



Welcome to the 6th RELiEF newsletter! In this issue you will find a recap of RELiEF's most recent achievements towards recycling Lithium from secondary sources as well as reports from partners collaborating with one another and embracing their common objectives. Enjoy the read!



Workshop on the future of mineral resources

At the end of last year, the RELiEF project held a workshop at the University of Aveiro, Portugal, titled "UnEarth the future... From mining to recycling: The future of mineral resources," gathering researchers from various institutions, including Katariina Buure (LUT), Joana Gouveia (INEGI), Joana Almeida (NOVA), Alexandra Carolino (Pegmatítica), and Anish Patil (TechConcepts), to discuss advancements in lithium recovery from secondary resources. The event emphasized the importance of circularity in the battery materials supply chain and the broader social and environmental impacts of battery materials, highlighting the need to reduce dependency on imports of critical raw materials.

[Learn more](#)



Women & Girls in Science Day

February 11 marks the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, a celebration of the critical role women play in scientific fields — including the rapidly advancing world of lithium research. As the demand for efficient, sustainable energy solutions grows, women scientists are at the forefront, pushing the boundaries of battery technology and energy storage. This day highlights their achievements and aims to inspire young girls to explore careers in this vital field. We talked to some of the female researchers in RELiEF and asked them about their female role-models in science and what advice they would give to aspiring female researchers.

Find out what our female scientists have to say!

[Learn more](#)

All towards a sustainable and circular future for lithium

On February 17th, LUT had the privilege of visiting RELiEF's coordinator production plant ABEE in Ninove, Belgium. LUT's mission under Task 8.4 is to transform the lithium industry by developing a sustainable business model for secondary lithium sources. The hybrid workshop combined in-person energy with digital collaboration, featuring five passionate team members at ABEE's premises, including the CEO Dr. Rahul Gopalakrishnan, and five more participants online. Together with our valued partners from ABEE, INEGI and LUT, the workshop engaged in dynamic discussions that sparked innovative ideas. New strategies were explored in order to integrate

environmental, economic, and social goals into the future vision of the RELiEF business model.



Further achievements

RELiEF Partners keep working close together. The workshop "UnEarthing our common future. Mining recycling waste, Remining on old heaps or tailings" was organized at Environmental Interpretation Center in Portugal to disseminate the results of the project, highlighting the important aspect of remining in the sector as well as the importance of remining as a valuable source of critical raw materials, particularly lithium, essential for Europe's green and digital transitions.

[Find out more](#)

Multi-sectoral interactions in energy transition: Unveiling tensions between sustainability and justice

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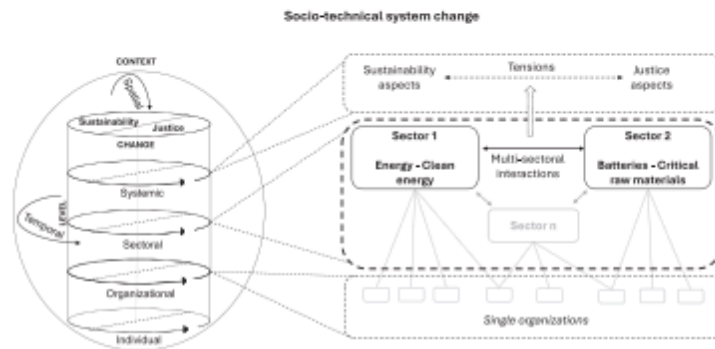
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HIGHLIGHTS

- This study examines multi-sectoral interactions in the energy transition.
- Rising demand for critical raw materials may intensify injustices.
- Particularly, mining impacts in the Global South create sectoral tensions.
- Knowledge of tensions is key to enabling a just energy transition.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Latest results

After more than 2 years of hard work, the first results of the RELiEF project keep coming. Lately, our partner LUT published their results examining multi-sectoral interactions in the energy transition, and why the constant increase of demand for critical raw materials intensify injustices.

[Learn More](#)

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