



Union Européenne des Producteurs de Granulats
Europäischer Gesteinsverband
European Aggregates Association

UEPG Manifesto

European Elections 2019

Sustainable Welfare in Europe needs **access to primary and secondary raw materials**, which is **compatible with environmental management**, and provides **safe local jobs**.

UEPG, the European Aggregates Association, calls for:

- ▶ An EU policy re-establishing the **positive link between industry and society**
- ▶ Ensuring policies on **sustainable access to resources and energy at a competitive price**
- ▶ EU legislation enabling and promoting a resource **efficient circular economy**
- ▶ Promoting waste avoidance, re-use and recycling where **economically, environmentally and technically viable**
- ▶ A smarter **implementation of Environmental policies**
- ▶ Better **coherence between nature conservation and socio-economic objectives** at EU, National and local level
- ▶ A **bottom-up approach**, integrating **innovative concepts** such as **temporary nature**, developed in the field, for the **benefits of European Environmental policies** and for the conservation of European **Natural Heritage**
- ▶ EU policies recognising the **good compliance, expertise and practices of Occupational Health & Safety** in the whole supply chain
- ▶ The relevance of **Social Dialogue in Europe** related to Health & Safety at work, mobility, training, skills and competences

UEPG in a Nutshell:

Aggregates are a granular material used in construction. Aggregates are sand, gravel (including marine aggregates), crushed rock, recycled and manufactured aggregates.



The aggregates sector is by far
the largest
amongst the non-energy
extractive industries
in numbers of sites, companies, numbers
employed and tonnages produced.



The demand for aggregates
demand is just over
5 tonnes
per capita per year.



The European [EU28+EFTA, 2016]
aggregates demand is
2.7 billion
tonnes per year,
representing an annual turnover
of an estimated €15-€20 billion.

The Aggregates Industry comprises



15,000
companies (mostly SMEs),

producing at



26,000
sites across Europe,

with just over



220,000
people employed
(including contractors).

- ▶ **Sustainable supply** – should not be taken for granted and needs access to local resources. Nature determines where valuable deposits of suitable quality are placed. Europe is rich of aggregates, but access becomes ever more restricted due to a lack of coordinated land-use planning and increasingly costly and lengthy permitting procedures. The available amount of recycled aggregates of the appropriate quality – even with 100% recycling of all construction and demolition waste – would cover only 10-12% of the current total demand of aggregates.
- ▶ **Environmental Management** – The European Aggregates Industry is recognised as a trusted partner for nature conservation by EU institutions and a growing number of NGOs and academic researchers. Responsible aggregates extraction is not only compatible with a favourable conservation status of habitat types and species; it has the potential to create it. Throughout the life of aggregates extraction sites (quarries, sand and gravel extraction sites) a large diversity of high biological value habitats is generated, often in cooperation with environmental NGOs and academia. In that respect, active and restored aggregates extraction sites form an integral part of nature conservation areas and Natura 2000 sites.
- ▶ **Promote Health and Safety at work** – UEPG member companies are dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of their employees, contractors and visitors. UEPG has developed further partnerships with the objective to prevent accidents and ill-health and the aim to develop a Health and Safety Culture at work in Europe. On safety, the industry recognises that further improvement is much needed, and actively addresses that challenge with the whole supply chain.

