



Disclaimer

Participants are advised to **consult the official documents** on the use of United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC).

All **existing legal frameworks** in the European Union **remain binding** and are not affected.

Any information provided as part of the training are **recommendations** and **suggestions**.

The use cases are **for training purposes only** and are either based on publicly available information or are fictitious to illustrate certain facts.

The figures and findings presented here will not replace own assumptions or override any official products.

All information has been compiled to the best of knowledge and belief at the time of writing, but may not be error-free. Yet, recent developments may not have been taken into account and any errors are human. Hence, the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the material can not be guaranteed.



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GSEU WP2 TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSE

CRMA update

Level 2

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Ljubljana, 14 May 2024

www.geologicalservice.eu



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09h30 – 09h45

CRMA update

- News / recall / update
- Motivation / benefit / next steps
- Strategic Projects

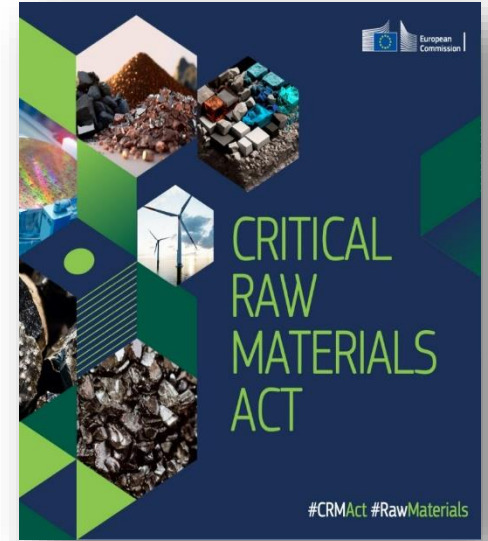
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CRMA - news

- The **final approval** by Council of the EU achieved on **Monday, 18 March 2024** for a strategy to secure a sustainable supply of RM critical for the green transition, digital industries, and defence sectors.
- The CRMA is published in the **Journal of the EU on 03 May 2024** and hence enter into **force on 23 May 2024**.
- On 15 March 2024 the 2nd cooperation agreement with Greenland was signed that incl. a €22.5 million programme to invest in energy and critical raw materials.
- Further readings:
 - [Regulation - EU - 2024/1252 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)
 - https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/green-deal-industrial-plan/european-critical-raw-materials-act_en,
 - <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/critical-raw-materials/>,
 - https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_24_1425
 - [Critical Raw Materials Act \(unece.org\)](#) <https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/10.%20Milan%20Grohol.pdf>





Article 7, 1b Application and recognition [SP]

- The Strategic Project [SP] application shall include:
 - a classification of the project according to the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources, supported by appropriate evidence;

Article 19, 6 National exploration programmes

- Member States **shall** make maps that show **basic information on mineral occurrences containing critical raw materials** gathered through the measures set out in the national programmes referred to in paragraph 1 publicly available on a free-access website.
- **That information shall, where applicable, include the classification of the identified occurrences using the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources.**
- More detailed information, including processed geophysical and geochemical data at appropriate resolution and large scale geological mapping, shall be made .

Article 21, 1 Information obligations for monitoring

- Member States **shall**, in their reports submitted pursuant to Article 45, provide information to the Commission on new or existing critical raw material project on their territory that is relevant regarding.
- **Article 20(1), point (d), including a classification of new projects according to the United Nations Framework Classification of Resources.**

Article 27, 8 Recovery of critical raw materials from extractive waste

- The activities referred to in paragraph 7 shall be carried out within the limits of national legal systems pertaining to mineral resources, waste, property rights, land ownership, environmental and health impacts and any other relevant provisions.
- Where such factors inhibit the activities, the Member State authorities shall seek the cooperation of the operator or owner of the extractive waste facility.
- The results of the activities referred to in paragraph 7 shall be made accessible as part of the database referred to in paragraph 4.
- **Where possible, the Member States shall include in the database a classification of the closed extractive waste facilities according to the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources.**

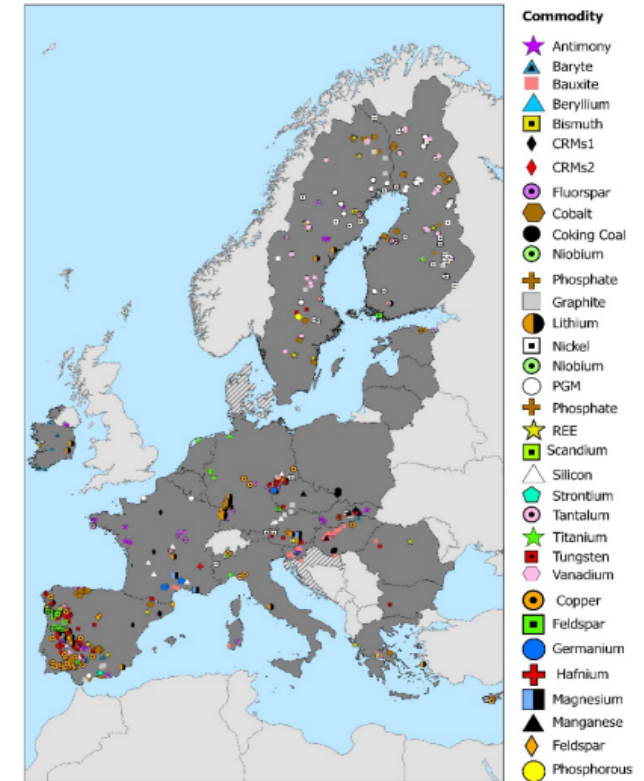


update

Main results

- 1246 projects from 22 countries, with 85% validated by Member States
- 28 critical raw materials / 15 strategic raw materials and 11 other raw materials
- **1073 projects (86%) classified using UNFC from which 256 are classified as viable or potentially viable.**
- 116 advanced projects not classified with UNFC but are at operational, feasibility or pre-feasibility stages.

EU database of CRM projects (2023)



Data gathered by the Commission with Member States





UNFC is an obligation in 4 of 5 domains

Risk mitigation

- Strategic stocks
- Joint purchasing platform

Risk monitoring

- Criticality assessment
- Stress tests
- Early warning system
- Foresight
- Supply bottlenecks analysis
- Projects monitoring **UNFC**

Critical Raw Materials Act

Strategic projects

- Extraction, processing, recycling, substitution; **UNFC**
- In the EU and outside;
- Faster permitting and judicial procedures, help with financing and off-takes

Circularity

- National programmes
- Recyclability of magnets
- Extractive waste **UNFC**

Exploration

- National programmes
- Database **UNFC**

PRIORITIES

CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS

- Whole EU economy

STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS (SRM)

- Key for strategic technologies (green, digital, defence and space)

2030 BENCHMARKS

SRM supply security

- extraction capacity >10%
- processing capacity >40%
- recycling capacity >25%

Diversification of supply

- <65% from a single third country.

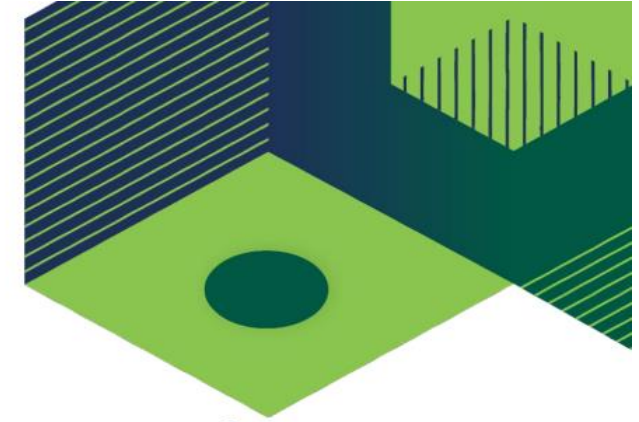




Why UNFC in CRMA?

UNFC is simple to use and allows us to

- **Compare different resource projects** (minerals, secondary raw materials including EoL, hydrogen, renewable energy ...)
- **Classify the projects along value chain** from exploration, mining, processing and recycling
- **Assess environmental and social performance of the projects**
- **Monitor development of projects over time**
- **Transpose information from a wide range of reporting systems with No extra burden for users**





The Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

Signed into law by the European Council, entry into force in early May 2024

Projects of 'strategic importance' to be fast-tracked in terms of permitting and financing

€6 billion funds established by France, Germany and Italy (and €30 million by Ireland)

How will the projects be evaluated and selected?

ERMA has been using the UNFC classification for decision-making (internal evaluation and project selection)



EU Critical Raw Materials Act and UNFC



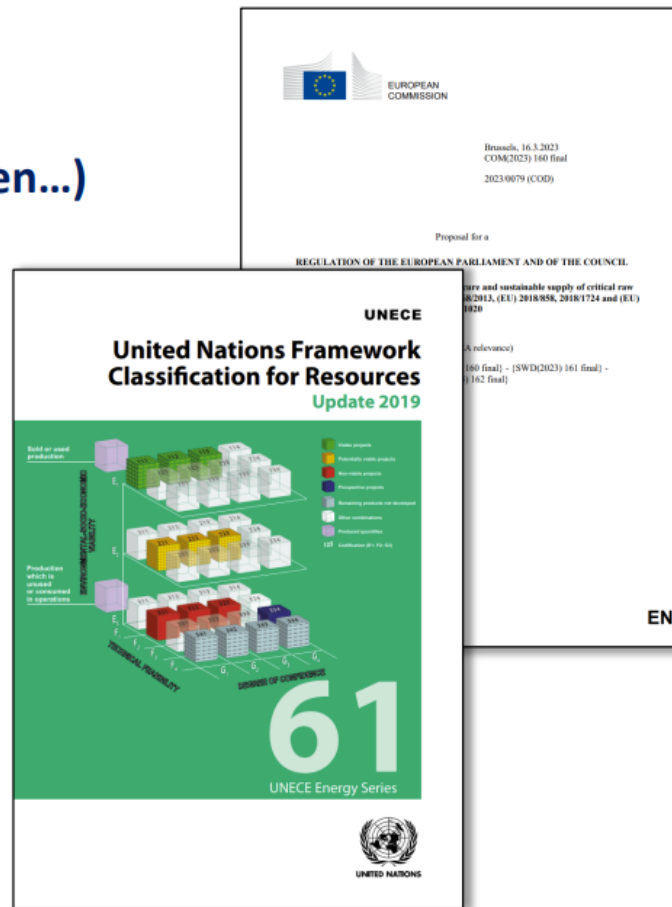
UNECE

UNFC supports the CRM Act and its objectives by:

- Comparing different resource projects (minerals, secondary RM, hydrogen...)
- Classifying the projects along value chain from exploration, mining, processing and recycling
- Assessing environmental and social performance of the projects
- Bridging information from a wide range of reporting systems
- Monitoring development of projects over time

UNFC opted as the classification tool in the CRM Act, for:

1. STRATEGIC PROJECTS
2. EXPLORATION
3. MONITORING
4. EXTRACTIVE WASTE





UNECE in support of EU CRM Act

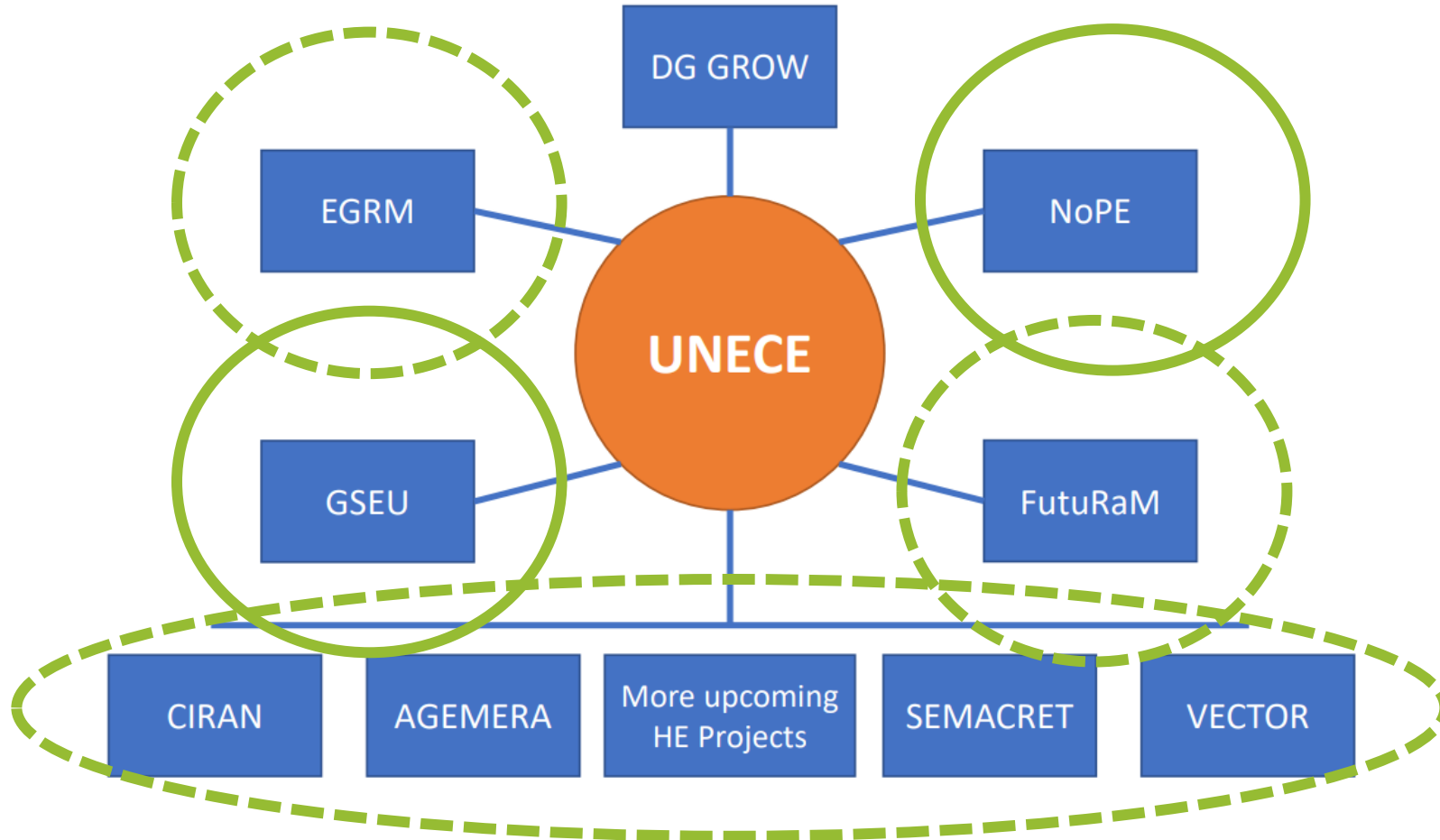
With the ultimate goal centered around ensuring the implementation of the CRM Act with quality UNFC reporting in EU as per the act's UNFC provisions. UNECE's aims to:

1. Support EU Member States and industry in **capacity-building**, including UNFC trainings and workshops **on request**
2. **Support DG GROW with implementation of the Act**, particularly on UNFC-related activities (e.g., templates)
3. **Coordinate UNFC-related activities** (including networking of UNFC-related EU projects)
4. Propose **quality assurance and control** in the near term, before smooth handover to ICE-SRM EU (via EGRM and CBB)
5. **Support ICE-SRM EU**
6. **Contribute to the comparability** of reporting at EU level





UNECE Network with stakeholders and UNFC-related HE Projects




EGS Members are well represented





Strategic projects under the CRMA

Strategic raw materials are crucial for the success of the green and digital transitions as well as the resilience of the defence and aerospace sectors.

The European [Critical Raw Materials Act \(CRMA\)](#)  designates strategic projects to increase EU capacity to extract, process and recycle strategic raw materials and diversify EU supplies from third countries.

Strategic projects make a meaningful contribution to the security of the Union's supply of strategic raw materials. They are or will become technically feasible within a reasonable timeframe, showing expected production volumes, and implemented sustainably with a sufficient estimated confidence level.

The Commission considers strategic projects of public interest due to their importance in ensuring the security of the supply of strategic raw materials and safeguarding the functioning of the internal market.



How to apply

[Application form](#)

[Guide for applicants](#)

[Sign up as expert](#)

[Additional information](#)





Relevant Phases - Strategic Projects (SP)



May – August 2024

- Kick-off 23.May 2024 | 1st cut-off date
- EU login + access to EU Send Web; register/update as external expert
- UNFC training June and July by UNECE
- Communication channel | Project Promoter (PP) – EC, SP TEAM
- SP Helpdesk grow-crma-strategic-projects@ec.europa.eu
- Compete Application submission as pdf via secure communication channel | EU Send Web

August – September 2024

- Completeness check | within 30 days
- Notification of PP and informing of MS | all projects and EU/non-EU about those effecting their territory
- Selection of external experts | EC Pool of experts

September – October 2024

- Assessment of validated SP applications | 4 experts (technical, financial, ESGs and UNFC), incl. rapporteur/application
- Consensus meetings (if relevant site visits)
- Project assessment reports

October – November 2024

- Preparation of 1st proposal for the selection of SP to be communicated to the Board and to the MS by EC
- Board Meeting | discussion / decision issued by EC

November – December 2024

- Announcement of 1st list of SP



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Thank you for your attention



SRM

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Background information

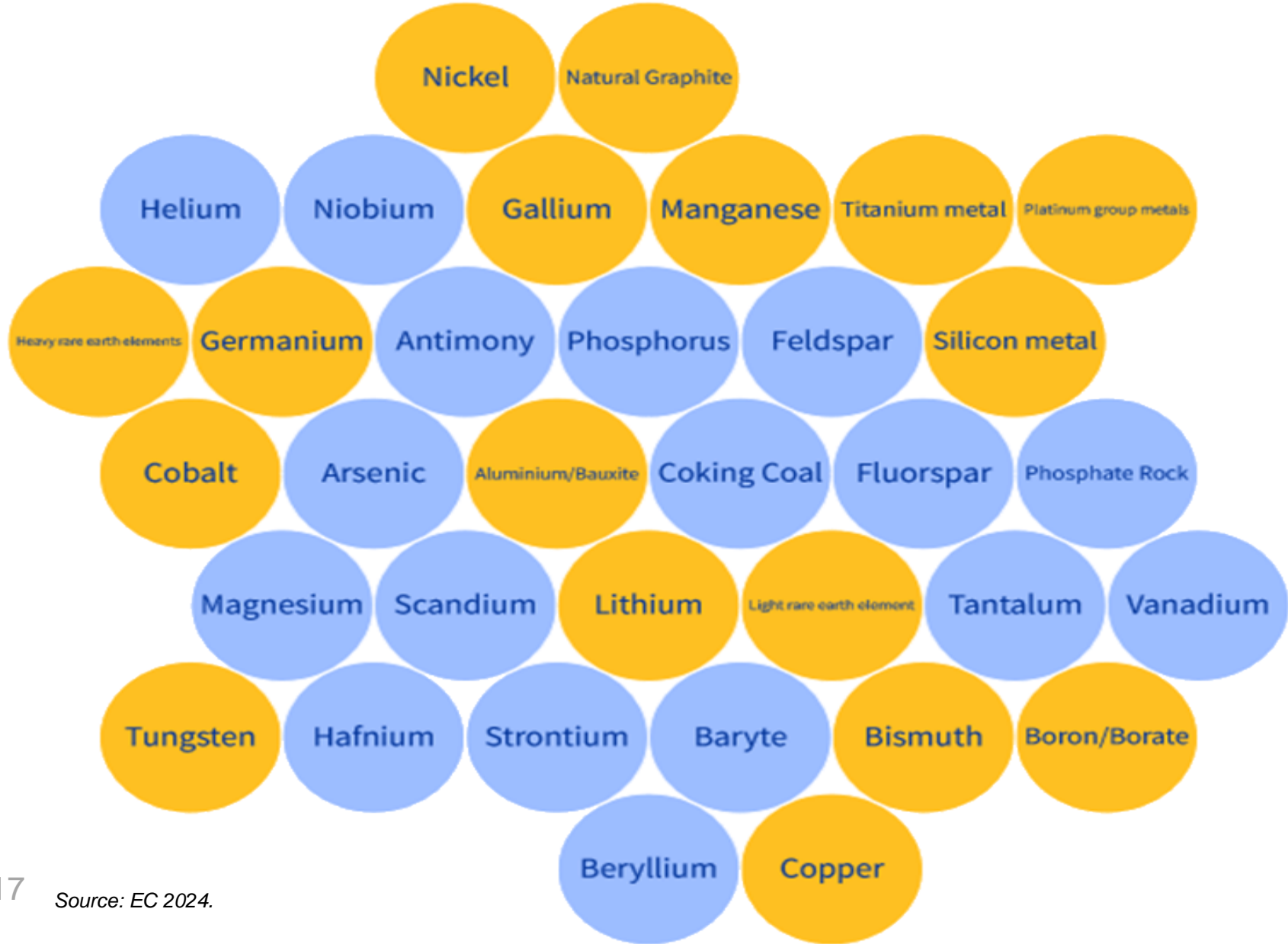
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Strategic (SRM) and Critical Raw Materials (CRM)



SRM
CRM



STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Chapter 3: Strengthening the Union raw materials value chain

SECTION 1: STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Article 7: “Applications for recognition of a raw material project as a **Strategic Project** shall be submitted by the project promoter to the Commission. The **application** shall include: a classification of the project according to the **United Nations Framework Classification for Resources**, supported by appropriate evidence”

- **Projects across the whole SRM value chain:** extraction – processing – recycling - production of relevant substitute materials, both in the **EU and third countries**
- **1st Call for applications** - 23 May 2024, Infoday on 30 April, UNFC training in June and July 2024, evaluation, consultation of the Board, and selection by Nov 2024
- **Implementing Act on the application template** for strategic projects (taking into account the experience from the first Call for application)





MONITORING

Chapter 4: Risk monitoring and mitigation

Article 21: Information obligations for monitoring: two years from the date of entry into force of this Regulation “**Member States** shall, in their reports submitted pursuant to Article 45, provide information to the Commission on **new or existing critical raw material project** on their territory that is relevant regarding to Article 20(1), point (d), including a classification of new projects according to the **United Nations Framework Classification of Resources.**”

- Informal collection EU CRM projects will be formalized and expanded
- The Commission may adopt implementing acts setting out a template for the reports
- Monitoring sub-group of the Board

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19 Source: Grohol April 2024, [Critical Raw Materials Act \(unece.org\)](https://www.unecce.org/)





EXPLORATION

Chapter 3: Strengthening the Union raw materials value chain

SECTION 4: EXPLORATION

Article 19: National exploration programmes: by one year from the date of entry into force of this Regulation “**Member States** shall make maps that show basic information on mineral occurrences containing **critical raw materials** gathered through the measures set out in the national programmes referred to in paragraph 1 publicly available on a free-access website. That information shall, where applicable, include the classification of the identified occurrences using the **United Nations Framework Classification for Resources.** ”

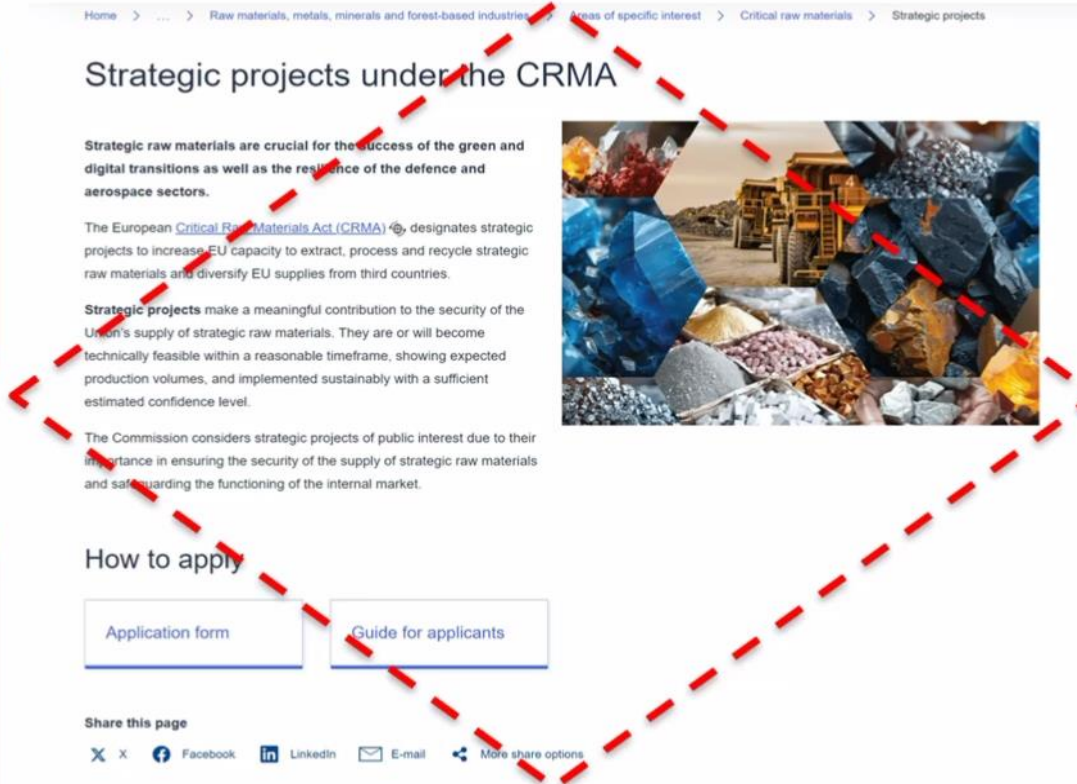
- The Commission may adopt implementing acts establishing a template for making available the required information
- Exploration sub-group of the Board

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Strategic Project – Application summary

1. Call for Strategic project applications

3. Prepare application with online Form



2. EU login + access to EU Send WEB

4. Submit via EU Send WEB

Helpdesk: grow-crma-strategic-projects@ec.europa.eu

Website: [Strategic projects under the CRMA - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/strategic-projects)

