

Is the Mont Tropic underwater lithium deposit a threat to Morocco?

The Mont Tropic underwater lithium deposit, located near the border with Mauritania and the Canary Islands, is believed to be one of the largest strategic mineral reserves in Africa. Exploiting it would require mining groups prepared to take high geopolitical and environmental risks, even if these would necessarily be shared with Moroccan groups.

Should Morocco lift the moratorium on underwater mining?

At the last International Seabed Authority (ISA) conference in Kingston, Jamaica from 24 to 28 July, Morocco was one of the African states most in favour of lifting the moratorium on underwater mining. A sign that the kingdom is interested in developing these strategic metal deposits off its southern coast.

Who owns the Moroccan subsoil?

Until now, two local giants have reigned unchallenged over the Moroccan subsoil: OCP Group, the phosphates giant, which is 95% state owned, and Managem, a subsidiary of the royal holding company Al Mada, which produces gold, silver, cobalt, copper, zinc and lead, and is headed by Imad Toumi.

Is Morocco's geological wealth a secret?

"Morocco's geological wealth is a well-kept secret," he says with satisfaction. And La Salle, a leading light in Canada's extractive scene, plans to keep making the most of it. The Quebecois first made a name for himself in West African gold with Semafo, which Endeavour Mining bought for EUR640m in March 2020.

Does the Moroccan subsoil contain cobalt?

The Canadian and his compatriot Marc-Antoine Audet - a geologist who has accompanied him on his West African adventures over the past decade (AI, 23/03/22) - are convinced that the Moroccan subsoil harbours many strategic metals, not just the cobalt mined from Bou Azzer, which Managem operates.

Cobalt and lithium minerals are essential elements in producing leading batteries for cellphones and hybrid and electrical cars. Morocco pinched on these essential minerals to become a center of interest to make electric cars in Africa. traditionally Morocco overpassed South Africa in exporting cars abroad.

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respectively.

Industry estimates suggest that producing lithium batteries in Morocco offers a 36% cost advantage compared to other countries. By 2030, EV exports are expected to account for 60% of Morocco's total car exports, and the export value of investors in Morocco's power battery value chain is projected to reach 40 billion euros (approximately \$44 ...

4 ???&#0183; Discover how Morocco attracts a major investment from Gotion High-Tech, building the nation's first electric vehicle battery gigafactory near Casablanca, boosting local automotive component production to 80%.

The project will combine a solar PV array with a battery energy storage system. The document said its expected net capacity during off-peak hours will be 200MWac and is not to exceed 230MW, measured at the delivery point. During peak hours, the project is expected to provide around 400MWh of energy from the BESS.

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The Moroccan Agency for Sustainable Energy (Masen) has published a list of the pre-qualified bidders for the tender for the Noor Midelt III project - a 400 MW solar plant that will be connected...

Under the agreement, CDG Group will support Gotion's Morocco project with a EUR300 million investment portfolio. The collaboration focuses on Gotion's comprehensive project in Morocco, which includes the production of power batteries, energy storage batteries, and key components like cathode and anode materials.

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