

Welcome to our ninth edition of Nature around CEMEX Europe - Newsletter.

UK – Denge – Creating a nature reserve in partnership with the RSPB.

Cemex UK are now making plans to transfer ownership of a working quarry called Denge, in Kent. Situated on the coast the quarry is adjacent to the National Nature Reserve at Dungeness Point. The site has a Biodiversity Plan which was written by our wildlife partner the RSPB. So, work to create nature friendly habitats is already well under way. The site has also preserved over 16 ha of a coastal vegetated shingle habitat. The restored Lake and Islands already attract a host of birds including migratory species. The habitats also support rare plants, including species such as sheep bit and red hemp nettle. Working with the RSPB plans are being put in place to transfer management to the RSPB by 2025.



Germany – Nature a key component to delivering Sustainability

Cemex has an initiative called "Future in Action" which is designed to deliver on our Sustainability Commitments and Targets. Water and Biodiversity are a central pillar and key to help deliver for Nature is a **Nature Positive** approach. One where nature is not negatively impacted by our operations. Site restoration is an opportunity to enhance and improve Biodiversity by creating priority habitat that can support rare or endangered species. The German team highlight this approach in a recently published poster designed to raise awareness for employees and stakeholders.



Anyone who has ever voluntarily gotten up on their feet for an hour or two in the summer months to avoid working in the hot sun knows that it is a much easier to adopt if conditions and all with nature in the background. The more natural elements for our products, the more nature in nature, in the background. In order to continue to make a future-proof, it is important for a variety of reasons to act in a very targeted manner - with a positive attitude towards environmental and nature conservation issues.

KEY TAKEAWAYS: Nature is a key component of our business. It is essential to our long-term success. We are committed to protecting and enhancing nature. We are working to create a positive impact on the environment. We are committed to transparency and accountability. We are committed to continuous improvement. We are committed to stakeholder engagement. We are committed to innovation and leadership. We are committed to excellence in everything we do.

Educational activities on the nature trail in Bierawa

Nearly 60 primary school students from the vicinity of the Bierawa Gravel Pit visited the educational path "Bierawa - a mine restored to nature" in autumn and took part in workshops on ecological succession in post-mining areas.

Each workshop began with a lecture by a representative of Cemex, who explained to the students how the deposits are exploited and introduced them to the plant's operation. Then, accompanied by an educator, the students went to explore the educational path around the post-exploitation reservoirs. During the walk, the children saw how nature returns to the previously exploited Gravel Plant.

Thanks to the workshops and educational materials provided, students gained valuable knowledge about the characteristic species of plants, birds, amphibians, and mammals found on the trail. They were also able to see and learn about the bog wood, which is a local attraction.



FRANCE – Biodiversity Commitment

Cemex France has successfully renewed its **ECOCERT** accreditation. Ecocert is a French accreditation which looks at Biodiversity Management including impacts and monitoring. After 12 site audits including head office, Cemex France had their certificate renewed for the next three years. The certification covers all quarries, concrete plants, ports and head office – très bien.

The quarry at Chateaubourg completed a well-constructed bat shelter during 2023. Bat species have legal protection across Europe and the quarry has a legal requirement to construct the shelter. The shelter comprises two tunnels which have been designed to produce different ambient temperatures. A cooler tunnel for hibernation and a warmer tunnel for breeding. Monitoring has just started but it's hoped the shelter will support a significant bat colony.



Croatia: Mapping Habitat to create a Biodiversity baseline.

A key component to developing Biodiversity Plans and demonstrating Nature Positive is to understand the **biodiversity baseline**. Once this is understood it's possible to develop restoration plans designed to show a net gain in natural habitat. Analysis also includes field studies which give an insight to the habitat quality. Mapping the habitats is a key process and one which has been developed within Cemex using GIS software. After a recent visit to Croatia the team were able to input into the creation of habitat maps for quarries in the country. Croatia becoming the first country within EMEA Central Europe Region to complete this process and only the second country within Cemex globally.



SPAIN – Naturalizing drainage networks to promote Biodiversity

In the **Can Xumeu Quarry**, some stormwater run-off issues needed to be addressed at the quarry, so a drainage network was created to slow and manage the run-off water, using a design based on ecological principles. Also, a network of temporary ponds was created.

Temporary ponds are important for biodiversity. They fill with rainwater during the rainy season and dry up during the dry season. This cycle is essential for the Balearic toad (an endangered species), which needs to breed in shallow water. The ponds also provide habitat for other species, such as birds, amphibians, and reptiles.

The naturalization of the drainage network has improved water management and promoted biodiversity in the surrounding area. The ponds have become a point of attraction for birds, mammals, and insects, which satisfy their needs for water and food.

This action is an example of how technical actions can be used to promote biodiversity. By combining ecological and technical needs, it was possible to create a drainage network that is both effective for the quarry and beneficial for biodiversity.



Czech Republic – Náklo Gravel Pit – Open Day Event

An open day event was held at Náklo Gravel Pit so local people could see the site and the plans for when the site closes. Stakeholder Engagement is an important part of the Cemex Biodiversity Standard, and the event represents a good example of how to conduct these types of day. The event was well attended with good responses from the public to the proposed plans.



We would be pleased to hear from you and receive any pictures of nature you spot on your sites. Please email your country Sustainability Manager. Thanks CEMEX Europe Sustainability Team.