

# Challenges and opportunities in the mining and metallurgical sector

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REMIX Steering Group Meeting Delphi 16-18/10/2018 The Greek land houses a wide portfolio of minerals with countless uses in industry and daily life; many of them in leading position worldwide





**Lignite** 2<sup>nd</sup> in the EU, 5<sup>th</sup> worldwide



*Laterite* One of the largest producers in Europe-key for the national ferronickel metallurgy



*Warble* Global leader in quality, acquiring market share



*Magnesite* Largest exporter in Europe



**Bauxite** Largest producer in Europekey for the national aluminum industry



**Bentonite** 1<sup>st</sup> in Europe, 3<sup>rd</sup> worldwide



**Perlite** 1<sup>st</sup> worldwide



Aggregates Key for the cement industry and construction



**Gypsum / Pozzolan** Key for the cement industry

This variety of minerals is spread across many locations and site types – metallic mines, lignite pits, marble and aggregates quarries





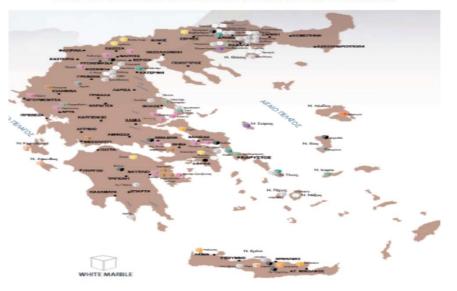
METALLIC AND LIGNITE MINES (2010)

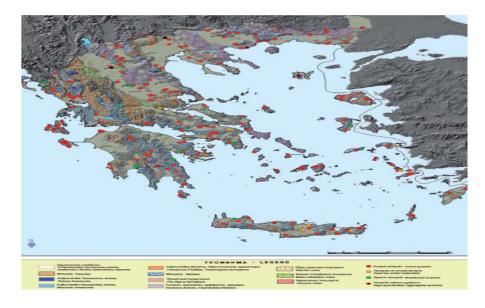
**INDUSTRIAL MINERAL QUARRIES (2010)** 



LEGEND: 
CaCO3 // 
Pumice // 
Attapulgite // 
Quartz // 
Dolomite - Calcite // 
Caoline // 
Postonie // 
Postonie // 
Caoline // 
Postonie // 
Posto

MAP OF MARBLE EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES IN GREECE





Leveraging these resources, Greece has always derived considerable value and competitive advantage through mining activity

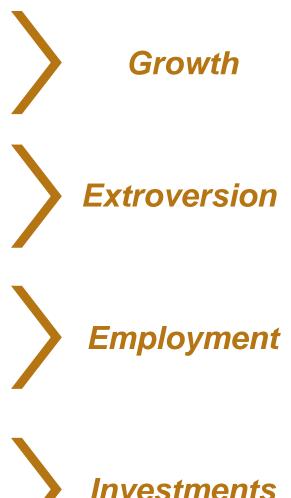


## Mineral resource centered activity has traditionally been a key driver of economic development (through trade and innovation), employment (in urban centers but mainly in the periphery), trade, and ultimately competitive advantage for the Greek economy

Even during the recent economic crisis, the Greek Mining Industry continues to thrive pushing the economy towards sustainable growth

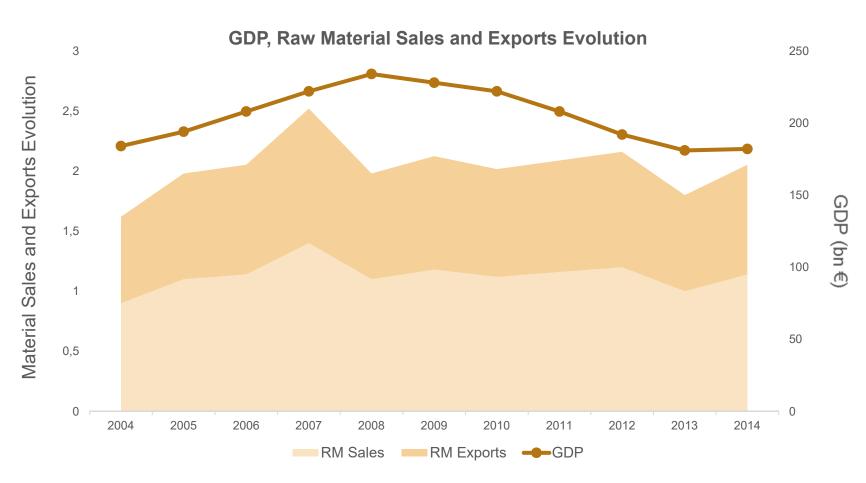
- Accounts for **3% of the Greek GDP**
- Generated a total value of €1.2 billion in 2014
- Extracts more than **30 different minerals**, 10 of which in quantities larger than 300,000 tons per year
- Export value exceeds € 1 billion across several countries mainly to Europe
- Constitutes almost 5% of total Greek exports
- Employs directly 20,000 individuals and indirectly 80,000 individuals
- Top employer especially in the Greek periphery occupying
   4% of the active population
- Investments lever in fixed assets and a magnet for equity investors: GMEA members are executing approximately €300 mio worth of investments per year





The Greek mining industry has weathered effectively the economic crisis thanks to a number of factors





The Greek Mining Industry managed to show resilience during the crisis thanks to the following key four factors: sound risk management practices, extroversion, financial credibility, and responsible operations

The mining industry is a lever of sustainable development and growth...





...but this is not without challenges



# While Greeks are not hopeful for the future, they view the mining industry favorably:

**16%** of Greeks think that the recovery prospects will improve in the next few months

**93%** of Greeks think that the government has **not acted towards attracting investments** 

**86%** of Greeks think that the exploitation of mineral resources is **key to economic development** 

**50%** of Greeks think that mining activity favors **job creation** 

**40%** of Greeks think mining activity helps **the local economy and community** 

**73%** of Greeks agree that there is **no political will** to exploit mineral resources

# Mining activity causes a temporary, visual disruption on the physical environment



- The majority of extractive activity in Greece concerns aggregates, industrial minerals, energy minerals and sulfur-free metals
- Current rehabilitation projects include the creation of forests, artificial lakes, museums, venue for cultural shows and arable land – post-mining land use
- Through the implementation of L998/1979, more than
   65 thousand square kilometers have been
   rehabilitated (36% of land under exploitation)
- Since 2007, more than **2.6 mio trees** have been planted
- Additional environmental challenges are created during the extraction and processing of sulfur-containing minerals as well as during lignite combustion for electricity production which are effectively managed using new technologies



Λατομείο στη Μήλο μετά την αποκατάσταση



Δημιουργία λίμνης στην περιοχή της Πάτρας

#### A common debate: Tourism and Mining – friends of foes?





#### Examples of successful mining and tourism symbiosis



Mineral industry and digitalization: threat or opportunity?

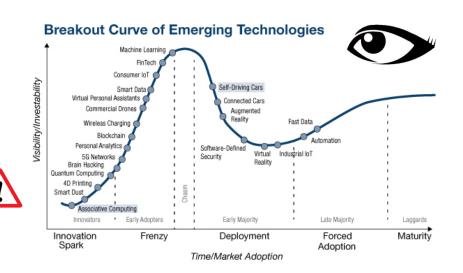


Centuries-old industries, which went through former revolutions Very few newcomers, little interest from digital giants Materiality of mining and transforming minerals, physically or chemically,

Threat?

No sign of digital disruption ... yet

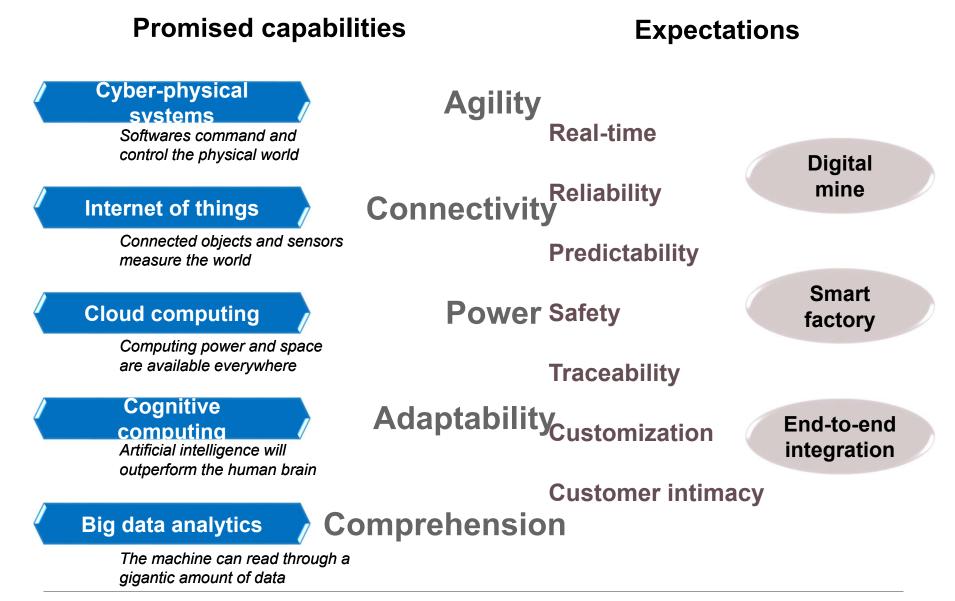
- Disruption has its own dynamics
- Visibility momentum may be already late to adapt



### **Opportunity?**

Definitely yes, the question is "how does it serve our vision and strategy"?





Three main types of programs:

# Industrial and commercial excellence programs: efficiency driven

- Incremental improvements
- Based on identified room for improvement and risk-benefit analysis
- Traditional approach of industrial performance: mining, processing, supply chain, purchasing, etc.

#### Innovation and strategy: growth driven

- Based on innovation and "megatrends" analysis
- Stage-gate process for risk management
- Leading potentially to radical change and to new business models

#### Early stage: pilot programs









#### Mine fleet management Refractory

Embedded sensors and IT systems

- Early detection of issues: predictive maintenance
- Operating parameters and real-time supervision by standard KPIs



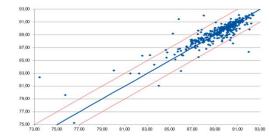


- Safety
- Productivity

#### Machine learning Kaolin

#### Prediction of the refined product brightness

- From easy acquired but indirect data
- Using statistical computing and machine learning





- Predictability
- Avoid loss of material



### Automation in loading and dispatching

Self-loading system, no operator

- Safety rules integrated
- Full documentation availability
- No manual data entry for drivers





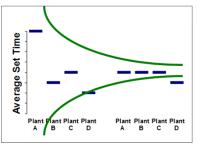
- Process stability
- > Efficiency
- Safety

### Quality control Rotary kilns

Quality control performed by fully automated robot (chemistry, mineralogy, particle size), big data treated to ensure quality and traceability from control room







- Consistency improvement
- Benchmark between all kilns



### **3D** printing

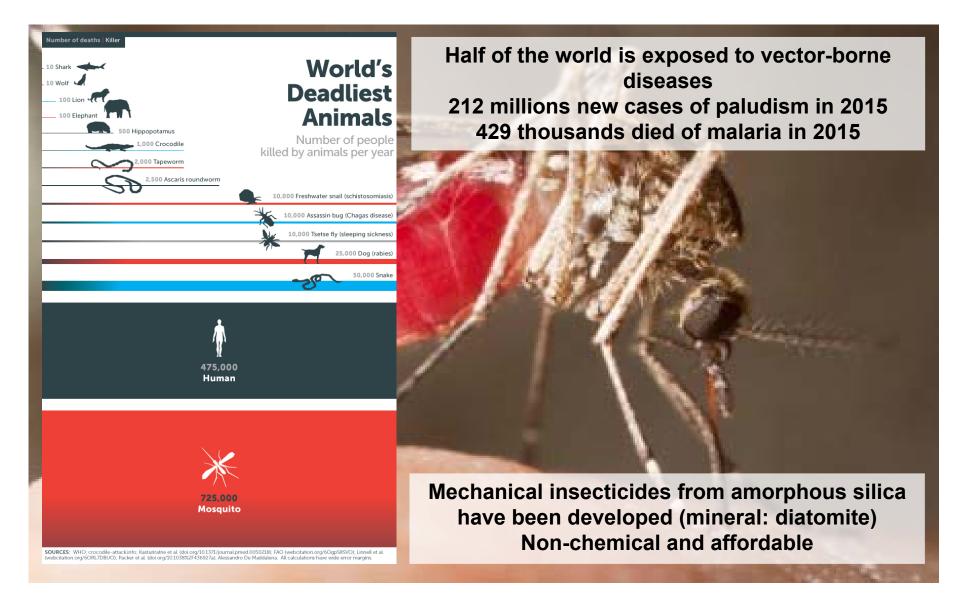


Solutions for tableware and sanitaryware 3D printing - prototypes and short series Possible developments in precision casting, special concretes, technical ceramics

- Fast and flexible
- Repeatable
- Waste reduction
- Plastic cartridges recycling
- Opens a new area of value creation
- Revolution of the ceramic industries ?







#### The physical world (definitely) needs physical solutions







8 million tons of plastics end up in the oceans every year 80% of all litters in the ocean is made of plastic, causing dramatic damages to biodiversity Only 20 to 30% of plastic waste is recycled (in Europe) One of the UK's leading plastic recycling companies recycles a wide range of rigid plastics, adding minerals, and resulting in compounds performing as well as original polymers, but from waste materials. Game changer?



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