

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.

How can Africa extend its access to the battery industry?

In so doing, the country and the rest of Africa can extend their access from the USD271 billion battery precursor segment to the more lucrative USD1.4 trillion combined battery cell production and cell assembly segments of the battery minerals global value chain.

How much would a DRC plant cost?

This is three times cheaper than what a similar plant in the U.S. would cost. A similar plant in China and Poland would cost an estimated \$112 million and \$65 million, respectively. Precursor material produced at plants in the DRC could be cost competitive with material produced in China and Poland but with a lower environmental footprint.

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.

Why is the DRC a cost competitive country?

"The DRC's cost competitiveness comes from its relatively cheap access to land and low engineering, procurement and construction, or EPC, cost compared to the U.S., Poland and China," said Kwasi Ampofo, lead author of the report and BNEF's head of metals and mining.

Why does the DRC rely on hydroelectric power plants?

This is due to the DRC's proximity to cathode raw materials and heavy reliance on hydroelectric power plants.

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. A battery factory is also being considered.

Discover the latest information on the management of the electric battery value chain in the Democratic Republic of Congo. On 17 July 2024, the Minister for Industry, SMEs and SMIs, Mr Louis Kabamba Watum, visited the CCB's ...

The mineral-rich Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is often portrayed as a victim of exploitation by China, the US and Europe in their competition for its minerals, which are critical for the energy transition.

The Matadi Gateway Terminal has realised a significant modernization of port operations in the DR Congo. MGT is on exchange of views with CVM and the Government for the dredging area of the seabeach to allow large international lines to dock directly in Matadi and to end the country's dependence on the ports of neighboring countries located on ...

In December 2022, the White House signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Zambia to support the development in these countries of an electric vehicle (EV) batteries value chain (US Department of State 2022). The announcement came as the two African mining powerhouses ...

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The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) could become a major low-cost and low-emission producer of lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery precursors, says research company BloombergNEF in a report, but the country must move beyond the simple export of raw materials.

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Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt: With the world adopting cleaner energy transitions, ambitious efforts to accelerate plans for low-cost and low-emissions lithium-ion battery cathode precursor materials in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia are nearing reality, with a feasibility study outcome expected in five months.

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