At CRH we are acutely aware of our role in advancing the global sustainability agenda. As a global leader in building materials, sustainability is deeply embedded in all areas of our strategy and business model and we recognise the value creation opportunities it offers.

We are committed to playing our part in delivering a carbon neutral future and have set an ambition to achieve carbon neutrality along the cement and concrete value chain by 2050.

Our commitment

Our ambition is to drive improvement and growth across all areas of sustainability. To ensure that we continue to create sustainable value, we have set ambitious, industry-leading targets which represent the areas in which we believe we can deliver the most change.

Our targets are benchmarked and support the overall ambition and specific provisions of the Paris Agreement and the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Our 2030 ambitions

CRH has a long history of producing high-performing, climate-friendly materials and products which play an important role in shaping a more sustainable built environment.

This includes our concrete which is among the most sustainable building materials in existence when evaluated on a full life-cycle basis.

Benefits of concrete

- **Durability in design**: When it comes to designing structures that are built to last, the long-term durability of concrete offers significant efficiencies over demolition and rebuild.
- **Thermal properties**: Concrete has the ability to absorb heat during the day and release it at night, lowering energy use for heating and cooling, as well as associated emissions.
- **Recarbonation**: Hydrated cement used in concrete naturally absorbs CO₂ throughout its life-cycle, a process known as cement recarbonation or carbon uptake, thus removing carbon from the atmosphere.
- **Recyclable**: Due to its flexibility and adaptability, concrete is 100% recyclable and processed recycled concrete can be used in road construction, land reclamation and building products.
- **Locally and responsibly sourced**: Our concrete is created from locally sourced raw materials with a short supply chain, thereby minimising carbon emissions of transport and ensuring a high traceability of materials.
- **Flood resilience**: Because of its strength and water resilience, concrete can be used in the construction of water barriers and other flood-resistant structures.

Customers

Our ambition is to offer more solutions that contribute to a sustainable built environment.

Our target: 50% revenue from products with enhanced sustainability attributes by 2025

People

Our ambition is to be a business where everyone has the same opportunity to develop and progress.

Our target: 33% female senior leadership by 2030

Safety

Our ambition is to have a culture of safety and wellness working towards zero harm.

Our target: Zero fatalities, in any year

Environment

Our ambition is to play our part in addressing climate change as we strive for carbon neutrality along the cement and concrete value chain.

Our target: 33% CO₂ reduction by 2030 to 520kg CO₂/tonne cementitious product

Sustainability Factsheet 2020

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Our six sustainability priorities ensure we are focusing on the areas that are most important to our business and our stakeholders.

- Safety: 94% of locations were accident-free
- Environment: Exceeded our 2020 CO\textsubscript{2} specific net emission reduction commitment with a 20% reduction compared with 1990 levels
- People: 98% of employees received training, exceeding our 2020 target
- Customers: Recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) and shingles provided a fifth of raw material requirements in our US asphalt business
- Collaboration: Our operating companies hosted over 1,400 stakeholder engagement events
- Integrity: c. 34,600 employees completed Code of Business Conduct (CoBC) training

We offer multiple products and building solutions with enhanced sustainability attributes, including products with lower environmental footprints, concrete products used in flood defence systems, as well as sustainable building envelope solutions. An increasing number of our products are also helping customers achieve higher scores in green building rating schemes, such as BREEAM\textsuperscript{®} and LEED\textsuperscript{®}.

Safety is our top priority and we demand the highest safety standards in everything we do. Our safety culture is driven by employees and management at every level as we work to achieve our common goal – that nobody gets hurt at work. Our businesses collaborate to drive safety improvements across our industry and beyond, implementing best practice safety management systems and health and wellbeing programmes across all our locations.

Published in 2015, the United Nations’ (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a call to action for a better and more sustainable future. We have assessed the detailed targets behind each of the 17 SDGs and identified the four that most closely align to where we, as a building materials company, can have the most impact and influence.

For more detail on our sustainability performance please see our 2019 Sustainability Report at: www.crh.com/sustainability/publications