

Exploring the materials and energy nexus

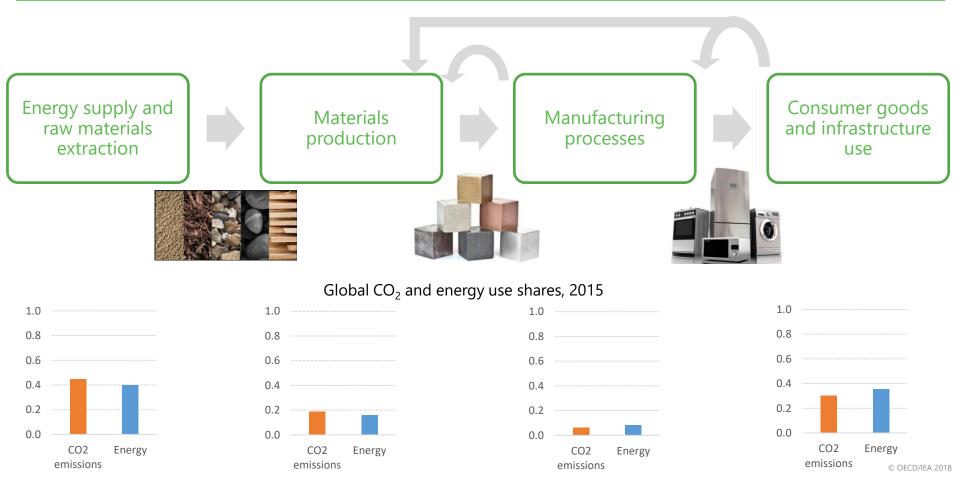
Araceli Fernandez

MinFuture project, 6 November 2018

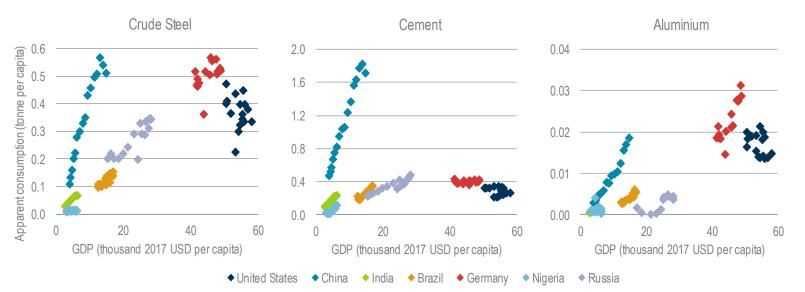


Supply value chains connect natural resources with consumers through material and energy flows





Projecting materials demand from socio-economic indicators... a difficult question!



Per capita material apparent consumption and per capita GDP for selected countries from 2000 to 2015

Note: Aluminium apparent consumption does not include secondary production, as historical secondary production statistics are limited. Cement consumption is approximated to production provided its local nature.

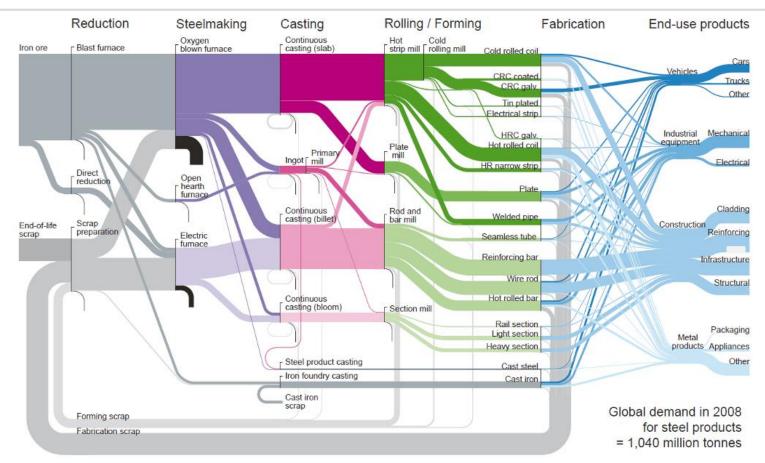
Sources: Forthcoming IEA report "Exploring different clean energy pathways" based on USGS, Worldsteel, IMF, UNDESA.

Generally greater economic development leads to higher levels of material demand per capita.

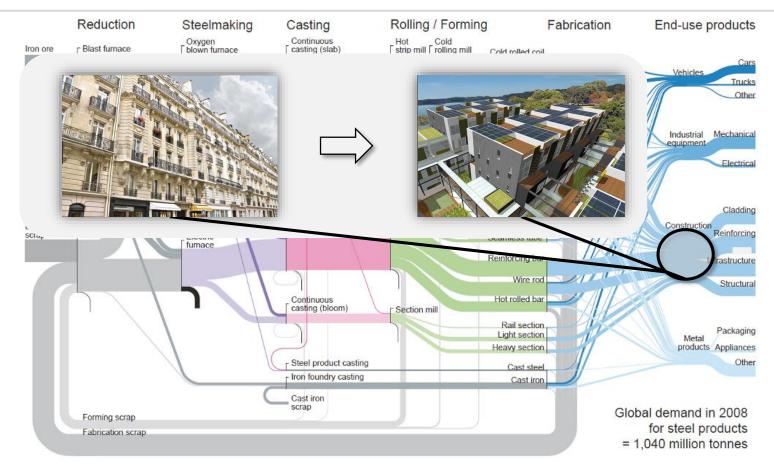
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Understanding existing complex supply value chains is needed...



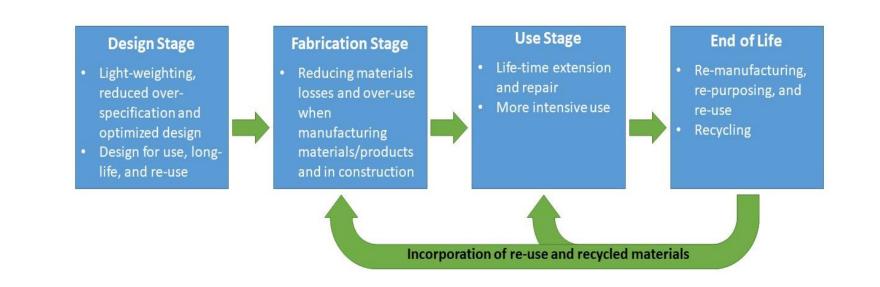


...but supply value chains are also continuously evolving





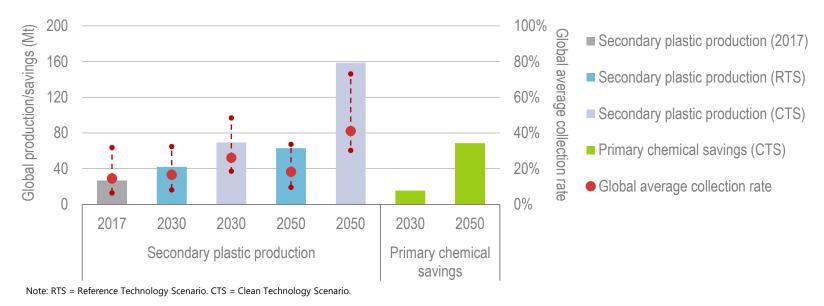




Material efficiency strategies can enable sustainability gains along value chains by promoting a more effective use of materials and consequently resources.



Secondary plastic production, primary chemical production savings and plastic collection rates



Sources: Future of Petrochemicals, IEA 2018.

By 2050, the plastic collection rate for recycling nearly triples in the Clean Technology Scenario, resulting in almost 10% of cumulative CO₂ emissions reductions relative to the base scenario.



- Energy Technology Perspectives editions
- IEA Technology Roadmaps: Cement (2009-2013-2018), Chemicals (2013), Iron and steel (forthcoming)
- World Energy Outlook: material efficient scenario (2015)
- The Future of Petrochemicals (2018)

 Special report: "Exploring different clean energy pathways: The cases of CO₂ storage and materials efficiency" (forthcoming)



- Supply value chains connect natural resources with consumers through material and energy flows.
- They are complex and continuously evolving. Understanding the materials demand and clean energy transition nexus is key to make the most sustainable use of natural resources for societal development.
- Material efficiency can provide considerable opportunities for energy and CO₂ savings, and should be rolled out hand-in-hand with innovative technologies and product designs across value chains.
- Materials is an area of increasing priority for the IEA.

