

NARMIN II - Algae Technology for Mine Water Treatment

State of the Art

Background

Background: Mining and Water



- Metals are essential
- Mining generates water challenges
- Pit lakes requiring long-term water treatment
- Nordic challenge
- NARMIN II: Pilots algae-based treatment with native microalgae + bio ash fertilization under real Nordic conditions

State of the Art: Treatment Approaches

Active
chemical
treatment

Passive
systems

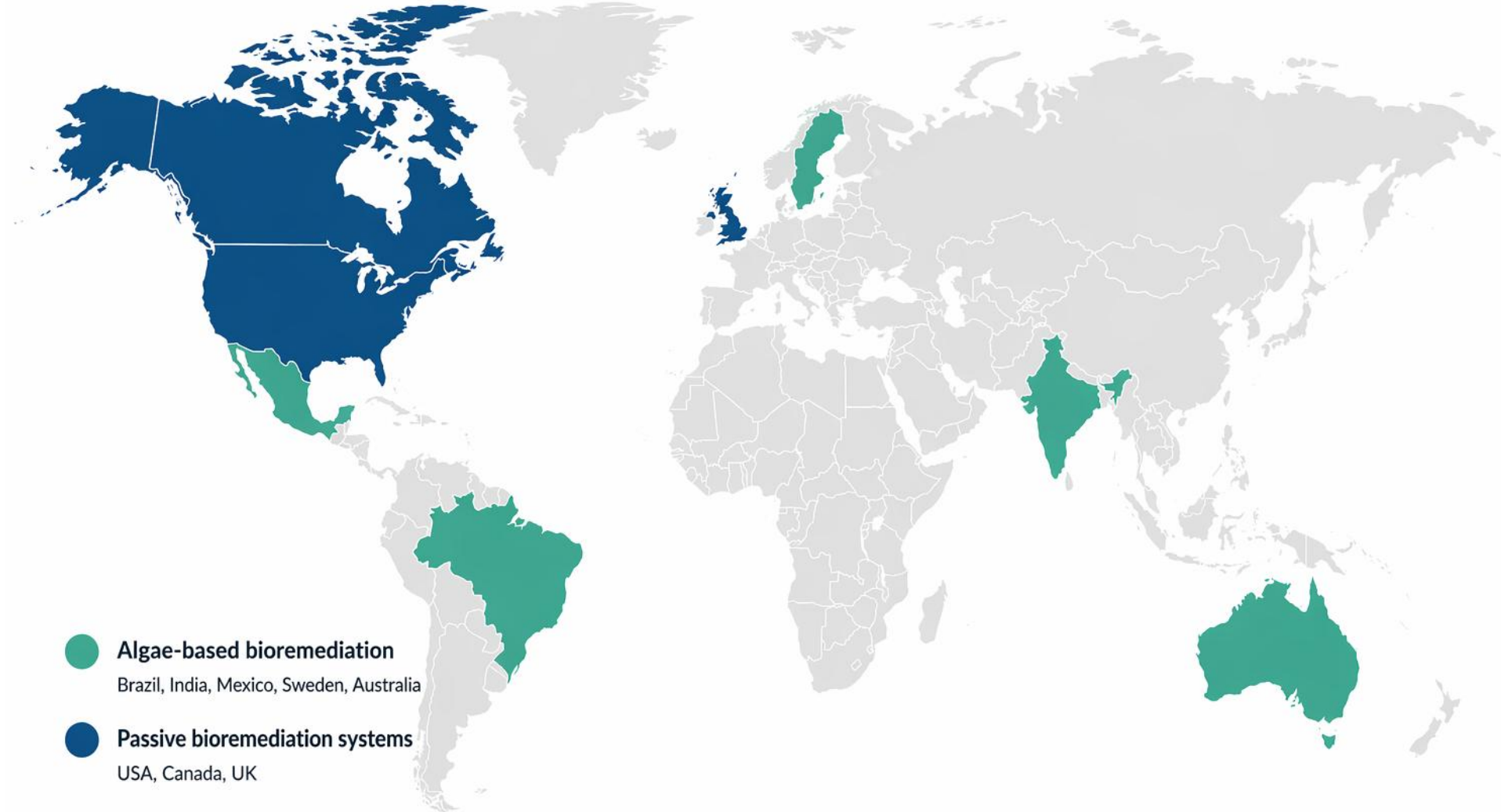
Biological
treatment

Industrial by-
products

Sweden in an international context

Global Landscape of Bioremediation Approaches

Countries where algae-based and passive bioremediation systems are reported



Note: Map reflects countries specifically mentioned in the state of the art (literature review).

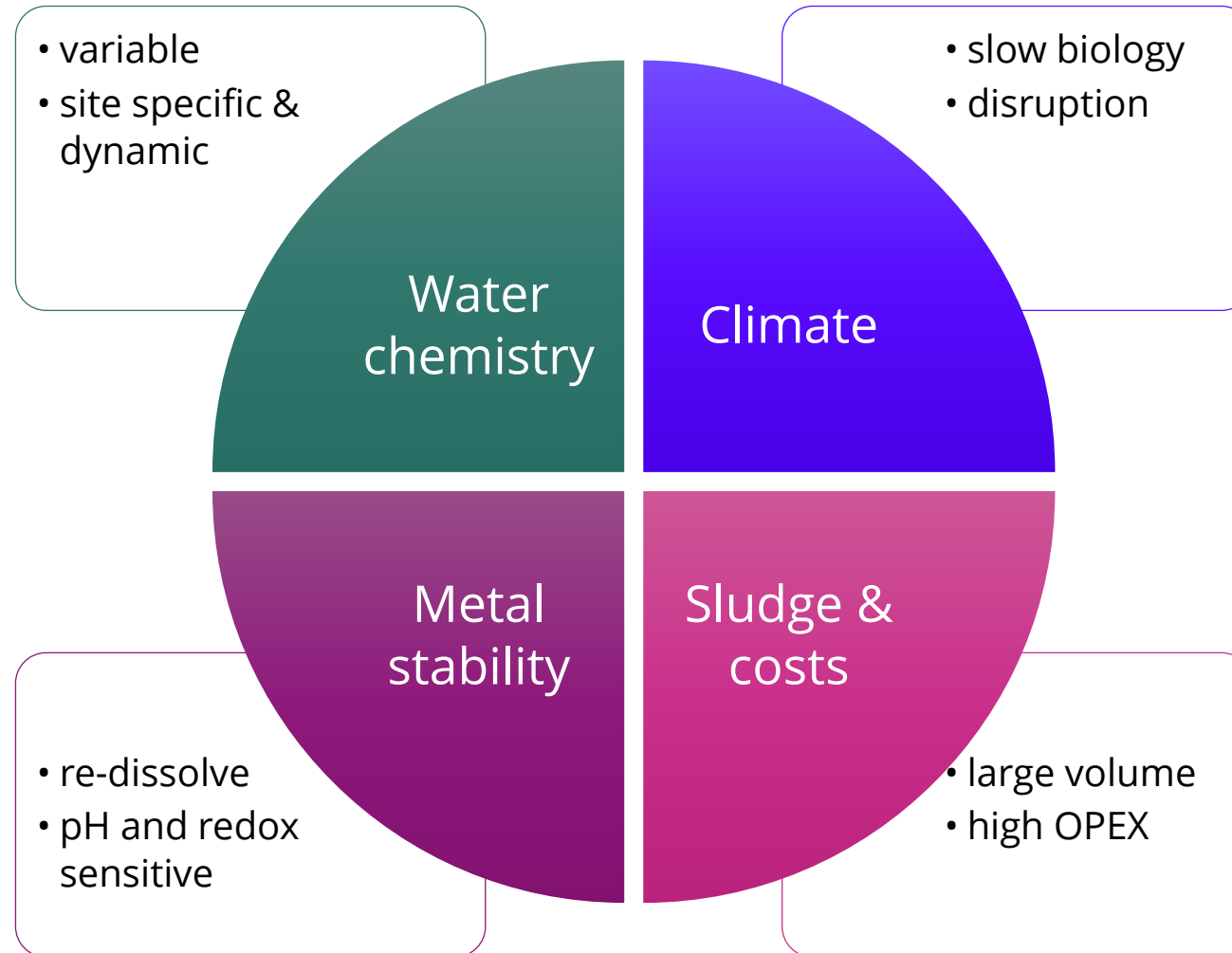
Bioremediation potential

- Metal removal via biosorption and bioaccumulation
- Carbon capture
- Biomass production
- Temperature sensitivity
- Nutrient limitation
- Lack of real-world validation

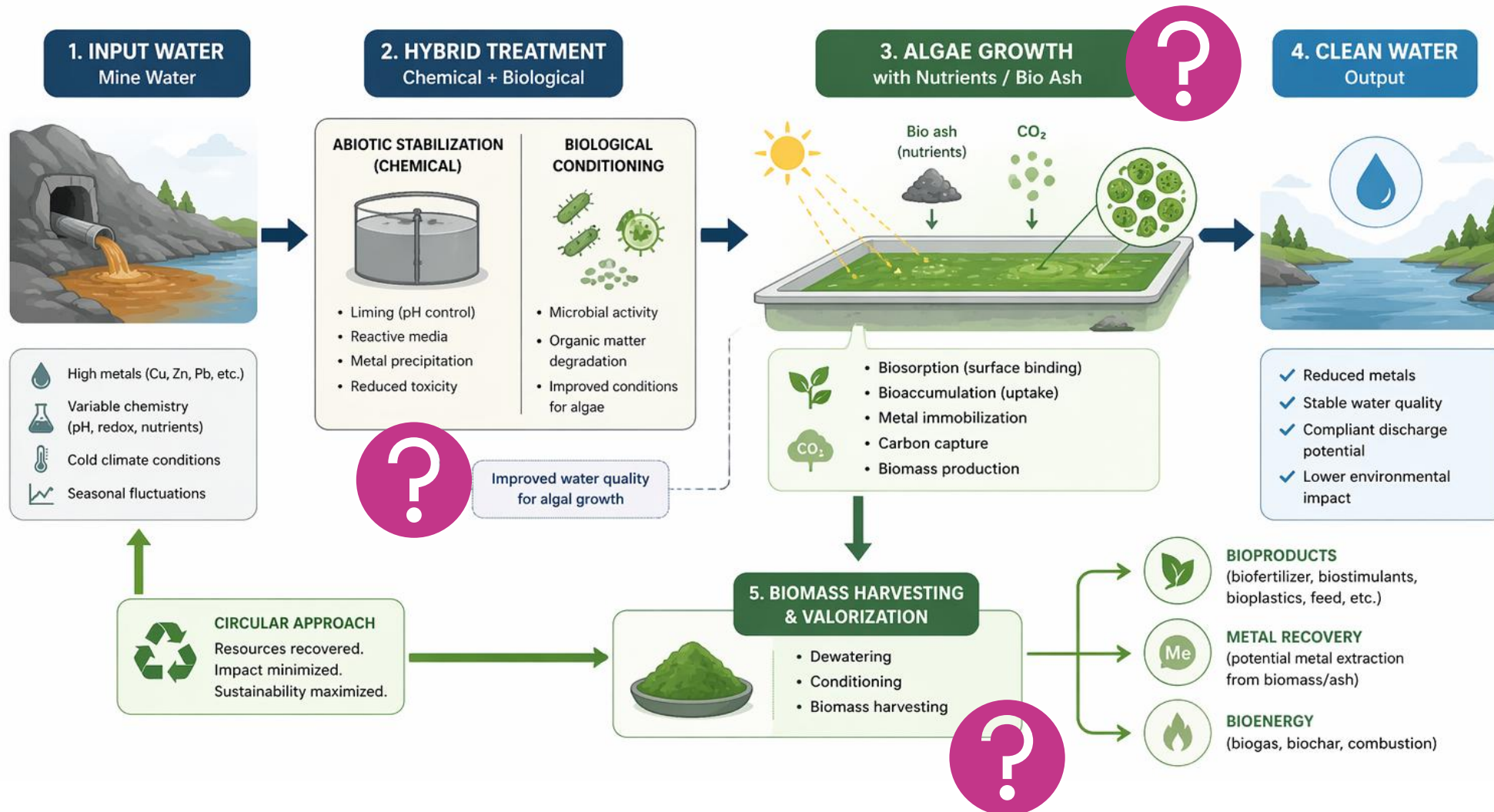
**High potential – but not yet ready
for Nordic deployment**

Challenges

Key Industrial Challenges

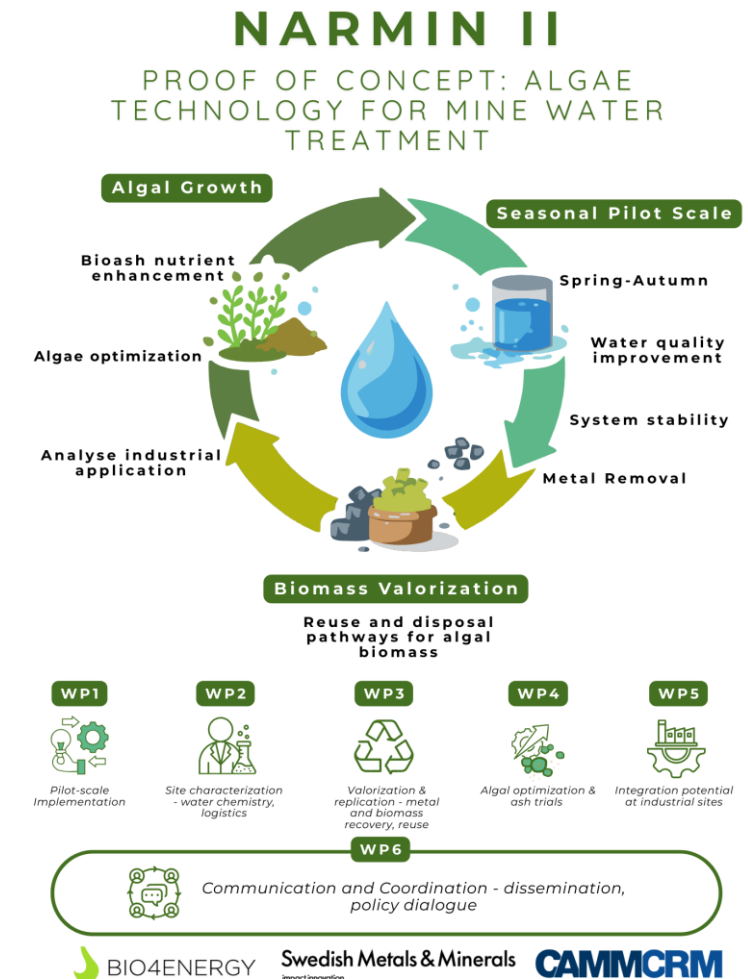


Research frontiers & gaps



NARMIN II: Addressing the Gaps

- Pilot-scale algae-based treatment under Nordic climate conditions in northern Sweden
- Bio ash as circular nutrient source - overcoming oligotrophic water limitations
- Closed-loop system: water treatment, biomass valorization, and circular resource flows
- Partnership with Talga AB (EU Net-Zero & CRMA site) — links to battery and critical raw material value chains
- Positions Sweden as a global leader in climate-adapted, circular mine water treatment



Thank You

Dawn May Patilan, Oscar Paulsson & Sarah Conrad | Luleå University of Technology

Christiane Funk & Vaishali Rani | Umeå University

Susanne Bauer | Talga AB



BIO4ENERGY

CAMMCRM
CENTRE OF ADVANCED MINING AND METALLURGY CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS

impact innovation

Questions?

