



**Building Biodiversity**

The CEMEX UK Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020

The cut of the first tree was the beginning of civilization.  
The cut of the last will be the end. Remember that! Guaraní proverb



Taff's Well Quarry near Cardiff is surrounded by beech woods that have been managed by CEMEX UK and are of international importance. It has been designated a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the European Commission Habitats Directive.



CEMEX is a global building materials solutions company and leading supplier of cement, readymixed concrete and aggregates. In the UK, CEMEX also produces asphalt, and has a significant share of the roof tile, railway sleepers, concrete paving and blocks markets. CEMEX has a national supply network in the UK to ensure that quality building materials are available to customers locally.



a million  
voices for  
nature

The RSPB speaks out for birds and wildlife, tackling the problems that threaten our environment. Nature is amazing - help us keep it that way.

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This document has been developed in partnership with CEMEX and the RSPB, who would like to thank all contributors from across both organisations, as well as contributors from BirdLife International and University of Northampton. We would welcome your comments to this report and process. Please send them to [biodiversity@cemex.com](mailto:biodiversity@cemex.com).

## WELCOME

**CEMEX UK PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN CREATING AND MAINTAINING BRITAIN'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT. WE ARE ONE OF THE UK'S LARGEST BUILDING MATERIALS COMPANIES AND OUR PRODUCTS, INCLUDING AGGREGATES, CEMENT AND CONCRETE, ARE PART OF THE FABRIC OF A SUSTAINABLE BRITAIN. BUT WE** RECOGNISE THAT OUR BUSINESS HAS CONSEQUENCES FOR PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT. IT IS A KEY CHALLENGE FOR US TO BALANCE THESE IMPACTS WITH THE NEED TO BUILD A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE. OUR VISION IS OF A SUCCESSFUL, SUSTAINABLE CEMEX THAT MAKES A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.



At CEMEX we strongly believe that protecting ecosystems is a fundamental aspect of sustainable development. It has a direct impact on the quality of people's lives all over the world and it is essential for the sustainability of every human activity, including business.

Biodiversity is life and the natural systems that support them. It matters because it underpins the benefits we get from the natural environment, contributes to our economy and enriches our lives.

Climate change is posing new challenges and threats to nature. Conserving biodiversity will play a key role in our ability to adapt to these changes. This is why, during the International Year of Biodiversity, when we are all encouraged to take direct action; we are setting out our Biodiversity Strategy, with transparent and challenging targets.

High quality restoration of mineral sites offers an effective way to develop areas for wildlife and re-creating a range of

habitats, please see pages 14-16 for some examples of our work in this area.

In 2007, CEMEX signed a global Memorandum of Understanding with BirdLife International.

The BirdLife International partner in the UK is the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). In 2009 CEMEX UK and the RSPB commenced a national partnership, which included the appointment of an RSPB advisor who is dedicated to CEMEX UK and providing biodiversity-focused restoration advice and strategy, whilst increasing awareness of biodiversity amongst employees.

This complementary relationship is intended to help drive CEMEX's improvement of its biodiversity management at a more local level. This biodiversity strategy is a major, tangible outcome of our partnership, which is already having a positive impact on our business.

With the support of our employees, neighbours, conservation partners and other stakeholders, we are committed to meeting the targets set out on pages 8-9, and be recognised as an outstanding manager of the natural environment and an important contributor to building biodiversity.

Gonzalo Galindo  
President, CEMEX UK

Heathland at Rugeley Quarry is a UK biodiversity action plan priority habitat that supports diverse flora, invertebrates and breeding birds.

CEMEX will create 1,000 hectares of this and other habitats by 2020.



## MESSAGE FROM CHRIS PACKHAM WILDLIFE EXPERT, RSPB VICE PRESIDENT

**I WAS FORTUNATE AS A KID TO GET OUTSIDE, JUMP OVER THE FENCE AT THE END OF THE GARDEN, WATCH BIRDS AND ANIMALS AND INTERACT WITH NATURE. FROM PEREGRINES STOOPING TO TADPOLES TICKLING THE PALM OF MY HAND, I LOVE IT. WILDLIFE IN THE UK IS BRILLIANT.**

It's all about enthusiasm and access, that's the key to protecting our wildlife. We have to concentrate our efforts to create a healthy environment for species to thrive in, now and in the future. Well-restored quarries can be great, providing reed beds, cliff faces, woodland and even wildflower meadows. We need to think about new ways to conserve biodiversity in a working landscape, and quarries in the UK offer enormous potential for building biodiversity where nature can thrive.

Going outside, getting your hands dirty and making a difference for wildlife is probably the most satisfying thing



anyone can do. So don't be frightened, protecting biodiversity is something we can all help achieve. By committing to this comprehensive strategy, CEMEX UK will, with its employees, neighbours and conservation organisations, create habitats and enrich our environment. If everyone gets stuck in and does just one thing for nature, then together we'll make a big difference.

## MESSAGE FROM DR MIKE CLARKE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE RSPB

**RESTORATION OF FORMER MINERAL SITES HAS PROVIDED SOME OF THE UK'S MOST REMARKABLE PLACES FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE, AND THE HUGE POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE RESTORATION REALLY EXCITES ME.**

WITH A VISIONARY APPROACH, THIS INDUSTRY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE LEADING CORPORATE SECTOR DELIVERING GOVERNMENT TARGETS FOR WILDLIFE AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

This is why I am so pleased that CEMEX and the RSPB have been able to work together on this strategy - identifying the significant contribution the company can make. It is an ambitious strategy, and wildlife needs all of us to be ambitious. The challenges it faces are many, be it climate change or habitat loss, to name just two. Providing the right habitat in the right place at sufficient scale is key. We need landscape-scale solutions, and for everyone to play their part.

Increasingly, Local Government is considering biodiversity restoration in their mineral planning policies. The ability to demonstrate high standards of restoration, aftercare and



land management ensures that the operations and future aspirations of a forward thinking company like CEMEX are viewed positively for the contribution they make.

This strategy lays a strong foundation for action. I look forward to the RSPB playing an active role in helping CEMEX turn its ambition into a reality across the UK, as BirdLife International are globally. We can then all be proud of creating more special places for people and wildlife.

## BIODIVERSITY

**WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY?** BIODIVERSITY, SHORT FOR “BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY” CAN BE DEFINED AS BEING THE VARIETY OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH, THE ECOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS THEY HAVE, AND THE HABITATS IN WHICH THEY LIVE. **BIODIVERSITY = NATURE**

Biodiversity is the source of irreplaceable and essential goods and services, without which life as we know it would not be possible. There is little doubt that habitats and species are being damaged and destroyed faster than ever before. Such losses undermine the natural richness of our planet and threaten our future. Business and society in general share responsibility for the current situation as well as for finding solutions to improve it.

The world is facing a biodiversity crisis. The ongoing loss of nature, of species, of habitats and of wild places is now widely recognised, but despite increasing conservation efforts, biodiversity continues to decline, as the human pressures on it continue to increase.

## FROM GLOBAL TO LOCAL FOCUS

**IN 1994, THE UK BECAME THE FIRST COUNTRY TO PRODUCE A NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN, FOLLOWING THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SIGNED IN RIO DE JANEIRO IN 1992.** THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION GOTHENBURG AGREEMENT IN 2001 TO HALT THE LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY BY 2010, THEN BY THE 2005 MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT, WHICH RAISED AWARENESS OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN WELL-BEING. IT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED TO REVERSE DAMAGE TO ECOSYSTEMS BY ADDRESSING THE CAUSES OF THAT DEGRADATION AND BY VALUING THE SERVICES ECOSYSTEMS PROVIDE.

Since then many new reasons for conservation action have been recognised, including the need to mitigate the impacts of climate change. In 2007, the UK Government published ‘Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach’, a report which set out an approach to conserving biodiversity based on a partnership model. This involves the statutory, voluntary, academic and business sectors, nationally and locally, to conserve biodiversity, for its own intrinsic value, for the vital

life-support services it provides, and because it enriches people’s lives.

In line with the European Union Habitats Directive which in the UK has been transposed into national law by means of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, we have an important role to play in the protection of habitats and species.

Brown hare, *Lepus capensis*, a UK biodiversity action plan species which has declined 80% in the last 100 years and is supported on CEMEX UK grassland habitat sites.

Jodie Randall (rspb-images.com)



## OUR VISION

**BUILDING PRODUCTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, AND CEMEX PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN CREATING AND MAINTAINING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING HOMES, HOSPITALS, OFFICES, SCHOOLS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.** AS PART OF A VISION FOR A SUCCESSFUL, SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS THAT MAKES A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT, CEMEX IS FULLY COMMITTED TO TAKING A LEADING ROLE IN SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION, BY HELPING TO DELIVER A BUILT ENVIRONMENT THAT IS PROFITABLE, SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AND FUNCTIONS WITHIN ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITS.

In line with the government and industry's joint Strategy for Sustainable Construction, this means providing sustainably sourced materials; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; protecting natural resources; enhancing the environment; and creating sustainable communities.

We acknowledge that producing and using materials can have an impact on people and the environment. Achieving the right balance between the benefits and impacts of operations is a constant challenge, achieved through focus on three key areas:



1. Ensuring CEMEX remains **competitive** by improving operational excellence and efficiency, and maintaining high ethical standards to achieve long-term sustainability.
2. **Reducing impact**, including noise, dust and emissions, to provide a healthy place to work, and to responsibly manage the land we hold.
3. Developing and maintaining **stakeholder dialogue** to promote understanding and secure our continued license to operate.

**THIS FOCUS IS UNDERPINNED BY CEMEX'S CORE VALUES, WHICH GUIDE EVERY DAY ACTIONS AND UPHOLD OUR COMMITMENT TO SOCIETY:**

- **COLLABORATION:** TO WORK WITH OTHERS IN A COLLECTIVE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE
- **INTEGRITY:** TO ACT WITH HONESTY, RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT AT ALL TIMES
- **LEADERSHIP:** TO ENVISAGE THE FUTURE AND FOCUS EFFORTS ON SERVICE, EXCELLENCE, AND COMPETITIVENESS

The result of our vision is that our business benefits the environment and that biodiversity loss is halted and reversed within CEMEX UK's operations. The company's activities ensure the sustainable management of natural resources. Enhancing biodiversity will be better for all aspects of business performance. The outcome for biodiversity of our

business activities will be to help provide future generations with ecosystem services such as clean air and water, and abundant wildlife. Making a significant, positive contribution to UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats is at the core of our vision.

The Dartford warbler is globally threatened (IUCN) and is a target for our conservation work at Rugeley Quarry, Staffordshire.

Ben Hall (rsfb-images.com)



## DELIVERY

THE CEMEX VISION TO ENSURE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FOCUSING EFFORT ON THE FOLLOWING FOUR THEMES.

- **BUILDING BIODIVERSITY** – through enhancing existing operations, and planning to create more biodiversity opportunities in line with UK priorities.
- Developing a **BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** to report, monitor and review biodiversity actions.
- **Raising Awareness** among CEMEX UK employees and among external audiences of the importance and of the services provided by biodiversity, including stakeholder engagement and partnership building.
- Achieving **Aspirational Goals** to gain recognition and pride for CEMEX UK's biodiversity achievements.

Each of the key themes will be developed into shared work programmes across the organisation. **Building Biodiversity** through following our biodiversity mitigation hierarchy and so by enhancement, planning and creation to ensure the company maximises its contribution towards biodiversity. The implementation of a **Biodiversity Management System** within operations will ensure that biodiversity becomes a core business principle, through the development, implementation and review of Biodiversity Action Planning. **Raising Awareness** of biodiversity with employees, customers and neighbours will increase the value and company pride in our biodiversity achievements. Achieving **Aspirational Goals** will highlight our pride in biodiversity and ensure CEMEX gets the acknowledgement deserved.

### OUR BIODIVERSITY PLEDGES

Below are CEMEX UK's five biodiversity pledges which will help us to achieve our vision.

#### WE WILL:

- 1 Create and manage priority biodiversity habitats
- 2 Establish biodiversity flagship sites
- 3 Empower our employees for biodiversity conservation
- 4 Work in partnerships for biodiversity
- 5 Champion biodiversity to promote and raise awareness

It is only through delivering our commitments for biodiversity conservation that CEMEX UK will gain the true social and business benefits. These will not occur overnight, but will be achieved through detailed planning to overcome the expected challenges. Appropriate tools and reference materials will be developed to enable the process for the company to 'Build Biodiversity'. We are keen that this process will have a full buy-in across the business, gained through broad consultation, partnership working, training, awareness raising and motivation.

The biodiversity targets will be met through the development of the CEMEX UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) which will communicate and advise on how to deliver our biodiversity

themes most effectively. Each target will be measured and the action plan will explain how these targets will be met and by whom. They will also be monitored and reviewed. The Biodiversity Action Plan will be published in 2011 and available online.

We will measure our effectiveness at meeting our biodiversity targets. This will involve continual monitoring of performance over time, giving us a good indication of how we are doing. This will be reported within a strategy update every two years, starting in 2012, as well as key performance Indicators (KPIs) within our annual sustainability report, assured through our ongoing RSPB partnership.

**OUR BIODIVERSITY PROCESS TIMELINE**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Form RSPB Partnership	✓						
Publish Biodiversity Strategy		✓					
Produce Biodiversity Action Plan			✓				
Report Biodiversity KPIs			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biodiversity Targets Review				✓		✓	
Biodiversity Strategy Review							✓

Linzi McDade from CEMEX in Scotland volunteering at Baron's Haugh RSPB Reserve near Motherwell.



# CEMEX UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

Building Biodiversity  
Management  
Awareness  
Aspirational goals  
Timescale (by end)

## TARGET

### OVERARCHING

- Create and manage priority biodiversity habitats
- Establish biodiversity flagship sites
- Empower our employees for biodiversity conservation
- Work in partnerships for biodiversity
- Champion Biodiversity to promote and raise awareness

### 1 CREATE AND MANAGE PRIORITY BIODIVERSITY HABITATS

	Building Biodiversity	Management	Awareness	Aspirational goals	Timescale (by end)
CEMEX will maximise the contribution to UK BAP priority habitats within all restoration plans	✓				Ongoing
Create and maintain 200 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2012
Create and maintain 500 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2015
Create and maintain 1000 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2020
Deliver restoration plans for the future creation of 300 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2012
Deliver restoration plans for the future creation of 750 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2015
Deliver restoration plans for the future creation of 1500 hectares of UK BAP priority habitats in total	✓				2020
Prioritise quarry, landfill, angling sites and non-operational land bank for ecological value through a biodiversity scoping study. Sites will be prioritised as having high, medium or low biodiversity potential		✓			2012
Produce site BAPs for the management of 50% of high biodiversity potential sites by 2013, and for 100% by 2015		✓			2013-15
Renew and produce site-specific Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for all marine aggregate permissions. This will conform to current best practice		✓			2014
Quantify CEMEX's contribution to UK BAP expansion targets and report to Biodiversity Action Reporting System annually		✓	✓		2012
All sites with statutory designation under CEMEX UK's control will be managed to maintain priority habitats		✓			2014

### 2 ESTABLISH BIODIVERSITY FLAGSHIP SITES

Identify biodiversity flagship sites within each business region; plan visionary biodiversity and community gains in partnership with conservation organisations	✓	✓	✓	✓	2012
CEMEX's Readymix business will enhance concrete plants for biodiversity conservation where opportunities arise. Key flagship sites will be identified for biodiversity enhancement in partnership with conservation organisations	✓		✓	✓	Ongoing
CEMEX's Building Products business will enhance building products sites for biodiversity conservation where opportunities arise. Key flagship sites will be identified for biodiversity enhancement in partnership with conservation organisations	✓		✓	✓	Ongoing
Implement two biodiversity restorations with other mineral operators within landscape scale conservation areas	✓		✓	✓	2020

TARGET	Building Biodiversity	Management	Awareness	Aspirational goals	Timescale (by end)
<b>3 EMPOWER OUR EMPLOYEES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION</b>					
Implement the biodiversity strategy through the creation of the company BAP	✓	✓	✓		2011
Integrate annual biodiversity reporting into the CEMEX Environmental Monitoring System. Report KPIs for biodiversity regularly through the CEMEX UK Sustainability Report		✓	✓		2012
Develop an employee volunteer initiative including opportunities to work on biodiversity projects, with at least 5% of employees volunteering			✓		2012
Provide CEMEX employees with biodiversity training opportunities		✓	✓		Ongoing
Train planners and site managers in biodiversity enhancement and restoration		✓	✓		2012
Develop a planning, restoration and biodiversity Graphic Information System and landscape assessment tool		✓			2012
Provide a virtual reference biodiversity library to equip employees to deliver biodiversity		✓	✓		2012
<b>4 WORK IN PARTNERSHIPS FOR BIODIVERSITY</b>					
Develop a long-term partnership with the RSPB		✓	✓	✓	Ongoing
Each area of the business will annually identify and implement a high priority project for biodiversity delivery with a partner conservation organisation in support of the biodiversity strategy	✓		✓		Ongoing
Biodiversity best practice and research will be shared with other organisations through our website, Nature After Minerals programme and the Conservation Evidence open source science journal			✓		Ongoing
<b>5 CHAMPION BIODIVERSITY TO PROMOTE AND RAISE AWARENESS</b>					
CEMEX will proactively communicate internally and externally about progress against its biodiversity targets to keep employees engaged and raise awareness among key audiences of the company's contribution in this area			✓		Ongoing
Run six biodiversity awareness days annually to engage local communities and to increase awareness of biodiversity issues and respect for the natural environment with stakeholders			✓		Ongoing
Continue to support the CEMEX conservation books to highlight the global threats to biodiversity			✓		Ongoing
Strive to achieve aspirational goals to gain wider recognition of CEMEX's best practice			✓	✓	Ongoing
CEMEX recognises the need for better protection for marine biodiversity, including the designation of an ecological coherent network of marine protected areas			✓		Ongoing
Identify biodiversity champions for all high priority sites and ensure they are appropriately trained. Role to include onsite management and promotion of biodiversity		✓	✓		Ongoing
Publish site BAPs via CEMEX's website to enable peer review and stakeholder engagement			✓		Ongoing
Participate in the review of marine mineral sector Regional Environmental Assessments, in particular the consideration of nature conservation in the marine environment		✓	✓		Ongoing
Within all new major projects CEMEX will nominate a suitably qualified dedicated biodiversity manager		✓	✓		Ongoing
Implement the CEMEX green offices initiative		✓	✓		2011
Develop biodiversity enhancing engineered structures for our customers	✓		✓		Ongoing

## OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

**WITH A LONG-TERM VISION AND CAREFUL PLANNING, MINERAL EXTRACTION CAN PROVIDE BIODIVERSITY GAIN AND CONTRIBUTE TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND THE PROVISION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE.** QUARRY RESTORATION HAS A SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THIS BY RESTORING LAND TO BIODIVERSITY PRIORITY HABITATS AND SO SUPPORTING PRIORITY SPECIES.

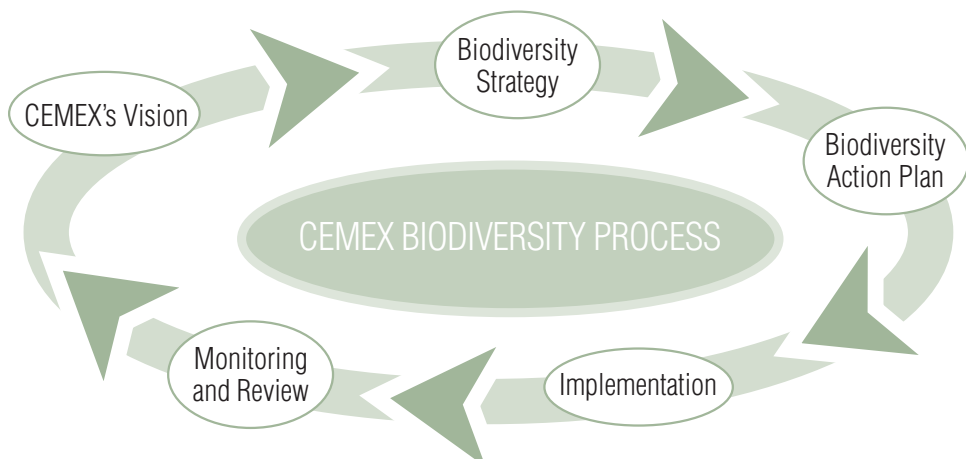
CEMEX UK is adopting the mitigation hierarchy to assess biodiversity value and sensitivity in the placement, development and operational phases of the business. In accordance with this operational framework, this means CEMEX UK will:

- Seek to enhance biodiversity opportunities through operations;
- seek to avoid biodiversity impacts in its design and establishment and,
- minimise impacts throughout its operational cycle,
- maximise restoration and rehabilitation outcomes during the development cycle and through closure, and
- in recognition of any residual or net negative impacts on biodiversity, providing compensatory habitat (eg. biodiversity offsetting) by identifying an offset response that is relevant both in terms of biodiversity value and in the eyes of relevant stakeholders.



## MANAGEMENT PROCESS

**OUR STRATEGY SETS OUT A PATH AND FRAMEWORK FOR CEMEX UK'S BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION UNTIL 2020.** IT PROVIDES A BASIS TO BEST CONSERVE AND ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY ACROSS ALL BUSINESS AREAS OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS. IT WILL INTEGRATE WITH OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SO IT CAN BE TRACKED AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVED.



## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

**TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS, CEMEX, LIKE ALL COMPANIES, IS DEPENDENT ON A NETWORK OF POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS.**

PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN BUSINESS AND CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS CAN OFFER AN INNOVATIVE METHOD OF ADDRESSING CHALLENGES BY SHARING AND DRAWING ON RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE.

CEMEX UK aims to contribute to local biodiversity action plans by working with partners to support these priorities and ensure the greatest conservation value is gained from its land management.

In 2007, CEMEX signed a global Memorandum of Understanding with BirdLife International. This involves a 10-year partnership for BirdLife's counsel, advice and expertise that will be integrated into the management of quarry sites operated by CEMEX around the world. To complement the global partnership with BirdLife International, CEMEX UK is working with BirdLife's UK partner, the RSPB, to support

the company in its development of a national biodiversity strategy, provide specialist advice and assistance with restoration plans for the company's many quarries and raise awareness of biodiversity among employees.

In the UK, CEMEX also works with a range of other partners, including The Wildlife Trusts which today manage a number of the company's nature reserves. We also work with Butterfly Conservation who monitor and enhance butterfly habitats in Warwickshire, and many other areas. See case study on page 16.

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*: A UK BAP species found on many CEMEX UK sites. Since 1960 their numbers have dropped by 80% in England and Wales. *Chris Gomersall (rspb-images.com)*



## CEMEX UK'S BIODIVERSITY PARTNERS

PARTNER	Strategy implementation	Restoration	Research	Knowledge transfer	Stakeholder involvement	Employee volunteering
BirdLife International						
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds						
UK Biodiversity Partnership						
Local Biodiversity Partnerships						
Local Wildlife Trusts						
Butterfly Conservation						
Pond Conservation						
Nature After Minerals						
Universities						
Conservation Evidence						
Mineral Products Association						
Local Non Government Organisations						
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs/ Natural England/ Scottish Natural Heritage/ Countryside Council for Wales/ Environment Agency						

## BENEFITING FROM BIODIVERSITY

**BIODIVERSITY AND THE ECOSYSTEMS IT FORMS PROVIDE 'ECOSYSTEM SERVICES' TO SOCIETY. THERE IS NO ORGANISATION THAT DOES NOT MAKE USE OF ONE OR MORE OF THESE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES, EITHER DIRECTLY THROUGH THEIR OWN ACTIVITIES OR INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE SUPPLY CHAIN.** RESTORING QUARRIES TO BIODIVERSITY RICH HABITATS HAS IMMENSE BENEFIT TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AS RECREATIONAL SPACE. OUR HEALTH ALSO BENEFITS.

Wider community benefits include services such as flood control, protection against erosion, the supply of clean water, carbon storage, nutrient cycling, pollination of crops and climate regulation. These are less measurable but no less important. There are also economic gains. For

example, a number of nature reserves, such as Attenborough in Nottinghamshire, bring in substantial funds to local economies each year. Biodiversity itself is recognised as an essential, but diminishing, resource and its loss can have considerable consequences for communities and habitats.



In rare cases where quarries need to be placed in biodiversity-rich areas, baseline surveys and careful design and planning can, in many cases, significantly avoid and reduce negative impacts. Quarries should be restored to match the locally important biodiversity habitats in their landscape. Rare habitats, such as lowland heathland and

lowland acid grasslands are easily achieved through natural regeneration on nutrient poor soils. Quarry restoration that directly delivers natural habitats is the most tangible legacy. However, it is important that biodiversity conservation be integrated into all quarries' after-uses, from angling lakes to agricultural fields.

#### **BIODIVERSITY OPPORTUNITIES OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE CEMEX BUSINESS:**

##### **Large scale restoration of natural habitats**

- UK BAP priority habitats and associated species, including reedbeds, lowland heathland and flower rich grassland

##### **Enhancement of agricultural restoration**

- Incorporating of agri-environment measures including field margins and species rich hedgerows

##### **Enhancement of angling lakes**

- Wet woodland, water margins, fringing reedbeds

##### **Enhancement of Operational quarries**

- Conservation of habitat features, provision for sand martins and invertebrates

##### **Enhancing our built environment**

- Cement and quarrying plant for nesting peregrine falcons and swifts
- Building products and concrete sites - urban wildlife habitats

##### **Offices and facilities**

- Wildlife gardens and homes for wildlife such as nest boxes

## BIODIVERSITY IN PRACTICE

### DENGE QUARRY, KENT

If you haven't been to Dungeness, nothing can quite prepare you for the landscape – mile after mile of shingle, which is wild and a little weird! The reserve is a haven for breeding and wintering water birds, and an important stopover for migrant birds. It is also home to many unusual plants and invertebrates. The reserve has over 90 flooded gravel pits. These offer an important refuge for wintering wildfowl, including black-necked grebe, goosander and smew, and support breeding colonies of gulls and cormorants.

*"We have had a very close working relationship with CEMEX UK and its predecessors for several decades at Denge in Dungeness. I have been personally involved for the last 25 years and together we have created, restored and modified virtually all the gravel pits and open water at Dungeness. It is a long and complex story but it has been an excellent partnership in which the operational expertise of CEMEX combined with our knowledge of habitat conservation has resulted in the creation of high quality, cost effective priority habitats with excellent public access and amenity, across the peninsula".*



Jim Glover, Special Projects Manager, The RSPB South East Region

Gravel pit view at the Dungeness RSPB Reserve.

Ben Hall ([rspb-images.com](http://rspb-images.com))

### ATTENBOROUGH NATURE RESERVE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Opened by Sir David Attenborough in March 2005, this complex of flooded gravel pits, wet woodland, and islands covers 145 hectares and provides an ideal habitat for a wide range of plants, birds and other wildlife. The nature reserve is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is managed in partnership by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and CEMEX, with support from Broxtowe Borough Council.

The reserve includes the Attenborough Nature Centre, which is an award winning Visitor and Education facility located within easy reach of Nottingham and Derby.



## CEMEX CONSERVATION BOOKS

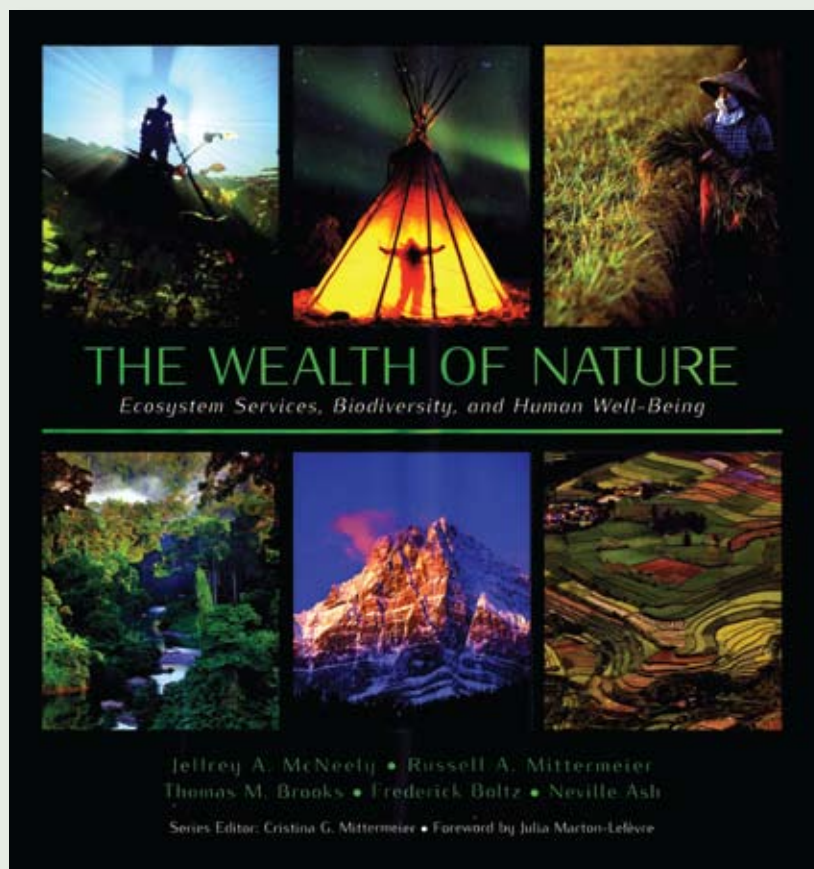
SINCE 1993, CEMEX IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS, HAS ANNUALLY PUBLISHED THE CEMEX CONSERVATION BOOK SERIES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE NECESSITY TO PRESERVE OUR NATURAL WORLD.

The Wealth of Nature makes an important contribution to The International Year of Biodiversity with its more than 20 essays from renowned conservation scientists illustrated by images from leading photographers, by putting the spotlight on how unsustainable economic growth has put a burden on nature's capacity to deliver clean water, fresh air, medicines and climate regulation, among other benefits. Assigning a financial value to them is the key to mend some of the environmental impact of human activities.

It was developed by CEMEX and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The book, which has also been developed in association with Conservation International, The Wild Foundation and International League of Conservation Photographers, outlines the views of leading scientists about nature's ecological services and demonstrates how they contribute to our health, economic prosperity, and cultural values.

**“With this book, the priceless benefits that people receive from the workings of nature will no longer be taken for granted but rather be appreciated for the unique life-support systems they provide.”**

**Julia Marton-Lefèvre Director General, IUCN**



## BIODIVERSITY IN PRACTICE

### SOUTHAM QUARRY, WARWICKSHIRE

For many years volunteers from the Warwickshire Branch of Butterfly Conservation and Conservation Officer, Mike Slater, have been working closely with CEMEX UK to conserve



nationally scarce butterflies and moths on their sites in the county. Approximately three hectares of scrub have been cleared at CEMEX UK's Southam Quarry and a series of flower bunds have been created.

*"Our partnership with CEMEX UK has already seen major successes, including an increase in the number of Small Blue butterfly colonies from three to six and the number of Chalk Carpet moth sites from one to three".*

Keith Warmington,  
Chairman, Butterfly  
Conservation,  
Warwickshire

### WICK GOLDEN VALLEY, SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

'A paradise right on our doorstep'. That's how one local resident from Wick described the former ochre works site between Bristol and Bath. The site is now managed as a Local Nature Reserve after the local community worked in partnership with the council and CEMEX UK, the landowners, to formally designate the site in 2005. Wick Golden Valley Local Nature Reserve is an important and unique place. There are few reserves within the West of England with such diverse habitats so readily accessible to the local community. The site has become a haven for wildlife, with the remnants of its industrial past hidden amongst the vegetation.

The reserve contains a variety of habitats along the slopes and bottom of the valley, including a river corridor, woodland and grassland. These habitats have been heavily influenced by the quarrying and production of refined ochre that took place in the 20th century. The River Boyd runs through the site and acts as a corridor for many birds including kingfishers and dippers, as well as supporting otters and a wide variety of fish and aquatic life. The woodland is well known for its carpets of spring flowers, including wild garlic

and bluebells. Bird life is very rich and diverse and includes great spotted woodpeckers and tawny owls. The adjacent active quarry provides an important breeding habitat for peregrine falcons.



Kingfisher, *Alcedo atthis*. Jodie Randall (rsfb-images.com)

## UK BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN HABITATS

From Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 - Habitats of Principal Importance

*Ticks indicate those terrestrial priority habitats which CEMEX UK will focus on creating and managing within the first tranche of biodiversity work*

Rivers	✓	Calaminarian grasslands	✓
Oligotrophic and dystrophic lakes	✓	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	✓
Ponds	✓	Limestone pavements	✓
Mesotrophic lakes	✓	Maritime cliff and slopes	
Eutrophic standing waters	✓	Coastal vegetated shingle	
Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	✓	Machair	
Arable field margins	✓	Coastal sand dunes	
Hedgerows	✓	Intertidal chalk	
Traditional orchards	✓	Intertidal underboulder communities	
Wood-pasture & parkland	✓	Sabellaria alveolata reefs	
Upland oakwood	✓	Coastal saltmarsh	
Lowland beech and yew woodland	✓	Intertidal mudflats	
Upland mixed ashwoods	✓	Seagrass beds	
Wet woodland	✓	Sheltered muddy gravels	
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	✓	Peat and clay exposures	
Upland birchwoods	✓	Subtidal chalk	
Native pine woodlands	✓	Tide-swept channels	
Lowland dry acid grassland	✓	Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats	
Lowland calcareous grassland	✓	Estuarine rocky habitats	
Upland calcareous grassland	✓	Seamount communities	
Lowland meadows	✓	Carbonate mounds	
Upland hay meadows	✓	Cold-water coral reefs	
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	✓	Deep-sea sponge communities	
Lowland heathland	✓	Sabellaria spinulosa reefs	
Upland heathland	✓	Subtidal sands and gravels	
Upland flushes, fens and swamps	✓	Horse mussel beds	
Purple moor grass and rush pastures	✓	Mud habitats in deep water	
Lowland fens	✓	File shell beds	
Reedbeds	✓	Maerl beds	
Lowland raised bog	✓	Serpulid reefs	
Blanket bog	✓	Blue mussel beds	
Mountain heaths and willow scrub	✓	Saline lagoons	
Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	✓		

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.  
The next best time is now. Chinese proverb



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