

Can the Democratic Republic of the Congo produce lithium-ion battery cathode precursor materials?

London and Kinshasa, November 24, 2021 - The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) can leverage its abundant cobalt resources and hydroelectric power to become a low-cost and low-emissions producer of lithium-ion battery cathode precursor materials.

Is DRC a good destination for sustainable battery manufacturing?

Study identifies DRC as a favorable destination for the manufacturing of sustainable battery materials used in high-nickel batteries

Should lithium-ion batteries be expanded to DRC and Africa?

"As substantiated by the BloombergNEF report, the prospect of the expanding the value chain of development of lithium-ion batteries and electric vehicles value chains to DRC and Africa is both financially and environmentally appealing," commented Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, Director General of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).

How much cobalt does the DRC produce?

"The DRC produces about 70 per cent of global cobalt but captures just 3 percent of the battery and electric vehicle value chain.

What is the DRC's cobalt supply chain MoU?

The MOU supports the DRC and Zambia's goal of building a productive supply chain, from the mine to the assembly line, while also committing to respect international standards to prevent, detect, and take legal action to fight corruption throughout this process. The DRC produces more than 70 percent of the world's cobalt.

Could African countries play a major role in the lithium-ion battery supply chain?

African countries could play a major role in the lithium-ion battery supply chain by taking advantage of their abundant natural resources and onshoring more of the value chain.

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Democratic Republic of Congo has aspirations to become the world leader in emerging battery technologies,

but despite its mineral assets, clear political will and grandiose statements from potential donors, considerable challenges need to be addressed before the country can move beyond its traditional role as supplier of raw materials, writes ...

As the world's largest producer of cobalt, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) no longer wants to settle for the role of a raw material supplier. Instead, it wants to build its own battery supply chain in the country.

o Japan has developed a strategy of concentrated investment in the development of all-solid-state battery technology. However, there are still issues with all-solid-state batteries, and the market for liquid lithium-ion batteries (liquid LiBs) is expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

These factories transform raw cobalt from the DRC into high-purity cobalt compounds and integrate them into battery cathodes. Chinese companies like Huayou Cobalt, CATL and BYD have become global leaders in cobalt refining and battery production, supplying the global electric vehicle market.

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Sitting alongside the growing need for improved LIB recycling technologies and the standardization of reuse strategies is a clear scientific goal: the development of a fundamentally more sustainable battery that mitigates issues of supply chain volatility and material abundance while delivering performance surpassing that of LIBs.

Compared with state-of-the-art battery cathode technologies (S1), low-cobalt battery cathode technologies (S2) would effectively decrease cobalt demand, and the diffusion of cobalt-free...



# DR Congo solid state battery technologies

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