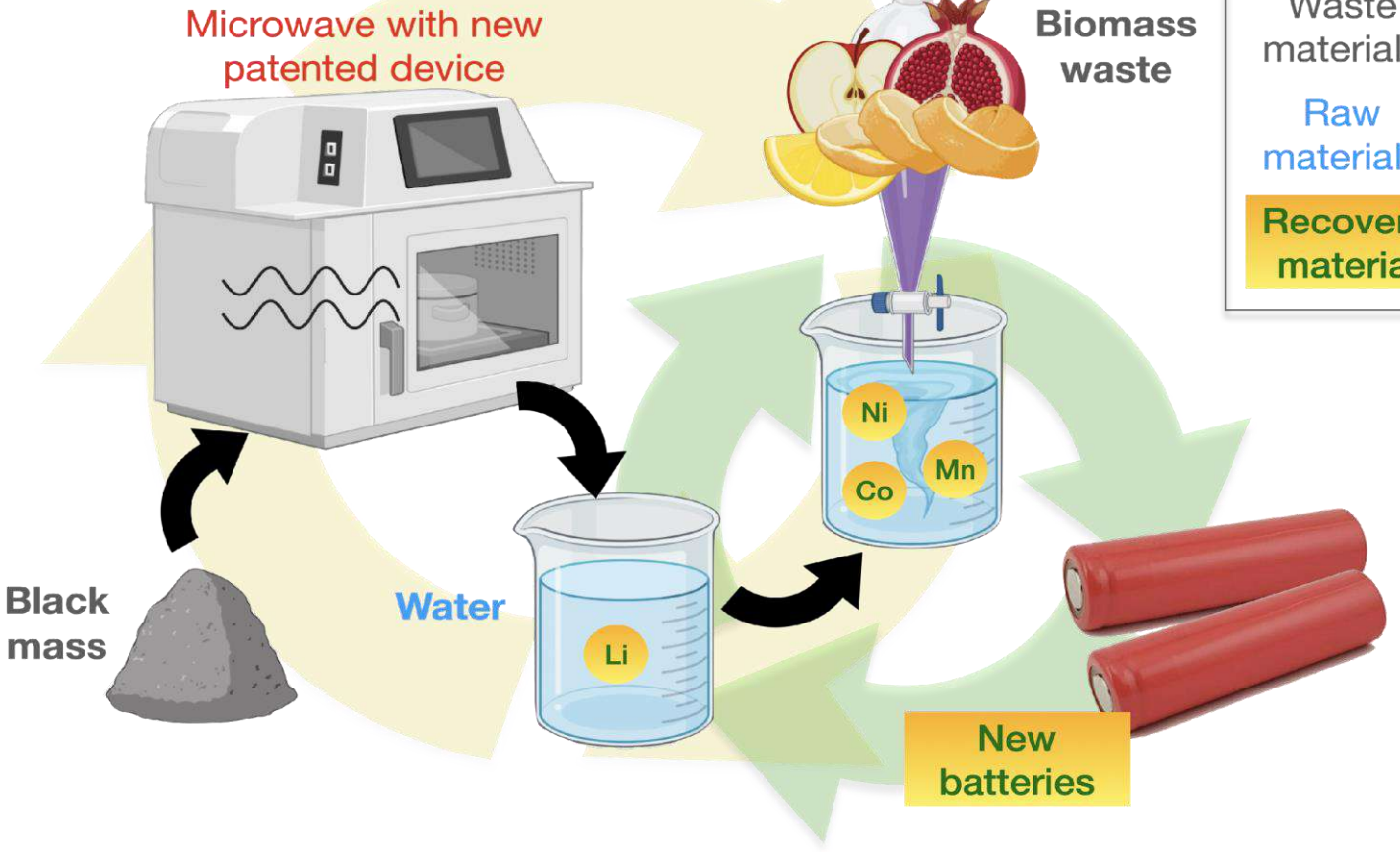


Carotenoidi





# Il Progetto



Video presentazione riciclo batterie

What is the Future of Lithium-Ion Batteries?

Copia link

The EU would require for electric vehicle batteries and energy storage in the 2030

2030

Sources: Company sources, Press releases, The Economic Times (by Statista)

YouTube

<https://youtu.be/mcPac1kUr88>

## WPs and TASKS

### **WP1: FROM WASTE to intermediate products**

TASK 1.1 - Waste collection and characterization

TASK 1.2 - MW treatments

### **WP2: from food waste TO VALUABLE PRODUCTS**

TASK 2.1 - Food-based green extraction/production of organic acids for metal leaching

TASK 2.2 - Recovery of metals from MW-treated Black mass

### **WP3 - Impact assesement**

TASK 3.1 - Key performance indicators (KPIs) optimisation

TASK 3.2 - Sustainability Assessment: technology state of art and evaluation of DNSH principles

TASK 3.3 - Comparative LCA analysis

Task 3.4 - Market analysis for an industrial scale up

### **WP4: Project management**

TASK 4.1 - Project start /Kick-off meeting

TASK 4.2 - Coordination and monitoring of the activities

TASK 4.3 - Expenses monitoring

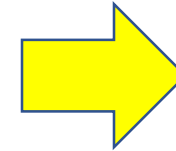
### **WP5: Project comunication and dissemination**

TASK 5.1 - Project website and logo

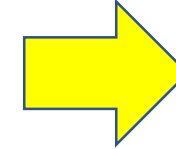
TASK 5.2 - Management of social platforms, e-newsletter

TASK 5.3 - Promotional materials

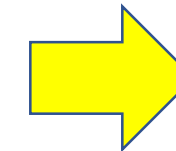
TASK 5.4 - Scientific publications



UniBS



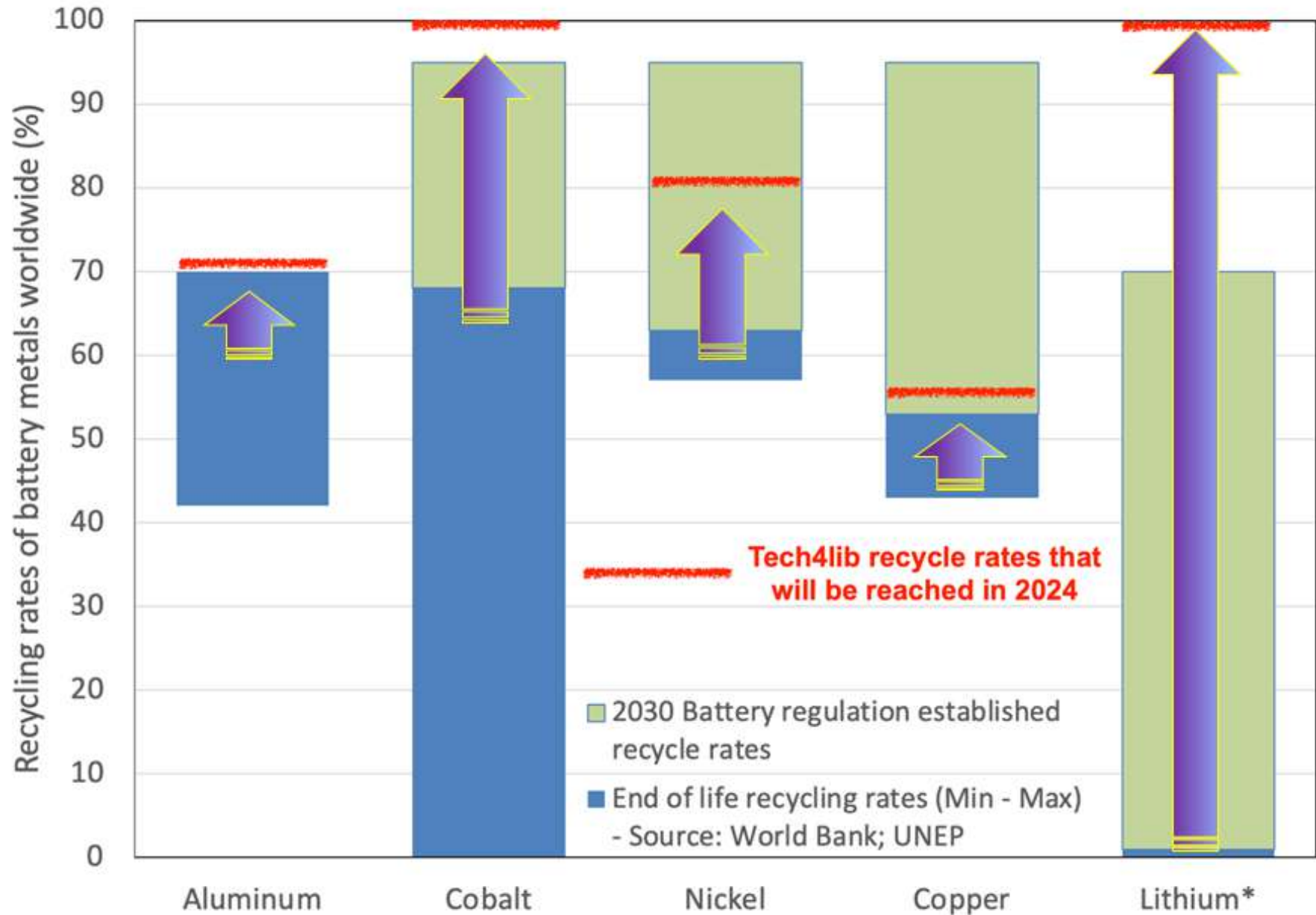
INSTM



S.S.S.Anna

*7 Giovani Ricercatori!!!*

# Obiettivi



# Tech4lib

## The Approach

Establish a circular economy approach for the raw materials necessary for LIBs production

Implement raw materials recovery by valorising different waste streams



## The Solution

**OBTAIN CARBOTHERMIC REACTIONS AT LOWER ENERGIES BY A NEW MICROWAVE TECHNOLOGY**

**Extract Li by using only a water solution**

**Extract the other metals (Li, Co, Mn, Ni, Cu) by combining leachate streams obtained by food waste**



## The Scenario

**INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR RAW MATERIALS** (Li, Mn, Co, Ni)

2019: Significant environmental impact and high amount of waste

2030: Risk of reserves exhausted  
Li – ion demand +30% each year



## The Impact

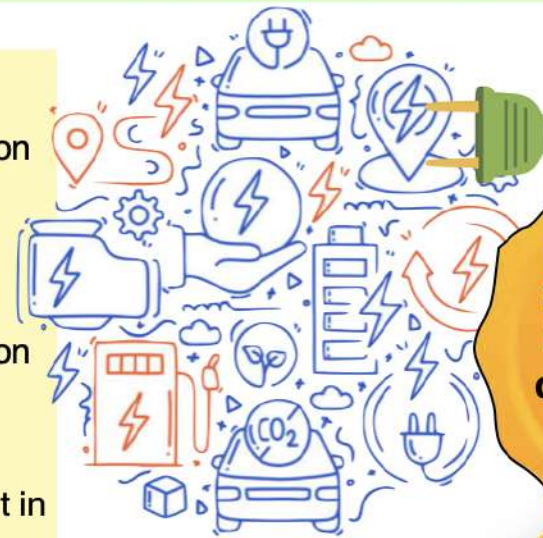
**Mining:** Support urban mining, reducing the dependence on imported critical raw materials

**Technology:** New know-how in secondary raw materials recycling, promote a circular battery industry and information for “battery passports”

**Refinery:** Reduced carbon footprint, more recycled content in new batteries second life

**Fulfill regulation:** Better recycling of waste batteries, **set higher recycling targets (>95% for Li and Co recovery)**

**Ecological transition:** enable to reach target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030



**Winner of the SusCritMOOC business idea competition on Critical Raw Materials**

# Tech4Lib “Low-energy technologies for circular economy of spent lithium-ions batteries based on enhanced microwave effects”

