



Towards a
Net-Zero industry
in Europe

MATERIAL ECONOMICS

INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMATION 2050

Pathways to net-zero emissions from EU heavy industry

IN COLLABORATION WITH



SUPPORTED BY



Climate-KIC is supported by the
EIT, a body of the European Union



SUMMARY

1. NEW EMERGING SOLUTIONS MAKE NET-ZERO CO₂ POSSIBLE BY 2050

Materials efficiency, materials recirculation, new processes, and CCS all play a role

2. COSTS MUST BE MANAGED

Additional costs to consumers are less than 1%, but companies face 20–115% higher production costs

3. KEY STRATEGIC CHOICES ARE IMMINENT

The transition requires a 25–60% increase in investment, with important near-term decisions

4. NEW INPUTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE WILL BE NEEDED

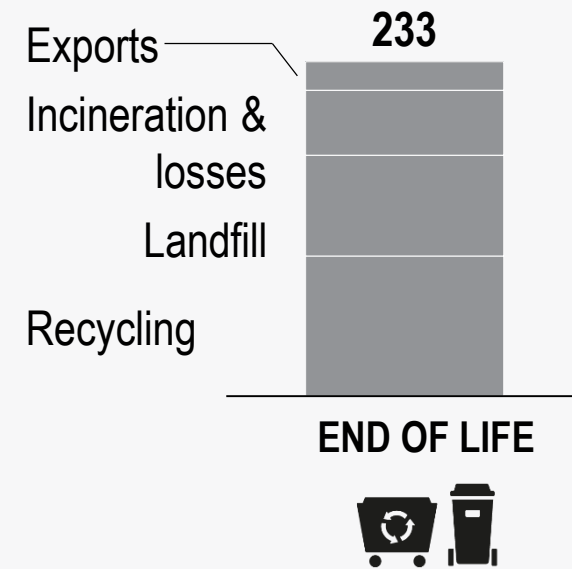
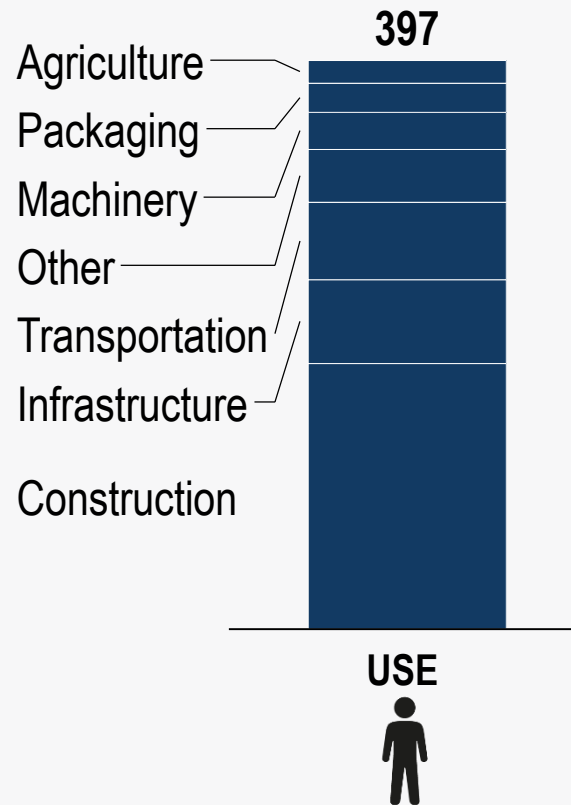
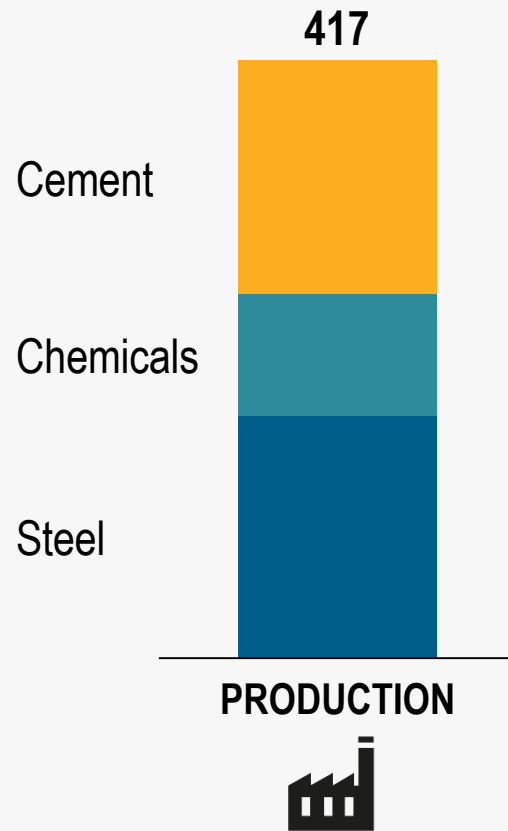
1-3 EJ materials efficiency / 450-750 TWh electricity / 40-200 Mt CO₂ storage / 1-1.3 EJ biomass,

5. STRONG CLIMATE AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY ARE ESSENTIAL

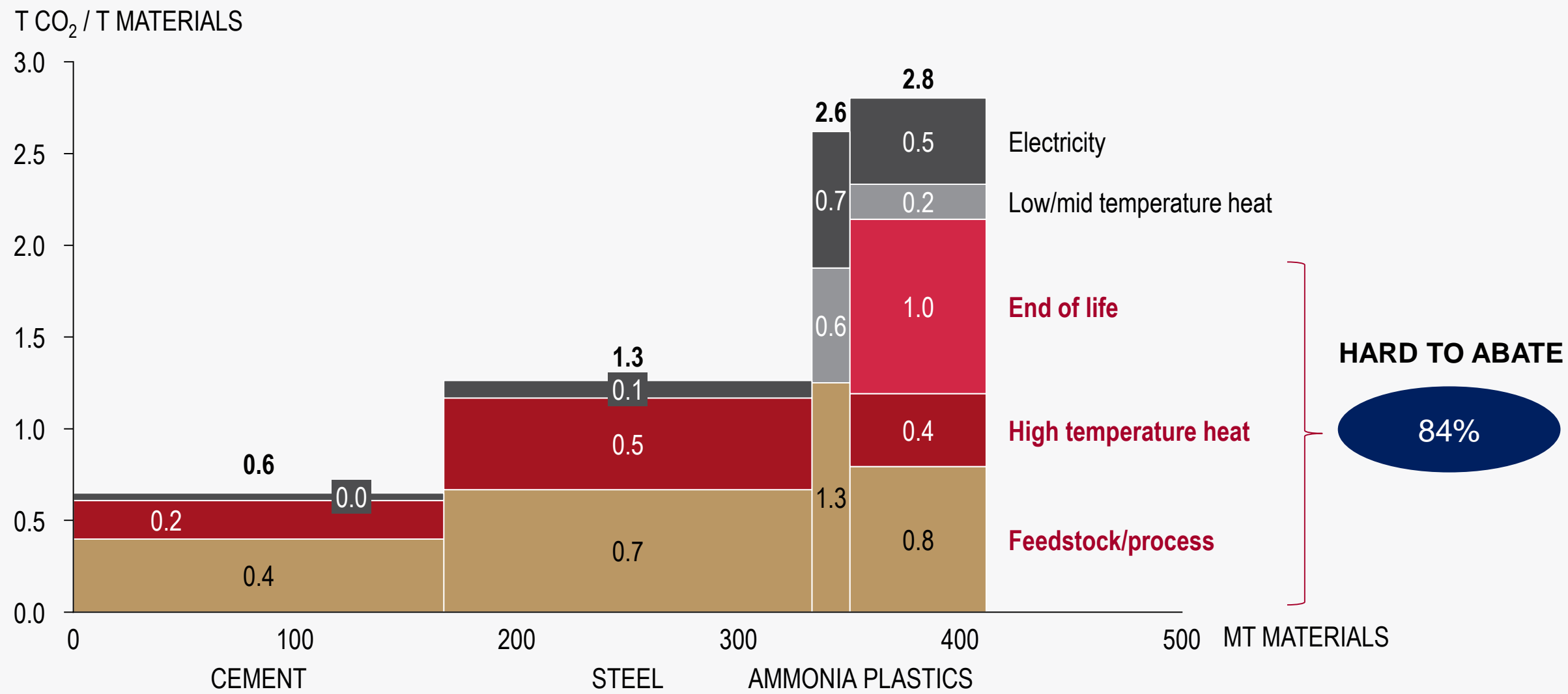
*1. Innovation, 2. Lead markets and business case, 3. Investment and transition support
4. Materials efficiency, 5. Materials recirculation, 6. Infrastructure*

400 Mt OF STEEL, CEMENT, AND CHEMICALS ARE USED EACH YEAR

PRODUCTION, USE AND END OF LIFE VOLUMES MILLION TONNES



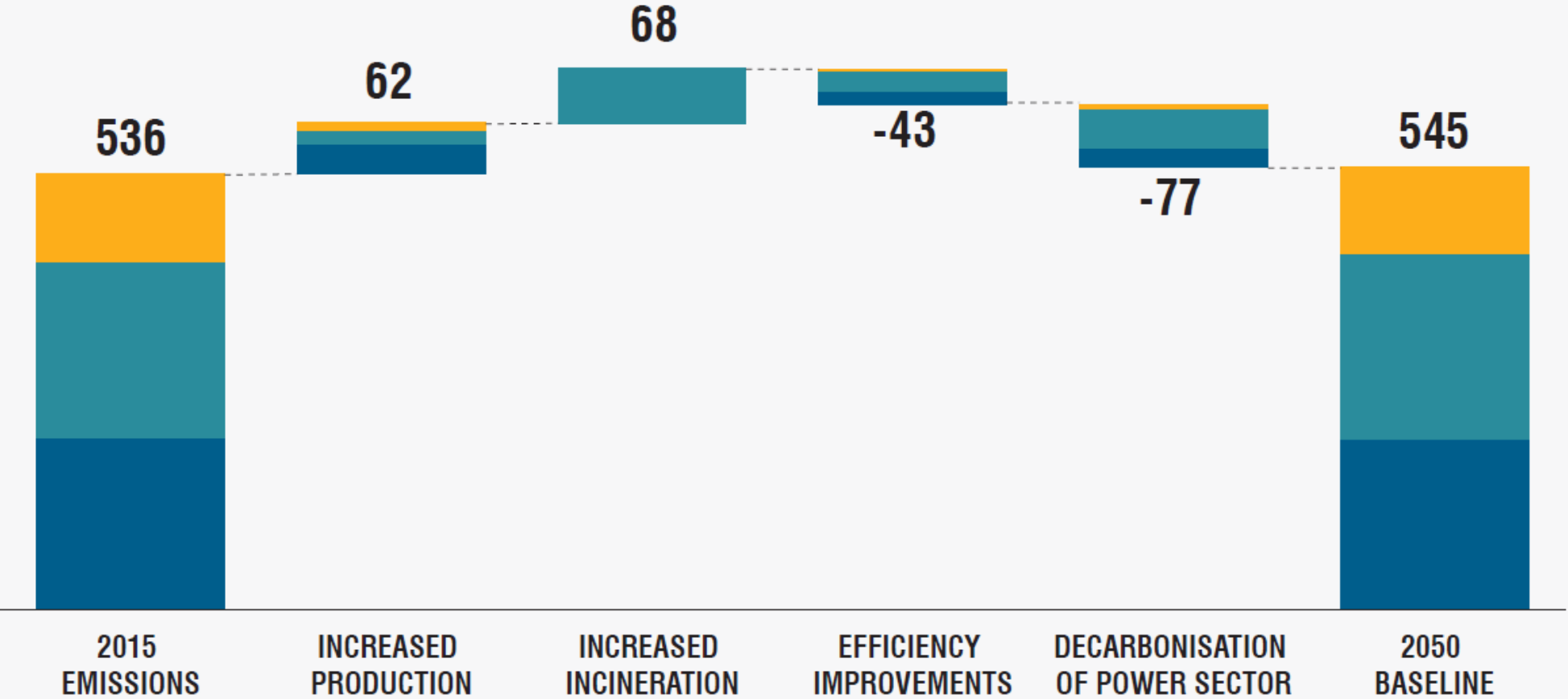
84% OF EMISSIONS ARE 'HARD TO ABATE'



BASELINE: CO₂ EMISSIONS REMAIN AT MORE THAN 500 Mt CO₂ PER YEAR

MILLION TONNES CO₂ PER YEAR
Including electricity and end-of-life

CEMENT
CHEMICALS
STEEL



FOUR STRATEGIES FOR NET-ZERO EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRY

MATERIALS EFFICIENCY AND NEW BUSINESS MODELS

Reducing materials per product, or increasing lifetime and utilisation

58-171 Mt CO₂

MATERIALS RECIRCULATION AND SUBSTITUTION

Using end-of-life materials as input, or switching to low-CO₂ alternatives

82-183 Mt CO₂

NEW PROCESSES

Shifting to new core production processes and feedstocks

143-241 Mt CO₂

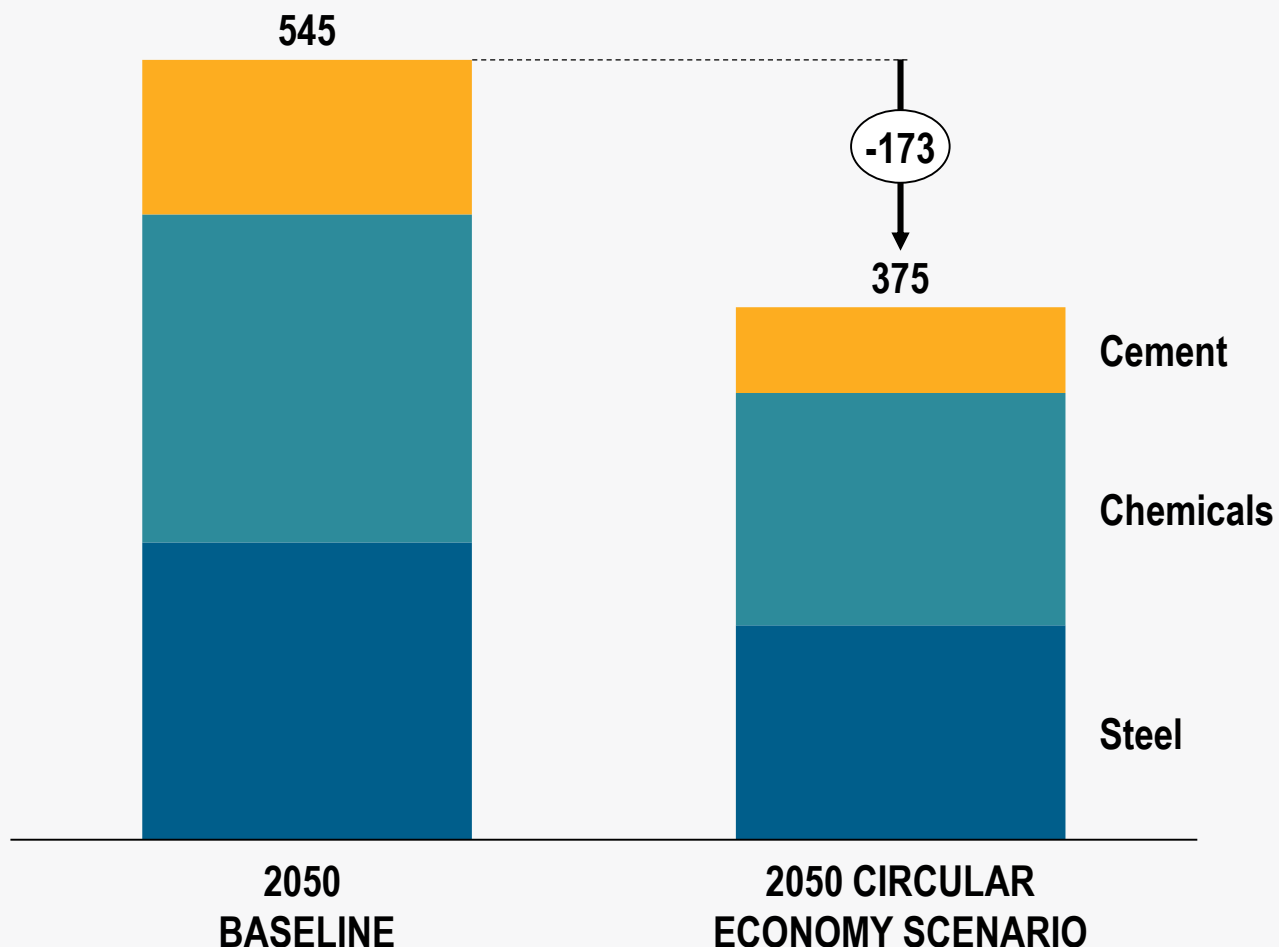
CARBON CAPTURE

Capture and storage of CO₂, or use of captured CO₂ in industrial processes

45-235 Mt CO₂

MATERIALS EFFICIENCY CAN CUT EMISSIONS BY 31%

MT CO₂ PER YEAR



OPTIMISED MATERIALS USE

- Optimised materials use in construction
- Reduced over-use and over-specification
- Precision agriculture reducing fertiliser use
- Optimisation of concrete recipes

REDUCED WASTE

- Reduced scrap formation in manufacturing
- Reduced cement waste through prefabrication

RE-USE

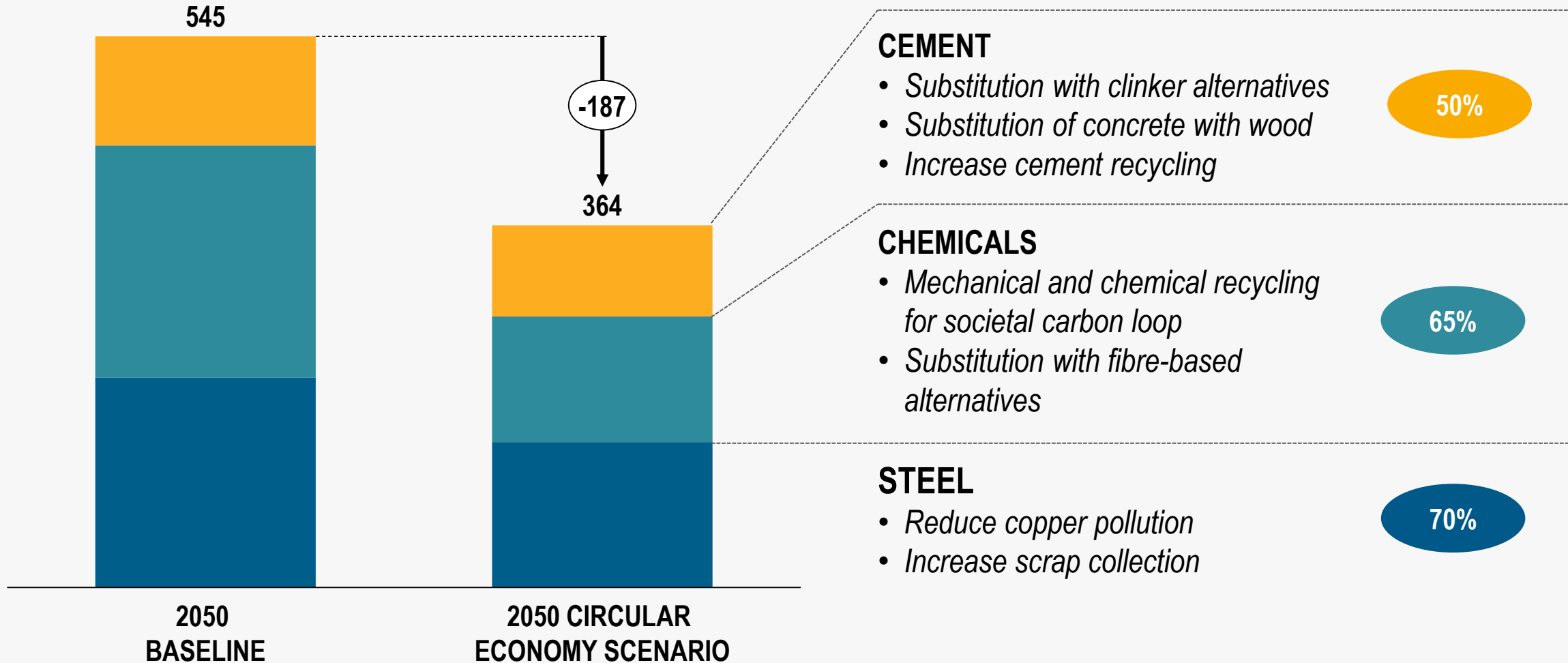
- Remanufacturing
- Reconstruction and re-use of building components

NEW BUSINESS MODELS

- Shared mobility
- Product-as-a-service business models

MATERIALS RECIRCULATION AND SUBSTITUTION CAN CUT EMISSIONS BY 33%

MT CO₂ PER YEAR



NEW PROCESSES AND FEEDSTOCK ENABLE DEEP CUTS TO CO₂

STEEL



- Hydrogen direct reduction
- Direct smelting ironmaking
- Blast furnace + CCU
- Electrowinning
- Electrification of reheating

CHEMICALS



- Chemical recycling
- Bio-based plastics
- Electrification of crackers
- New platforms (methanol to olefins)
- Reprocessing of by-products
- Novel bio-polymers
- New catalysts

CEMENT

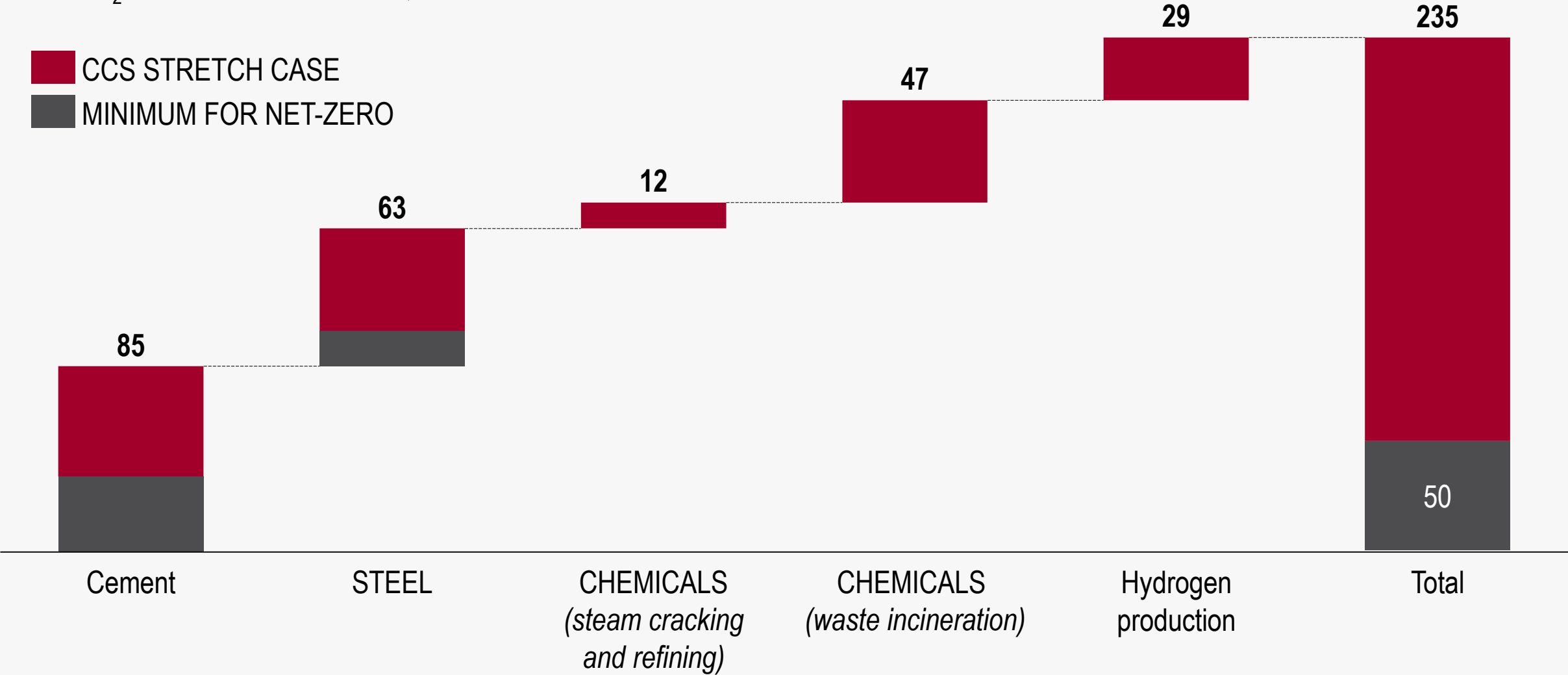


- Electrification (*sintering, calcination*)
- Novel binders
- Separation of process CO₂

CCS COULD BE USED ACROSS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (STRETCH SCENARIO)

MT CO₂ CAPTURED PER YEAR, 2050

■ CCS STRETCH CASE
■ MINIMUM FOR NET-ZERO

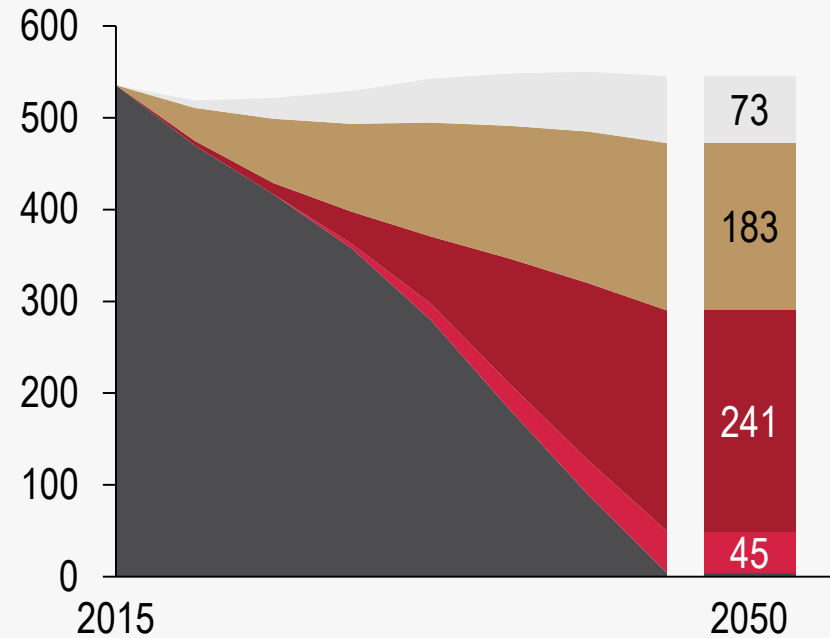


THREE PATHWAYS FOR NET-ZERO EMISSIONS IN 2050

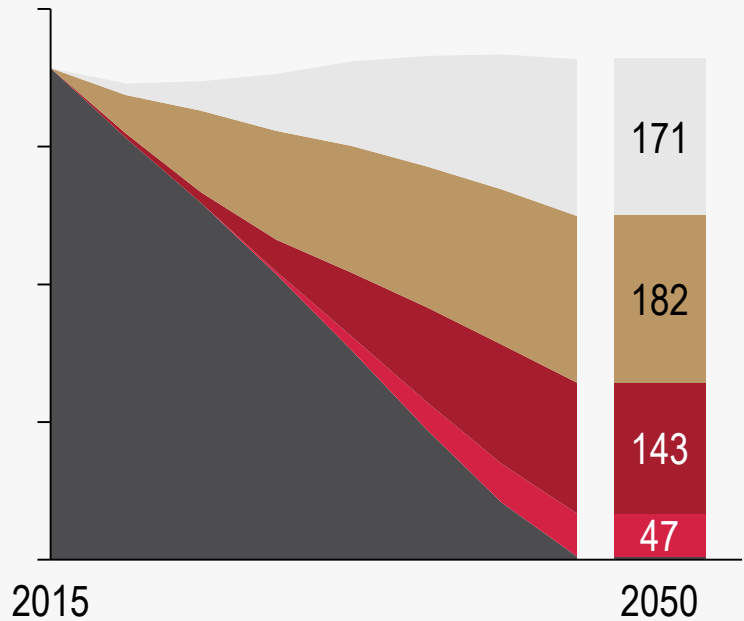
MT CO₂
PER YEAR



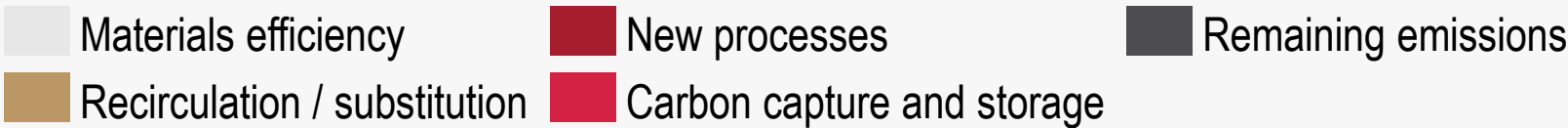
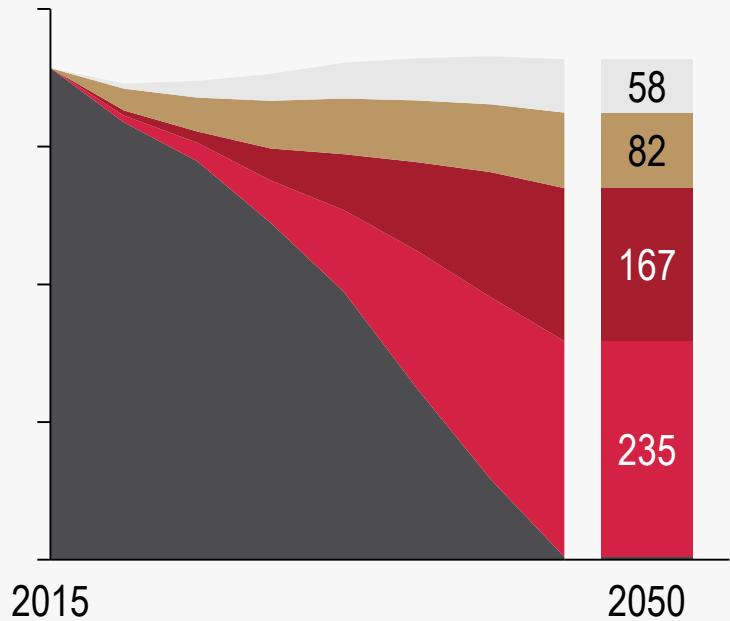
NEW PROCESSES



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

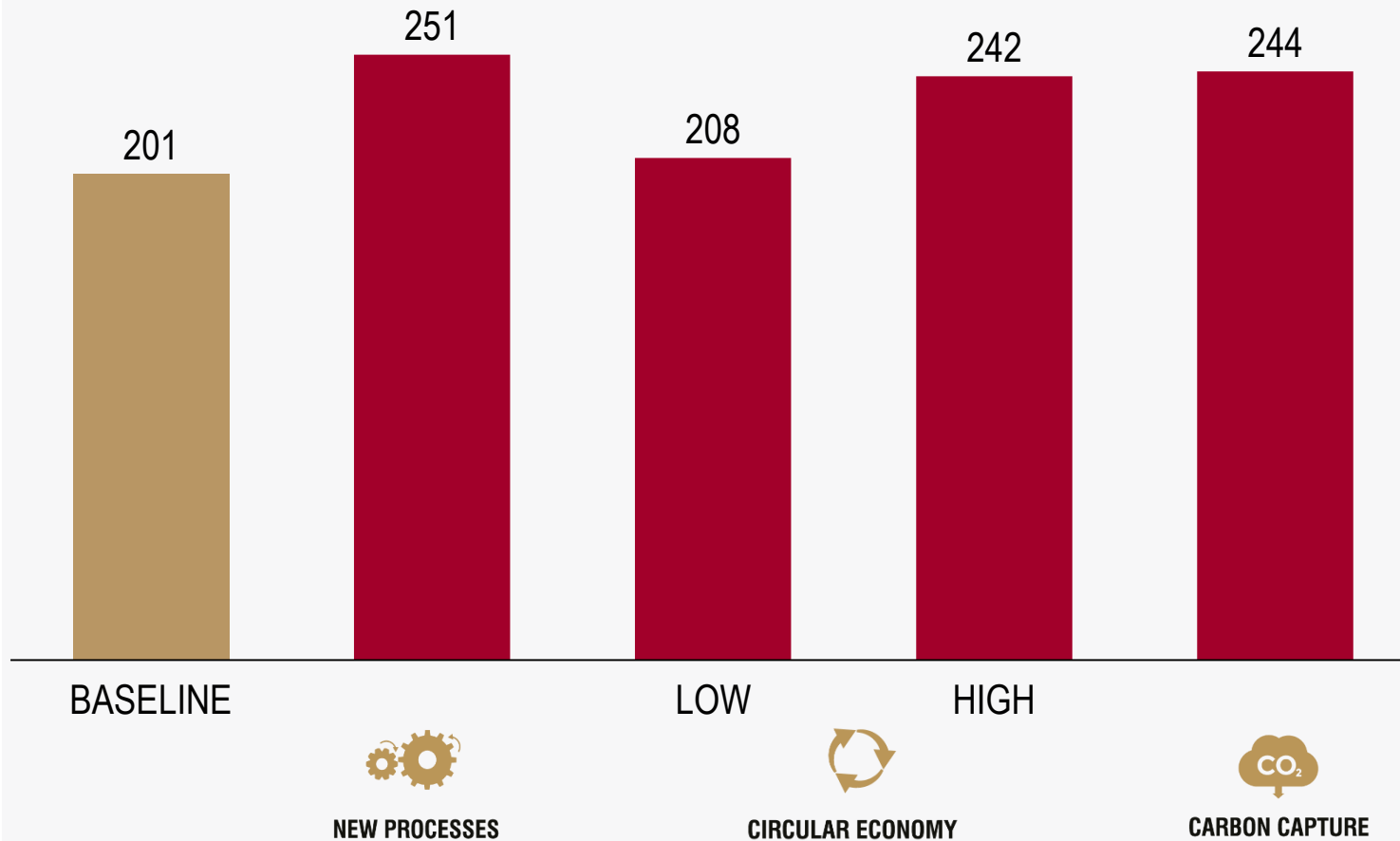


CARBON CAPTURE

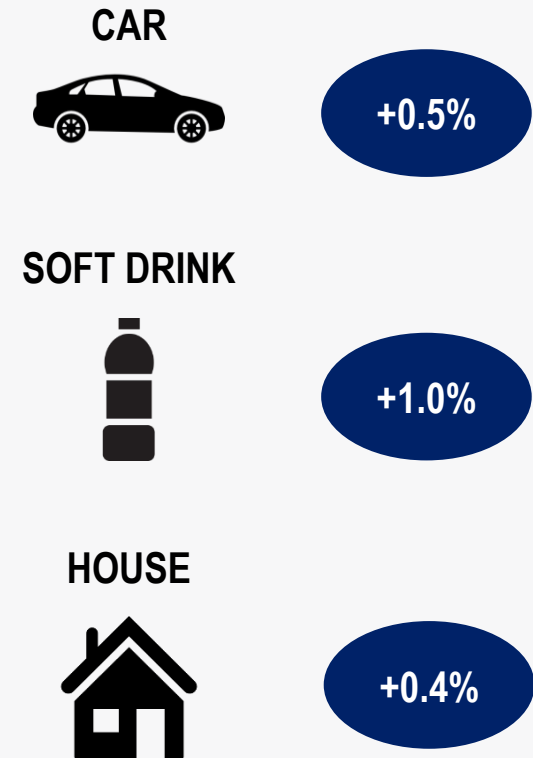


COST INCREASES BUT WITH LIMITED END-USER IMPACT

COSTS OF MEETING NEEDS INCREASE COMPARED TO BASELINE...
BILLION EUR PER YEAR, 2050

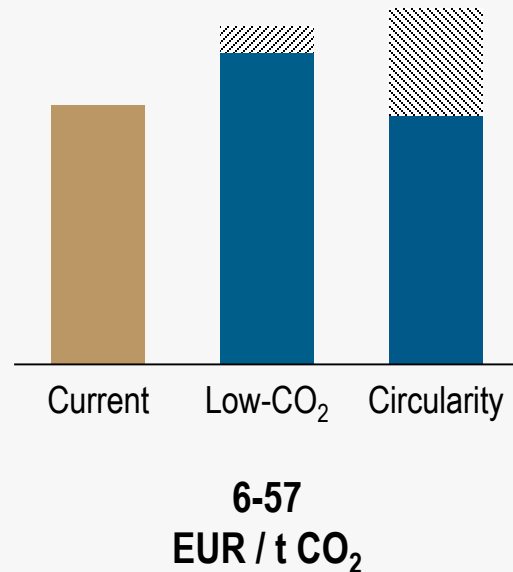


**...BUT END-USER COSTS INCREASE <1%
% INCREASE**

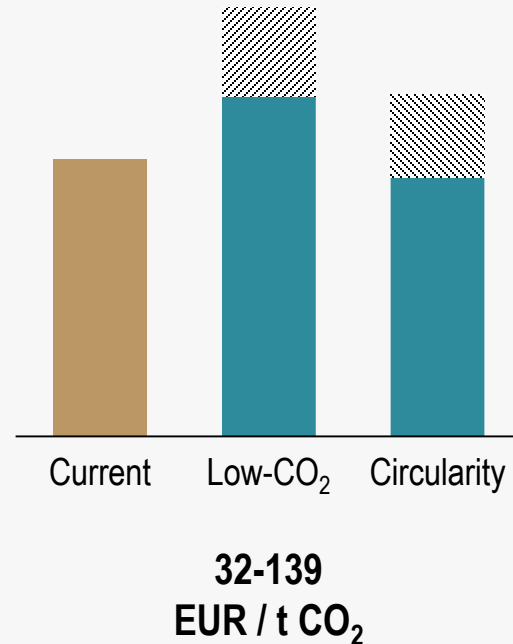


THE COST OF PRODUCTION INCREASES FOR ALL MATERIALS

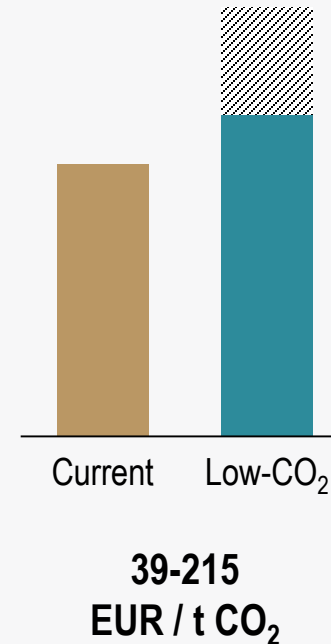
STEEL
+20-30%



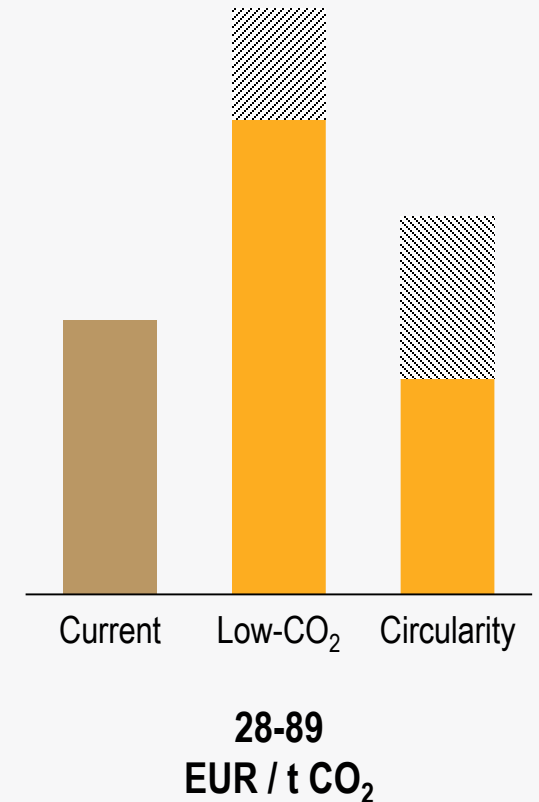
PLASTICS
+20-55%



AMMONIA
+15-60%



CEMENT
20-115%



INVESTMENT NEEDS INCREASE BY 76-107% ACROSS THE PATHWAYS

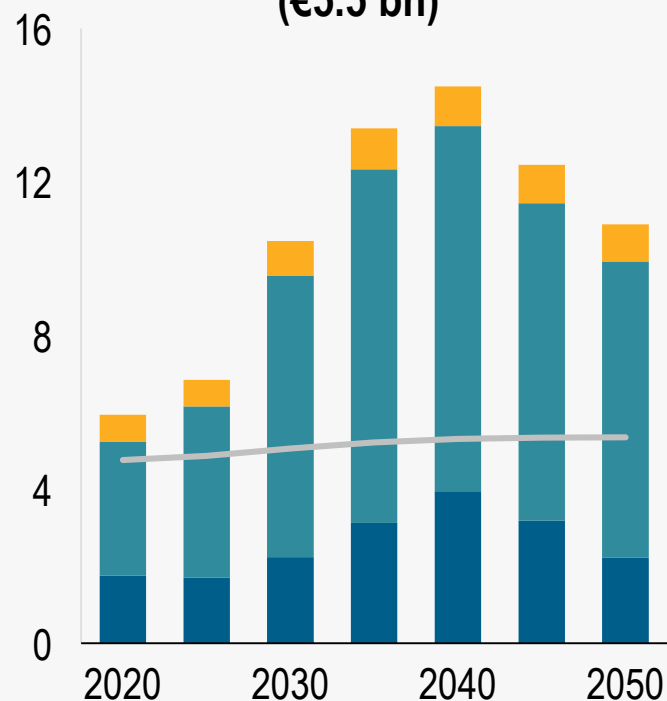
BN EUR PER YEAR



NEW PROCESSES

+107%

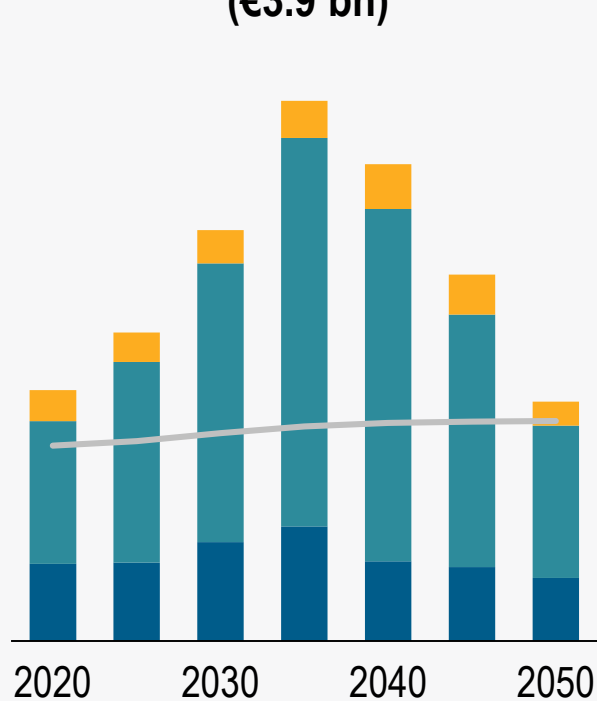
(€5.5 bn)



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

+76%

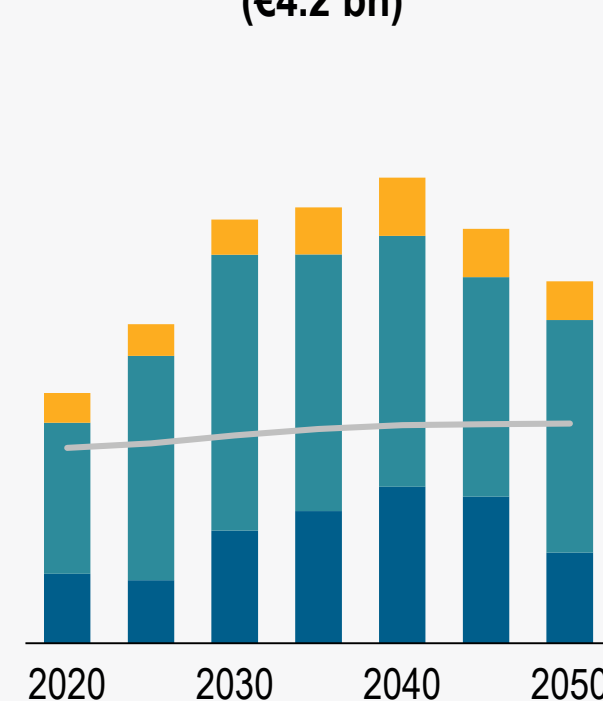
(€3.9 bn)



CARBON CAPTURE

+81%

(€4.2 bn)

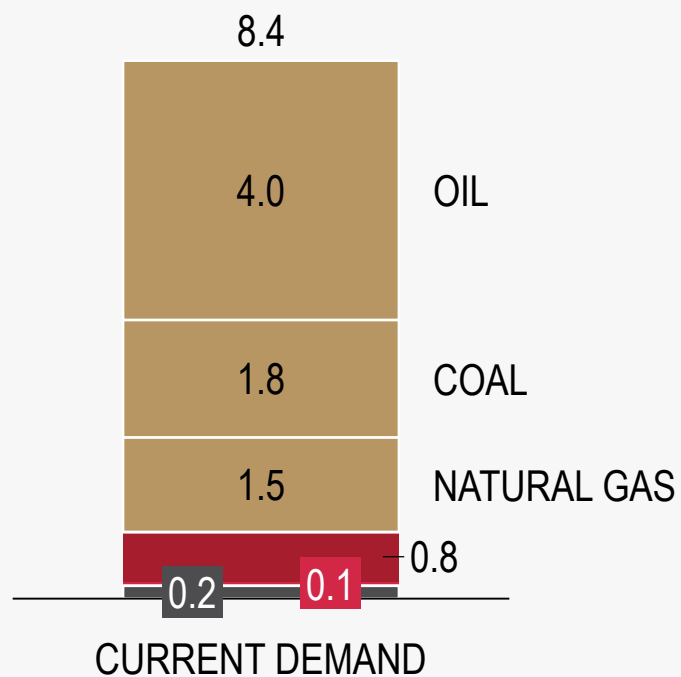


— Baseline Cement Chemicals Steel

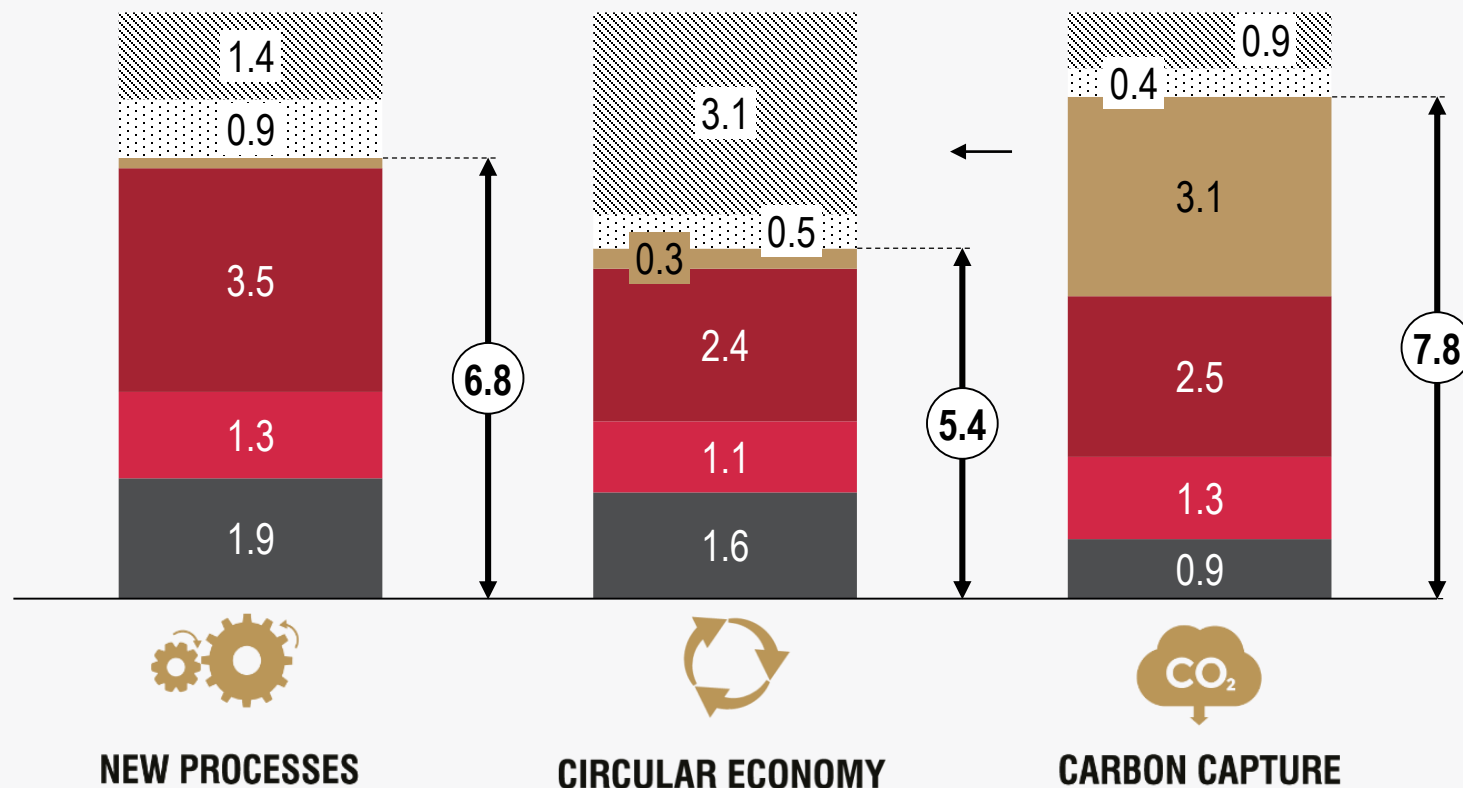
A NET-ZERO TRANSITION REQUIRES A MAJOR CHANGE IN INPUTS

EJ PER YEAR

2015



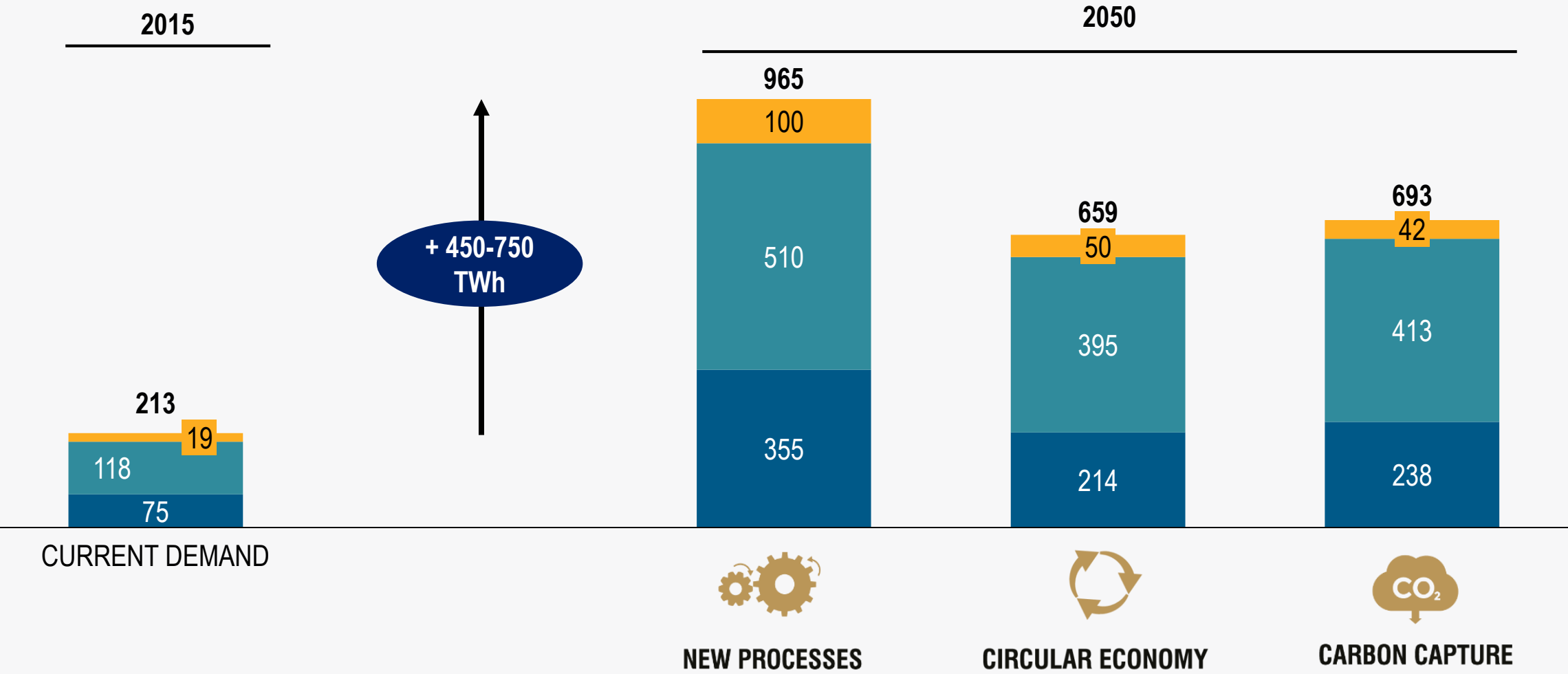
2050 DEMAND



Materials efficiency and recirculation More efficient processes Fossil fuels Electricity Biomass End-of-life plastics

NET-ZERO EMISSIONS REQUIRES AN ADDITIONAL 450-750 TWh ELECTRICITY

TWh PER YEAR



Cement Chemicals Steel

SIX POLICY AREAS TO ENABLE A LOW-CO₂ INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION

ACCELERATE INNOVATION AND SCALE UP DEPLOYMENT

- *Mission-driven innovation*
- *Demonstration support*
- *Early deployment*

CREATE LEAD MARKETS AND SUPPORT BUSINESS CASE

- *Policy commitment*
- *Price support (subsidies, etc.)*
- *Carve-outs (procurement, quotas)*

ENABLE INVESTMENT AND TRANSITION SUPPORT

- *Future business case*
- *Direct investment support*

ENABLE HIGH-QUALITY RECIRCULATION

- *High collection rates*
- *Regulate for clean materials*

CAPTURE MATERIALS EFFICIENCY POTENTIAL

- *Address value chain barriers*
- *Energy efficiency-type policy*

MAKE AVAILABLE INPUTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- *Infrastructure and inputs*
- *Regulatory regime for CCS*

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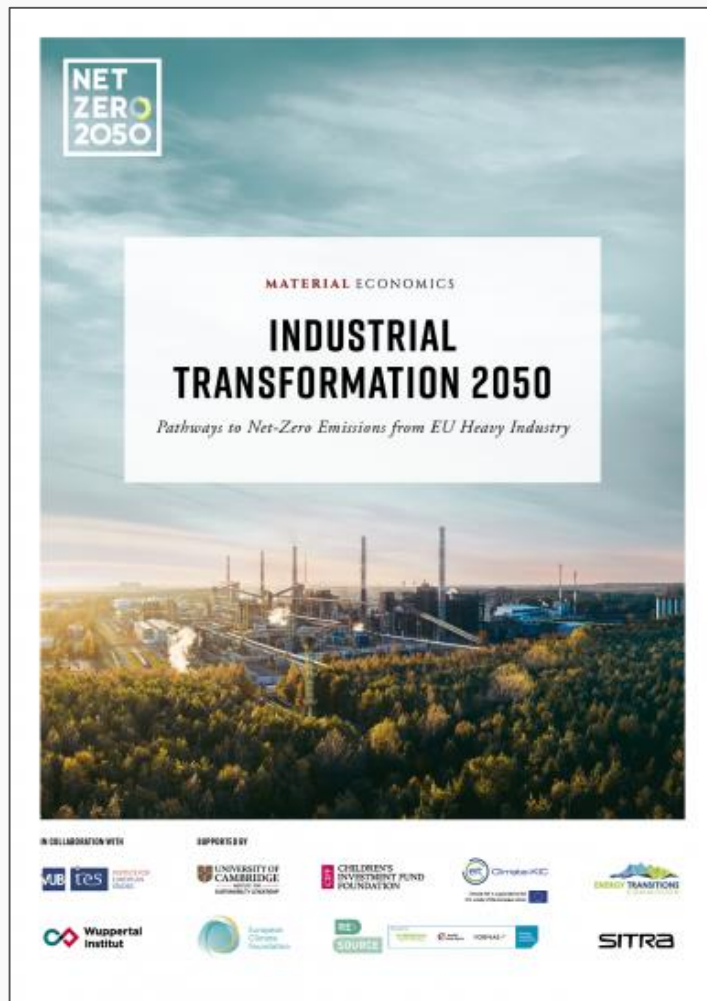
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THANK YOU

www.materialeconomics.com/publications/industrial-transformation-2050

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MATERIAL ECONOMICS

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