



## **BIODIVERSITY POLICY**

### **PREFACE**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Biodiversity Policy</b>
<b>Version Number</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>07.11.2023</b>
<b>Authorised by</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>
<b>Number of Revisions</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Last Revised Date</b>	<b>04.08.2020</b>

As part of our efforts to deliver our Sustainability Vision, we at JSW Cement Limited ('JSW') have established this Policy to demonstrate our commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity at all our sites, particularly mines.

In furtherance of this commitment, the Board of Directors has adopted this 'Biodiversity Policy'.

#### Background of the Issue

Biodiversity\* is a representation of the variety of plants, animals or microscopic organisms on Earth and that are vital to keep the world's many ecosystems healthy, balanced and thriving.

However, the world's vital biodiversity is threatened in a number of ways, including deforestation and habitat loss, over-exploitation, the presence of invasive species, pollution and the impacts of climate change.

If left unchecked, these threats will eventually lead to the extinction of countless unique species and the loss of irreplaceable natural habitats, potentially leading to the collapse of whole systems, resulting in a range of impacts on individuals and societies, including loss of food supplies on which millions rely.

#### How it Relates to JSW

As one of India's leading conglomerates within the steel, energy, cement and infrastructure sectors, many of our activities have the potential to impact negatively on biodiversity, both locally and globally. Whilst we have always sought to protect and where possible, enhance biodiversity, and have always worked within any relevant regulatory frameworks relating to biodiversity, we recognise that we have a moral and social need to do much more.

In pursuance of our stated commitments to protect and enhance biodiversity, we have adopted a number of aims towards which we will strive.

These aims are supported by a range of actions and improvements through which those aims are to be achieved.

**We aim to gain a full and detailed understanding of the size and nature of our impacts upon biodiversity, including any planned activities we may be considering.**

To do this we will:

- Undertake a rigorous assessment of:
  - Dependency and impacts of our operations on biodiversity and ecosystem
  - The species, habitats and ecosystems in and around our sites, seeking to understand their unique biodiversity importance; Potential changes (positive or negative) in those species, habitats and ecosystems, and to what extent any changes are as a result of our activities;
  - Assess the biodiversity importance and risk of our sites and develop programmes to:

- Prevent or minimise any adverse impacts on biodiversity identified from our assessments;
- Enhance and reinforce any positive impacts on biodiversity identified from our assessments;
- Mitigate and restore any adversely affected ecosystems;
- Monitor, on a regular basis, the nature and scale of both the positive and negative impacts our activities have on biodiversity to see how we are progressing, reporting on this progress to our stakeholders.

In the meantime:

**We aim to continue our current efforts to achieve a 'no net loss'\*\* of biodiversity at all our currently operating sites.**

To do this we will continue to:

- Undertake progressive rehabilitation alongside the mining activities whenever possible.
- Apply mitigation hierarchy in our activities by avoiding, minimizing, restoring and offsetting residual impacts on biodiversity through action plans.
- Exploit existing opportunities to prevent and minimise any adverse impacts on biodiversity on our sites;
- Exploit existing opportunities to enhance and reinforce any positive impacts on biodiversity on our sites;
- Educate our employees about biodiversity so they can, with our help, minimise their own impacts both at work and, if possible, at home;
- Support research into the development of new and innovative technologies within our industries that will contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity at our sites.
- Deploy nature based solutions to address the challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change.

**We aim to promote the protection and enhancement of biodiversity across all our suppliers and business partners.**

To do this we will:

- Define and openly share in a Code of Practice the minimum expectations we have of our suppliers and business partners in relation to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity;
- Establish a detailed and transparent process through which the attitudes, risk profile and performance of each and every supplier and business partner with regards to a range of sustainability issues, including biodiversity, is evaluated;
- Encourage those suppliers and business partners whose attitudes and performance most closely matches our own aims and aspirations.

**We aim to do what we can to help protect and enhance biodiversity across India.**

To do this we will:

- Support national projects that aim to protect and/or enhance biodiversity;
- Support national projects that aim to protect and support endangered species, protect and mitigate negative impacts on unique habitats, and enhance the well-being and viability of critical ecosystems;

- Support national projects which aim to achieve a 'net gain'\*\*\* in biodiversity;
- Report regularly on all our efforts relating to this aim at a corporate level with our wider stakeholders.

**We will continue to be fully committed to our statutory and voluntary obligations relating to biodiversity.**

These include:

- All local and national statutory regulations relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity;
- Reporting of our performance on the issue of biodiversity through GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) and against the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.

The achievement of our aims and the delivery of the improvements to achieve them and the fulfilling of our compliance obligations will all be managed through the Sustainability Framework that JSW is committed to implementing and maintaining across all our sites.

\* Biodiversity is widely defined as 'the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species (genetic diversity), between species (species diversity) and of ecosystems (ecosystem diversity).'

\*\* No net loss is defined as 'the point where impacts on biodiversity are balanced by measures taken to avoid and minimise those impacts.'

\*\*\* Net gain is an approach to development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before.