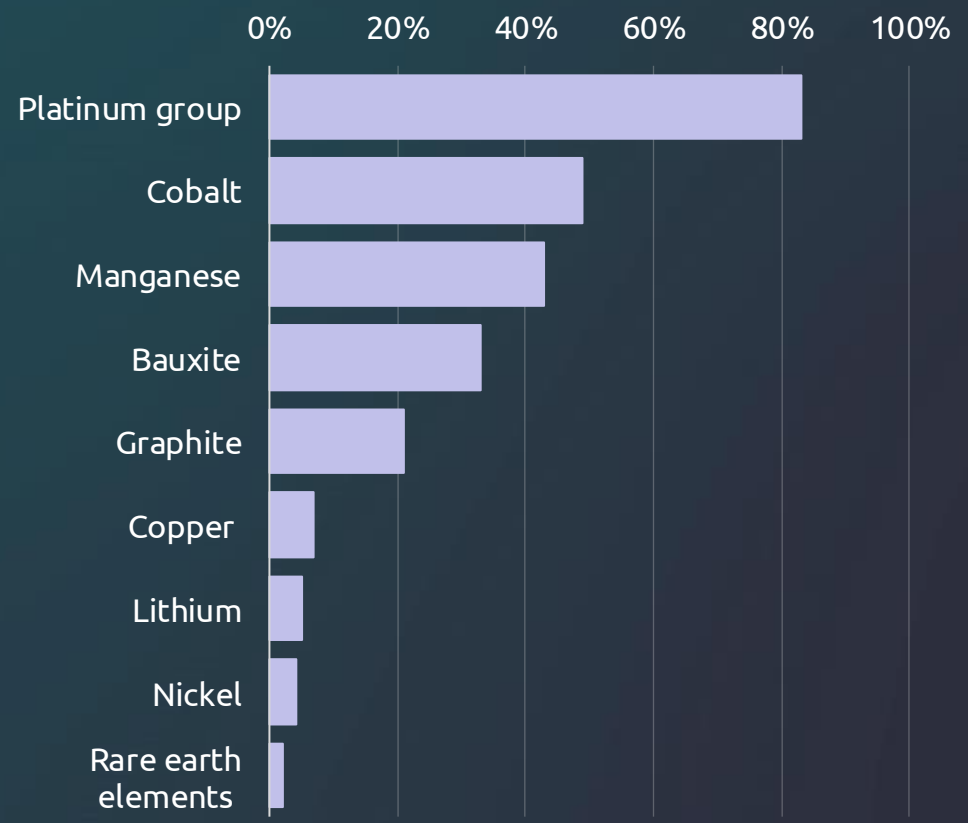

Italy for Climate
STATI GENERALI della Green Economy
AFRICA
The greatest green capital on Earth
insightCOP31

Share of global reserves of critical minerals held by Africa



GOOD NEWS

30% of world critical mineral reserves are located in Africa: building a process industry and shifting to a mineral-based industrialization could be the key to economic and employment growth

60% of the world's best solar resources are located in Africa and solar capacity is surging (figures are underestimated by official statistics)

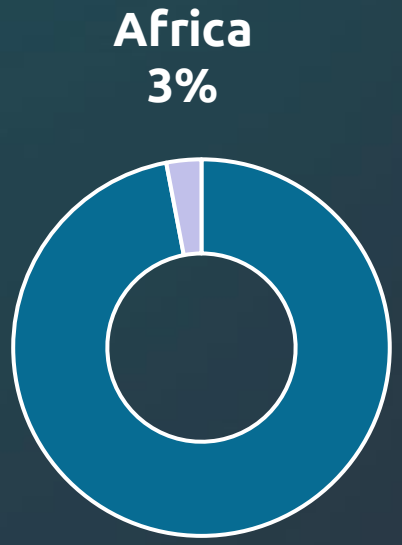
2.2 tons of GHG emissions per capita, 3x less than the global average and 8x less than the USA

1.6 billion people live in Africa (more than India) and in 2050 1 in 4 people will be African

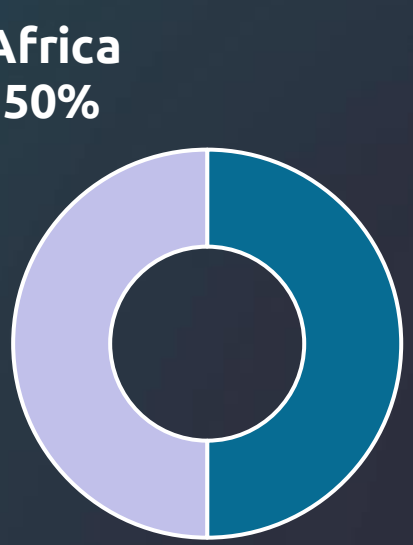
25% of world biodiversity lives in Africa

Data sources: African Union – African Green Minerals Observatory, Ember, UNEP, United Nations

CO_2 historical responsibility



Impacts from climate change (excess mortality in 2050)



BUT…

African countries only contributed to 3% of historical CO_2 emissions, but are bearing the highest impacts, such as 50% of excess mortality in 2050

600 million people in Africa do not have access to electricity

24% of biodiversity has been lost since 1850

48 billion $ gap of financial needs for Africa: 61 billion $ would be needed every year until 2030, but current flows stop at 13 billion $.

Data sources: African Union – African Green Minerals Observatory, Ember, UNEP


“To transform Africa’s resources, renewable energy, and industrial potential into a climate-smart growth engine. (…) This moment is about securing for Africa’s people access to cleaner energy, stronger industries, and dignified jobs that will define our future”
Launch of the Green Industrialization Framework (September 2025)