

# Urban mining

## Slide 1

Welcome

## Slide 2

What is urban mining?

We can't translate "urban mining" word to word in German because it is a technical term also used in German. But it would mean something like "städtischer Abbau".

Explanation:

- Old houses produce building rubble
- The waste gets recycled in a special process
- With the newly made recycled material new houses can be built

Example house, but also possible with other things

## Slide 3

Urban mining is different from the recycling products we usually know (such as glass, PET), because it is the recycling of different valuable substances from a mix of materials. It involves methods which are alike to those used extraction of resources from rocks, which is why it's called "mining".

## Slide 4

About 7.5 tons of silver and 300 kilograms of gold end up in Swiss waste incineration plants every year. With today's technology about half of the silver and two thirds of the gold can be recovered.

An area in the city, the size of 34 km<sup>2</sup> (which is approximately twice the size of Wetzikon), has around 2.2 Mio. tons of raw materials

## Slide 5

Summary:

Because the technologies constantly get more efficient, urban mining is far less harmful to the environment than primary mining. But still the technologies aren't developed far enough to fully recycle all the different mixtures found in buildings.

## Slide 6

Quiz:

What is NOT associated with urban mining?

- A) Trying to reduce the waste that ends up in waste incineration plants
- B) Environmentally friendly way of producing materials
- C) Process of recycling a mixture of different substances

## Vocab

urban mining = städtischer Abbau

Building rubble = Bauschutt

extraction of resources = Gewinnung von Rohstoffen

raw materials = Rohstoffe

waste incineration plants = Kehrlichtverbrennungsanlagen

recovered = wiedergewonnen

primary mining = Erstgewinnung

## Sources

PowerPoint presentation giant horse (<https://sway.office.com/IVjH2t0E97wdWaFF> )

<https://www.urbanmining.ch/>

<https://www.br.de/mediathek/video/urban-mining-staedte-als-rohstoffminen-der-zukunft-av:5ddd2f11664051001aa42dd8>