

### Future outlook of the Finnish mining industry

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Mine Water Management and Treatment – From Planning of Mine Operations to Mine Closure 24.– 25.9.2013



Thanks to Jussi Pokki, Janne Hokka and Pekka Nurmi

### **Themes**

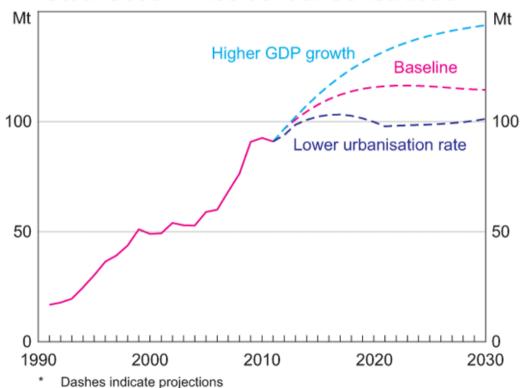
- Introduction: global context
- Introduction: foresight studies on minerals
- Past and future development in ore mining
- Opportunities and drawbacks



### **Increased interest on minerals (1)**

• Globally: Increased need, prices and competition

#### Steel Used in Residential Construction\*





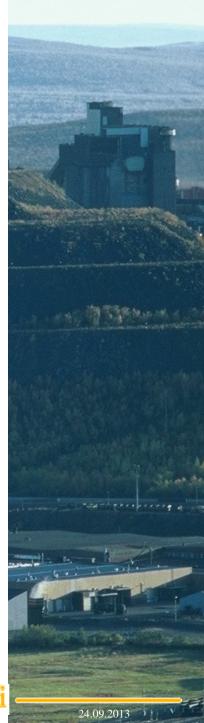
Source: Berkelmans and Wang 2012, Chinese Urban Residential Construction Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin - September 2012



Sources: CEIC; RBA

### **Foresight**

- No crystal ball, but beneficial if you have some clue on possible development baths...





### Foresight on minerals: EU perspective

- How to secure constant supply of raw materials on the use of downstream industries?
  - Domestic supply (primary & secondary)
  - Supply dependency & barriers on trade
    - Critical minerals
    - Policy directions
- Fraunhofer institute & BGR (Germany)
- Raw Materials Group (Sweden)
- Consultants (e.g. PWC, Ernst&Young)
- Projects, e.g. Minerals4EU



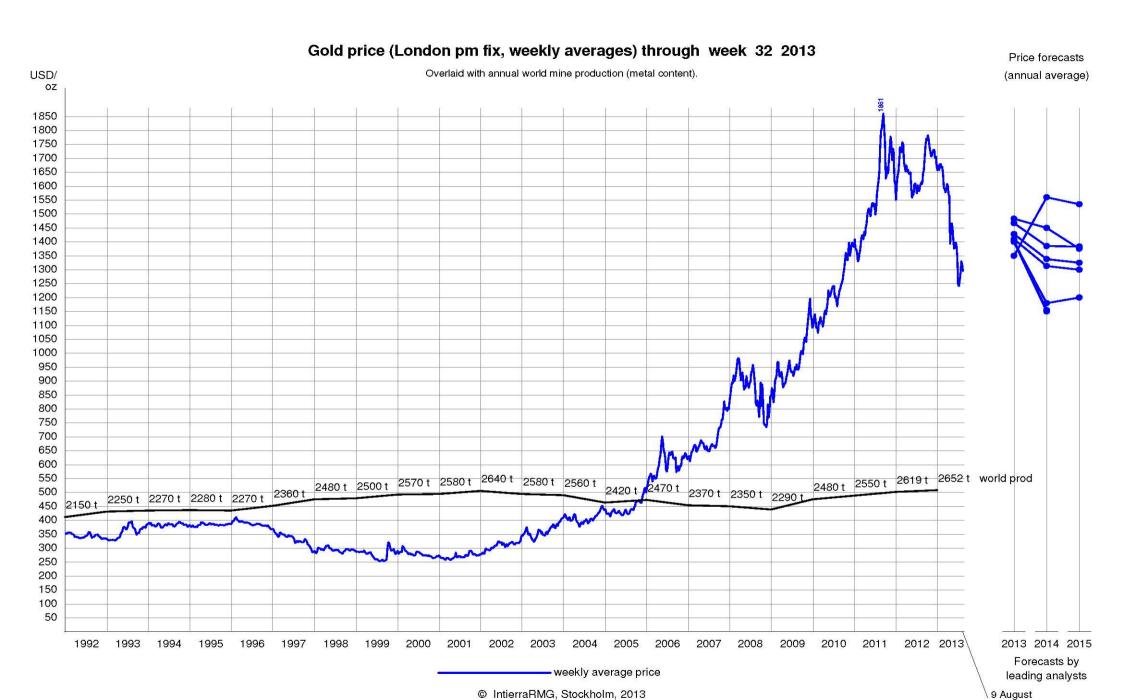


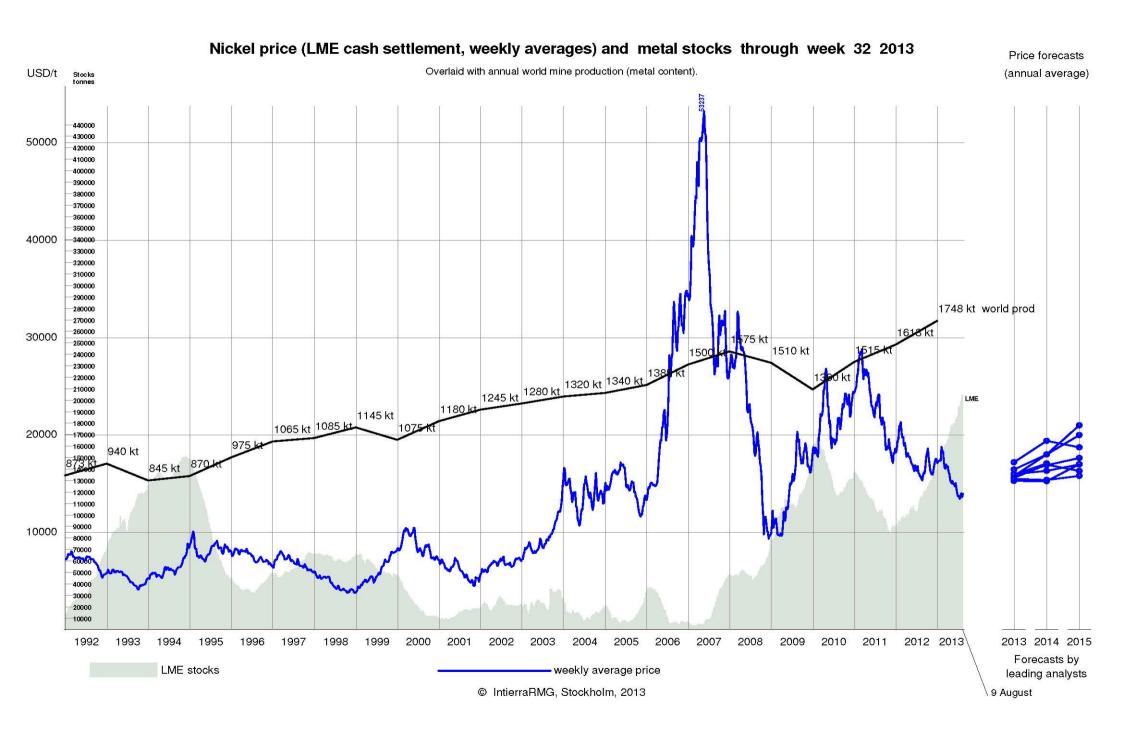
# Foresight on minerals: Finland's perspective

- How to manage increased exploration and mining activity in the country?
  - Economic benefits
  - Environmental protection
  - But also trade politics...
- Acceptance & approval

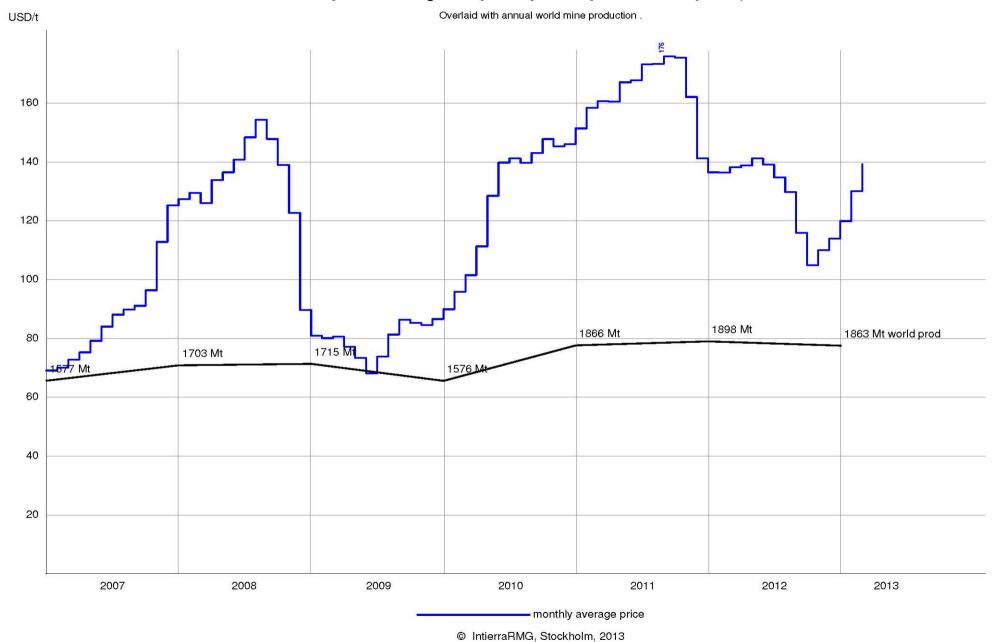
- Several projects incorporating foresigt research:
  - SURE (Thule, GTK & SYKE)
  - LowCarbonFinland2050Platform (VTT, VATT, GTK, Metla)
  - SAM (VTT, SYKE, GTK & HY)







#### Iron ore price - Average composite price imported Fe ore (USD/t) to China



## **Key risks on the mining industry** (Earnst & Young 2013)

- 1. Capital management/access
- 2. Margin protection/productivity
- 3. Resources nationalism
- 4. Social license to operate
- 5. Skills shortage
- 6. Price and currency volatility
- 7. Capital project execution
- 8. Sharing the benefits
- 9. Infrastructure access
- 10. Threat of substitutes

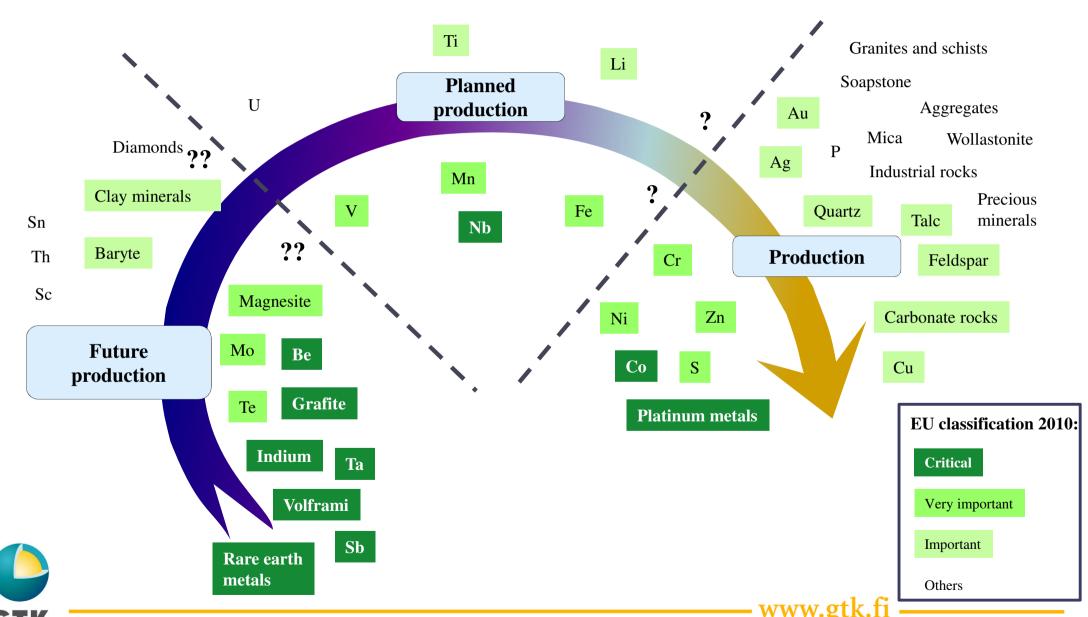


### Long and short term outlooks

- Super cycle continuing driven by China and India?
- Need for raw materials still intensive
- Lowering ore grade, complex mineralogy, going underground?
- Short term development seems challenging
- Profitability problems at some mimes
- Especially junior companies are lacking capital
- However, good projects survive in these conditions also



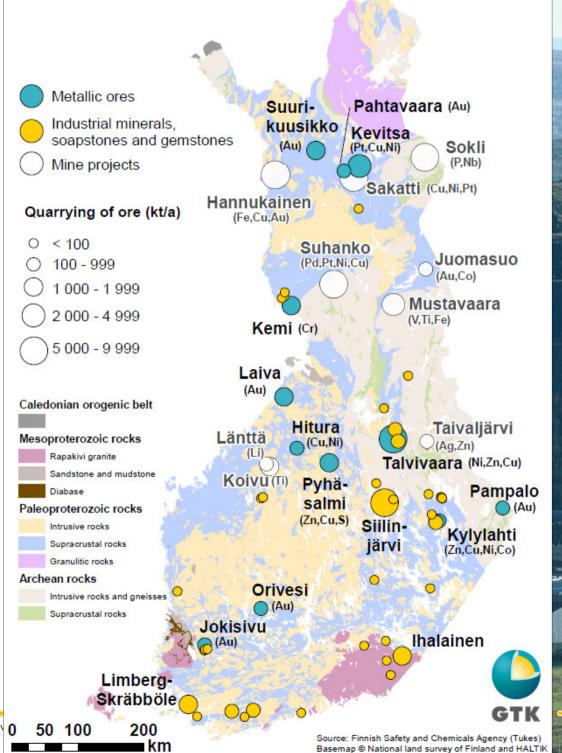
## Wide range of commodities for long-term needs



Pekka A. Nurmi 20.9.2013

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# Mines and projects 2012



24.09.2013

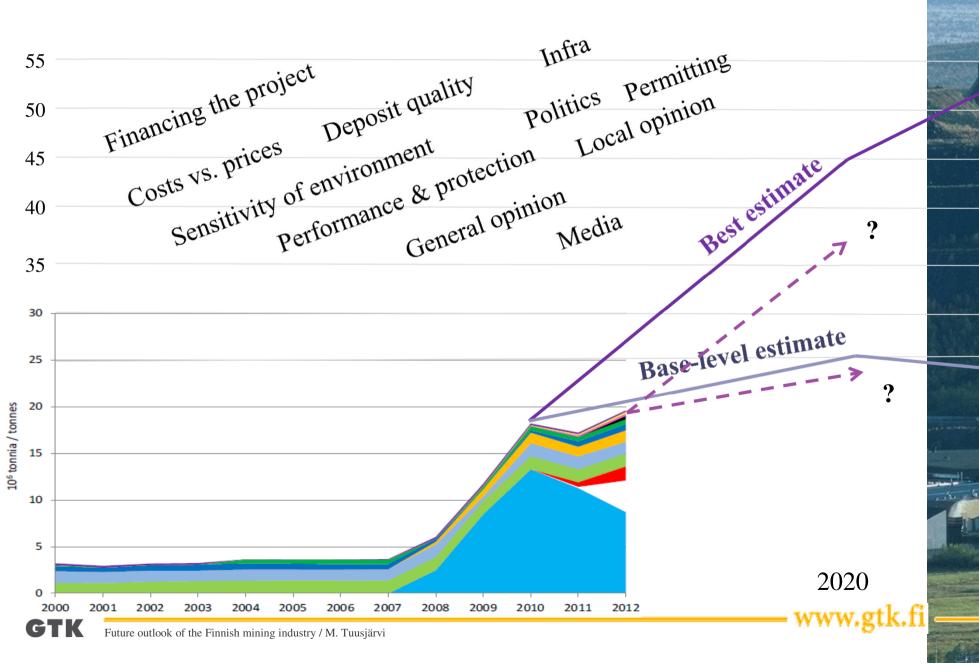


# Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and the Finnish Economy (SURE)

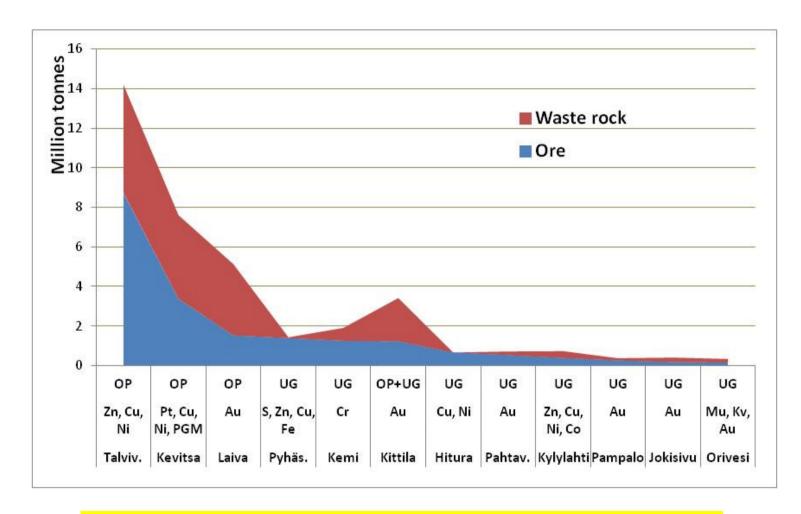
- Development models for the Finnish economy to 2030 (and 2050)
- Mining included
- Three development scenarios from 2010 to 2030: Base-Level, Best-Estimate and Maximum
- Based on company plans and rough estimation of the profitability
- Monetary, physical and environmental indicators

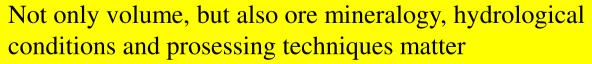


### Future development in ore mining?



### Large and small mining operations









### Opportunities and drawbacks (1)

- Economic: employment, investments, tax receivings, but also struggle with costs and surviving in low price times
- Environmental: intensive land use (exp. open pit mining), mineral waste, mine water, biodiversity loss, energy use, environmental accidents
- Social: employment and economic wealth, fears, insecurity, competition with other businesses, decreasing quality in living environment





### Opportunities and drawbacks (2)

- Opportunities for research society to widen the research subjects, find new partners, get funding and try to make a difference
- Co-operation between industry, academy and governance needed to quarantee a successful development in the future



### Key message

- Mining activity have increased significantly in recent years
- A long-term continuation of the increase will probably take place driven by a global need
- Both benefits and drawbacks
- Water issues are in focus of environmental management
- With climate change the Finnish climate will possibly change more rainy
- This calls for even better techniques and applications, co-operation and motivation for mine water management!



# Environmental protection - a key for future success

(not forgetting profitability however...)

