

# Tracking Resources and Estimating Future Supplies

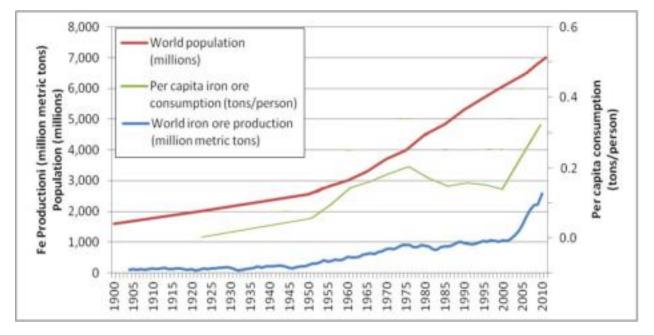
Larry Meinert Mineral Resources Program, USGS

Oct. 29, 2013 Pardee P12: Resourcing Future Generations

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

# **Mineral Resources – The Big Picture**

**Global Trends in Population, Iron Ore Production, & Consumption, 1990-2011** 

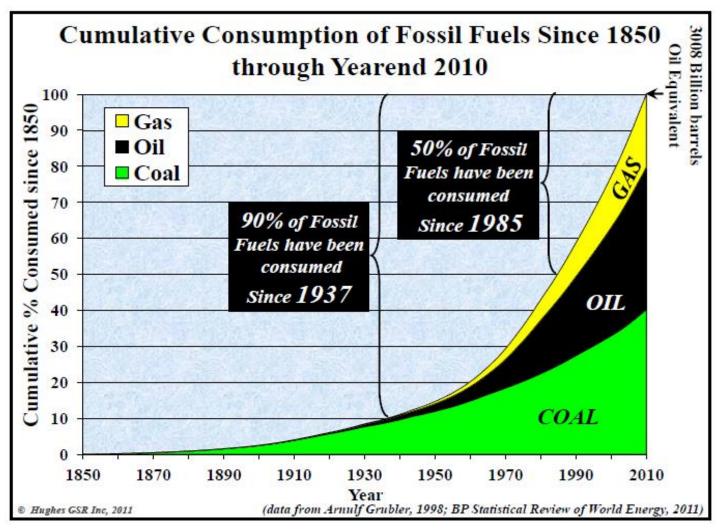


Production data from USGS

~4X more population than 100 years ago
~6X more per capita iron consumption than 100 years ago
~26X more iron ore production than 100 years ago



### **Fossil Fuels – a similar picture to mineral resources**



J. David Hughes, 2012

(http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/HUGHES%20Cornell%20Ithaca%20May%202%202012.pdf)



# World Trade

Although the US is a major producer and exporter of many commodities such as molybdenum and beryllium, it relies on world trade for most mineral resources and is >90% reliant on imports for 24 commodities, including REE

Source: USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries (2013)



Commodity ARSENIC (trioxide) 100 100 ASBESTOS BAUXITE and ALUMINA 100 CESIUM 100 100 FLUORSPAR GRAPHITE (natural) 100 INDIUM 100 100 MANGANESE MICA, sheet (natural) 100 100 NIOBIUM (columbium) QUARTZ CRYSTAL (industrial) 100 RUBIDIUM 100 SCANDIUM 100 STRONTIUM 100 TANTALUM 100 THALLIUM 100 THORIUM 100 GALLIUM 99 GEMSTONES 99 96 VANADIUM 92 BISMUTH 91 PLATINUM 90 GERMANIUM 88 IODINE 87 ANTIMONY DIAMOND (dust, grit, and powder) 85 STONE (dimension) 85 POTASH 81 BARITE 80 COBALT 78 RHENIUM 78 TITANIUM MINERAL CONCENTRATES 77 75 TIN SILICON CARBIDE (crude) 73 72 ZINC 70 CHROMIUM 65 GARNET (industrial) 64 TITANIUM (sponge) 62 PEAT 57 SILVER 54 PALLADIUM 49 NICKEL 46 MAGNESIUM COMPOUNDS 42 TUNGSTEN 36 SILICON 35 35 COPPER NITROGEN (fixed), AMMONIA 31 MAGNESIUM METAL 31 MICA, scrap and flake (natural) 30 VERMICULITE 24 PERLITE 20 ALUMINUM 19 SALT 19 SULFUR PUMICE

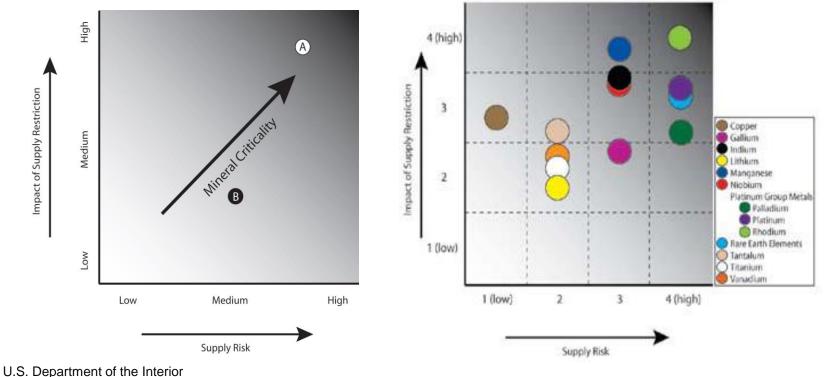
GYPSUM

#### Percent Major Import Sources (2008–11)<sup>2</sup> Morocco, China, Belgium Canada, Zimbabwe Jamaica, Brazil, Guinea, Australia Canada Mexico, China, South Africa China, Mexico, Canada, Brazil China, Canada, Japan, Belgium South Africa, Gabon, Australia, China China, Brazil, Belgium, India Brazil, Canada, Germany China, Japan, Russia Canada China Mexico, Germany, China China, Estonia, Germany, Kazakhstan Germany, Russia India, France Germany, United Kingdom, China, Canada Israel, India, Belgium, South Africa Rep. of Korea, Canada, Austria, Czech Republic China, Belgium, United Kingdom Germany, South Africa, United Kingdom, Canada China, Belgium, Russia, Germany Chile, Japan China, Mexico, Belgium, Bolivia China, Ireland, Republic of Korea, Russia China, Brazil, Italy, Turkey Canada, Russia China, India, Morocco China, Norway, Russia, Finland Chile, Netherlands, Germany South Africa, Australia, Canada, Mozambique Peru, Bolivia, Indonesia, China China, South Africa, Romania, Netherlands Canada, Mexico, Peru, Spain South Africa, Kazakhstan, Russia, Mexico India, Australia, China, Canada Japan, Kazakhstan, China, Ukraine, Canada Mexico, Canada, Peru, Poland Russia, South Africa, United Kingdom, Norway Canada, Russia, Australia, Norway China, Canada, Brazil, Australia China, Bolivia, Canada, Germany Brazil, Russia, China, Canada Chile, Canada, Peru, Mexico Trinidad and Tobago, Russia, Canada, Ukraine Israel, Canada, China Canada, China, India, Finland South Africa, China, Brazil, Australia Greece Canada, Russia, China, Mexico Canada, Chile, Mexico, The Bahamas Canada, Mexico, Venezuela 15 Greece, Iceland, Mexico, Montserrat 12 Canada Mexico Spain

2012 U.S. NET IMPORT RELIANCE<sup>1</sup>



A critical mineral as defined in a 2008 National Academy of Sciences report is one that is both essential in use and subject to the risk of supply restriction

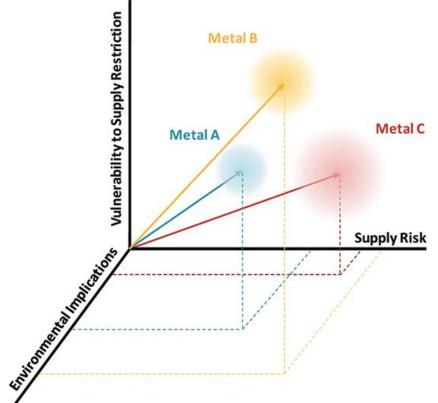


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# **Criticality is context specific:**

- What is critical for a given manufacturer or product may not be critical for another, what is critical for a state may not be critical for a country, and what is critical for national defense may be different than what is necessary to make a television brighter or less expensive.
- Recent studies have expanded the scope of criticality to include environmental and technological factors.

Graedel, T. E.; Barr, R.; Chandler, C.; Chase, T.; Choi, J.; Christoffersen, L.; Friedlander, E.; Henly, C.; Nassar, N. T.;Schechner, D.; Warren, S.; Yang, M.; Zhu, C., 2012, Methodology of metal criticality determination: Environ. Sci. Technol., 46, 1063–1070.





# Information is Critical



**≥USGS** 



xample of Emerging "Regional Models

≊USGS

Rare Earth Elements—End Use and Recyclability

Scientific Investigations Report 2011-5094

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## **Minerals Information**

#### **Materials Flow Studies**



#### Materials Flow of Indium in the United States in 2008 and 2009



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Wind Energy in the United States and Materials Required for the Land-Based Wind Turbine Industry From 2010 Through 2030





#### **USGS**

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Circular 1365

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

**Byproduct Mineral Commodities Used** 

for the Production of Photovoltaic Cells

ALILAS MAX

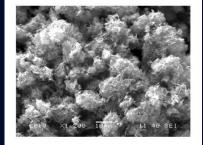
Byproduct Metals and Rare-Earth Elements Used In the Production of Light-Emitting Diodes— Overview of Principal Sources of Supply and Material Requirements for Selected Markets

 Particular Control
 Particula



#### **≊USGS**

Lithium Use in Batteries



Circular 1371

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Mines and Mineral Processing Facilities in the Vicinity of the March 11, 2011, Earthquake in Northern Honshu, Japan

By W. David Mercula, Michael S. Balver, Doneld I. Blainess, and Chin Kuci





Recent Strikes In South Africa's Platinum-Group Metal Mines: Effects Upon World Platinum-Group Metal Supplies

By Thomas P. Yagar, Yadan Solo-Virsel, and James J. Barry

Open-File Report 2012-1273

U.S. Department of the interior U.S. Geological Survey

## **Supply Disruption**

Facilities in impact zone of March 11, 2011, magnitude 9.0 earthquake and associated tsunami :

- 9 cement plants
- 4 iron and steel plants 4 lime
- **3** copper refineries
- 2 lead refineries
- 8 iodine plants4 limestone mines2 gold refineries2 zinc refineries
- 1 titanium dioxide plant
- 1 titanium sponge processing facility.

These facilities have the capacity to produce the following percentages of the world's nonfuel mineral production:

25 % of iodine (Japan is world's second leading producer (after Chile))
10 % of titanium sponge (metal)
3 % of refined zinc
2.5 % of refined copper
1.4 % of steel

The 9 cement plants produce 30% of Japan's annual cement production



Menzie, W.D., Baker, M.S., Bleiwas, D.I., and Kuo, Chin, 2011, Mines and mineral processing facilities in the vicinity of the March 11, 2011, earthquake in northern Honshu, Japan: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2011–1069, 7 p. (Available only at http://pubs.usos.gov/of/2011/1069/.)

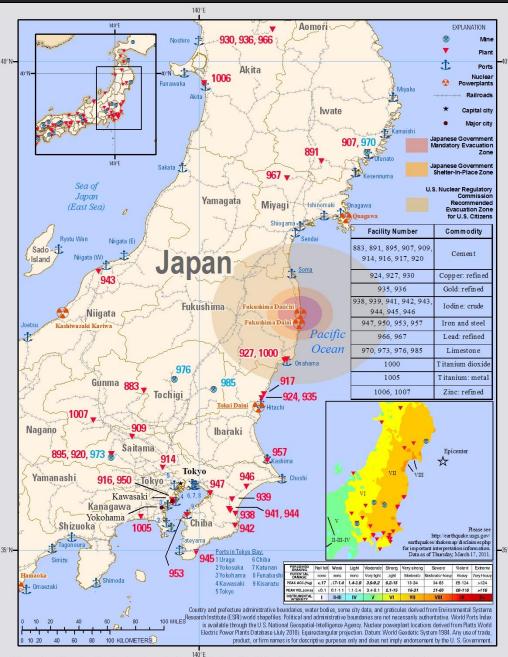
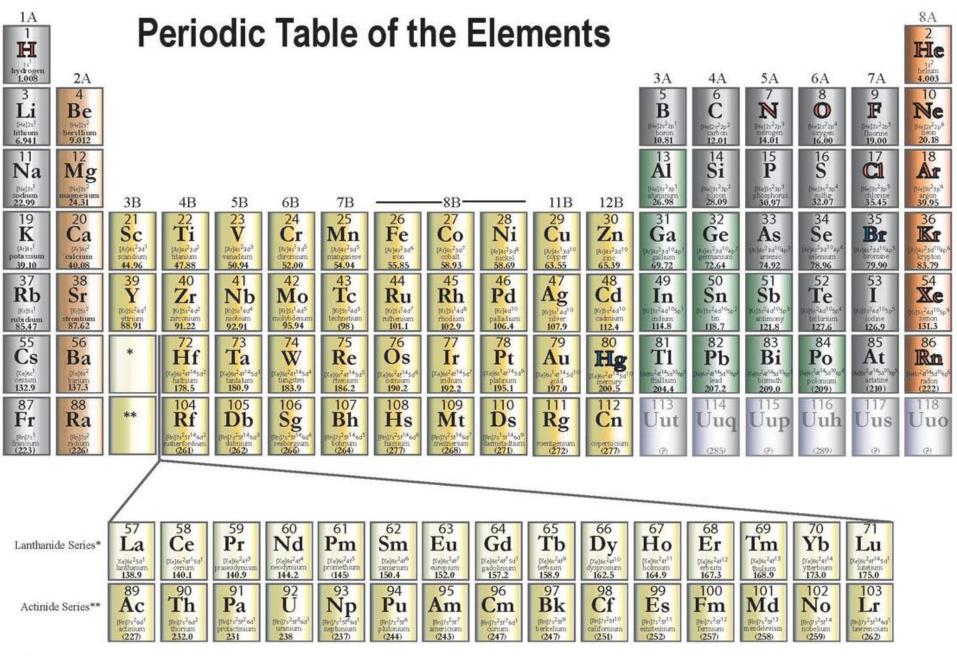


Figure 1.—Map showing the location of mines and mineral facilities in Japan. Modified from Baker and others (2010).

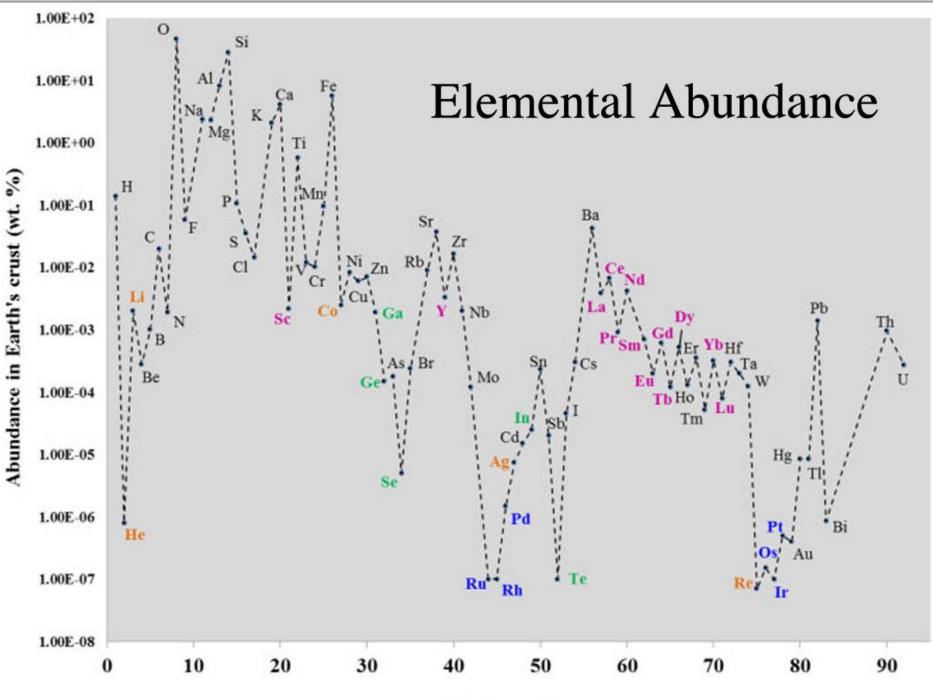




#### Los Alamos National Laboratory Chemistry Division

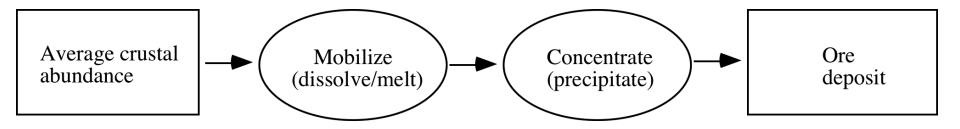
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element names in **bino** are liquids at room temperature element names in red are gases at room temperature element names in black are solids at room temperature



Atomic number

# To geochemist ore deposits are simple chemical reactions



Distribution of element - primary affinities derived from empirical study of meteorites & slag 1) siderophile (Fe) 2) chalcophile (S) 3) lithophile (Si)

- secondary affinities follow Goldschmidt's rules of ionic size and charge for example: Ni+2 (0.69) Fe+2 (0.74) Mg+2 (0.66) in olivine (Mg,Fe)2SiO4

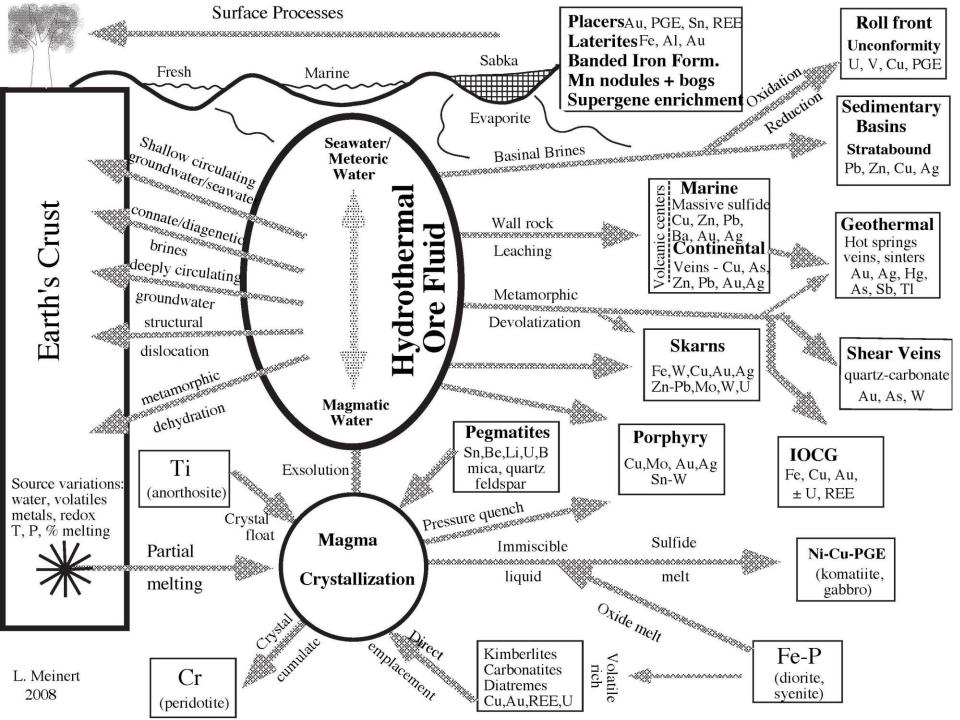
Abundance vs availability: Zr more abundant (.02) than Cu or Zn yet not available - <u>dispersed</u> as <u>refractory</u> zircon



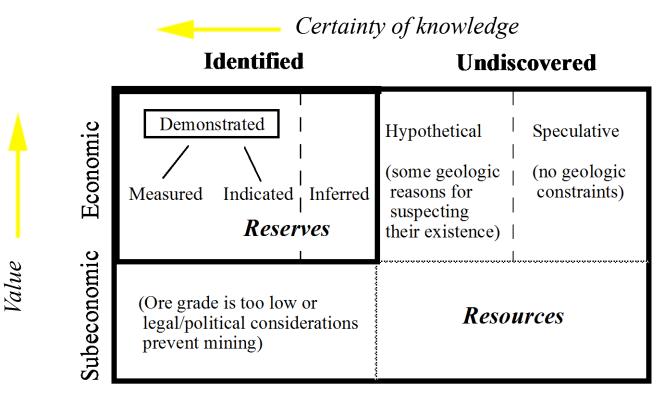
# To a geologist – ore deposits are the result of fundamental processes

- 1) partial melting
- 2) immiscibility
- 3) fractional crystallization
- 4) fluid exsolution pressure quench
- 5) phase separation (boiling)
- 6) fluid mixing
- 7) redox/neutralization Eh pH





## To economist ore deposits can be viewed as reserves and resources, as a function of supply and demand



- Typically have about 20 years of reserves due to economics, taxation
- Mineral resources are finite (but very large compared to scale of use)
- Price, not supply, controls availability
- Resources have a place value, i.e., occur in specific locations, decide if to produce but not where

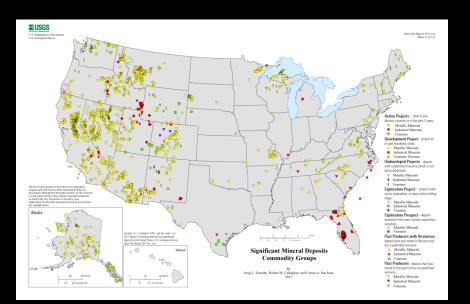


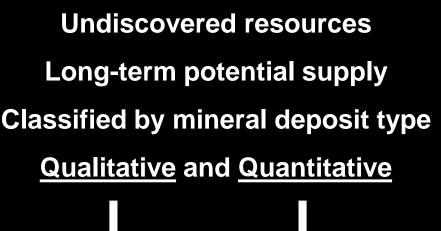
#### Inventory

VS

#### **Assessment**

Identified resources Near- and medium-term supply Often classified by commodity Important first step for assessment





<figure>



Probabilistic



#### Mineral Resource Assessment Methodology



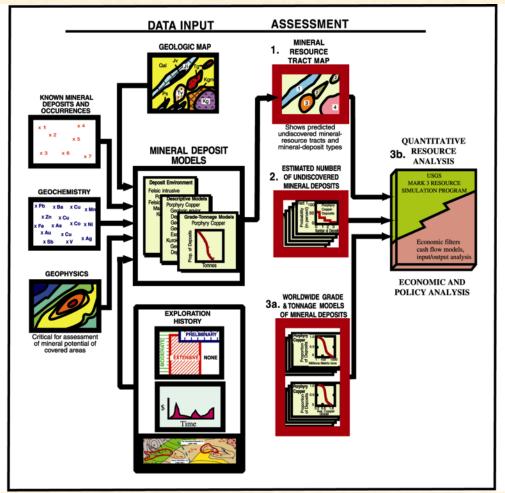
### The Assessment: A 3-Part Process

#### Qualitative

1. Delineate permissive tracts for occurrence of each deposit type

#### Quantitative

- 2. Estimate number of undiscovered deposits in each tract
- 3. Apply global grade and tonnage models to estimate quantity and quality of undiscovered contained metal/resource.



#### Reference

Singer, D.A., 1993, Basic concepts in three-part quantitative assessments of undiscovered mineral resources: Nonrenewable Resources, v. 2, no. 2, p. 69-81.

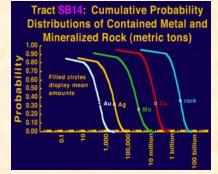


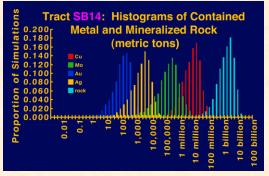
Mineral Resource Assessment Methodology



# PART 3: Estimate quality and quantity of undiscovered contained metal

- Estimates of number of undiscovered deposits are combined with data from grade & tonnage models to provide estimates of contained metal using Monte Carlo simulation (Mark3)
  - Mark3 computes populations of theoretical ore and metal endowments for each deposit tract that are consistent with estimated deposits and grade-tonnage models
  - This allows for the translation of resource assessments into the language that economists and decision makers can understand -- money







## **Global Mineral Resource Assessment**



CCOP Workshop 2006 Kunming, China



CCOP Workshop 2010 Busan, S Korea

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

nternational Geologic Congress August, 2012

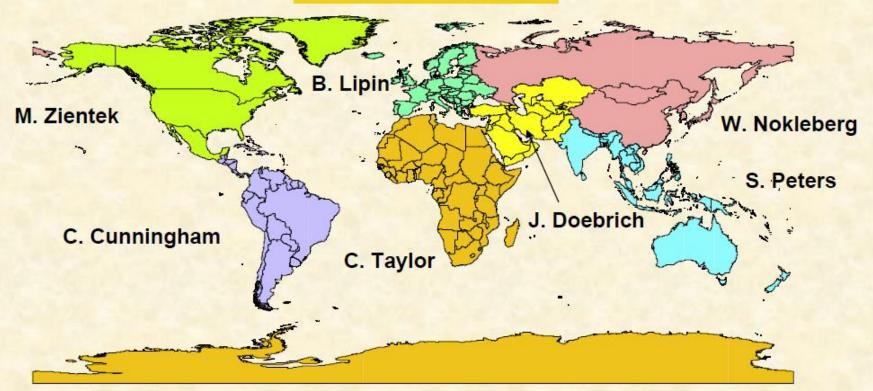


## Global Mineral Resource Assessment



The Global Mineral Resource Assessment is being conducted on a **regional multinational basis** with the **cooperative participation** of interested national and international geoscience organizations using **available** geologic and mineral resource **information** 

#### **7 GMRAP Regions**

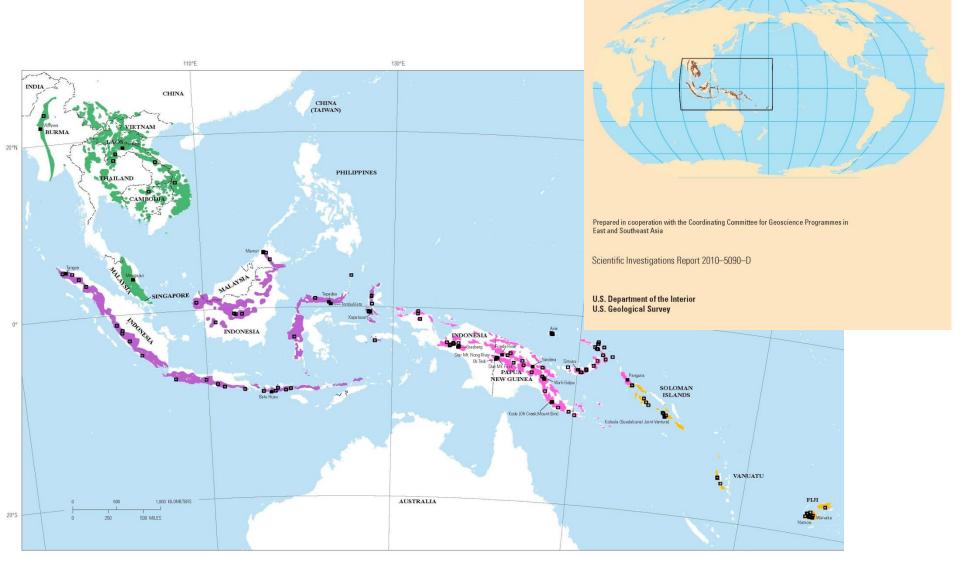


# Indonesia is included in a report on parts of Southeast Asia and Melanesia



**Global Mineral Resource Assessment** 

#### Porphyry Copper Assessment of Southeast Asia and Melanesia



#### **Global Mineral Resource Assessment Project**

In response to the growing demand for information on the global mineral-resource base, the U.S. Geological Survey Mineral Resources Program is completing its Global Mineral Resource Assessment Project (GMRAP), a cooperative international project started in 2002 to assess the world's undiscovered nonfuel mineral resources. The project emphasizes the most important types of mineral deposits for world supply of copper, platinum-group elements (PGE), and potash.

USGS conducts national and global assessments of resources (mineral, energy, water, biologic) to provide science in support of decisionmaking. Mineral resource assessments provide a synthesis of available information about where mineral deposits are known and suspected in the Earth's crust, what commodities may be present, and estimates of amounts of undiscovered resources that may be present.

#### **Published GMRAP Reports**

Porphyry copper assessment of Southeast Asia and Melanesia

Porphyry copper assessment of the Mesozoic of East Asia--China, Vietnam, North Korea, Mongolia, and Russia

Porphyry copper assessment of the Tibetan Plateau, China

Porphyry copper assessment of British Columbia and Yukon Territory, Canada

Porphyry copper assessment of Mexico

Quantitative mineral resource assessment of copper, molybdenum, gold, and silver in undiscovered porphyry copper deposits in the Andes Mountains of South America

Descriptive models, grade-tonnage relations, and databases for the assessment of sediment-hosted copper deposits—With emphasis on deposits in the Central Africa Copperbelt, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia

Sandstone copper assessment of the Chu-Sarysu Basin, Central Kazakhstan

Dzhezkazgan and associated sandstone copper deposits of the Chu-Sarysu Basin, central Kazakhstan: Society of Economic Geologists, Inc., Special Publication 16, p. 303-328.

Economic filters for evaluating porphyry copper deposit resource assessments using grade-tonnage deposit models, with examples from the U.S. Geological Survey Global Mineral Resource Assessment

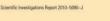
#### Pending GMRAP Reports

- > Porphyry copper assessment of Central America and the Caribbean Basin
- Porphyry copper assessment of Europe
- Porphyry copper assessment of eastern Australia
- Porphyry copper assessment of western central Asia [Tectonic and geologic setting of porphyry copper deposits in western central Asia, with a special section on the application of satellite data to alteration mapping]
- Porphyry copper assessment of East and Southeast Asia—The Philippines, Taiwan (Republic of China), and Japan
- Porphyry copper assessment of the Central Tethys Region—Turkey, Iran, parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan, Armenia, and Azerbaijan
- Porphyry copper assessment of northeast Asia—Far east Russia and northernmost China
- Porphyry copper assessment of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt and Eastern Tethysides—China, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Russia, India, and Pakistan
- Regional mapping of hydrothermally altered igneous rocks along the Urumieh-Dokhtar, Chagai, and Alborz belts of western Asia using Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) data and Interactive Data Language (IDL) Logical Operators—A tool for porphyry copper exploration and assessment

#### **USGS**

Descriptive Models, Grade-Tonnage Relations, and Databases for the Assessment of Sediment-Hosted Copper Deposits—With Emphasis on Deposits in the Central African Copperbelt, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia

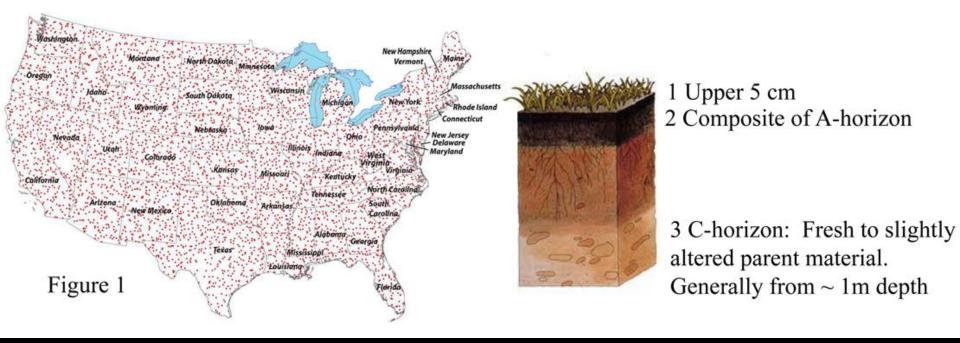




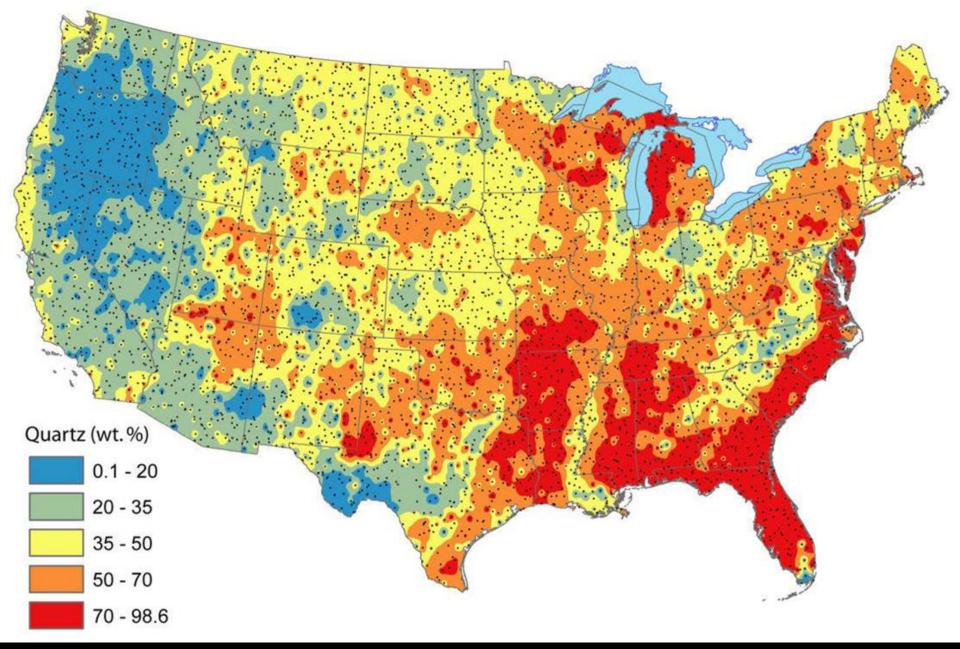
I.S. Department of the Interior I.S. Genlegical Survey

# US Soil Map – Sample Density

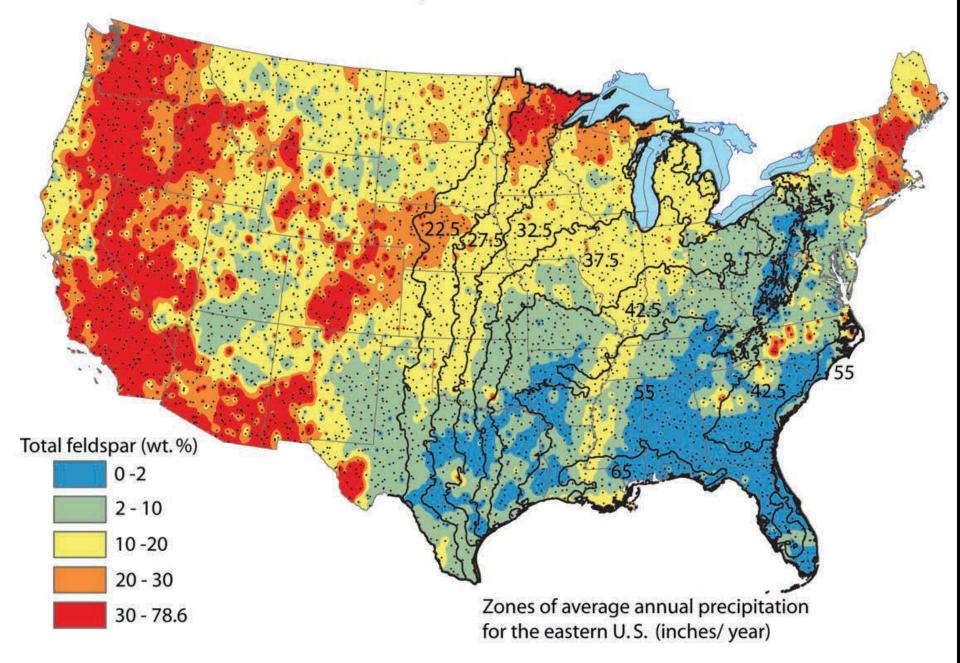
The Conterminous U.S. Landscape Geochemistry project has recently sampled soils at 4,860 sites shown in Figure 1. Three samples were collected at each site. In addition to chemical analyses, we have performed quantitative mineralogy by x-ray diffraction and Rietveld refinement calculations for all A-horizon and C-horizon samples.



## Quartz content of C-horizon soil



## Total feldspar in C-horizon soil





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