

Climate Policy

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Climate Policy

HeidelbergCement recognises that global climate change is a key challenge for our society, and we support the aim of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement to limit global warming to well below 2°C. We accept our responsibility to continuously reduce the carbon footprint of our production processes so that we will be able to provide carbon-neutral concrete to all of our customers latest by 2050.

HeidelbergCement cooperates proactively with policy makers, communities, sectoral business partners and other stakeholders to create the appropriate framework conditions to support the implementation of sustainable solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. We have established governance structures that assign responsibility for sustainability and climate protection, including target achievement, to one member of the Managing Board who also oversees the comprehensive implementation of this policy.

Alignment

HeidelbergCement advocates for global level playing field conditions to enhance effective responses to climate change, based on sectoral and local action. We have set our own binding targets and will continue to cooperate closely with industry peers as well as competent advisors and suppliers to reduce the carbon emissions of our industry. At the same time, we are strengthening our cooperation with associations across our product value chain to move toward net zero carbon buildings by 2050.

As a supporter of the TCFD process, we integrate transparent disclosure on climate change-related risks and opportunities into our corporate annual reporting formats.

Actions

1 Direct Carbon Emissions from Production

We reduce Scope 1 carbon emissions from our cement production operations to less than 500 kg per tonne of cementitious material by 2030.

We reduce combustion-related emissions from clinker production by doubling the alternative fuel rate by 2030 compared to 2018, to further substitute fossil fuels.

2 Indirect Carbon Emissions and Efficiency

We reduce our Scope 2 carbon emissions by 65% by 2030 compared to 2016.

We continuously act to improve energy conservation and efficiency in all our operations, including the recovery of waste heat. We invest directly in renewable electrical energy generation and support congeneric external investments through participation in long-term partnership agreements.

3 Acquired Carbon Emissions from Products and Services

We reduce Scope 3 carbon emissions from the clinker and cement products purchased from external suppliers, by advising and supporting them to meet the same product specific carbon footprint as we achieve in our own production facilities.

To reduce the supply and transport-related greenhouse gas emissions of our finished products and to support the decarbonation of relevant industries, we engage with all of our partners along the whole value chain.

4 Research & Development

We invest in Research & Development of new technologies for the mitigation of process carbon emissions from clinker production, such as Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage.

Our R&D efforts to develop innovative low-carbon production technologies and products receive highest priority. This also comprises the enhanced use of recycled concrete throughout the whole production value chain in order to conserve natural resources and support our goal of providing carbon-neutral concrete to all of our customers by 2050 at the latest.

5 Productivity Improvement of Construction Processes

We support the development of innovative technologies and solutions to improve the productivity of construction processes, the extended use of buildings and infrastructure, the recycling of decommissioned materials and by this contribute to minimizing the wastage of valuable construction materials.

6 Reliable Business Conditions

We will continue to advocate for a predictable and reliable legislative environment that supports the introduction of sustainably produced and performing building materials and fosters the transition towards a climate-neutral society.

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