

**ESTABLISHMENT OF MALYSIAN RARE EARTH INDUSTRY AS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GREEN TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES**

MUCET 2013

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**UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2013**



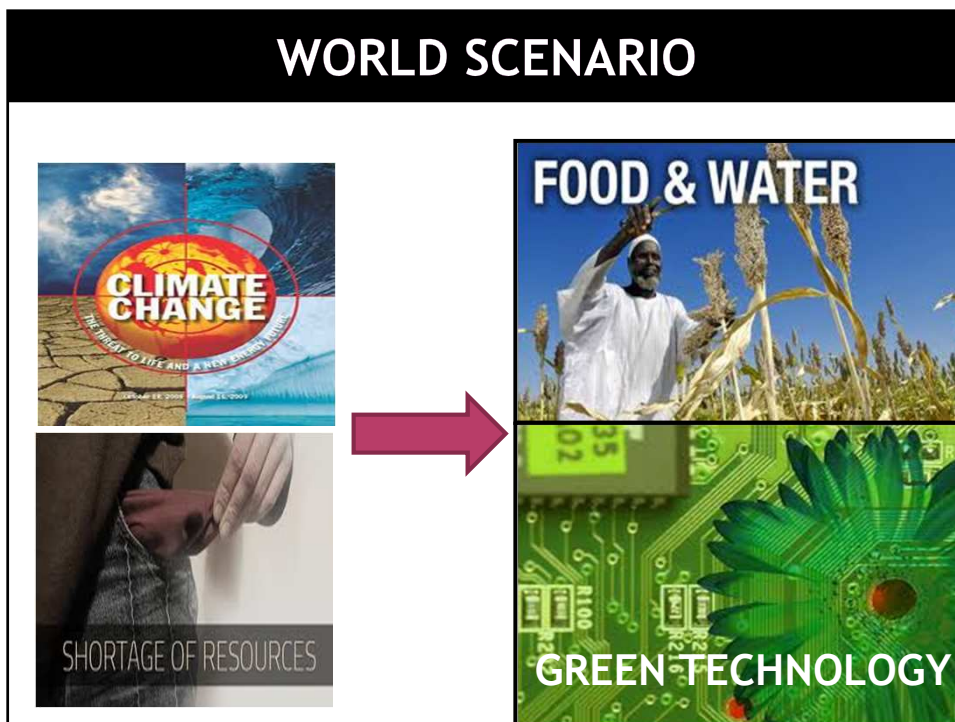
**WORLD SCENARIO**

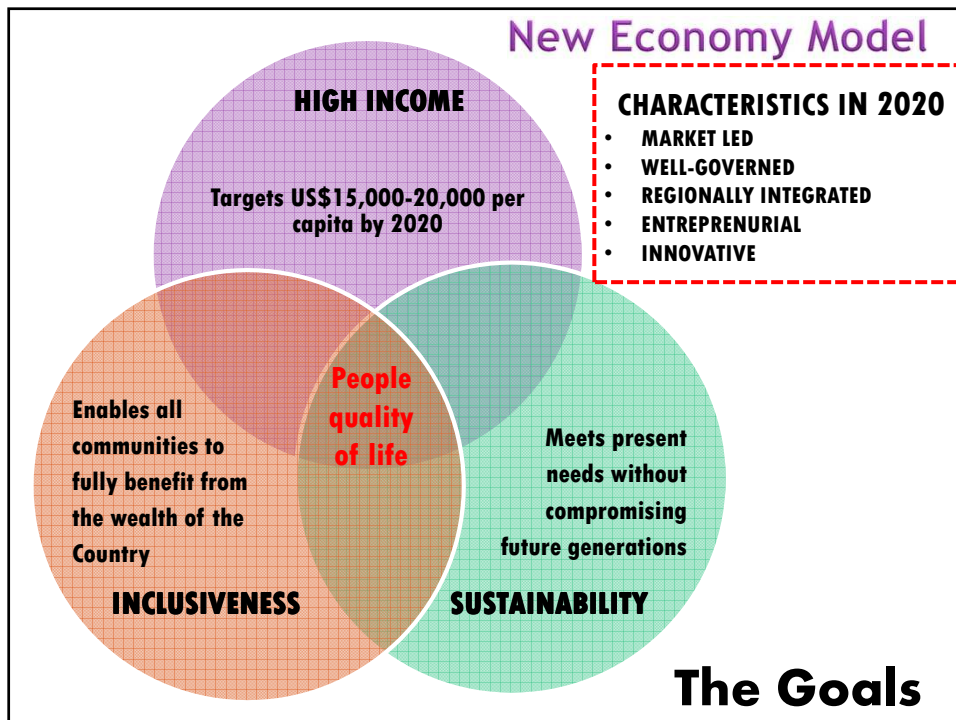
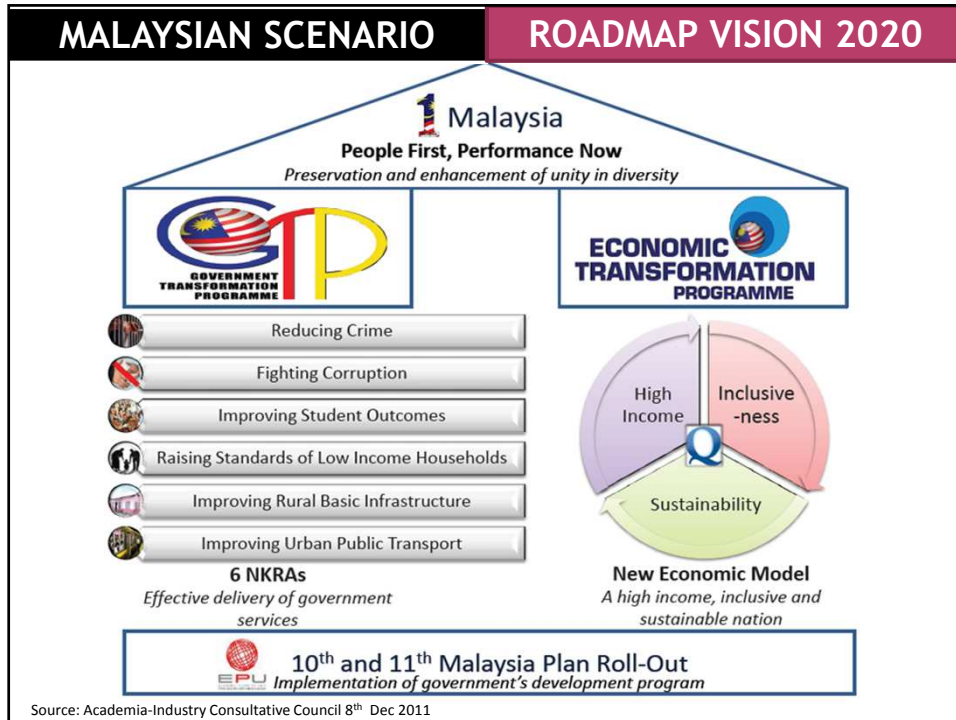
**CLIMATE CHANGE**  
THE GREAT THREAT TO LIFE AND A NEW ENERGY SOURCE

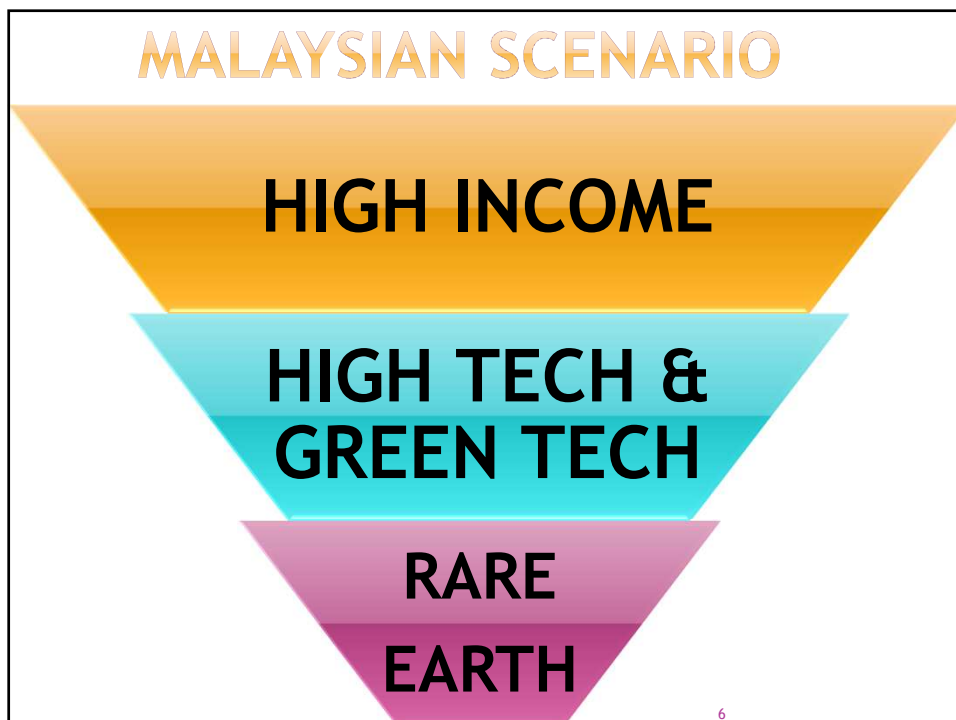
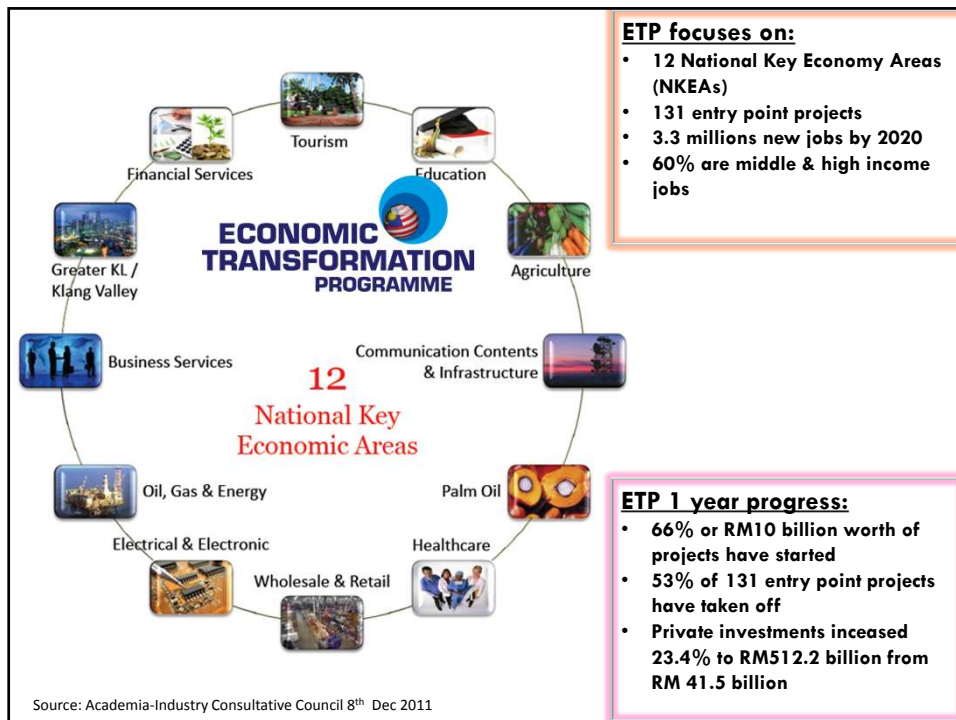
**SHORTAGE OF RESOURCES**

**FOOD & WATER**

**GREEN TECHNOLOGY**







# WHY RARE EARTH?



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## CHINA'S PROGRAM 863 (IN 1986)

- ◉ National High Technology Research and Development Program, namely Program 863
- ◉ the objective of the program is to “gain a foothold in the world arena; to strive to achieve breakthroughs in key technical fields that concern the national economic lifeline and national security; and to achieve ‘leap-frog’ development in key high-tech fields in which China enjoys relative advantages or should take strategic positions in order to provide high-tech support to fulfill strategic objectives in the implementation of the third step of China’s modernization process.”

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## RE IN PROGRAM 863

- ◉ mainly meant to narrow the gap in technology between the developed world and China, which still lags behind in technological innovation, although progress is being made.
- ◉ focuses on biotechnology, space, information, laser, automation, energy, and new materials.
- ◉ The use of rare earth elements can be found in each one of the areas in which Program 863 focuses.

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## FATHER OF CHINESE RARE EARTH CHEMISTRY



### ◉ Professor Xu Guangxian

- ◉ in 2009, at the age of 89, won the 5 million yuan (\$730,000) State Supreme Science and Technology Prize, China's = Nobel Prize.

Xu Guangxian  
Source: China Military Report

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## ABOUT RARE EARTH .....

ARE NOT REALLY RARE ;

WIDELY SPREAD THROUGH OUT THE  
EARTH'S CRUST IN SMALL  
CONCENTRATIONS;

CANNOT BE MINED ECONOMICALLY.

## Rare Earth Elements

Rare Earth Elements consist of a group of fifteen elements known as the Lanthanides. The lanthanides are located in block 5d of the [periodic table](#) from lanthanum to lutetium

Rare Earth Elements															Y 39						
La 57	Ce 58	Pr 59	Nd 60	Pm 61	Sm 62	Eu 63	Gd 64	Tb 65	Dy 66	Ho 67	Er 68	Tm 69	Yb 70	Lu 71							
Lanthanides																					
H																	He				
Li	Be															B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg															Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr				
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe				
Cs	Ba	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn				
Fr	Ra	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Mn	Uu	Uu	Uu				

Lanthanum (La)  
Cerium (Ce)  
Praseodymium (Pr)  
Neodymium (Nd)  
Samarium (Sm)  
Europium (Eu)  
Gadolinium (Gd)  
Terbium (Tb)  
Dysprosium (Dy)  
Holmium (Ho)  
Erbium (Er)  
Thulium (Th)  
Ytterbium (Yb)  
Lutetium (Lu)  
Yttrium (Y)

## Rare Earths cannot be substituted in many applications



### RARE EARTHS: LANTHANIDES PLUS YITTRIUM – UNIQUE PROPERTIES

**Rare Earth Elements**

<b>Rare Earth Elements</b>														<b>Y</b> 39			
<b>La</b> 57	<b>Ce</b> 58	<b>Pr</b> 59	<b>Nd</b> 60	<b>Pm</b> 61	<b>Sm</b> 62	<b>Eu</b> 63	<b>Gd</b> 64	<b>Tb</b> 65	<b>Dy</b> 66	<b>Ho</b> 67	<b>Er</b> 68	<b>Tm</b> 69	<b>Yb</b> 70	<b>Lu</b> 71			
Lanthanides																	
H											He						
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr	

- **Chemical**
  - Unique electron configuration
- **Catalytic**
  - Oxygen storage and release
- **Magnetic**
  - High magnetic anisotropy and large magnetic moment
- **Optical**
  - Fluorescence, high refractive index
- **Electrical**
  - High conductivity
- **Metallurgical**
  - Efficient hydrogen storage in rare earths alloys

## Rare Earths underpin new materials technology required to sustain the needs of today's society



Energy efficiency through lower consumption

Environmental protection through lower emissions

Smaller yet more powerful digital technology



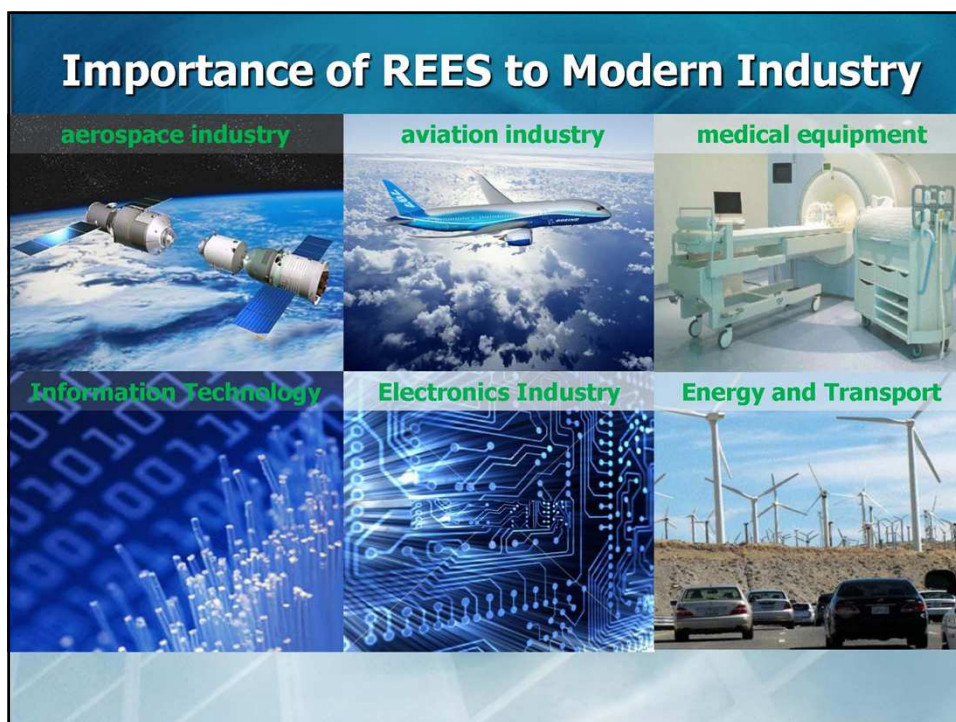
- Compact Fluorescent Lights
- Hybrid vehicle
- Weight reduction in cars



- Wind turbine
- Auto catalytic converter
- Diesel additives



- Flat panel displays
- Disk drives
- Digital cameras









## LIGHT RARE EARTH AND USAGES

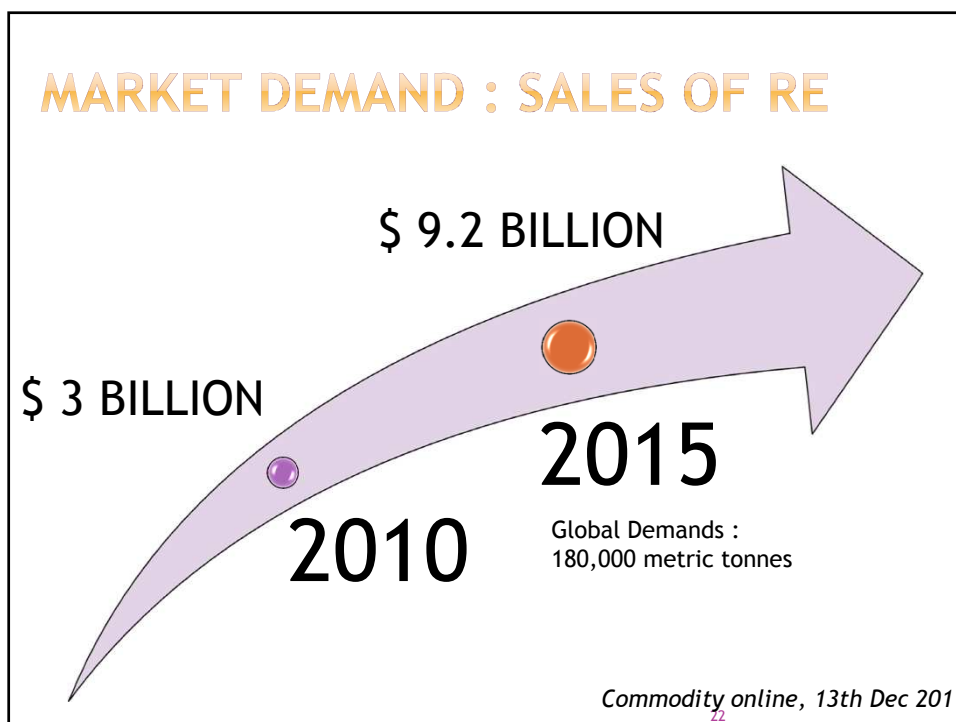
Z	ELEMENT	SYMBOL	USE
21	Scandium	Sc	Aerospace framework, high-intensity street lamps, high performance equipment
39	Yttrium	Y	TV sets, <a href="#">cancer treatment drugs</a> , enhances strength of alloys
57	Lanthanum	La	Camera lenses, battery-electrodes, hydrogen storage
58	Cerium	Ce	Catalytic converters, colored glass, steel production
59	Praseodymium	Pr	Super-strong magnets, welding goggles, lasers
60	Neodymium	Nd	Extremely strong permanent magnets, microphones, electric motors of <a href="#">hybrid automobiles</a> , laser
61	Promethium	Pm	Not usually found in Nature
62	Samarium	Sm	Cancer treatment, nuclear reactor control rods, X-ray lasers

*Ref :Namibia rare earths inc.*

## HEAVY RARE EARTH AND USAGES

63	Europium	Eu	Color TV screens, fluorescent glass, genetic screening tests
64	Gadolinium	Gd	Shielding in nuclear reactors, nuclear marine propulsion, increases durability of alloys
65	Terbium	Tb	TV sets, fuel cells, sonar systems
66	Dysprosium	Dy	Commercial lighting, hard disk devices, transducers
67	Holmium	Ho	Lasers, glass coloring, High-strength magnets
68	Erbium	Er	Glass colorant, signal amplification for fiber optic cables, metallurgical uses
69	Thulium	Tm	High efficiency lasers, portable x-ray machines, high temperature superconductor
70	Ytterbium	Yb	Improves stainless steel, lasers, ground monitoring devices
71	Lutetium	Lu	Refining petroleum, LED light bulbs, integrated circuit manufacturing

## MARKET DEMAND : SALES OF RE



## RARE EARTH DEMAND

**1. CERIUM**  
Flat-screen displays; fiber optics  
Estimated 2015 demand in tons:  
70,200



**2. LANTHANUM**  
Oil refining; metal-hydride batteries  
for electric vehicles  
Demand: 48,500



**3. NEODYMIUM**  
Hybrid/electric vehicles; wind  
turbines  
Demand: 36,900



**4. YTTRIUM**  
Smartphones; flat-screen displays  
Demand: 14,050



**5. DYSPROSIUM**  
Magnetic resonance imaging;  
smartphones  
Demand: 2,200



**6. TERBIUM**  
Hybrid/electric vehicles; smart-  
phones; flat-screen displays  
Demand: 550

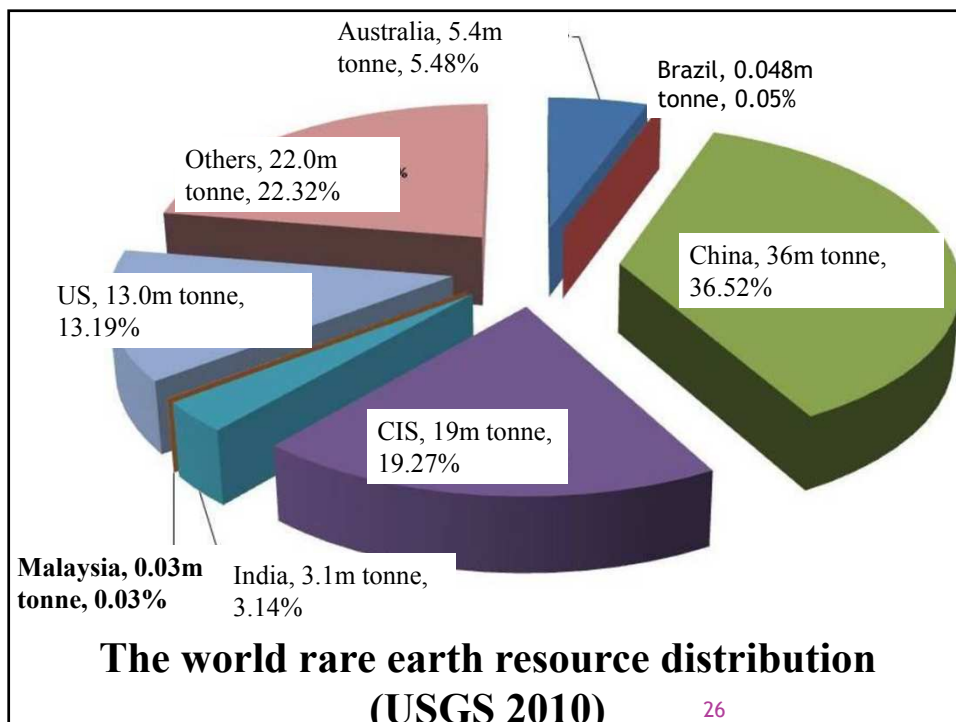
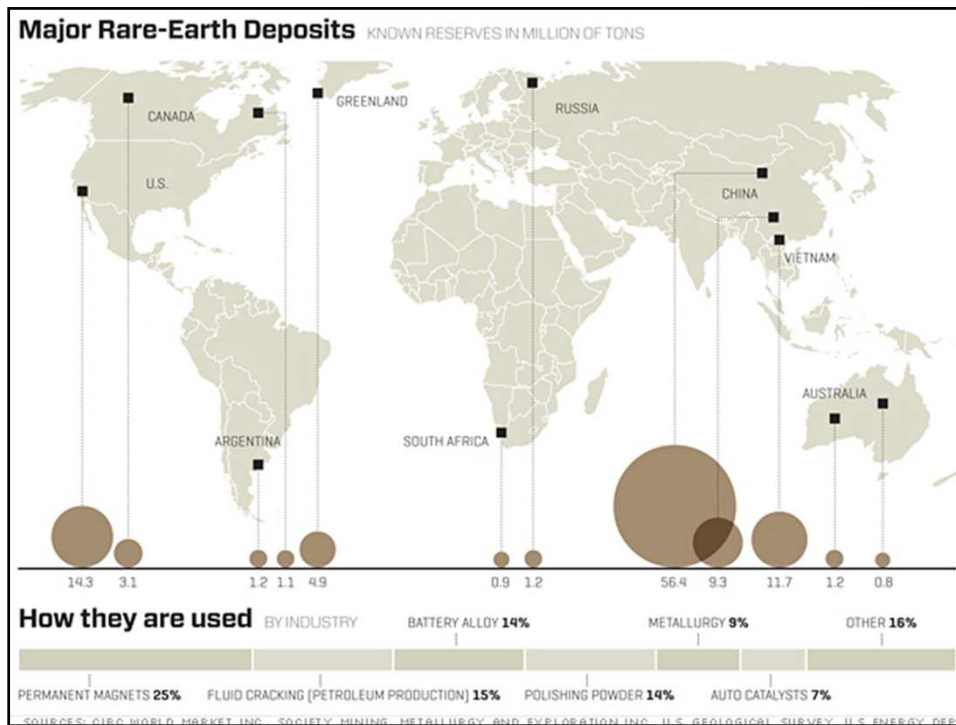


Magnets will be the growth driver for Rare Earths demand to 2014. Polishing powder demand has dropped due to activities to improve productivity



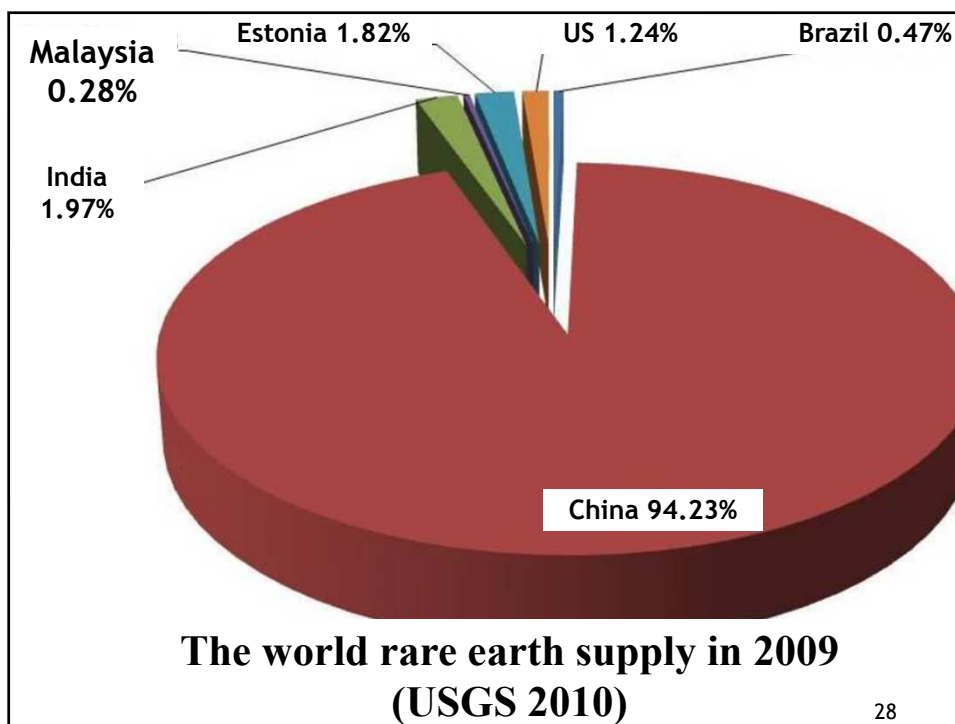
### DEMAND FORECAST BY APPLICATION

2010 Demand by Application			2014 Demand Forecast by Application		
Application	Demand (%)	Demand (t)	Application	Growth (%)	Demand (t)
• Magnets	25%	31,500	• Magnets	12%	49,600
• Battery Alloy	15%	18,600	• Battery Alloy	15%	32,500
• Metallurgy ex batt	9%	11,700	• Metallurgy ex batt	2%	12,700
• Auto catalysts	7%	9,000	• Auto catalysts	8%	12,200
• FCC	17%	21,300	• FCC	4%	24,900
• Polishing Powder	11%	14,000	• Polishing Powder	10%	20,600
• Glass Additives	6%	7,800	• Glass Additives	0%	7,800
• Phosphors	6%	7,900	• Phosphors	8%	10,800
• Others	4%	5,700	• Others	8%	6,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>127,500</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>177,200</b>



World Mine Production and Reserves (2012 Estimates)		
Country	Production (Metric Ton)	Reserves (Metric Ton)
United States	7,000	13,000,000
Australia	4,000	1,600,000
Brazil	300	36,000
China	95,000	55,000,000
India	2,800	3,100,000
<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>30,000</b>
Other countries	not available	41,000,000
<b>World total (rounded)</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>110,000,000</b>

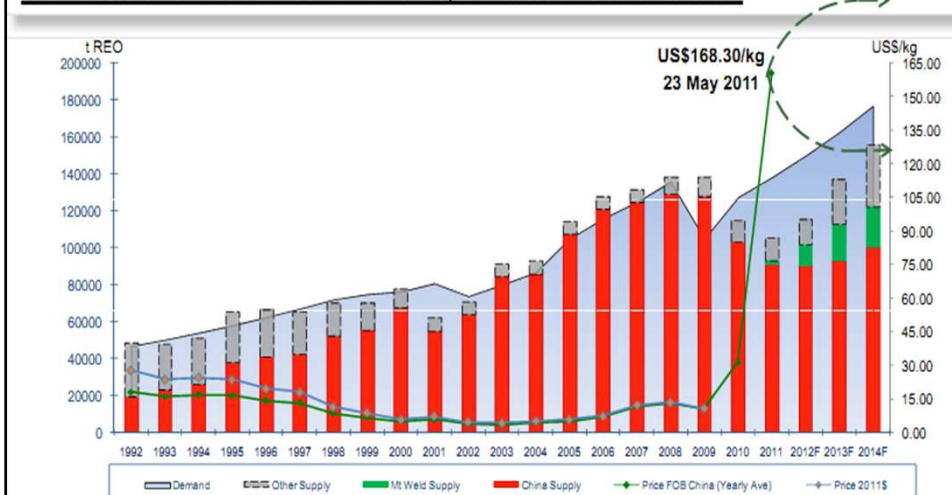
*Ref :Hobart King, Geology.com*



**Supply shortfall and increasing prices are a result of structural change as China addresses environmental and mining issues**



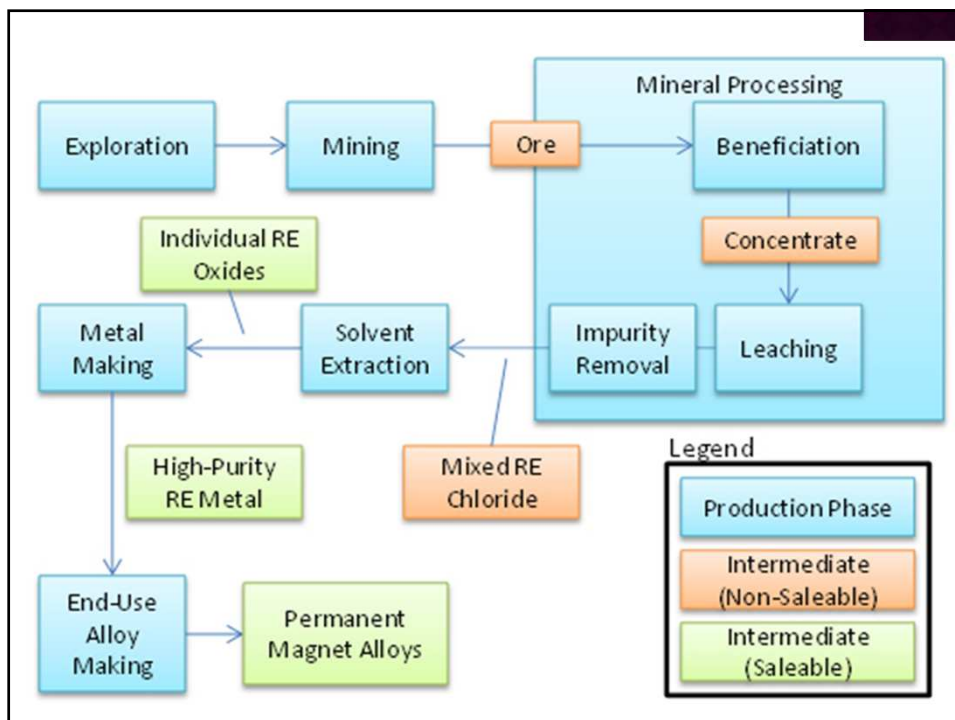
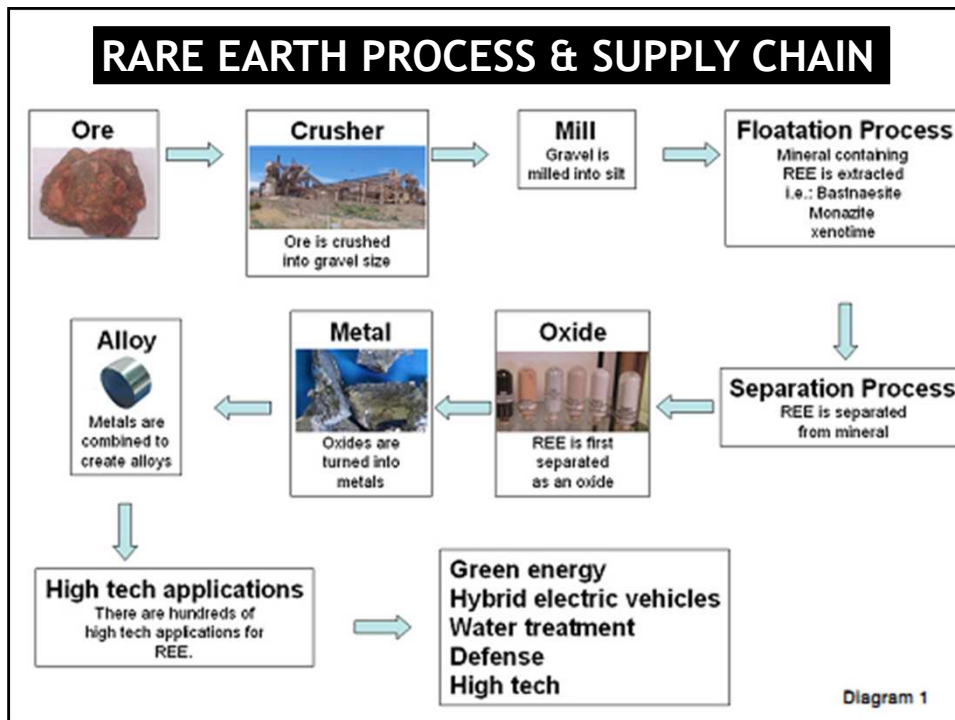
**HISTORIC AND FORECAST SUPPLY, DEMAND AND PRICING**



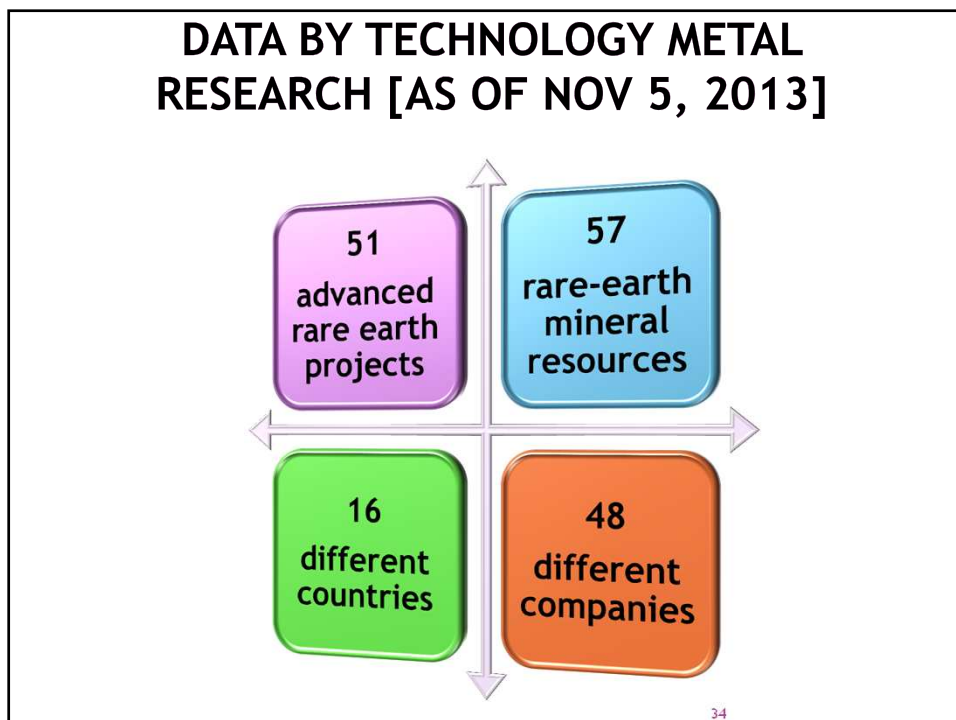
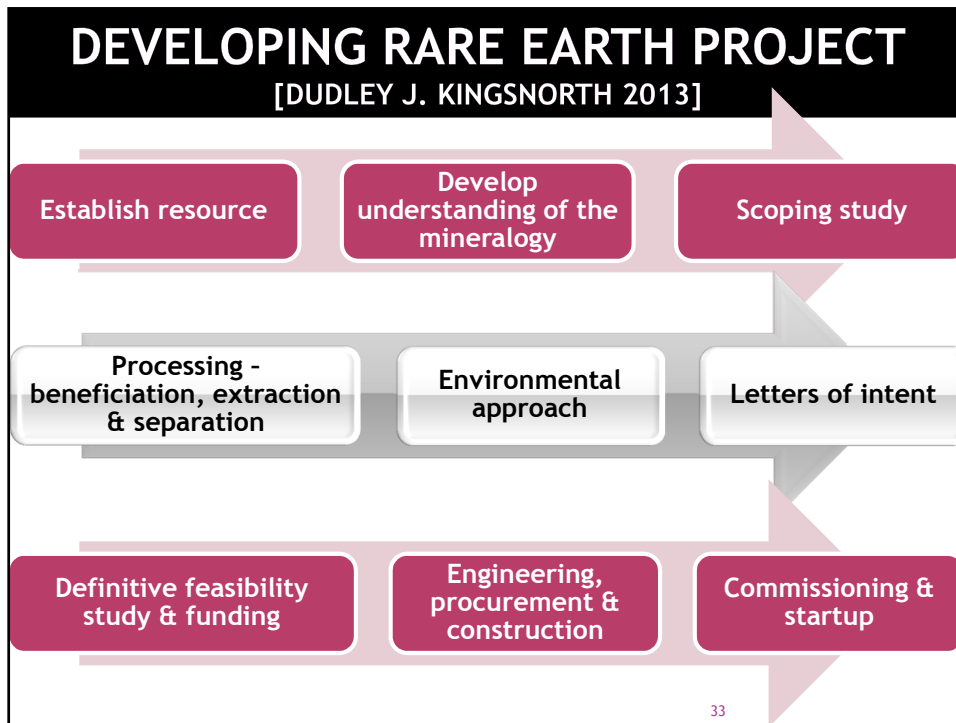
**SAMPLE OF RARE EARTH PRICES**

Oxide	January 2010 (US\$/kg)	January 2011 (US\$/kg)	July 2011 (US\$/kg)	June 2013 (US\$/kg)	% Change 20 mo (July '11 - June '13)	% Change 3 yr (Jan '10 - June '13)
Lanthanum	6	61	154	7	-95%	17%
Cerium	4	64	157	7	-96%	75%
Praseodimium	23	92	247	74	-70%	222%
Neodymium	24	93	328	57	-83%	138%
Samarium	5	49	127	11	-91%	120%
Europium	480	630	5560	883	-84%	84%
Terbium	350	618	4260	740	-83%	111%
Dysprosium	121	325	2591	475	-82%	293%
Yttrium	10	75	180	21	-88%	110%


Price Sources: Technology Metals Research derived from metal-pages.com for 99% REO FOB China








## OPPORTUNITY FOR MALAYSIA



High tech  
companies  
to Malaysia

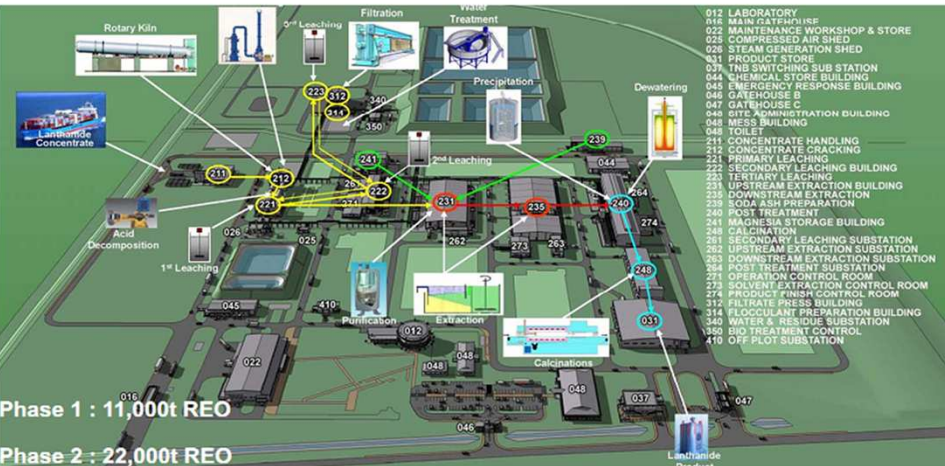


min 30,000  
tons of RE  
deposit

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## HUMAN TOUCH CASE STUDY : LYNAS

The Lynas Advanced Materials Plant (LAMP) is built to international environmental performance standards – gas, water and solids management



Phase 1 : 11,000t REO  
Phase 2 : 22,000t REO

- 012 LABORATORY
- 016 MAIN GATEHOUSE
- 022 MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP & STORE
- 025 COMPRESSED AIR SHED
- 029 STEAM GENERATION SHED
- 031 PRODUCT STORE
- 037 TNB SWITCHING SUB STATION
- 045 CHEMICAL STORE BUILDING
- 045 EMERGENCY RESPONSE BUILDING
- 046 GATEHOUSE B
- 047 GATEHOUSE C
- 048 SITE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
- 048 MESS BUILDING
- 048 TOILET
- 215 CONCENTRATE HANDLING
- 212 CONCENTRATE CRACKING
- 221 PRIMARY LEACHING
- 222 SECONDARY LEACHING BUILDING
- 223 TERTIARY LEACHING
- 233 UPSTREAM EXTRACTION BUILDING
- 235 DOWNSTREAM EXTRACTION
- 239 SOLID ASH PREPARATION
- 240 POST TREATMENT
- 241 MAGNESIA STORAGE BUILDING
- 248 CALCINATION
- 281 SECONDARY LEACHING SUBSTATION
- 282 UPSTREAM EXTRACTION SUBSTATION
- 263 DOWNSTREAM EXTRACTION SUBSTATION
- 264 POST TREATMENT SUBSTATION
- 271 OPERATION CONTROL ROOM
- 273 SOLVENT EXTRACTION CONTROL ROOM
- 274 PRODUCT FINISH CONTROL ROOM
- 312 FILTRATE PRESS BUILDING
- 314 FLOCCULANT PREPARATION BUILDING
- 340 WATER & RESIDUE SUBSTATION
- 380 BIO TREATMENT CONTROL
- 410 OFF PLOT SUBSTATION

## Gebeng, Malaysia, has exceptional infrastructure required for a Rare Earths separation facility

**INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE**


- Energy, chemicals, water, industrial land

**KNOWLEDGE INFRASTRUCTURE**




- Engineering, trade skills and services

**GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE**


- Including FDI incentives  
(12 years tax exemption for pioneer status)



**Gebeng Industrial Estate, East Coast Malaysia**




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## RIA's Exposure Levels vs Actual Exposure Levels

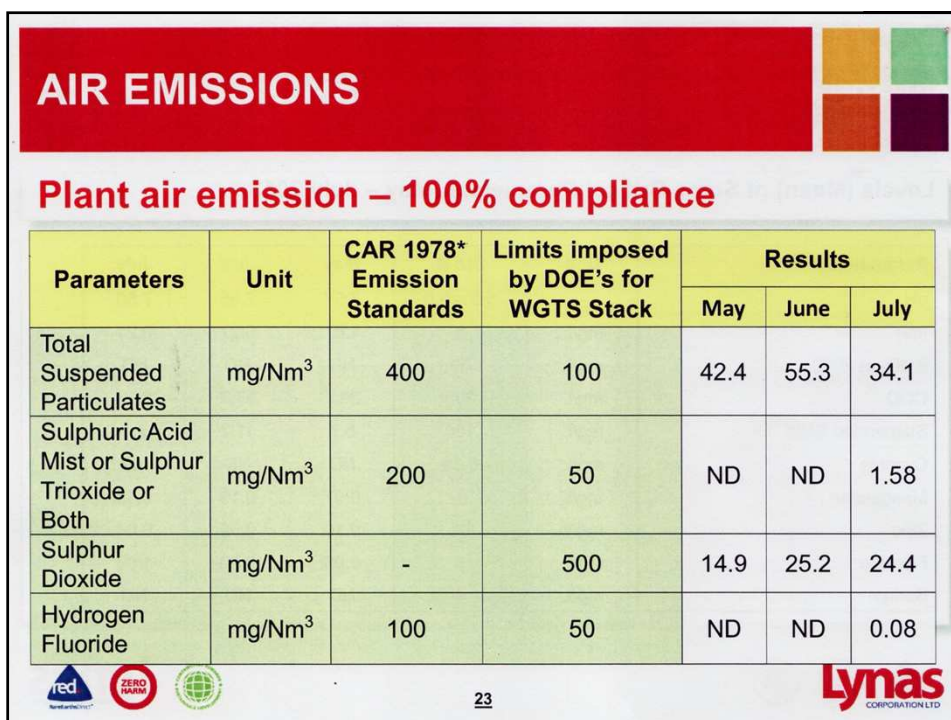
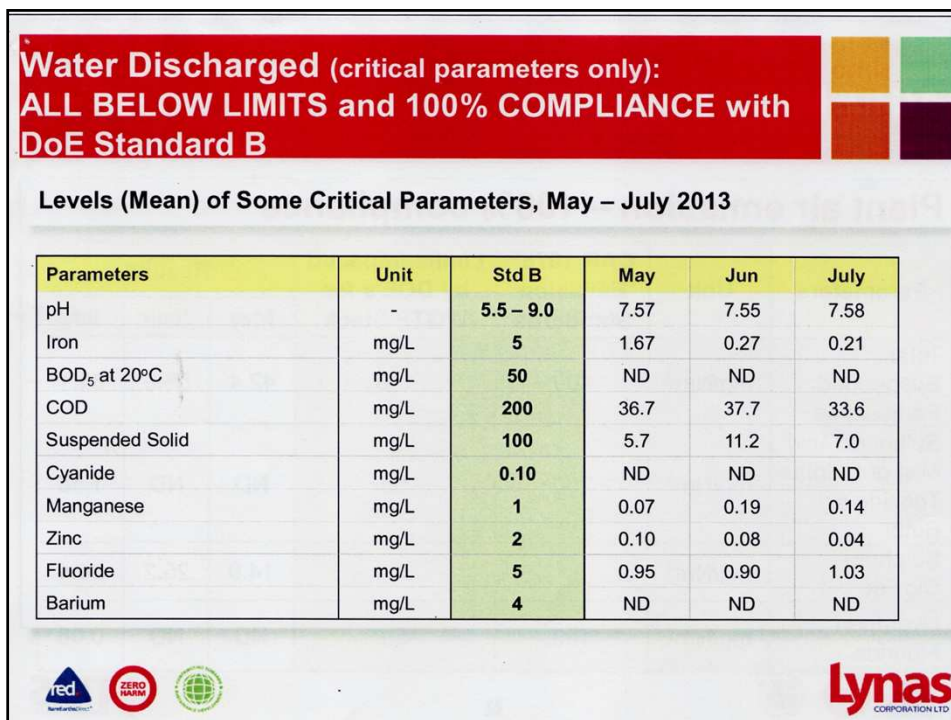
- **RIA** assumes the **WORST CASE SCENARIOS** in assessing exposure risk to all sensitive receptors.
- Actual occupational external dose exposures were **LESS** than the Constraint Limit of 6 mSv/y and **MUCH LESS** than the 20 mSv/y AELA's Permissible Limit for radiation workers

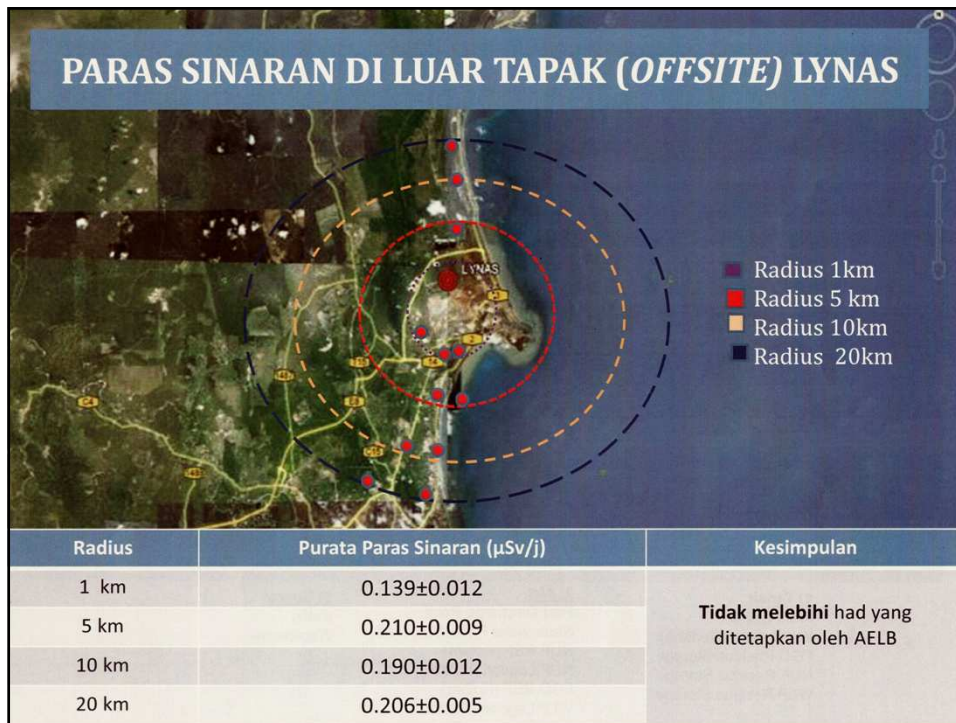
SCENARIO	*RIA	ACTUAL	RELATIVE READINGS
	mSv y <sup>-1</sup>	mSv y <sup>-1</sup>	
Truck driver (Kuantan Port to LAMP: external radiation from Lanthanide concentrate (LC) : External radiation, 280 hr/y)	0.06	0.06	Equal (Background)
Workers handling LC stockpile in concentrate building: External radiation, 730 hr/y	2.19	0.77	2.8 x less
Truck driver handling WLP from filter press to RSF: external 576 hr/y	1.48	0.58	2.55 x less
Process Operator at WLP filter press: External radiation, 1332 hr	4.02	1.14	3.52x less
FEL workers at WLP RSF :576 hr/y	2.96	1.45	2.04x less

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## PERSPECTIVES FROM

**AKADEMI SAINS  
MALAYSIA (ASM)  
&  
MAJLIS PROFESOR  
NEGARA (MPN)**

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## **RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES**

**Enhance the environment, safety and health aspects**

**Undertake a national exercise to map the potential rare earths deposits**

**Incentivise the upstream mining and extraction of rare earths**

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## **RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES**

**Incentivise investments in the downstream manufacturing of rare-earth based products**

**Build the key competence in human capital for the entire value chain of the rare earths business**

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## RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

Strengthen the legal and regulatory framework to enable the effective functioning of the rare earths business

Undertake coordinated, comprehensive and continual public awareness program & community engagement

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## IMPACT ON TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT

Mining industry;

Processing - *midstream (separation and refining)*;

Downstream Application - *Catalyst, Magnet, Automotive*;

Safety, Health and Environment.

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## R&D OPPORTUNITY

### ❑ Automotive industry

- Hybrid and EV Vehicles
- Catalytic Converter
- NiH Battery
- Fuel additives

Local  
universities  
[MTUN] to lead!

### ❑ Superconducting Magnets

### ❑ Catalyst for Petroleum & Petrochemical

### ❑ Rare Earth Recycling

### ❑ Rare Earth Processing

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## MALAYSIAN RARE EARTH R&D GROUP

### UNIVERSITIES

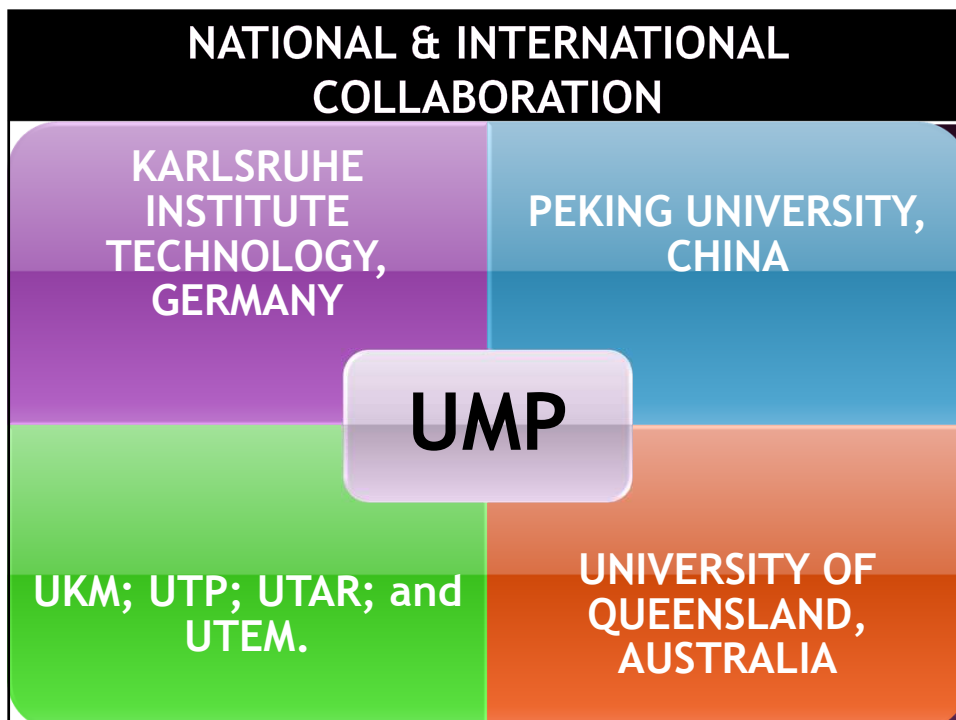
- UMP, UTEM, UTP, UKM

### RESEARCH AREA

- Mining Engineering, Material Science & Engineering, Metallurgy, Processing, Environmental & Safety, Nuclear Fuel Technology, Automotive.

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## REFERENCES

1. Report Parliament Select Committee on Lynas Advanced Materials Plant (LAMP); Dewan Rakyat, Ke 12, Penggal ke 5, 2012.
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# THANK YOU