# **BATTERY SUSTAINABILITY**

## PRESENTATION AT BATTERY STORAGE WORKSHOP WEST AFRICA REGIONAL ENERGY SUMMIT

December 2019 | Jesse Gerstin Director of Sustainable Business jesseg@simpliphipower.com



Power. On Your Terms."

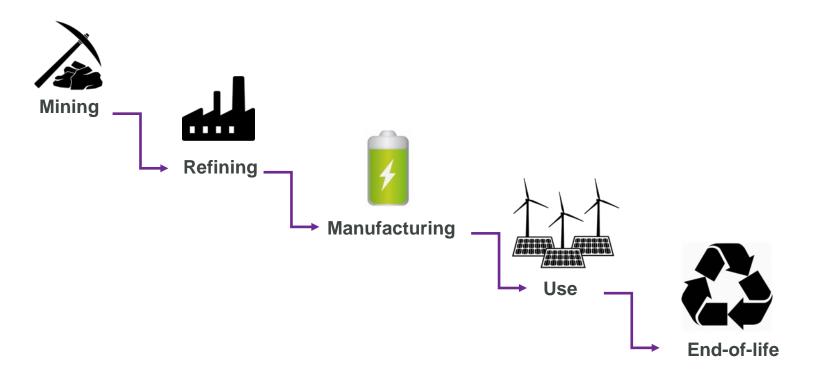
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#### **BATTERY SUPPLY CHAIN**

How can we talk about CLEAN ENERGY unless we look at the environmental and human impacts of the batteries we use?



# MINING





#### **COBALT MINING: HUMAN IMPACT**

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The Democratic Republic of Congo continues to be the world's leading source of mined cobalt, supplying more than 60% of world production. (United States Geologic Survey, 2019)

There are around 200,000 informal copper and cobalt miners in the DRC (Financial Times, 2019)







|   | -                             |   |  |  |                             |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Lithium Ion<br>Chemistry<br>Comparison                | LFP<br>Lithium Iron Phosphate | NMC<br>Lithium Nickel Manganese<br>Cobalt Oxide | LMO<br>Lithium Manganese Oxide<br>(May Contain Cobalt) | NCA<br>Lithium Nickel Cobalt<br>Aluminum Oxide | LCO<br>Lithium Cobalt Oxide |
| Danger of Thermal<br>Runaway & Fire                   | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Toxic Elements  | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Landfill Safe   | YES                           | NO  | NO   | NO   | NO                          |
| Involves Abusive<br>Mining Practices                  | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Ventilation<br>Required                               | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Cooling<br>Equipment<br>\$55 Required                 | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Safety Monitoring<br>Equipment<br>Required            | NO                            | YES   | YES  | YES  | YES                         |
| Able To Withstand<br>High Temperature<br>Environments | YES<br>up to 140°             | NO  | NO   | NO   | NO                          |

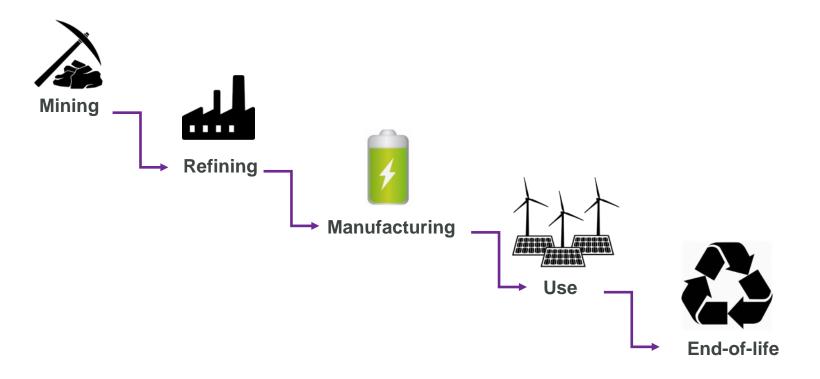
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# **END-OF-LIFE**





### LEAD-ACID BATTERY RECYCLING: WHAT TO AVOID

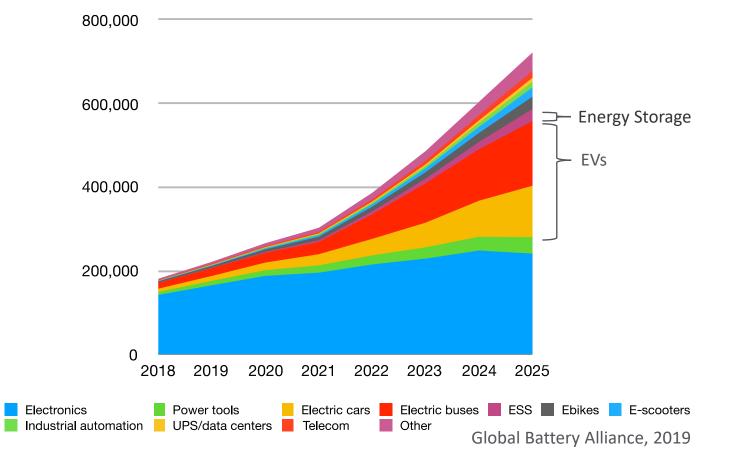




Estimated that lead exposure and poisoning has cost nearly **\$1 trillion US dollars,** driven largely by battery demand.



#### **PROJECTED LI-ION BATTERIES REACHING END-OF-LIFE (GLOBAL, TONNES)**



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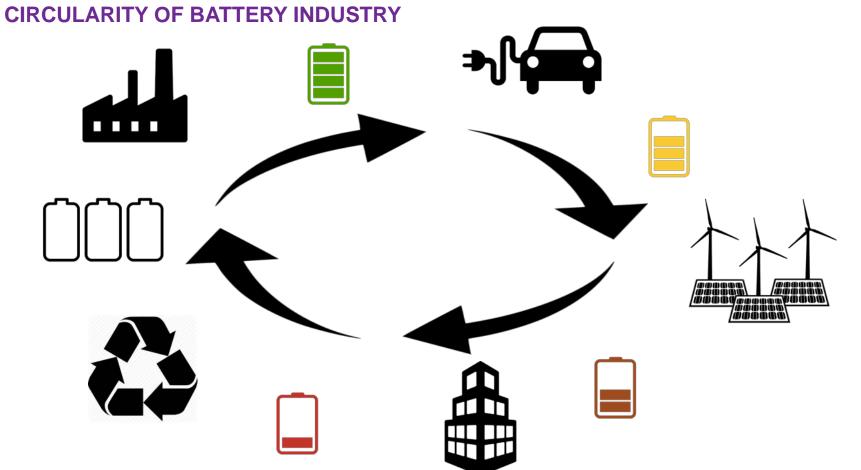




**GLOBAL RECYCLING PARTNERSHIPS** 









## CONCLUSION

- How can battery industry stakeholders collectively support the development of global recycling standards and infrastructure?
  - How to avoid "dumping" in developing countries?
- Who should be responsible for end-of-life?
  - How can companies be incentivized to develop end-of-life strategies in place from the very beginning with project cycles typically 20+ years?
- Can batteries be designed with second and third life in mind from the beginning?
- Are we really accelerating a cleaner and more sustainable energy future if we use toxic and hazardous materials?
- We believe the energy storage sector has to keep sustainability at the forefront at all stages of the supply chain if we are going to scale to achieve broader clean energy and Sustainable Development Goals.





**THANK YOU!**