

# Chapter 4

## Summary

We have considered impacts on the environment from a resource perspective. Environmental problems will continue to be important, but so will natural resource security. Creating a zero-waste society will help to combat both these issues and promote sustainable development. Natural resources depend on the land in which they are found, and can therefore become easily involved in politics. Environmental sustainability is next to impossible without bold political leadership. Thus, we need to consider both the environment and natural resource security when formulating national strategy. Especially in countries like Japan where advanced technology is everywhere but there are few resources, there is a need to thoroughly debate the use of technology to create a zero-waste society and create this.

E-scrap recycling is vital to maintaining a supply chain of minor rare metals in Japan. Non-ferrous smelters are important to advance recycling of basic and minor rare metals. A new system is necessary for this and greater development of recycling technologies for minor rare metals. The above has considered impacts on environment from a resource perspective. Environmental problems will continue to be important but natural resource security will also become as important. Creating a zero-waste society aims to combat both of these issues and promotes sustainable development. Furthermore, natural resources depend on the land in which they are found and so can easily become involved in politics. Environmental sustainability is next to impossible without the bold political leadership. Thus we need to consider both of these when creating our national strategy. Particularly in countries like Japan where advanced technology is everywhere but there are next to no resources, there is a need to thoroughly debate how to use technology to create a zero-waste society and create this.

E-scrap recycling is key point to keep a supply chain of minor rare metals in Japan. Non-ferrous smelters play an important role to progress recycling of basic and minor rare metals. A new system is necessary to do it and more developments of the recycling technologies for minor rare metals.