What is UEPG and what are Aggregates?
Infographic – ‘UEPG in a Nutshell’

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Economic Committee
Industry Alliances, Climate Change Adaptation, EU policy on sustainable access to resources, Circular Economy

Technical Committee
European Aggregates Standards, Recycled Aggregates, End of waste criteria, Construction Products Regulation, Regulated Dangerous Substances and Environmental Product Declaration

Health & Safety Committee
Covid-19 Guidance, NEPSI and Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS), SDIs, Social Dialogue and Safety, Explosives for civil uses

Environment Committee
EU Green Deal & Climate Change Adaptation, EU Nature Action Plan, Biodiversity, Water Management, Air Quality, Marine Aggregates

PR & Communication Task Force

General Secretariat
Your team – Your Brussels office; providing EU Intelligence and exchanging examples of good practices, cooperation with European stakeholders

UEPG Members
Get in contact, keep in touch

Board, Committee & Task Force Chairs, Portfolios and Secretariat
Profiting from the UEPG network

Photo captions & credits
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 European Aggregates Industry comprises 15 000 companies (mostly SMEs), producing aggregates at 26 000 sites across Europe, with just on 200 000 people employed (including contractors).

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The European [EU28+EFTA, 2018] aggregates demand is 3 billion tonnes per year, representing an annual turnover estimated at €15-€20 billion.

The European [EU+EFTA, 2018] average demand for aggregates is almost 6 tonnes per capita per year.

The European Aggregates Industry comprises Primary aggregates are produced from natural sources, extracted from quarries, sand & gravel extraction sites, and in some countries sea dredged. Secondary aggregates include recycled and re-used aggregates which are reprocessed materials previously used in construction, and manufactured aggregates, sourced from industrial processes such as blast or electric furnace slags or china clay residues.

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The second year of my Presidency started with a newly elected European Parliament and a new European Commission which took office with a short delay in December 2019. For the first time Europe has a female Commission President and Mrs von der Leyen’s objectives are highly ambitious, aiming to make Europe the first climate neutral continent in 2050. The EU Green Deal, a new Circular Economy Action Plan, a new EU Biodiversity Strategy, and an Industrial Strategy were key initiatives providing aggregates producers many opportunities to demonstrate our contribution to sustainable development. Prominently showcased in front of 200 participants during the UEPG Sustainable Development Awards Ceremony 2019, the European Rocks Stars went on stage with their achievements on restoration, biodiversity, local community partnership, product or process innovation and many other examples others can learn from.

“Aggregates extraction sites are home to numerous protected species.”

Having an Industrial Strategy which refers to raw materials is the precondition to continue efforts to hammer the message that not only secondary, but also - and mainly - primary raw materials are needed for the renovation wave and climate change adaptation. Protecting or adapting cities and infrastructure against rising sea and river levels will require massively additional aggregates extraction over the next few years. Only a well-coordinated land-use planning policy and efficient permitting procedures at national or regional level will allow to access the resources needed.

“The European Aggregates Industry is a rock-solid base for sustainable development.”

The European Aggregates Industry is well positioned to contribute to a green recovery of Europe’s economy and lays out its ambitions in a new Vision 2030. I shall look forward to promote our Vision 2030 with EU policy makers during the last year of my Presidency.

“With 2-5 kg CO₂/ton of aggregates produced, our carbon footprint is negligible, and we will further reduce it.”

THILO JUCHEM
UEPG President 2018-2021

“After air and water, aggregates are the most used raw materials in the world. The question is not whether we need aggregates but where to get it from in the most sustainable way.”

THILO JUCHEM
UEPG President 2018-2021

Key Achievements in 2019-2020

- Sharpening the public profile of European aggregates producers at the 2019 Sustainable Development Awards;
- Contributing in shaping an EU Industrial Strategy and a construction policy at high-level through Industry4Europe and Construction 2050 Alliance;
- Enlarging UEPG’s network in the European Parliament as a member of its new Sustainable, long-term Investments & Competitive European Industry Intergroup and conveying the messages of UEPG with the Policy Compass for Aggregates;
- Being a key stakeholder, the European Commission asked UEPG - during the COVID-19 lockdown - to provide a weekly update on the economic impact and the measures taken by aggregates producers. UEPG produced a European sectoral guidance document allowing aggregates producers to operate safely during the COVID-19 crisis;
- UEPG has been at the forefront of the NEPSI social dialogue renewal and is now holding the Chairmanship of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee Extractive Industry for 2020.

THILO JUCHEM
UEPG President 2018-2021
Our Vision is a Sustainable Industry for a Sustainable Europe. Our Mission is to be the Industry Champion and a Trusted Partner. Our Core Values are to be Open, Transparent and Honest.

Vision, Mission, Core Values and Ambition

To place excellence in health & safety at the centre of our activities with an objective of “Zero Harm” for all Industry’s employees, contractors, sub-contractors and visitors.

To ensure sustainable access to primary local resources, optimising transport, with the aim of land-use for extraction to be recognised as an activity of public interest similar to agriculture, forestry, water and nature protection, which should receive the same priority.

To develop the “circular economy” through resource efficiency, recycling and restoration of extraction sites, to demonstrate the contribution of the Aggregates Industry to the Circular Economy. To assist in improving a streamlined national land-use planning and permitting policy to encourage and assist all UEPG Members to have a national aggregates planning policy in place.

To create and maintain a level-playing-field through consistent implementation of EU law, if necessary through law enforcement of existing EU/national legislation.

To promote the compatibility of aggregates extraction with environment, with the objective to assist its Members in achieving that responsible aggregates extraction should not be automatically prohibited for environmental reasons.

To improve public awareness of aggregates extraction as beneficial to society for every UEPG Member to have a national public relations campaign in place to ensure positive appreciation of the benefits of the sector to society.

To promote the added value of the Aggregates Industry for local communities, with the objective to encourage UEPG Members to undertake public events, develop communication tools and PR training.

To showcase the Industry offering attractive career opportunities, in particular for young people, and to encourage UEPG Members to raise awareness in public relations, job agencies and educational institutions about jobs for both genders.

To ensure responsible sourcing and excellence in customer service and satisfaction to get Industry recognised as a trusted and responsible supplier of goods and services with all its customers in the downstream sectors, particularly the concrete and asphalt industries.

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Our Organisational Structure

The Health & Safety, Environment, Technical and Economic Committees and their associated Task Forces and Working Groups are the “engine-room” of UEPG. These Committees meet twice yearly and report with the General Secretariat to the Board. The Board reviews progress and strategy twice yearly. The highest level meeting is the Delegates Assembly, held in May or June, each year, where all Members debate and decide on UEPG activities and strategies.
Varying Economic Fortunes in Europe

Each year, UEPG gathers and collates best available aggregates production data from all over Europe. The summary data for 2018 for the 39 countries covered is presented on page 12 of this Annual Review, together with the sub-totals for the EU28 plus EFTA countries as well as for the EU28 countries only (taking the UK as then within the EU28). While UEPG data quality improves year-by-year, some missing pieces of data have to be interpolated; nonetheless, overall, the UEPG data is believed to be the most authoritative available for the European Aggregates Industry.

In 2018, the production of aggregates in the EU28 plus EFTA countries was 3.07 billion tonnes (bnt), a very slight increase of 0.7% over 2017; while the very welcome upward trend in production volumes since 2013 continued, there were emerging signals of a stagnating European economy.

Figure 1 summarises the 2018 national production tonnages by country and by type of aggregates for all 39 countries. In 2018, Russia was the largest, producing 736 million tonnes (mt), followed by Germany with 597 mt and Turkey at 430 mt; the next three were France at 429 mt, Poland at 320 mt and UK at 276 mt. At the other end of the scale were the small countries, namely North Macedonia, Luxembourg, Iceland, Montenegro and Malta, with a production less than 5mt each.

Figure 2 shows the national 2018 production data expressed in tonnes/capita (t/c) across Europe, which includes exports (mainly from Norway) but excludes imports. This data varies by national climate, terrain, state of economy and building tradition, being highest in Norway at 25 t/c, and lowest in Spain and Italy at less than 3 t/c. The EU28 plus EFTA average was 5.9 t/c versus the 7.2 t/c enjoyed before the financial crisis of 2006.

Figure 3 presents the interesting relationship between economic developments, expressed as GDP/capita, and aggregates production in tonnes/capita. In this graph, the data for each country is represented by a blue dot, and the trend line illustrates the best fit curve. The graph illustrates that the production in tonnes per capita increases almost linearly as the GDP per capita increases. This is good news for the aggregates industry as long as European economic growth continues.

Taking the EU28 plus EFTA countries, over the last 8 years, the percentage of sand and gravel at 1.9 bnt in 2018 declined modestly to 38.7% of the 3.07 bnt total production, in comparison with crushed stone which at 1.43 bnt increased slightly to 46.6%. Manufactured aggregates at 67 mt represented 2.2% of total production; 12 EU+ EFTA countries produce manufactured aggregates, the largest being Germany, followed by Poland and UK. The production of marine aggregates, also representing 1.9% of total production, declined to 57 mt compared to 82mt in 2008; eight EU+ EFTA countries produce marine aggregates, the largest being the Netherlands, followed by the UK and Germany. The production of secondary aggregates, comprising recycled plus re-used aggregates, was an impressive 327 mt, representing 10.6% of total EU plus EFTA production. On a national basis, France leads with 27% secondary aggregates, followed by the UK at 26%, with the Netherlands and Malta at 24% each and Belgium at 21%.

In 2018, the number of EU+EFTA operating companies increased slightly to 15,334. The number of extraction sites in EU+EFTA in 2018 decreased slightly to 26,084. The total EU+EFTA numbers employed (calculated as employees plus on-site contractors) in 2018 was over 185,000, while inclusion of off-site contractors brings the total employed to over 200,000.

These figures testify that the aggregates industry is by far the largest extraction industry in Europe. The figures also demonstrate how the industry is predominated by SMEs, with an average of only 1.7 extraction sites per company, with an average of 7 employees at each site, with an average production at each site of 117,000 tonnes. On the positive side, it is evident that the aggregates industry continues to provide important, long-term, secure, mostly rural employment.

Looking forward, a significant 33 of the 39 countries had predicted stable or slightly positive growth continuing into 2019, with only Switzerland, UK, Belgium, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey anticipating some declines. Overall, only a 0.7% growth in 2019 compared to 2018 is now predicted, increasing the EU28+EFTA total tonnage just on 3.0bnt in 2019, as shown in Figure 4.

As regards 2020, the COVID-19 crisis emerged. As of mid 2020, most countries are predicting varying degrees of decline in their annual production tonnages, being minimal in Scandinavia, Austria and Germany, to highest in Italy and Spain, there likely with over 30% annual declines. The overall EU plus EFTA decline for 2020 is currently estimated at 15%, reducing the 2020 total production to around 2.61 bnt, coincidentally to the same level as in the previous crisis in 2013. Views vary as to whether 2021 will see a recovery, but overall a recovery of just over 2% is estimated to increase the EU plus EFTA total to around 2.71 bnt. Time will tell the real outcome, but the industry is facing the COVID-19 challenge with resoluteness, and is poised to emerge safer, fitter, and stronger.
Chaired by Jerry McLaughlin (MPA, UK) and supported by Vice-Chair Christian Haeser (MIRO, Germany) until the end of 2019 and Dirk Fincke as Secretary, Members of the UEPG Economic Committee addressed the policy objectives of the new European Commission, UEPG's input to major Industry Alliances, climate change adaptation as an opportunity for aggregates producers, the EU's policy on sustainable access to resources and the implementation of the Waste Framework Directive's 70% recovery target and different calculation methodologies as well as the data available.

### Provisional Estimates of Aggregates Production Data for 2018

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Non-Member</th>
<th>Full Member</th>
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<th>EFTA</th>
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Note: FM = Full Member, AM = Associate Member, AFM = Affiliate Member, NM = Non-Member

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**Construction 2050 Alliance**

The Committee for European Construction Equipment (CECE), Construction Products Europe (CPE), the European Builders Confederation (EBC) and the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC) initiated the establishment of a strong and active but informal network of around 40 European Associations representing the European Construction Industry and related sectors (aggregates as construction raw materials). UEPG was invited to join this new Coalition to work together on common objectives, such as the contribution of the built environment to the EU Green Deal, the human factor in construction, relaunching the Construction 2050 Strategy and the EU Data Strategy: a construction approach.

The **Industry4Europe Coalition for an ambitious EU Industrial Strategy**

The Industry4Europe Coalition is now supported by 156 European Industry Associations with UEPG as the Co-Rapporteur of several joint papers. These papers contain chapters on sustainability with an emphasis on climate change policies and had been distributed to the European Commission, in particular, to Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans in charge of the EU Green Deal, and to the Vice-Presidents and Commissioners in charge of industrial policies.

UEPG underlines the need during the COVID-19 crisis to align with the supply chain where common interest exists and would continue to provide ways to increase resource efficiency and the circular economy other than taxation of primary raw materials.
The EU’s Policy on sustainable access to resources
UEPG expressed its concern on the fact that DG Growth has reduced the meeting time and frequency of the European Commission Raw Materials Supply Group (RMSG). Several meetings had been postponed and the topics addressed are increasingly relevant exclusively for the Battery Alliance and the respective value chain. At the UEPG Board meeting on 28 May, Peter Handley, Head of Unit, C2 Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials, DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission underlined the essential role of UEPG and the European Aggregates Industry and announced that the RMSG will be a key tool to implement the EU Green Deal and the EU Recovery Plan.

The Non-Energy Extractive Industry Panel (NEEIP) equally shares UEPG’s concern and supports UEPG in emphasizing the need for many other raw materials needed for the key policies of the new European Commission such as climate change and climate change adaptation, new concepts of mobility and for the implementation of Circular Economy.

EU Sustainable Principles for Raw Materials
As part of the Strategic Battery Action Plan, the European Commission announced the intention to promote ethical sourcing of battery raw materials. UEPG circulated a reflection paper and replied to a survey on sustainable mining initiatives which provides first thoughts on the process, objectives, analysis and content.

César Luaces Frades (FIA, Spain) and UEPG Secretary General Dirk Fincke attended the first two meetings of this subgroup of the Raw Materials Supply Group to deliver a set of commonly agreed principles. Following UEPG’s proposal on the name and scope, the Commission suggests renaming the initiative into “EU sustainable principles for raw materials”.

Climate Change Adaptation
Members of the UEPG Economic Committee are addressing climate change adaptation as a high priority. Aggregates producers could greatly contribute in adapting to rising sea and river levels. Not only coastal cities would need to be adapted to more extreme weather and climate conditions. Sand and gravel extraction next to rivers could potentially absorb massive volumes of water otherwise flooding cities and vital infrastructure. New super dikes and dams would be needed to protect the existing built environment when sea levels inevitably rise.

In line with the OECD paper “Responding to Rising Seas” of March 2019, UEPG and its Members are calling to review existing land-use plans, to facilitate permitting procedures and consider significant investment to allow the supply of additional aggregates resources in adapting to climate change.

Revised Waste Framework Directive – 70% target and calculation methodologies
The revised Waste Framework Directive requires EU Member States to re-use, prepare for re-use, recycle or backfill at least 70% of the construction & demolition waste by July 2020. This is why UEPG encourages its Members to verify calculation methodologies with their national authorities reporting annually to EUROSTAT (based on NACE codes) and to the European Environment Agency.

UEPG collects and compares data and calculation methodologies of UEPG Members and offers assistance to verify definitions and provides input to the European Commission Guidance on backfilling. The UEPG General Secretariat will remain in close and frequent contact with the DG Environment Unit B3 – Waste Management & Secondary Materials for the implementation of the different requirements of the revised Waste Framework Directive.

European Aggregates Standards
The UEPG Technical Committee addressed the progress made with Aggregates Product Standards and the decisions taken at the Chairmen’s Panel meeting this year. Following the challenges faced to achieve progress on technical standards, it was agreed to combine four standards including EN 12620 (concrete), EN 13139 (mortar), EN 13043 (asphalt), EN 13242 (unbound & hydraulically bound) into one single standard, as most of the text is common. Nonetheless, there will be a need for major restructuring of the standards.

It was also agreed, at the request of HAS (harmonised standards) consultants, to insert Assessment and Verification of the Constancy of Performance (AVCP) back into harmonised standards (HEN). Furthermore, it was proposed to convert normal-weight product standards into two parts (part 1: hEN and part 2: non-harmonised EN) to keep both the text which is not complying with the CPR and the “non-contradictory, complementary information” which is allowed according to HAS consultants. Lastly, it was proposed to develop a test for releasable alkali content, which would be included in the new combined harmonised standard.

Construction Products Regulation (CPR)
The European Commission announced via the European Green Deal, the revision of the CPR. A new consultation is expected to be launched in the course of 2020 to assess the options for the future CPR. It is estimated to have a revision and implementation within the next five years. UEPG has been working together with Construction Products Europe (CPE) to voice its concerns regarding this revision through positions, meetings with EU officials,
and active contributions to consultations, exploring future options for the way forward on CPR.

**Recycled Aggregates**

The UEPG Recycling Task Force, chaired by Brian James (MPA, UK), is continuing its policy on delocalised meetings, providing opportunities to discuss challenges linked to the recycling experience across Europe. This year, the Task Force meetings were kindly hosted by UNPA (French Aggregates Association) in Lyon France, and Danske Råstoffer (Danish Aggregates Association) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Discussions focused on recycling policies in France and Denmark, the new Circular Economy Action Plan; and the implementation of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD), including meeting the 70% construction and demolition waste (CDW) recovery target and developing an End-of-Waste criteria for aggregates.

In the framework of the European Green Deal, the European Commission published a new Circular Economy Action Plan in March 2020, including legislative and non-legislative measures along the entire life cycle of products. The objective will be to deliver sustainable and circular use of excavated soils, providing input to CEN TC 351 WG1 and CEN TC 154 WG13. The Working Group addressed also Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), including the implications of EN15804 changes, and the EoW Criteria Workshop held in January 2020.

UEPG organised a workshop on 22 January 2020 in Brussels, bringing together all UEPG technical experts. Following a survey, case by case assessments and discussions to establish the situation in UEPG member countries, three categories of challenges emerged from the discussions: environmental, economic and governance related. The first one stressed the difficulties linked to technical limits, quality of the products, and environmental tests for secondary aggregates. The second one emphasised the lack of trust to secondary products. While the last and most prominent one, underlined the lack of coherence and coordination between different authorities, with different interpretations and interests.

To overcome these obstacles borne from different approaches and interpretations, and to ensure that both primary and secondary aggregates abide by the same technical standards, it was recommended to develop a UEPG guideline to support UEPG members and bring a harmonised approach to EoW for aggregates.

**RDS & EPD**

The RDS and EPD Working Group, chaired by Brian Bone (MPA, UK), continued its work on the guidance document on how to introduce RDS, covered by Technical Standards requirements, into European Standards for Aggregates, providing input to CEN TC 351 WG1 and CEN TC 154 WG13. The Working Group addressed also Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), including the implications of EN15804 changes, and the EoW Criteria Workshop held in January 2020.

It would also consider a revision of material recovery targets set in EU legislation for CDW and its material-specific fractions, while promoting measures to improve the durability and adaptability of built assets, as well as initiatives to reduce soil sealing and increase the safe, sustainable and circular use of excavated soils.

**End-of-Waste (EoW) Criteria for Aggregates**

In view of the requirement in the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) to develop an EoW criteria for aggregates, UEPG has rapidly taken action to support Members in the fight against Covid-19 and produced promptly the UEPG Health & Safety Guidance on Covid-19 management. As one of the first sectoral guidance documents at European level, it gives general, as well as very specific information for every type of work done in an extraction site. Moreover, UEPG has also provided an exchange of solutions found in the fight against Covid-19 by Members via the platform specifically created for this purpose.

In 2019-2020, Members of the UEPG Health & Safety Committee have been working on maintaining a safe workplace and a healthy environment at work, while also addressing the arising issue of Covid-19. The NEPSI Social Dialogue and the control of Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) have been at the core of the Committee's work, developing new tools for companies to promote health and safety best practices. UEPG’s endeavours were crowned by the Chairmanship of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee of the Extractive Industry.

The UEPG Health & Safety Committee was led by its Chair César Luaces Frades (FdA, Spain), Vice-Chair Walter Nelles (MIRO, Germany), and actively supported by the new Committee Secretary Sergiu Scolobiuc from the UEPG General Secretariat.
In 2019-2020, the Environment Committee and its Members addressed key environmental policies, including the new European Green Deal and continued efforts to increase cooperation areas with other stakeholders, environmental NGOs and authorities, while promoting the compatibility between sustainable aggregates extraction and nature conservation. The Environment Committee carries out its work via 4 Task Forces dedicated respectively to Biodiversity, Water Management, Air Quality and Marine Aggregates.

The UEPG Environment Committee was chaired by Alain Boisselon (UNPG, France) and supported by Vice-Chair Paolo Zambianchi (ANEPLA, Italy) and Committee Secretary Alev Somer (UEPG).

NEPSI and Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

As NEPSI is in the midst of a renewal process with funds coming from the European Commission, UEPG has been actively involved in developing the new NEPSI campaign. From the new Good Practice Guide, to the new website and guidance documents for NEPSI Reporting, together with new training tools for young workers and SMEs; UEPG has been at the forefront in developing and updating NEPSI. The engine room for all this work has been UEPG’s RCS Working Group that assembled and refined the various documents. Furthermore, the UEPG General Secretariat has produced two video tutorials on how to use the new NEPSI Reporting system and a detailed guidance on how to respond to the Key Performance Indicators.

The UEPG General Secretariat continued to map the transposition of the revised Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive (CMD) 1st batch on RCS (which includes RCS generated by a work process at a proportionate and feasible limit value of 0.1 mg/m³), while also supporting Members in lobbying actions concerning the transposition. Furthermore, the UEPG General Secretariat continues producing toolboxes, supporting companies on Health & Safety issues, with new ones on LOTOTO (Lock-Out – Tag-Out – Try-Out) and on Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs).

Prevention of accidents is one of the overarching objectives of UEPG and therefore, it is very important to improve the number of responses for the Sustainable Development Indicators Social Pillar.

UEPG General Secretariat contributes to the revision of the Machinery Directive (to become a Regulation), through the European Commission Machinery Working Group which will become an Expert Group as of 2020. UEPG will continue taking part in this expert group working on the safety of machinery.

UEPG representation was ensured at CEN 151 technical meetings in 2019-2020, with the support of by its members. UEPG has been strengthening its cooperation with CECE (Committee for European Construction Equipment) and directly with machinery and explosives manufacturers as sponsors for the Sustainable Development Awards Ceremony 2019.

European Green Deal

The new European Commission presented its European Green Deal in December 2019, a roadmap seen as the new EU Growth Strategy and addressing several policy areas to enable a sustainable green transition to make Europe the first climate neutral continent by 2050. The Green Deal is a package of measures to modernise the European Economy, to support investments in green technologies and increase circularity. Measures relevant to the UEPG Environment Committee include a new Climate Law, a new EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, and a Zero Pollution Strategy (2021) focusing on air, water and soils. Above all, the Green Deal will be at the heart of Europe’s recovery plan to develop a new model of prosperity after the Covid-19 crisis, to build a more resilient society.
Climate Change Adaptation

The Environment Committee integrated in its scope climate change adaptation, looking at solutions the sector can bring. In that respect, the Water Management Task Force is looking at reducing water consumption, increasing circularity, and solutions brought to society with floods and drought management, mitigation measures for rising sea levels. The Air Quality Working Group is looking into further reducing the sector’s already low emission levels. Meanwhile the Biodiversity Task Force continues promoting ecosystem services, dynamic management of biodiversity, Green Infrastructure, and conservation of rare pioneer species.

Biodiversity

The Biodiversity Task Force chaired by Petra Gradischnei (FVSK, Austria), focused on the implementation of the EU Nature Action Plan, the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, and the EU pollinators initiative. The Task Force continued its efforts to collect sustainable development indicators and to promote the practice of Dynamic Management of Biodiversity and the concept of Temporary Nature, through its meetings and contributions to the EU Business/Biodiversity Platform, the European Commission Coordination Group for Biodiversity and Nature (ECBGN) and the partner event organised with EDIEX at the EU Green Week 2019.

Water Management

The Water Management Task Force, chaired by César Luaces Frades (FSA, Spain), actively contributed to the evaluation of the Water Framework Directive, its daughter Directives and the Floods Directive. The conclusions published in December 2019, deemed they were fit for purpose, with some room for enhanced effectiveness. It is foreseen that the European Green Deal would set-out actions to improve the implementation of the Water legislation through a new “Zero Pollution Strategy”.

The Task Force continued its efforts to collect water management indicators and good practices, while exploring ways to communicate on climate change adaptation.

Air Quality

In view of the rising importance of air quality policies, the UEPG Air Quality Working Group was changed into a Task Force, to give it a permanent status. The Task Force chaired by Walter Nelles (MIRO, Germany), raises awareness on dust emissions and prevention measures in the sector. Members addressed the European Green Deal and the necessity to communicate on the low level of emissions in the sector, including on CO₂.

The Task Force monitored the evaluation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives, which was finalised in December 2019. The European Commission will propose to strengthen provisions on monitoring, modelling and air quality plans, as well as to revise air quality standards to align them more closely with World Health Organisation recommendations.

PR & Communication Task Force

The UEPG PR & Communication Task Force aims at conveying the European Aggregates Industry’s genuinely good stories on resource efficient operations, local access to resources, environmental stewardship, dedication to biodiversity, as well as excellence in health & safety, all essential pillars of a sustainable industry.

The Task Force chaired by Robert Wasserbacher (FVSK, Austria), seeks to raise the industry’s profile by sharing its Members’ good practices, PR & Communication strategies, and exchanging on current EU and national policies to devise targeted communication campaigns. Moreover, the Task Force supports UEPG Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups in developing communication tools and targeted initiatives on specific policy areas.

Marine Aggregates


UEPG Sustainable Development Awards (SDA) Ceremony 2019

On 20 November 2019, in the Brussels Concert Hall “La Madeleine”, UEPG celebrated its European Rocks Stars. 53 cases of excellence received from 13 countries, displayed the commitment of the European Aggregates Industry to sustainable development, with good practice examples going beyond what is required by regulators. These companies were rewarded by an independent jury for their outstanding contributions to environment, social progress, economic contribution, communication and biodiversity.

The 2019 independent jury was composed of Ester Asin, Director of the WWF European Policy Office; Jean-Pierre Damm, Co-chair of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee Extractive Industry; Anna Ostreńga, Associate Professor at the AGH University of Science and Technology; Slavko Solar, Secretary General of the European Geological Surveys; and Guy Woodford, Editor of the magazine Aggregates Business Europe.

High level recognition: The SDA Ceremony welcomed around 200 participants from 20 countries including high-level representatives from the European Commission such as key-note speaker Peter Dröll, Director Prosperity in DG Research & Innovation and William Neal, Advisor of the Director for Circular Economy and Green Growth in DG Environment. In response to the future policy trends laid out by the two key-note speakers, the sponsoring companies E-MAK and INFORM presented their innovative products and solutions for the non-energy extractive industry.

The SDA 2019 Brochure is available on UEPG’s website and videos of the Ceremony on UEPG’s Youtube account.
UEPG Parliamentary Reception 2019

On 12 September 2019, UEPG welcomed newly elected Members of the European Parliament, European Commission officials and other partners to its second edition of Late Summer Receptions, hosted in the UEPG Office, to introduce them to the European Aggregates Industry. Guests included MEP Letters Christoforou, Stefano Spinaci from the European Parliamentary Research Service, policy officers Vincent BASUYAU and Rodrigo Chanes Vízente from the European Commission DG Growth, as well as our partners from IUCN, BirdLife Europe, EUROPARC and BEEODIVERSITY. The constructive exchanges continued over a networking cocktail.

UEPG Policy Compass to Aggregates

Launched during the UEPG Parliamentary Reception, UEPG produced a brochure called “Policy Compass to Aggregates”, designed for new and re-elected MEPs to ensure future Rapporteurs and Meps driving relevant initiatives are getting in contact with UEPG and its Members. The ‘Policy Compass to Aggregates’ has been distributed to more than 500 MEPs and presented over specific occasions such as policy meetings in the UEPG office with our President Thilo Juchem and European Parliament Vice-President Rainer Welander (EPP, Germany), Andreas Glück (Renew Europe, Germany) and Jutta Paulus (Greens, Germany).

New Policy Priorities

The Task Force meeting on 20-21 February 2020 in Budapest, kindly hosted by our Hungarian colleagues, exchanged on the new policy priorities of the European Commission and how to communicate the needs of aggregates producers; on the contribution to sustainable development; as well as on new innovative trends such as renewable energy, climate change adaptation, and temporary nature.

The Task Force addressed the urgent need to communicate on the intrinsic business case of a significant higher demand of aggregates, to adapt to climate change, in view of increasing radical weather conditions and rising sea and river levels. Members exchanged on innovative examples of aggregates producers installing wind turbines, (floating) solar panels and using gravity of heavy dump trucks and loaded conveyor belts transporting materials downwards, to produce electricity. UEPG invited its Members to share more information on the increasing use of renewable energy and the electrification of the sector.

The European Minerals Day (EMD) 2019

The EMD 2019 took place the weekend of 20–22 September 2019. Around 70 open day events took place all over Europe and allowed hundreds of Europeans to discover the world of minerals. UEPG promoted the events through its social media channels and via e-mail during the summer 2019. COVID-19 Impact on events & meetings

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, most of internal UEPG events foreseen in the first half of 2020 took place via video conference. Key events including the EU Green Week 2020, the IUCN World Conservation Congress in France, the UN Biodiversity Conference in China, and the triannual GAIN meeting in Argentina are postponed to the second half of 2020 or to 2021. UEPG remains committed to support or attend these events where possible.

Digital Communication & Promoting National Good Practices & Initiatives

In view of the COVID-19 crisis and the transition to a paperless office, new and efficient communication tools will become even more important. The Task Force discussed its future digital communication tools on environmental, technical, economic and health & safety policies. Furthermore, UEPG communicates on its activities, its messages on specific policies and raises awareness on sustainability in the industry by promoting its Members’ good practices on social media. UEPG Members are encouraged to follow and publish UEPG posts on:

Twitter: @UEPG_Aggregates
LinkedIn: UEPG (European Aggregates Association)
YouTube: UEPG European Aggregates Association

UEPG Team at your service

The UEPG General Secretariat works closely with European Union legislators to contribute to all stages of the policy-making process on behalf of the European Aggregates Industry. The team is at the service of its Members, to represent their activities in Brussels and to support them in their respective countries, while inviting their staff from associations and companies to share their knowledge and expertise in specific policy areas. The UEPG Team is also organising specific meetings for its Members, welcoming National Associations and Board Members to interact with key EU decision-makers from the European Commission, Parliament, Council, Committee of the Regions, European Economic and Social Committee, Academia and NGOs.

Coordinating UEPG lobbying campaigns

UEPG develops targeted advocacy strategies and acts as a coordinator in their implementation. The European aggregates industries’ messages are conveyed via position papers, at times aligning with other stakeholders and joining alliances, where a common interest exists.

UEPG shares with its Members good practices, guidance documents, toolboxes, indicators and campaigns, while striving to reduce the bureaucratic burden and the duplication of information provided to companies.

Cooperation with European stakeholders

UEPG cooperates actively with stakeholders across the industry interests, European trade associations, EU decision-makers, academia, as well as environmental NGOs, such as Bird Life Europe, IUCN Europe Regional Office and WWF European Policy Office.

UEPG is recognised as an EU Social Partner in the NEPSI Social Dialogue on respirable crystalline silica and took the Chairmanship of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee of the Extractive Industry (SSDCEI).

UEPG is also a partner in the EC Standing Working Party for Extractive Industry, a member of the EC Raw Materials Supply Group (RMSG), the EC Coordination Group for Biodiversity and Nature (ECGBN), the EC Machinery Working Group, the EU Business@Biodiversity Platform.

General Secretariat

The UEPG General Secretariat is located in Brussels, close to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the many other European institutions. The multilingual and truly European and Brussels-based Team is composed of Dirk Finke, Secretary General, Alev Somer, Public Affairs Manager, Sergiu Scolobiuc, Public Affairs Officer, and Manon Bogaerts, Secretary. Through its small but professional and dedicated staff, UEPG has achieved tangible results for the industry, continuously reinforcing its high visibility and trust amongst stakeholders.
UEPG works closely with stakeholders from the construction industry, as an associated member of Construction Products Europe (CPE), and a member of the European Industry Associations of the Non-Energy Extractive Industry Panel (NNEIP), as well as, the European Network for Sustainable Quarrying and Mining (ENSQM), a raw material commitment under the European Innovation Partnership to improve Europe’s raw materials framework conditions and public awareness.

Furthermore, UEPG is actively involved in the Industry4Europe Coalition comprising 156 European Associations calling for an ambitious industrial strategy for Europe, and has recently joined the Construction 2050 Alliance, an initiative to establish a strong informal network representing the European Construction Industry, with around 40 European Associations.

Providing EU intelligence and regular updates

The UEPG General Secretariat’s first mission is to provide UEPG Members with advance notification of policy initiatives that may impact the European Aggregates Industry. Its small and highly dedicated team keeps UEPG Members informed of any relevant EU policy developments at all stages of the legislative process, through email alerts and policy briefings. The UEPG General Secretariat offers the Issue Tracker System, the UEPG Website and a Newsletter, as well as dedicated visits and presentations for UEPG Members in several EU languages.

Raising excellence in sharing good practices

UEPG supports and promotes the dissemination of good practices by encouraging projects that go well beyond what is required by planners or regulators, sets new standards of excellence, and provides an inspirational example that others can follow. The UEPG tri-annual Sustainable Development Award is one illustration, more information can be found in this Annual Review at the PR and Communications section. Concrete examples, case studies and brochures on biodiversity and water management are published on the UEPG website and promoted during key EU events, as well as through UEPG publications.

UEPG also provides guidance documents to operate with care and concern for the environment, for employees and neighbours, and for society in general. In the midst of the State of Health Emergency, UEPG produced promptly a sectoral guidance document to support aggregates producers operate safely during the Covid-19 crisis.

Involving the Aggregates Industry in EU Policy Making

The physical proximity to EU Institutions and the day-to-day contact with policymakers allow the UEPG General Secretariat to identify “early-bird” opportunities to become involved in the policy making process. UEPG has continuously strengthened its network of key contacts within the European Commission, European Parliament, EU Council working groups, Permanent Representations of EU Member States, EU Agencies, Academia and NGOs. Useful tools are the UEPG Board Policy Dinners, policy debates, and conferences, awards and exhibitions.

UEPG Missions to Members

During the Covid-19 crisis, UEPG General Secretariat regularly updated its members and the European Commission on the economic impact and the measures taken by aggregates producers, sharing available information on a dedicated link on its website.

UEPG Missions to Members

To get out of the “Brussels EU bubble” the UEPG Team visits. Members and joins the field work of companies and national associations. It is a great opportunity to experience at first hand the daily business of aggregates producers including the challenges they face and to learn about the impact of EU legislation on site. It also allows to refresh the technical knowledge of the Team and provides a better understanding of companies’ needs when developing an EU lobby strategy for the Aggregates Industry.

Raising the industry’s profile

The General Secretariat continues to promote the achievements of the European Aggregates Industry by giving keynote speeches at international conferences. It also developed and coordinated targeted events. The largest event raising the profile of the Industry this year was the UEPG Sustainable Development Awards Ceremony 2019. However, UEPG contributed to many events including the EU Green Week 2019, the NEPSI Campaign and Reporting, the European Minerals Day, the European Business and Nature Summit, the Final MINLAND Conference. Furthermore, UEPG sponsored an Industry4Europe event during the Croatian EU Presidency on “The long-term strategy for Europe’s industrial future”, with Gwenole Cozigou, Acting Director General for DG Growth, European Commission praising the strategic value chain approach.

Governance

Over recent years, UEPG has grown into a highly representative and respected association, representing the largest non-energy extractive industry. UEPG sets great value on maintaining its reputation and its transparency via the EU Transparency Register and high standard managed accounts. Each of the UEPG General Secretariat staff is a member of SEAP, the Society of European Affairs Professionals and bound by its code of conduct.

UEPG Members in several EU languages.

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UEPG Members in several EU languages.
**UEPG MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Austria   | Fachverband der Stein- und keramischen Industrie Österreich (FVSK) | Phone: +43 590 900 35 32  
Email: info@baustoffindustrie.at  
http://www.baustoffindustrie.at |                                      |
| Belgium   | Fédération des Industries Extractives et Transformatrices de Roches non Combustibles (FEDIEX SCRL) | Phone: +32 2 511 61 73  
Email: info@fediex.be  
http://www.FEDIEX.be |                                      |
| Cyprus    | Παγκύπριος Σύνδεμος Σκυροποιών (CAPA) | Phone: +357 222 66920  
Email: latouros@latouros.com  
http://www.cyprusquarries.pro.cy |                                      |
| Denmark   | Danske Råstoffer | Phone: +45 72 16 02 69  
Email: lmv@danskbyggeri.dk  
http://www.danskeraastoffer.dk |                                      |
| Estonia   | AS Kunda Nordic | Phone: +372 36 01 23 67  
Email: info@kunda.ee  
http://www.kundacentral.ee |                                      |
| Finland   | INFRA ry | Phone: +358 050 41 22 34  
Email: info@infra.fi  
http://www.rakennusteollisuus.fi/en |                                      |
| France    | Union Nationale des Producteurs de Gravier (UNPG) | Phone: +33 1 44 01 47 01  
Email: unpg@unicem.fr  
http://www.unicem.fr |                                      |
| Greece    | Matulaj Building Materials S.A (Matulaj) | Phone: +30 210 500 9145  
Email: matulaj@matulaj.gr  
http://www.matulaj.gr/EN |                                      |
| Hungary   | Magyar Kőiparipari Szövetség | Phone: +36 06 1 336 7081  
Email: info@mkisz.hu  
http://www.mkisz.hu |                                      |
| Ireland   | IrislConcrete Federation (ICF) | Phone: +353 1 6 94 00 99  
Email: info@irislconcrete.ie  
http://www.irislconcrete.ie |                                      |
| Israel    | Leme and Stone Production Company Ltd | Phone: +972-3-7519464  
Email: info@lamecompany.co.il  
http://www.lamecompany.co.il |                                      |
| Italy     | Associazione Nazionale Estrazione Produzione Lapi e Lapidei ed Affini (ANEPLA) | Phone: +39 02 541 045 63  
Email: f.castagna@anepla.it  
http://www.anepla.it |                                      |
| Luxembourg | CEB 2016 | Phone: +352 26 03 73 31 1  
Email: info@cebeuro.net  
http://www.cebeuro.net |                                      |
| Netherlands | Vennijg Zand en Grindproducenten (VZGP) | Phone: +31 06 22032134  
Email: vennijg@vzg-zandgrind.nl  
http://www.vzg-zandgrind.nl |                                      |
| Norway    | Nord-Økologisk | Phone: +47 23 08 88 40  
Email: info@norsofg.net  
http://www.norsog.net |                                      |
| Portugal  | Associação Nacional da Indústria Extrativa e Transformadora (ANIET) | Phone: +351 21 23 50 88 9  
Email: geral@aniet.pt  
http://www.aniet.pt |                                      |
| Romania   | Patronatul Producatorilor de Agregate Minerale din România (PPAM) | Phone: +40 24 011 80 70  
Email: contact@ppam.ro  
http://www.ppam.ro |                                      |
| Slovakia  | Slovenské združenie výrobcov kameniva (SZVK) | Phone: +421 55 726 12 16  
Email: kancelariaszvk@intas.sk  
http://www.szvk.sk |                                      |
| Spain     | Federación de Añas (FAP) | Phone: +34 915 21 21 26  
Email: secretaria@fap.org  
http://www.fap.org |                                      |
| Sweden    | Sveriges Bergmaterialein (SBBM) | Phone: +46 8 76 26 225  
Email: konsult@bbm.se  
http://www.sbbm.se |                                      |
| Switzerland | Fachverband der Schweizerischen Kies- und Grubenindustrie (FKG) | Phone: +41 31 220 26 26  
Email: info@fkh.ch  
http://www.fkh.ch |                                      |
| United Kingdom | Mineral Products Association (MPA) | Phone: +44 207 963 8000  
Email: info@mineralproducts.org  
http://www.mineralproducts.org |                                      |

**Board, Committees, Task Force and Working Groups Chairs, Portfolios and Secretariat**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<th>Secretariat</th>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Thilo Juchem (MIRO, Germany)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>MIRO, Germany</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Antonis Antoniou Latouros (CAPA, Cyprus)</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>CAPA, Cyprus</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>Nigel Jackson (MPA, UK)</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>MPA, UK</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
<td>Lionel Lathion (FSKB, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Cascade, Netherlands</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Monica Almeida (SBA, Sweden)</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>SBA, Sweden</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
<td>Alain Boizet (UNPG, France)</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>UNPG, France</td>
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<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>Carlos Sanchez (FdA, Spain)</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>FdA, Spain</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>Jorge Manuel de Mira Amaral (ANIET, Portugal)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>ANIET, Portugal</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Robert Wiesner (FVSK, Austria)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>FVSK, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Bob Berug (ICE, Ireland)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>ICE, Ireland</td>
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**UEPG BOARD MEMBERS**

Over the period of May 2019 to June 2020
UEPG Committees, TASK FORCES and WORKING GROUPS
over the period of May 2019 to June 2020

COMMITTEES

ECONOMIC
Chair: Jerry McLaughlin, MPA, UK
Vice-Chair: Dirk Fincke, UEPG General Secretariat, Brussels
Secretary: Christian Haner, MIRO, Germany

TECHNICAL
Chair: Stefan Janssen, MIRO, Germany
Vice-Chair: Raphaël Bodet, UNPG, France
Secretary: Mike Wharton, MPA, UK

HEALTH & SAFETY
Chair: César Luaces Frades, FdA, Spain
Vice-Chair: Walter Neltes, MIRO, Germany
Secretary: Sergiu Soçioliuc, UEPG General Secretariat, Brussels

ENVIRONMENT
Chair: Alain Boisselon, UNPG, France
Vice-Chair: Paolo Zambianchi, ANEPLA, Italy
Secretary: Alev Somer, UEPG General Secretariat, Brussels

TASK FORCES

BETTER IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT
Chair: César Luaces Frades, FdA, Spain

PR & COMMUNICATION
Chair: Robert Wasserbacher, FVSK, Austria

WATER MANAGEMENT
Chair: César Luaces Frades, FdA, Spain

MARINE AGGREGATES
Chair: Ingo Hammwöhner, MIRO, Germany

RECYCLING
Chair: Brian James, MPA, UK

AIR QUALITY
Chair: Walter Neltes, MIRO, Germany

Biodiversity
Chair: Petra Grädischng, FVSK, Austria

Market Based Instruments
Chair: Jerry McLaughlin, MPA, UK

Roshepd
Chair: Brian Bone, MPA, UK

WORKING GROUPS

MARKET BASED INSTRUMENTS
Chair: Jerry McLaughlin, MPA, UK

NCS
Chair: César Luaces Frades, FdA, Spain

UEPG PORTFOLIOS AND EXPERTS GROUPS

Portfolios
CENT/TC 151
CONSTRUCTION 2050 ALLIANCE
CO-ORDINATION GROUP FOR BIODIVERSITY AND NATURE (CGBN)
EU BUSINESS@Biodiversity Platform (B@B)
EU MACHINERY DIRECTIVE WORKING GROUP
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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP ON SUSTAINABLE, LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS & COMPETITIVE EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

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PR & Communications Task Force
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UEPG General Secretariat
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▲ UEPG Public Affairs Manager Alex Soreen & Public Affairs Officer Simgu Solskłask at Carrières du Fond des Vaulx in Welin, Belgium, event organized by FEDIEX
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DID YOU KNOW?

You use 1kg of aggregates per hour.

▲ Aggregates are indeed the core building material in all our homes, offices, social buildings and infrastructure: without aggregates these would literally fall apart

▲ Every new home typically requires up to 400 tonnes of aggregates

▲ Every new school typically requires some 3,000 tonnes of aggregates

▲ A new sports stadium may require up to 300,000 tonnes of aggregates

▲ Every single kilometre of roadway requires up to 30,000 tonnes of aggregates

▲ Every single kilometre of high-speed railway typically requires 9,000 tonnes of aggregates

▲ Every different application requires a different technical specification of aggregates, some with extremely demanding requirements in respect of shape, durability, abrasion, frost resistance and other factors

Find out more at UEPG.EU