



European Commission

Enterprise Directorate-General

# Sustainable Development in the EU non-energy extractive industry

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# Content

- EU Industrial Policy and Sustainable Development
- Introduction to the EU extractive industry
- Sustainable development issues for the industry
- Site rehabilitation

# Industrial Policy

## Lisbon Strategy (2000)

“to make the EU the most dynamic and knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustainable growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion”

By 2010

# Industrial Policy

Gothenburg (2001)

Recognition that in the long term, economic growth, social cohesion and environmental protection must go hand in hand.

# EU Policy Framework

- Systematic monitoring of developments and a review of the state of competitiveness of individual sectors
- Assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of legislative proposals
- A clear focus on research, innovation and entrepreneurship

- Diverse geology within Europe

**Non-energy extractive industry**



# Non-energy extractive industry

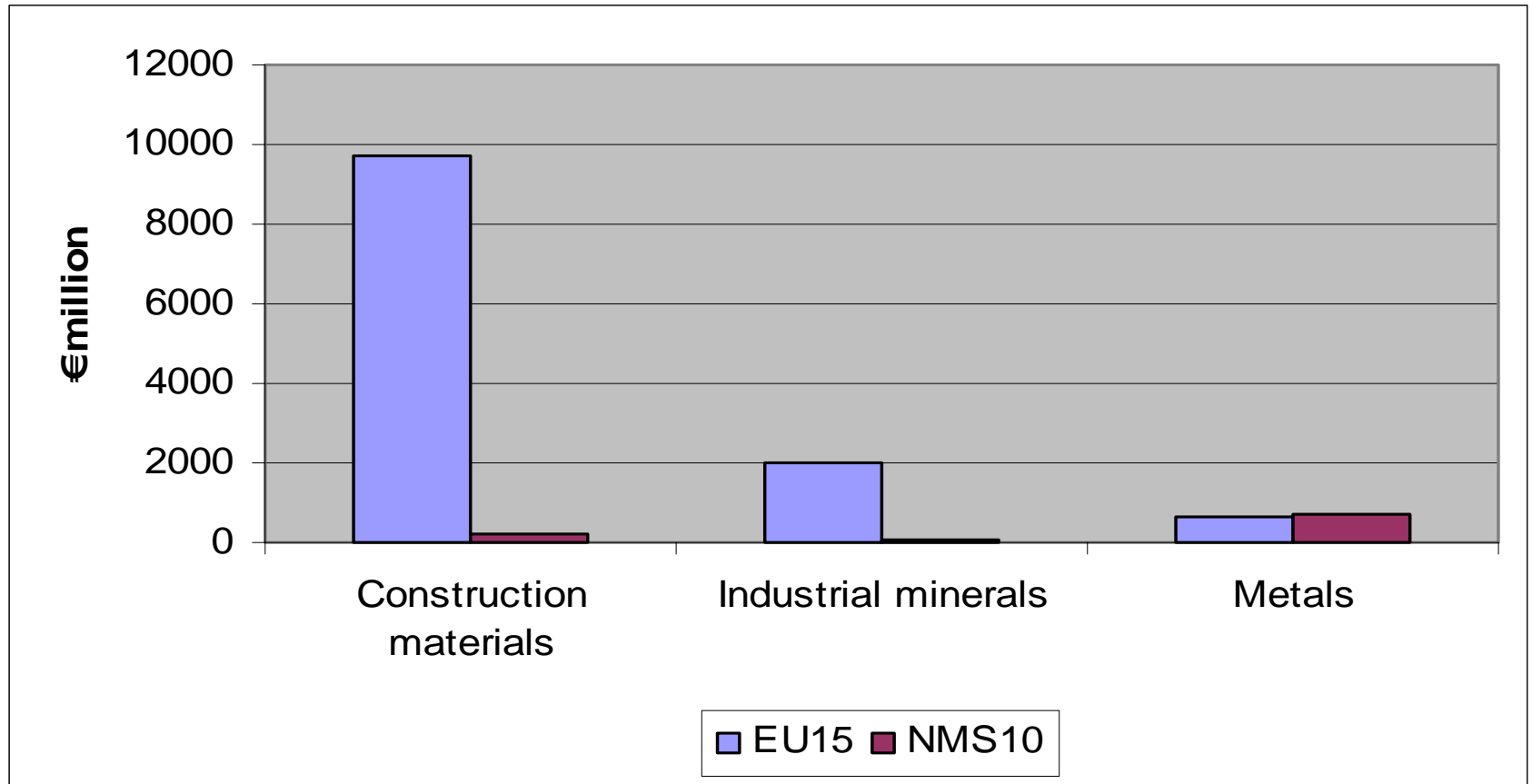
- Diverse geology within Europe
- Long history of mineral extraction



# Non-energy extractive industry

- Diverse geology within Europe
- Long history of mineral extraction
- Significant contribution to the European economy

# Value added for each sub-sector in 2001

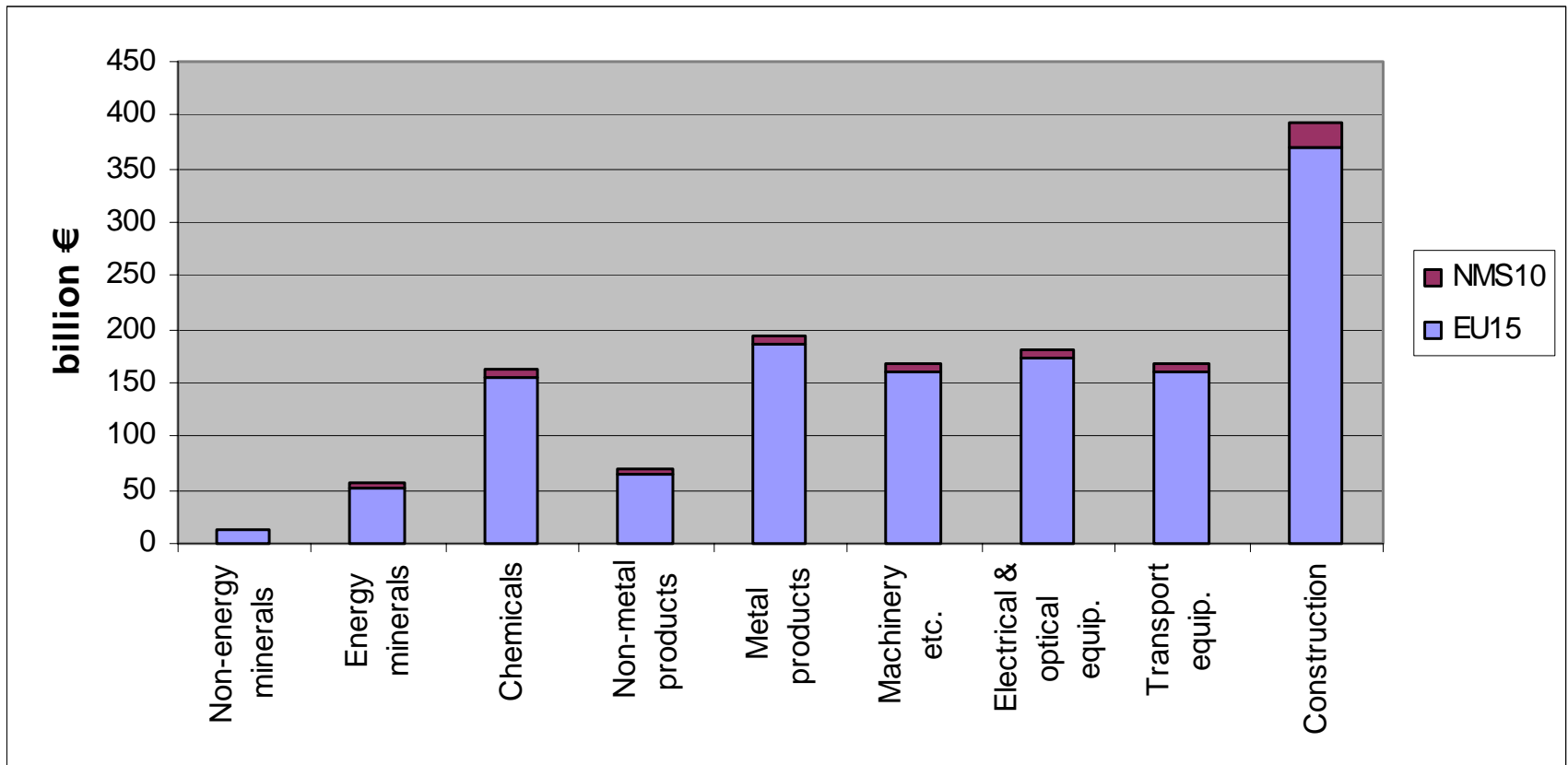


Data source - Eurostat

# Non-energy extractive industry

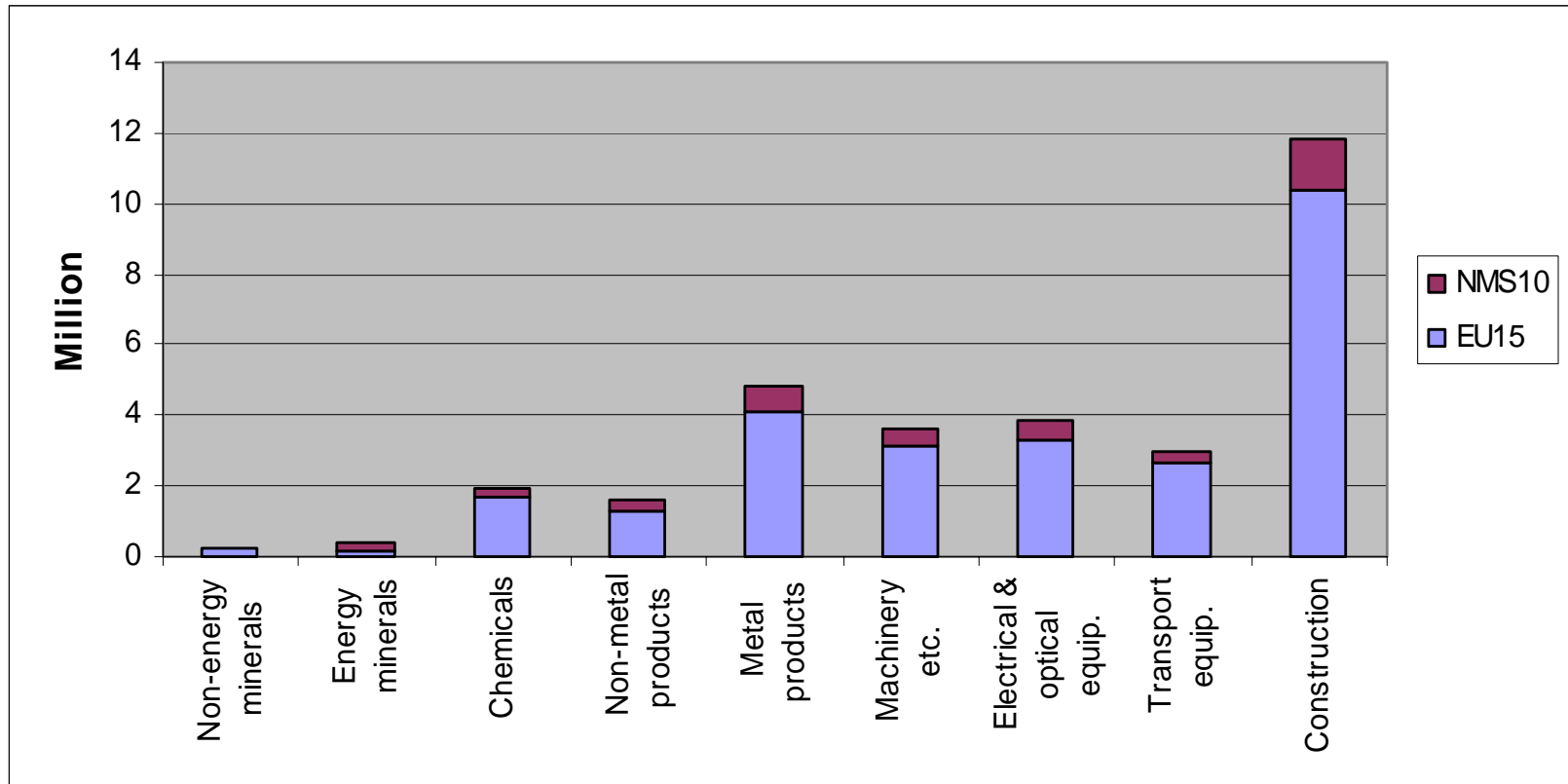
- Diverse geology within Europe
- Long history of mineral extraction
- Significant contribution to the European economy
- Vital supplier of raw materials to downstream sectors

# Value added for different industrial sectors in 2001



Data source - Eurostat

# Number employed in different industrial sectors in 2001



Data source - Eurostat

# Non-energy extractive industry

- Diverse geology within Europe
- Long history of mineral extraction
- Significant contribution to the European economy
- Vital supplier of raw materials to downstream sectors
- A legacy of dereliction and pollution





# Non-energy extractive industry

- Diverse geology within Europe
- Long history of mineral extraction
- Significant contribution to the European economy
- Vital supplier of raw materials to downstream sectors
- A legacy of dereliction and pollution
- A modern, responsible and technologically advanced industry



# EU sustainable development policy

‘Promoting sustainable development in the EU non-energy extractive industry’ COM (2000)265

- Environmental protection
- Economic aspects
- Social performance
- Enlargement
- Stakeholder dialogue

# Environmental Protection

## Issues

- Use of non-renewable resources
- Impacts on the quality of the environment
  - Dust
  - Noise
  - Soil and water pollution
  - Destruction or disturbance of natural habitats
  - Visual impact on the surrounding landscape

# Environmental Protection

- Legacy of abandoned mines sites and restored quarries
- Safer handling and disposal of dangerous wastes
- Replacement of hazardous processing methods
- Use of information technology to monitor environmental impacts in real time
- Improved methods of site restoration

# Environmental Protection

## Legislative proposals

- Water Framework Directive
- Strategic environmental assessment
- Seveso II
- Management of Waste from the Extractive industry
- Environmental liability

# Economic aspects

## Skilled workforce

- Mining engineers
- Geologists
- Planners
- Ecologists
- Restoration specialists
- Etc.....

## Issues

- Human resources
- Land access
- Stable and predictable legal framework
- Research and technological development
- Availability of infrastructure

# Economic aspects

## Issues

- Human resources
  - Land access
  - Stable and predictable legal framework
  - Research and technological development
  - Availability of infrastructure
- Public and political pressure opposing new sites
  - Sterilisation of high quality resources
  - Time and cost of obtaining permits

# Economic aspects

## Issues

- Human resources
  - Land access
  - Stable and predictable legal framework
  - Research and technological development
  - Availability of infrastructure
- Long life of many sites
  - High initial investment
  - Increased costs of retrospective changes

# Economic aspects

## Issues

- Human resources
  - Land access
  - Stable and predictable legal framework
  - Research and technological development
  - Availability of infrastructure
- Identifying resources
    - Efficient production
    - Reduced waste generation
    - Communication
    - Etc...

# Economic aspects

## Issues

- Human resources
  - Land access
  - Stable and predictable legal framework
  - Research and technological development
  - Availability of infrastructure
- transport
  - freight costs
  - energy supply

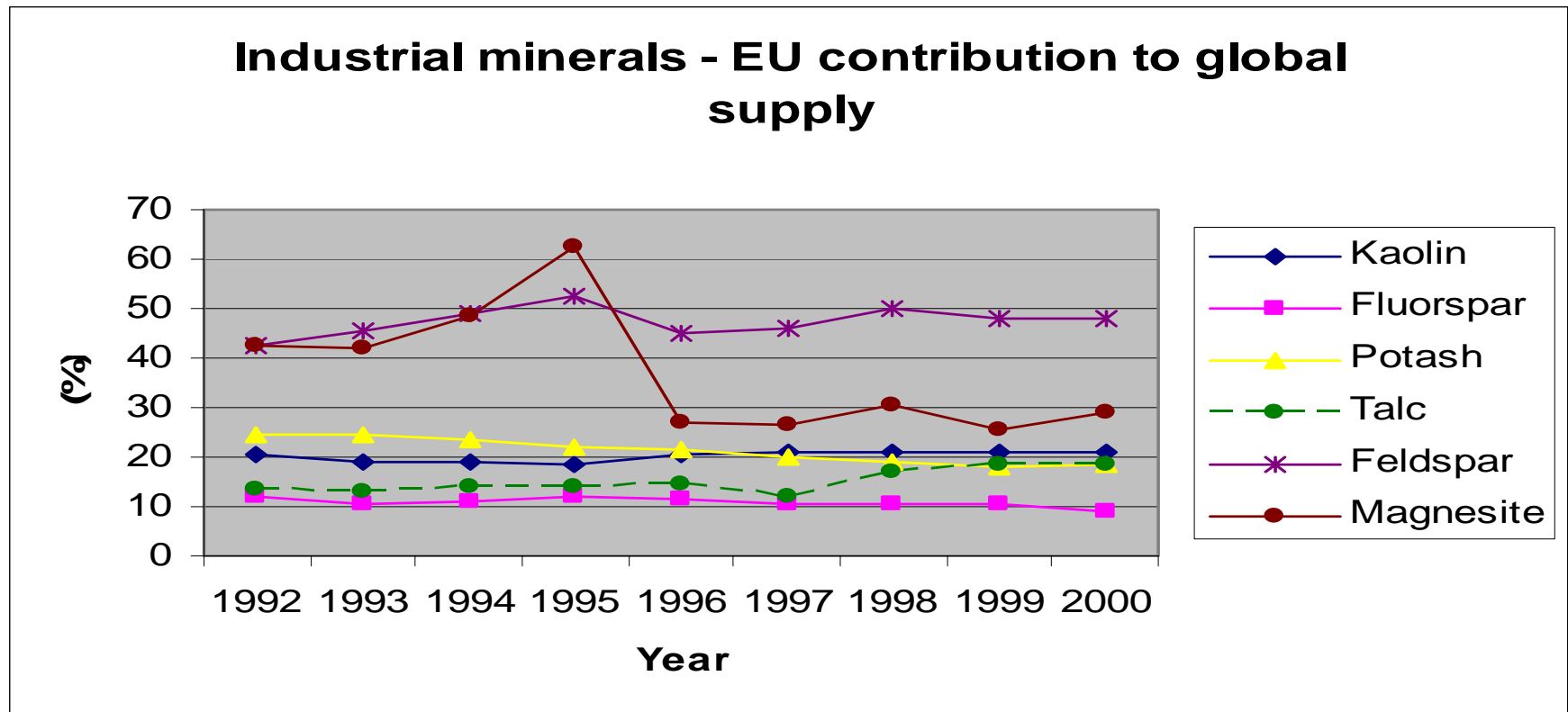
# Economic aspects

## Issues

- Human resources
- Land access
- Stable and predictable legal framework
- Research and technological development
- Availability of infrastructure
- Globalisation

# Globalisation

- Competition from China, India, USA etc.
- Opportunities – markets/technology transfer



# Social Aspects

- Occupational health and safety
- Training/higher education
- Effect on sources of income for surrounding population
- Regionally important source of employment

# Enlargement

- Important additional source of metals and industrial minerals
- Active extractive industry
- Restructuring and privatisation underway
- Scope for technology transfer
- Need for adoption of Community legislation/good practice
- Environmental rehabilitation

# Stakeholder dialogue

- Communication between industry, Governments, environmental NGOs, general public
- Voluntary industry initiatives
  - Sustainable development indicators
  - Industry open days
- Raw Materials Supply Group

# Conclusions

- The EU extractive industry is vital for European economic success and achievement of the Lisbon objectives
- But, industry must operate within the framework of sustainable development if it is to be acceptable to the general public and politicians
- High quality site rehabilitation is vital to the achievement of sustainable development



**Thank you for your attention**