

Table of contents

Foreword	XV
Preface	XIX
CHAPTER 1 : The special roles that metals like steel or copper play in the energy system.	1
Abstract	1
Keywords	2
1. Introduction	4
2. Steel helps gain access to more energy	5
3. Steel makes it possible to provide the right amount of energy in the right form	6
4. Conventional processes of metallic iron production	8
4.1. <i>Reliance on carbon-based energy sources</i>	8
4.2. <i>Coal is a natural capital partially transferred to metallic iron</i> ..	10
4.3. <i>Power generation in the conventional steel production process.</i> ..	10
4.4. <i>Exchanges with the energy network</i>	11
5. Basics of steel production: energy needs for metallic iron production	11
6. Principles of steel production: choice of a form of work to produce iron	13
7. Integration in the electricity grid of steady electric production of metallic iron to manage peak demand.	17
7.1. <i>Steady electric production of metallic iron</i>	17
7.2. <i>Grid balance and variable electricity demand</i>	17
7.3. <i>Empowerment of individual end-users.</i>	18
7.4. <i>Demand response in general</i>	20
7.5. <i>Demand response from a flexible electrolytic plant.</i>	20
7.6. <i>Section conclusion</i>	22
8. Contribution to Decarbonization	22
8.1. <i>Reliance on a panel of primary energy sources that includes non-carbon energy sources.</i>	22

8.2.	<i>Increased share of fluctuating energy sources</i>	23
8.3.	<i>Energetically favorable CCS, based on the use of oxygen generated by electrolysis.</i>	23
8.4.	<i>Limited reliance on backup peaking plants that are strong CO₂ emitters.</i>	24
8.5.	<i>Improved energy efficiency of fossil fuel power plants</i>	24
8.6.	<i>Conclusion about carbon dioxide energy mitigation</i>	24
9.	Contribution to Energy storage	24
9.1.	<i>Energy is stored in metal electrowinning systems.</i>	24
9.2.	<i>Iron is the best-fitted atom to carry out redox reactions</i>	25
9.3.	<i>Hydrogen is worst-fitted to carry out redox reactions.</i>	25
9.4.	<i>Iron system is a low-capital storage system</i>	25
9.5.	<i>Conclusion on energy storage</i>	25
10.	Conservation of natural capital and minimization of anthropogenic capital	26
10.1.	<i>Reduced consumption of natural energy resources</i>	26
10.2.	<i>Conservation of existing capital of power plants, increasing their capacity factor</i>	27
10.3.	<i>Steel maintains its capital by recycling.</i>	27
10.4.	<i>Conclusions on conservation of natural capital and anthropogenic infrastructure</i>	28
10.5.	<i>Electrification of steel production as an outlet to electricity generation</i>	28
10.6.	<i>Component of the electricity grid with firm commitment</i>	29
10.7.	<i>Single counterpart, which controls a large share of demand</i>	29
10.8.	<i>Responsiveness to higher-value applications of electricity</i>	29
10.9.	<i>Centralized electrification is better than electrification of personal transport PHEV</i>	30
10.10.	<i>Low-dependency on future energy scenarios</i>	30
10.11.	<i>Conclusions on the smart use of energy</i>	31
11.	Extensions of Energy Networks	31
11.1.	<i>Iron ore trade represents a network comparable to existing energy resource networks</i>	31
11.2.	<i>Steel trade constitutes an energy network, transporting energy in a compact form</i>	31
11.3.	<i>Correlating RENs and energy needs separated by long distances</i>	32
11.4.	<i>Low immobilization of resources, no stockpiles of energy, fluid energy networks</i>	33
11.5.	<i>Steel competes favorably with hydrogen as an energy.</i>	33
11.6.	<i>Scrap is similar to an energy network</i>	34
11.7.	<i>Steel contributes to the man-made environment of energy networks and creates a positive feedback</i>	34
11.8.	<i>Conclusions on extension of energy networks</i>	34

12. Conclusions	35
13. Acknowledgments	37
14. Bibliography	37
15. References	38

CHAPTER 2 : Materials, Greenhouse Gas emissions and Climate Change	43
Abstract	43
Keywords	44
1. Introduction	47
2. Climate Change 101	48
2.1. <i>Physics of the atmosphere</i>	48
2.2. <i>Anthropogenic GreenHouse Gas emissions</i>	52
2.3. <i>Abundant evidence of rapid Climate Change</i>	60
2.4. <i>Foresight and Climate Change</i>	63
3. Low-carbon policies for countries, cities, industry, civil society and other players	69
3.1. <i>International efforts to fight Climate Change</i>	69
3.2. <i>The role of countries</i>	73
3.3. <i>EU policies</i>	76
3.4. <i>Cities</i>	78
3.5. <i>Civil Society</i>	78
3.6. <i>Industry</i>	79
4. How to track the responsibility for Climate Change?	81
5. Mitigation paths in the materials sectors	83
5.1. <i>The Steel sector</i>	84
5.2. <i>Non-ferrous metals</i>	92
5.3. <i>Other materials</i>	93
5.4. <i>Conclusion on materials</i>	94
6. Conclusions	96
Appendix 1. Global warming potential of various gases from AR4	100
Appendix 2. Equivalence between the SRES and RCP scenarios of the IPCC	102
Appendix 3. Summary of the ULCOS program	102
Appendix 4. Process routes recently investigated in the EU for low-carbon steel production	109
7. Bibliography	112
7.1. <i>Books & movies</i>	112
7.2. <i>Articles & reports</i>	112
7.3. <i>Websites</i>	113
7.4. <i>Association and regulatory documents</i>	114
7.5. <i>Journals, newspapers and on-line</i>	114
8. References	114

CHAPTER 3 : Biodiversity and Materials	121
Abstract	121
Keywords	122
1. Introduction	123
2. Biodiversity and ecosystem services.	
What can be learned from scientific ecology?	124
3. Business strategies to address biodiversity issues	132
4. A miner's experience with Biodiversity	134
5. A Steel company's approach to biodiversity	137
6. Biodiversity and ecosystem stability	140
7. Conclusions	142
8. Bibliography	144
9. References	145
CHAPTER 4 : Methods to deal with materials in a holistic way: Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Materials Flow Analysis (MFA), Sustainability Assessment of Technologies (SAT), etc.	149
Abstract	149
Keywords	150
1. Introduction	152
2. General presentation of holistic methods	154
3. Life Cycle Assessment	157
3.1. <i>Introduction to LCA</i>	157
3.2. <i>First things first... defining LCA from a simple example</i>	158
3.3. <i>A more formal definition of LCA</i>	165
3.4. <i>Examples of LCA of common materials</i>	169
3.5. <i>The future of LCA</i>	178
3.6. <i>Rebound and perverse effects</i>	178
3.7. <i>Recycling and LCA</i>	179
3.8. <i>Dynamic LCA</i>	182
3.9. <i>Beyond LCA</i>	184
3.10. <i>Conclusions on LCA</i>	185
4. Material Flow Analysis	185
4.1. <i>First things first... defining MFA from a simple example</i>	187
4.2. <i>MFA of various materials and uses of MFA</i>	200
4.3. <i>Open issues with MFA</i>	209
4.4. <i>MFAc</i>	210
5. Other methods	212
5.1. <i>Sustainability Assessment of Technologies (SAT)</i>	212
5.2. <i>Environment decision-making based on Emergy</i>	213
5.3. <i>Sustainability assessment using a scoreboard</i>	215
5.4. <i>Best available techniques or technologies</i>	217
5.5. <i>ISO standard series related to environmental issues</i>	219

6. Conclusion of chapter 4	220
7. Acknowledgements	222
Appendix 1. The metallogeny of old scrap according to the CdF model	222
Appendix 2. List of environmental ISO standards of the 14000 series. .	224
8. Bibliography	224
9. References	225
CHAPTER 5 : Materials and Health.	231
Abstract	231
Keywords	232
1. Introduction	234
2. Elements of toxicology	237
2.1. Somatic effects of toxicity.	243
2.2. Germinal effects	246
2.3. Genotoxicity and carcinogenicity.	246
3. Toxicology of populations	249
4. Ecotoxicology.	250
5. Toxic substances related to materials.	252
5.1. Toxicity of substances as materials or as ion speciations	252
5.2. Toxicity of substances generated during material production or utilization	267
5.3. Exposure to ionizing radiation	277
6. International regulation of chemicals	280
7. Conclusions	281
Appendix 1. Classification of pesticides	284
Appendix 2. Toxic Substances List – Schedule 1	286
8. Bibliography.	292
8.1. Journals.	292
8.2. Institutional websites	292
8.3. Roadmaps and regulatory documents	292
8.4. Books.	292
8.5. Books and textbooks	293
9. References	293
CHAPTER 6 : Emissions & pollution: global & local environmental issues	299
Abstract	299
Keywords	301
1. Introduction	303
2. Pollution and emissions, when and why did it start?	305
2.1. Air emissions from material industries.	309
2.2. Air pollution	312
2.3. Trends in air pollution.	315

2.4.	<i>Air pollution and health.</i>	316
2.5.	<i>Mechanisms of air pollution.</i>	317
2.6.	<i>Local and global air pollution</i>	321
2.7.	<i>Bacterial pollution</i>	325
2.8.	<i>Indoor air pollution</i>	325
2.9.	<i>Foresight on air pollution targets.</i>	326
2.10.	<i>Conclusions on air pollution</i>	327
3.	Emissions to water – water contamination and pollution	328
3.1.	<i>Air and water</i>	328
3.2.	<i>Basics of water dynamics in the hydrosphere, geosphere and biosphere.</i>	330
3.3.	<i>Water pollution</i>	331
3.4.	<i>Water pollution from industry and particularly from the materials sectors</i>	335
3.5.	<i>Conclusions on water issues and water pollution.</i>	342
4.	Soil contamination and ground pollution	344
4.1.	<i>Definition of soil contamination</i>	344
4.2.	<i>Examples of soil contamination</i>	345
4.3.	<i>Sludge and tailings</i>	346
4.4.	<i>Anthropogenic mines</i>	347
4.5.	<i>Legal issues</i>	348
4.6.	<i>Conclusions on ground pollution</i>	348
5.	Responsibility for emissions and pollution and the role of industry, regulatory agencies and other players	349
5.1.	<i>Environmental legislation and rules</i>	349
5.2.	<i>How is closure reached in the case of pollution events?</i>	350
6.	New kinds of pollution	352
7.	Droughts, desertification and long-term phenomena that go beyond simple pollution	353
8.	Conclusions on emissions and pollution	354
Appendix 1. Trends in air pollution in Europe.		358
Appendix 2. Premature mortality due to air pollution in different countries in 2010		359
Appendix 3. Evolution of some organic air emissions (POPs)		360
Appendix 4. Evolution of air emissions of some heavy metals since 1990 (France).		361
Appendix 5. Conclusions of the UN regarding MDG #7		364
Appendix 6. Foresight on particulate matter and ozone concentrations		365
9.	Bibliography.	367
9.1.	<i>Books.</i>	367
9.2.	<i>Journals.</i>	367
9.3.	<i>Websites & others.</i>	367
9.4.	<i>Reports</i>	368
10.	References	369

CHAPTER 7 : History, geography and geopolitics of materials . . .	377
Abstract	377
Keywords	378
1. Introduction	380
2. Materials	380
2.1. <i>Materials before metals</i>	381
2.2. <i>Early metals in Ancient Times</i>	382
2.3. <i>The Middle Ages until Modern Times</i>	383
2.4. <i>The industrial revolutions</i>	385
2.5. <i>Timeline of changes in the materials activities</i> <i>since the late 1600s</i>	388
2.6. <i>Materia economicus</i>	390
3. Materials production: geographic distribution of the major world players	399
3.1. <i>Iron and steel</i>	399
3.2. <i>Cement</i>	401
3.3. <i>Cobalt</i>	402
3.4. <i>Other metals</i>	403
4. Materials production: business dimension of major industrial world players	404
4.1. <i>Iron and steel</i>	404
4.2. <i>Aluminum</i>	414
4.3. <i>Other non-ferrous metals</i>	417
4.4. <i>Cement</i>	425
4.5. <i>Polymers</i>	427
5. Conclusions	430
Appendix 1. Structure of the manufacturing industry	434
Appendix 2. First and second producers of materials and of some minerals in the world (2015)	435
6. Bibliography	438
6.1. <i>Articles</i>	438
6.2. <i>Journals</i>	439
6.3. <i>Books</i>	439
6.4. <i>Websites, reports</i>	439
7. References	440
CHAPTER 8 : Philosophy, social sciences and holistic views about materials	443
Abstract	444
Keywords	446
1. Introduction	448
2. Philosophy of Science, of Technology, of Matter and of Materials 449	
2.1. <i>Materialism and Materiality</i>	449

2.2.	<i>Philosophy of Science</i>	450
2.3.	<i>Etymology of keywords in the Philosophy of Science.</i>	450
2.4.	<i>Earlier Western Philosophers of Science</i>	451
2.5.	<i>Modern Western Philosophers of Science</i>	455
2.6.	<i>Non-Western philosophies of science.</i>	463
2.7.	<i>Philosophy of technology</i>	464
2.8.	<i>Philosophy of materials.</i>	470
2.9.	<i>Philosophy of the environment.</i>	471
3.	Sociology of Materials	472
4.	Materials, according to Leroi Gourhan	476
5.	Materials, in the historical timeline	477
6.	Materials constitute the frontiers and barriers that separate the world ecology spheres.	478
7.	Materials' Social Value.	480
8.	Narratives about materials and storytelling.	480
9.	Materials' Eco-Social System Services (ESSS)	482
10.	Preconceptions and sophisms related to Materials.	482
11.	Strong and Hard vs. Weak and Soft concepts	484
12.	Economic concepts related to materials	486
12.1.	<i>Malthus and Malthusianism</i>	486
12.2.	<i>IPAT equation</i>	487
12.3.	<i>Schumpeter and the theory of creative destruction.</i>	488
13.	The Theory of Risk	489
14.	Cleanliness, purity and pollution	490
15.	Progress	491
16.	Conclusions	493
	Appendix 1. Descartes' rules in the "Discours de la méthode".	495
	Appendix 2. Wittgenstein's seven proposals	496
	Appendix 3. List of European technology Platforms (ETPs) in 2017.	496
17.	Bibliography.	497
	References.	500
 CHAPTER 9 : Foresight & Environmental Metallurgy		509
	Abstract	509
	Keywords	510
1.	Introduction.	512
2.	Demography & GDP Growth	513
2.1.	<i>Section Demographic projections</i>	513
2.2.	<i>Long-term evolution of economic growth</i>	517
3.	Foresight on environmental impacts	517
4.	Foresight on material production.	518
4.1.	<i>The rationales for foresight exercises about materials</i>	518
4.2.	<i>Foresight on materials: Intensity of Use and Intensity of Stock</i>	520

4.3.	<i>Foresight on steel production</i>	524
4.4.	<i>Foresight on aluminum production</i>	526
4.5.	<i>Foresight on cement and glass production</i>	526
5.	Conclusions	527
	Appendix 1. A very short history of Foresight and Future Studies	528
	Appendix 2. Population projections up to 2300	531
	Appendix 3. Largest cities in the 21st century	533
	Appendix 4. Construction of long-term emissions targets	534
	Appendix 5. About Kuznets curves	536
	Appendix 6. Valley of Death model and Hype Cycle of emerging technologies	537
6.	Bibliography	539
6.1.	<i>Journals</i>	539
6.2.	<i>Websites</i>	539
6.3.	<i>Books</i>	539
6.4.	<i>Reports</i>	540
6.5.	<i>Associations, Research groups, etc.</i>	540
6.6.	<i>Conferences</i>	540
7.	References	541
 CHAPTER 10 : Conclusions, materials in space and time		545
1.	Introduction	545
2.	Imbrication of the technical, social and environmental dimensions of Materials	546
3.	Sustainability and Industrial Ecology narratives	546
4.	Crash course on traditional (old) Materials Science	547
5.	Origin of Materials in the cosmological and the historical pasts ..	548
6.	Materials are many and complementary	549
7.	Materials' surface, the first boundary between material and ecosphere	550
8.	Process engineering of environmental emissions	550
9.	Resources extracted from the geosphere to make Materials	551
10.	Reuse, Recycling and the Circular Economy	551
11.	Materials and Climate Change	552
12.	Materials and Biodiversity	553
13.	Metrics to measure the sustainability of Materials	553
14.	Materials and Health	554
15.	Emissions during the production of Materials and pollution	555
16.	Materials as geopolitical instruments	555
17.	Softer, Social-Science narratives about Materials	556
18.	Foresight about Materials	557
19.	Conclusions?	558
20.	References	559

CHAPTER 11 : Materials, COVID-19 and sanitary risks	561
Abstract	561
1. Introduction	564
2. Is the COVID-19 pandemic a Black Swan Event?	565
3. Foresight about the Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2	570
4. Foresight about the economy, following the COVID-19 pandemic 573	
4.1. <i>Short Term Outlooks (STOs)</i>	573
4.2. <i>Jobs, employment</i>	576
4.3. <i>Aggregated indices</i>	578
4.4. <i>Commodities, materials</i>	580
4.5. <i>Resilience to crises</i>	582
4.6. <i>The demand shock and the sanitary crisis</i>	583
5. Alternative economic views, post-COVID-19 pandemic	585
6. Views from SSH of the COVID-19 pandemic	587
7. The virus and nature, the biosphere	588
7.1. <i>Viruses as an integral part of the biosphere</i>	588
7.2. <i>Biodiversity</i>	589
7.3. <i>Air pollution</i>	590
7.4. <i>Climate change</i>	592
7.5. <i>Materials?</i>	593
8. The virus and the geosphere	593
9. The virus and the anthroposphere	594
10. Materials specific issues	596
11. Conclusions	599
Appendix 1. Consumer spending in the US, pandemic's three months . . 602	
Appendix 2. Novels about pandemics and confinement	604
12. References	604
Glossary – Acronyms and abbreviations	613
Index	627