

Contributing to  
building of awareness,  
learning and transfer of  
knowledge on sustainable  
use of raw materials

[www.cobalt-fp7.eu](http://www.cobalt-fp7.eu)

## cobalt - Contact and partners

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**cobalt**  
awareness . learning . dialogue

# Discussing solutions for industry and civil society

COBALT is an EU-funded project that brings together industry, civil society, research bodies, and public authorities to **stimulate a joint debate** on sustainable raw material use.

## Impacts and scarcity of raw materials

The project focuses particularly on identifying the best ways to **put sustainable raw materials management into practice**, help **inform future innovation activities**, and **support the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials**.

It will explore how the needs of EU industry and civil society can be simultaneously met through innovation along the value chain from extraction to final consumption.

The project will address the following issues:

- security of supply;
- how to grow in substitution and higher value markets;
- the use of raw materials with high environmental and social impacts, and
- skills shortages in raw materials management.

## cobalt Objectives

- **Stimulating exchange** between different stakeholder groups, with a particular focus on industry and civil society organisations, their respective needs and best ways to foster sustainable management of raw materials in Europe and beyond;
- **Facilitating mutual learning** between industry (particularly SMEs and industry associations) and civil society (particularly final consumers and consumer associations) to strengthen the 'eco-innovation spiral';
- Supporting universities, SMEs, and national geological surveys by **identifying skills shortages** and finding ways how to overcome them;
- **Stimulating research activities and partnerships** between SMEs, civil society organisations and geological surveys, and supporting the dissemination of research results.

## cobalt Activities

### European-wide Conferences

The opening and the closing conference **enable knowledge exchange and debate on current challenges and future options** regarding the sustainable management of raw materials in Europe and beyond. Both will take place in Brussels.

### EU and Regional Dialogues

Three European and three regional dialogues **provide the opportunity to discuss specific and topical issues more in-depth** between industry and civil society stakeholders. The regional events will take place in the 'Eastern Europe', 'Iberian Peninsula' and 'North Sea' regions.

### Tackling skills shortages

We **identify existing skills shortages** among different stakeholder groups and develop syllabi and courses to increase capacity for sustainable raw materials management.

### Web-platform

The **cobalt website** provides all necessary information on the project and its activities. It will foster information exchange and networking among stakeholder groups by providing interactive formats and databases.

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