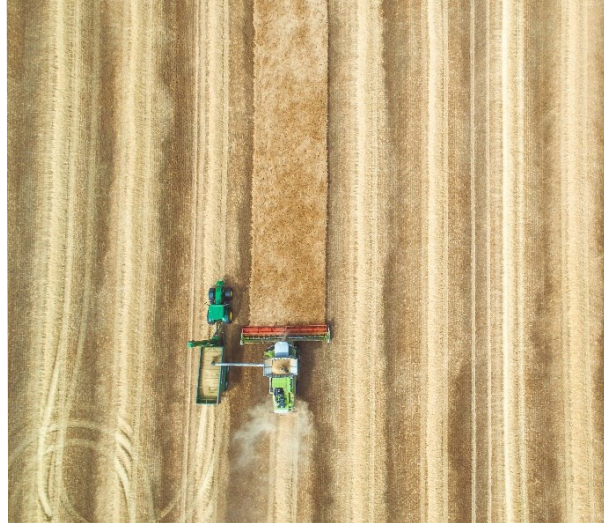
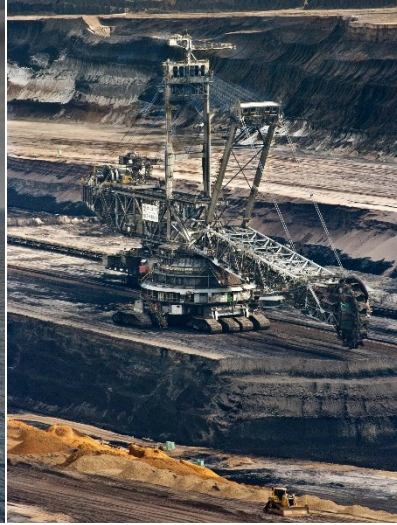


# Sustainability in the Anthropocene? Investigating the metabolism of society



Fossil fuels



Biomass



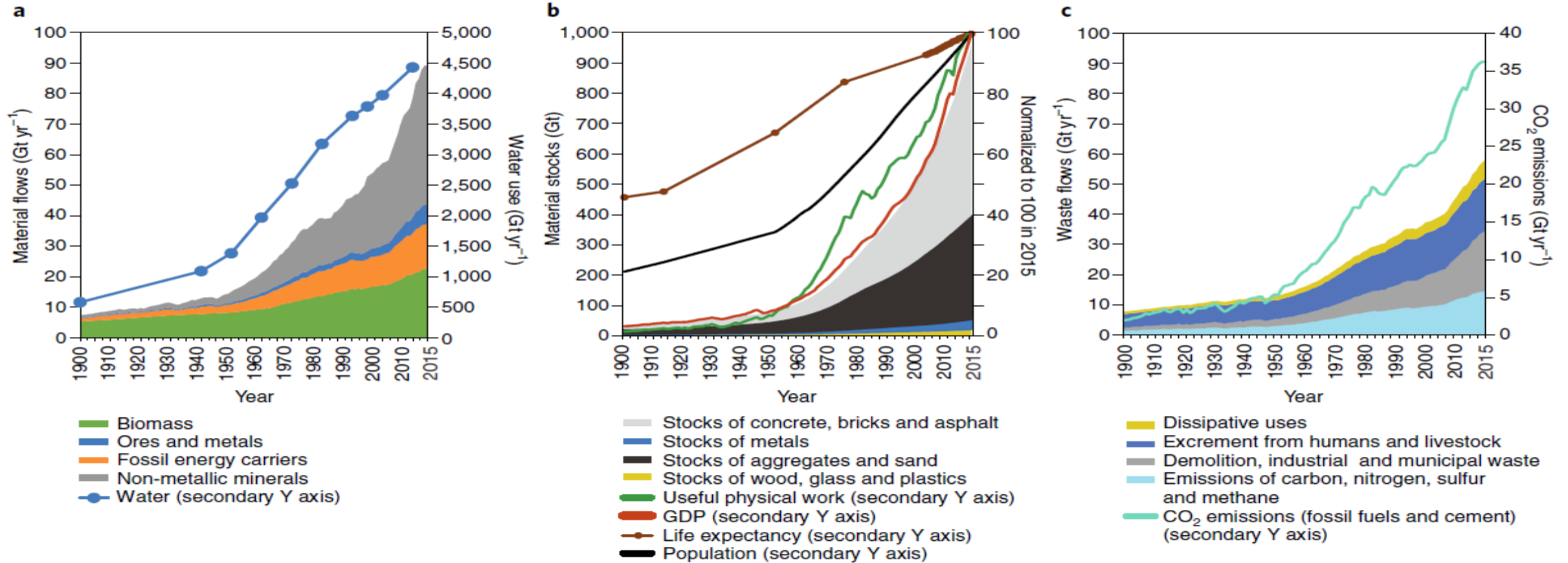
Metals: ores & waste rock

Non-metallic minerals: Construction & industrial



This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 741950).

# Sustainability in the Anthropocene? Investigating the metabolism of society



**Fig. 3 | Scale and dynamics of global social metabolism in the Anthropocene, illustrating the systemic interlinkages between resource use, socioeconomic dynamics and ensuing waste and emissions. a,** Resource extraction and inputs into social metabolism. **b,** Key socioeconomic dynamics such as population, GDP, life expectancy, useful physical work/useful exergy, and material stocks (here the mass of manufactured capital). **c,** A comprehensive mass-balanced (that is, output = input - net change of stocks) estimate of all outputs of wastes and emissions to the environment as well as fossil-fuel

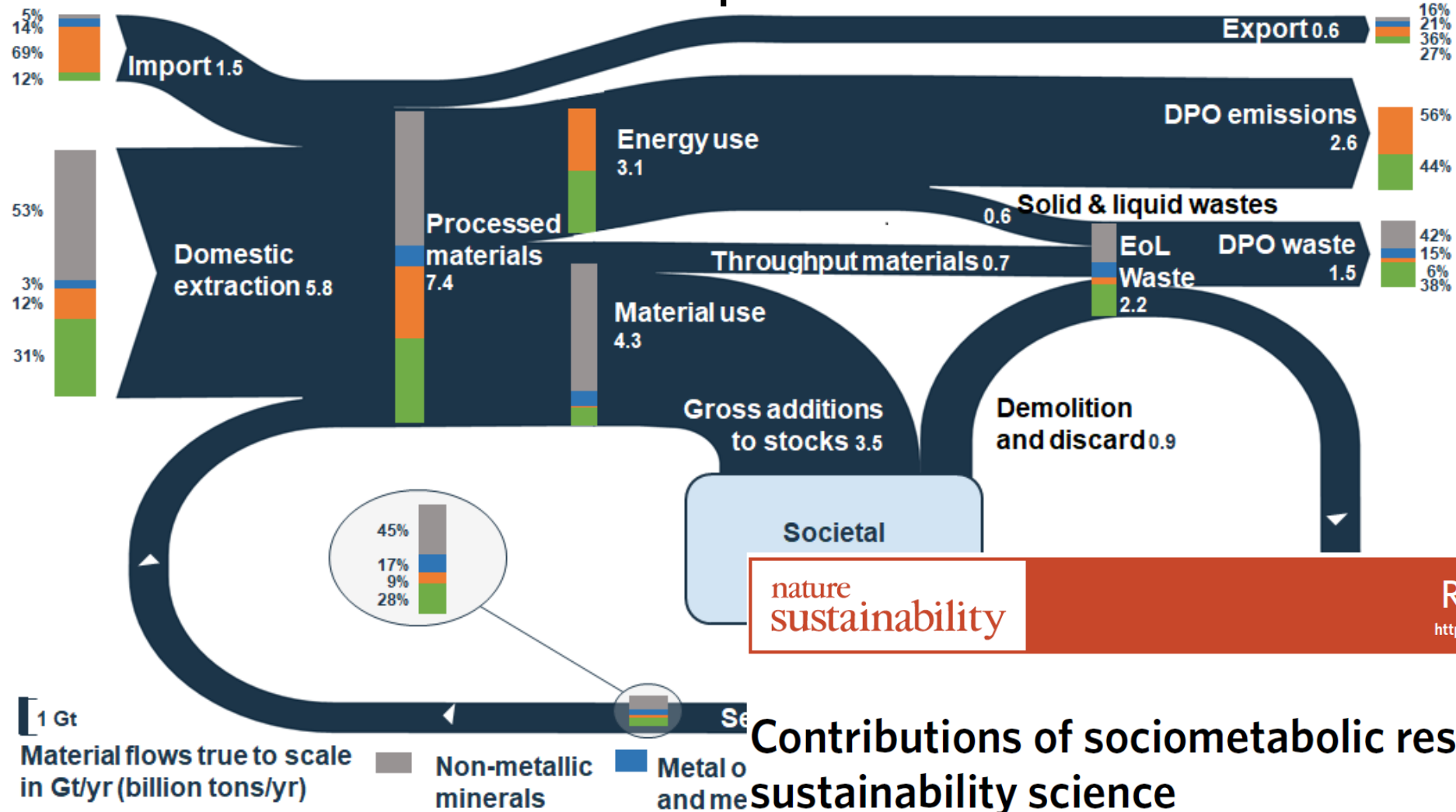


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# Sustainability in the Anthropocene? Investigating the metabolism of society



## The metabolism of the European Union in 2014



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## Contributions of sociometabolic research to sustainability science

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