

Environmental Policy

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MATERIAL
TO BUILD OUR FUTURE

Environmental Policy

The Environmental Policy of HeidelbergCement refers to our commitment to the environment and is part of our policy framework. It describes how we manage the environmental topics of climate, water, energy, waste, biodiversity, and natural resources. We aim to reduce our impact and conserve natural resources and ecosystems. We strive to continuously improve our processes, business, and supply chain to minimise our environmental footprint. Our overall goal is to become carbon neutral, preserve nature and drive sustainability, so that resources are used wisely and ecosystems are maintained and restored.

Alignment

Environmental topics are addressed at our Managing Board through our Chief Sustainability Officer and country managers are responsible for implementing this policy. Furthermore, our business and corporate strategy are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, relevant for our business and all relevant environmental laws and regulations. Further, we cooperate with various partners from the industry, associations, governmental and non-governmental organisations, as well as universities and research institutions.

Actions

1 Compliance

We ensure that our business is conducted in accordance with all relevant environmental laws and regulations in the countries we operate in. This also applies to joint venture operations where we hold a majority as well as to all relevant activities along our supply chain.

2 Embedding the environment in our corporate strategy

We take the environment as an essentially important and sensitive component into account in all our operational and investment related decision-making processes. We always take a long-term view to avoid potential pollution and other negative impacts on the environment.

3 Understanding our environmental impact

We monitor our environmental impact and provide transparency through our reporting. One key component of understanding our impact is the implementation of environmental management systems (esp. ISO 14001) and a systematic auditing process.

4 Continuous improvement process

We are committed to proactively improve our environmental performance and continuously enhance this, both within our own operations as well as along our supply chain. This includes analysis, target setting, implementation, evaluation, and optimisation of processes to reduce our environmental impacts.

5 Innovation

We are committed to continuously explore innovative opportunities and implement solutions to further mitigate our impact in a feasible manner. Research and development are top priorities for us and enable us to make our products and processes more environmentally sustainable.

6 Responsible resource management

We are dedicated to the responsible use of natural resources, as these are inherent to our core business. We continuously reduce our consumption of energy and natural resources like virgin raw materials and water. We also increasingly replace fossil energy with green energy. We preserve the value of nature through the rehabilitation of ecosystems in quarries, we avoid own waste generation as far as possible and use external waste streams as alternative raw materials wherever possible.

7 Raising awareness and getting engaged

We raise the awareness of environmental issues concerning our industry by engaging with national governments, local communities, associations, non-governmental organisations such as Bird Life International, and initiatives like The First Movers Coalition, and Race-to-Zero. We train and raise awareness among our employees to understand how to reduce our environmental impact and how to implement the commitments of our environmental management policy.

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