



NOTICE: network on technology-critical elements (COST action TD1407)

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New technologies in the fields of communication, mobility and energy drive the increasing extraction, use and emission of a range of trace elements, including platinum group metals, certain rare earth elements, Nb, Ta, Ga, In, Tl, Ge, Sb, Se, Te, and others. Due to limited resources and supplies, most of these elements are considered technology-critical elements (TCE) of strategic importance, and initiatives at national and international levels are therefore underway to secure their availability in the coming years. Because of their increasing use, poorly understood biogeochemical behaviour and (potential) toxicity, TCE are emerging inorganic contaminants of substantial concern.

The objective of the COST action TD1407 is the creation of a network of scientists with expertise on analytical, environmental and human health aspects of TCEs. The network works on the establishment of the current state of knowledge and gaps and act as a platform for new collaborations and joint research projects. At present, 23 countries participate in the action. Its activities can be followed at: www.costnotice.net.

In order to attain its objectives, the action is organized in three working groups (WG): Analysis and inter-Calibration, Environmental impact and cycling, and Human exposure and (eco)toxicology. Their work is complemented by a fourth working group focused on training and capacity building.

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