

THE BUILDING
BLOCKS FOR
EUROPE'S FUTURE

Can Europe secure essential raw materials for its housing needs?

NONEMBER

DoubleTree by Hilton Brussels City

Event materials





Welcome words





Christoph Dorn

Eurogypsum President

Context

Figures

- House prices have risen by 24% since 2015 (inflation-adjusted).
- •Rents in major cities have risen by 45% on average, with the highest increase being 125%, between 2014 and 2023.
- •39% of mayors report that housing costs are unaffordable.
- •17% of EU population living in overcrowded homes.
- •85% of buildings in the EU were built before 2000 and 75% have poor energy performance.
- •1 in 10 EU citizens spends over 40% of income on housing.



Context

Drivers

- Demand concentration in cities and coastal areas
- Financialisation of the real estate market
- High land prices up to 60% of the total housing cost
- Shrinking social housing stock
- Stagnation in the construction sector
- Only 1.57 million completed residential dwellings in 2024 (15% drop from 2022)
- Building permits significantly decreasing (-14.6% by floor area / -19.6% by number of dwellings in 2023)
- Rising construction costs driven by higher material, energy & labour costs
- Example: construction producer prices increased by 12.2% (2022) vs. 1.5% (2009-2019)



Context

The needs

- Construction of new dwellings
- Renovation & extension of existing buildings
- Repurposing of non-residential buildings
- •Example in Germany: 200,000 new housing units completed in 2025 and 2026 (est.) vs. 320,000 needed!



Context

Levers of action

- Building and renovating **faster** innovation, prefabrication...
- Securing cheaper energy, labour costs...
- But also ensuring safe, stable access to raw materials necessary for construction



Unlocking Raw Materials



Unlocking Raw Materials



Dirk FinckeAggregates Europe



Roger Doome

IMA-Europe



Jean-Luc Marchand
Eurogypsum

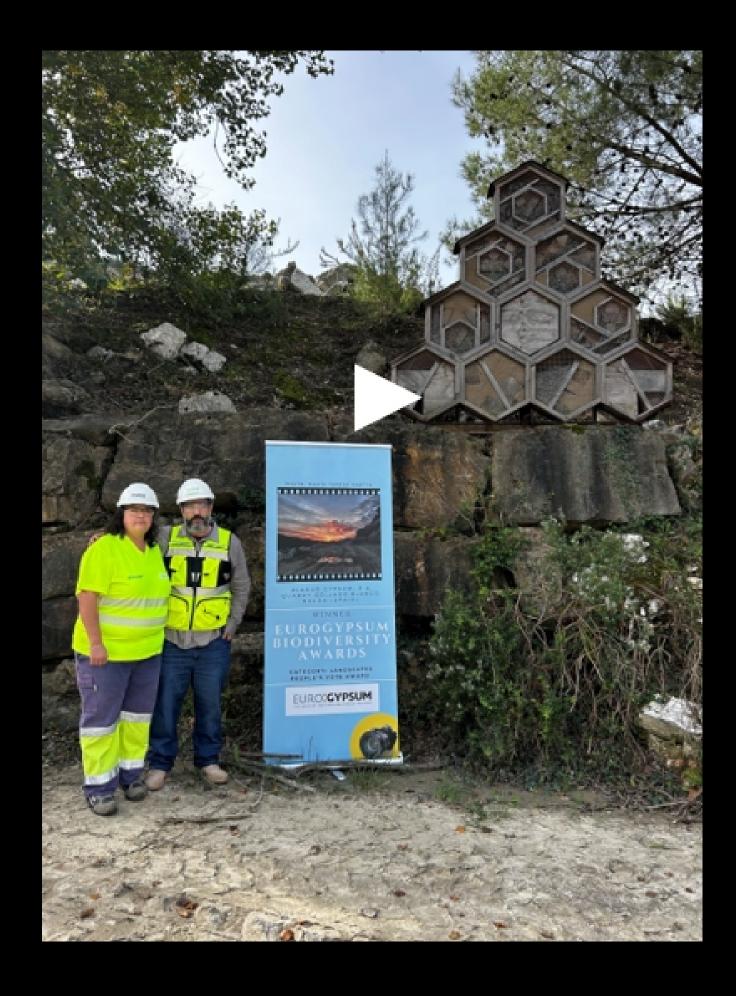


Moderation:
Annita Papa
Eurogypsum



Quarries give back





2024 Biodiversity Awards winner: Beuda's gypsum quarry (Spain)

Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025: Meet the Jury



Przemysław Ogiński

European Commission DG Environment



Thomas Sebrechts

BirdLife Europe & Central Asia



Maria Spiridonova

IUCN – European Regional Office



Biodiversity Photo Contest

Awards 2025

Visit our dedicated website for more information

Categories

- Biodiversity Gains
- Fauna
- Flora
- Landscape
- ... and People's vote



Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025

Biodiversity Gains































And the winner is...

Davide Bertini

Gypsum Valley,
Roccastrada (Italy)





Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025

Fauna







































And the winner is...

Andreas Nolte

Ührde quarry

Osterode am Harz

(Germany)





Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025

Flora

















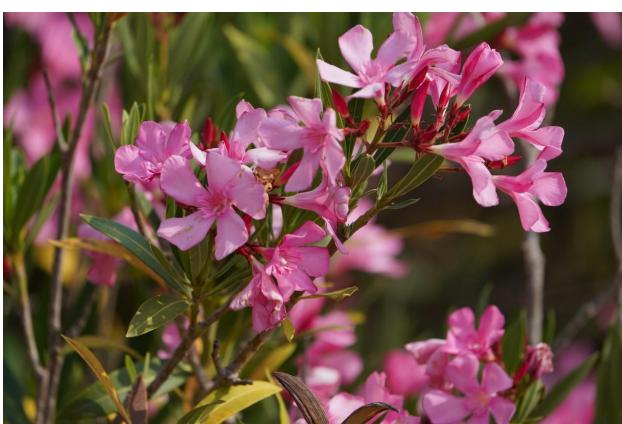














And the winners are...

Davide Bertini

Gypsum Valley,
Roccastrada (Italy)





And the winners are...

Debora Lazzerini

Gypsum Valley,

Roccastrada (Italy)





Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025

Landscape



































And the winner is...

Davide Bertini

Gypsum Valley,
Roccastrada (Italy)





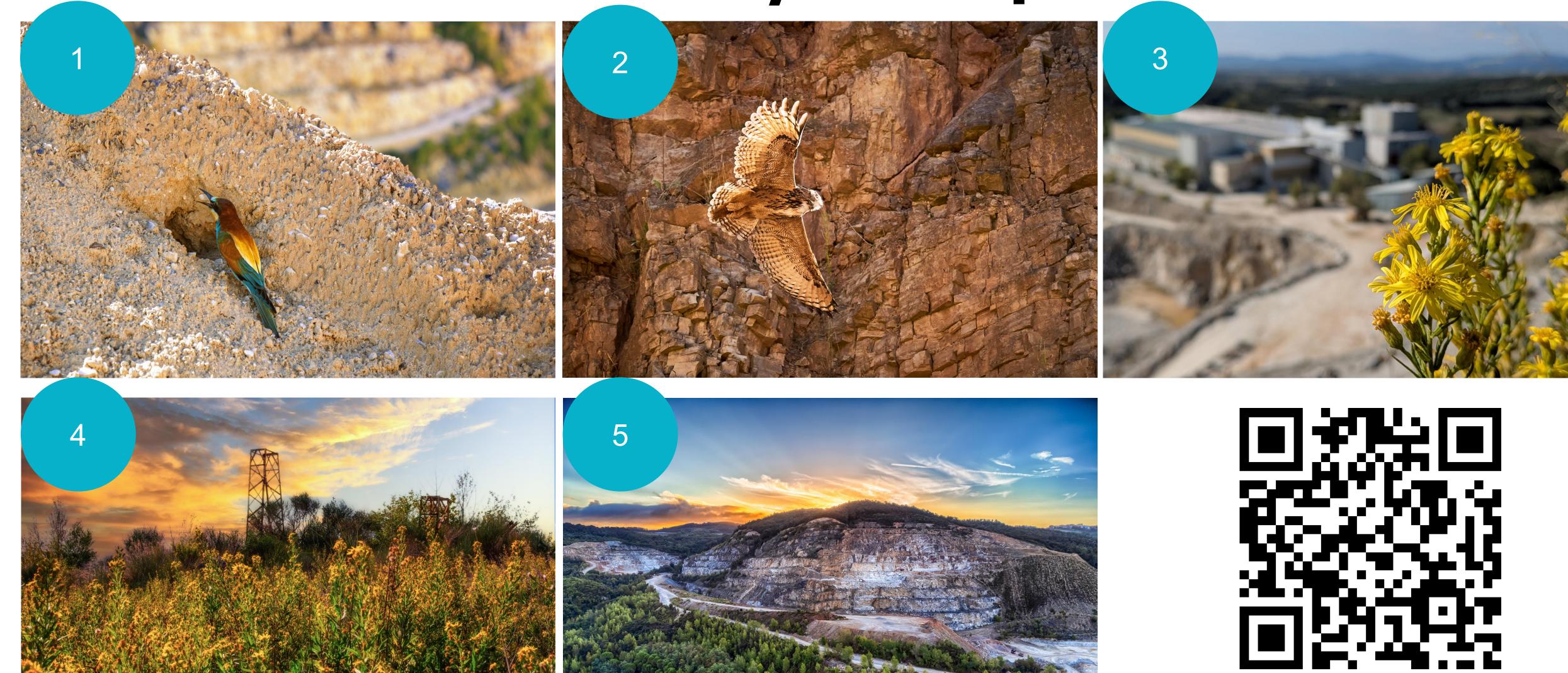
Biodiversity Photo Contest Awards 2025

People's Vote

Now it is your time to choose!



Which one is your favourite?



Vote here

And the winner is...

Andreas Nolte

Ührde quarry

Osterode am Harz

(Germany)





Coffee break





From extraction to restoration



From extraction to restoration: different voices for a shared goal



Przemysław Ogiński
European Commission
DG Environment



Felice TirabassoFibran / Gessi Roccastrada

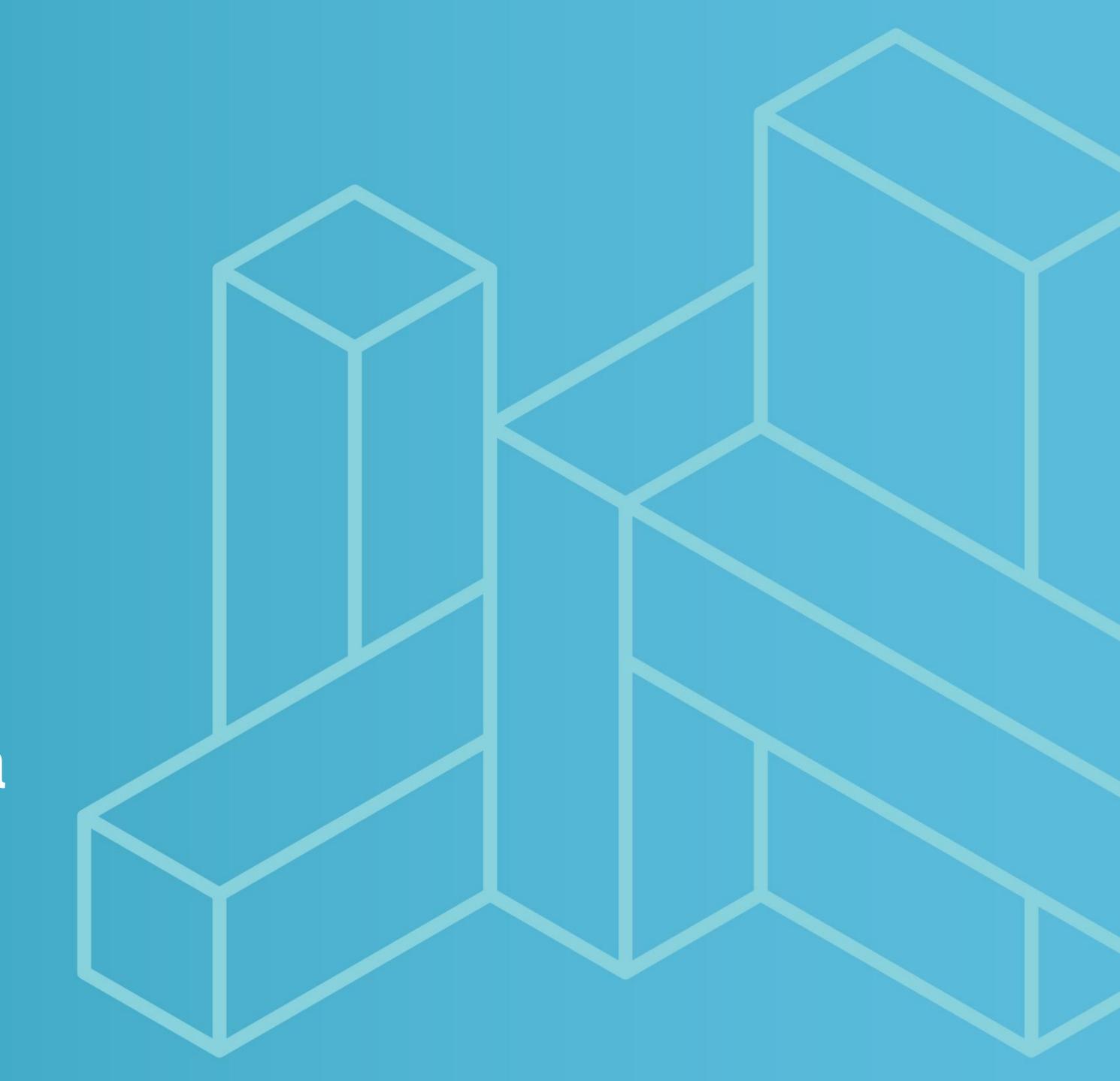


Moderation:
Tristan Suffys
Eurogypsum



Responsible use of water

Annita Papa Eurogypsum

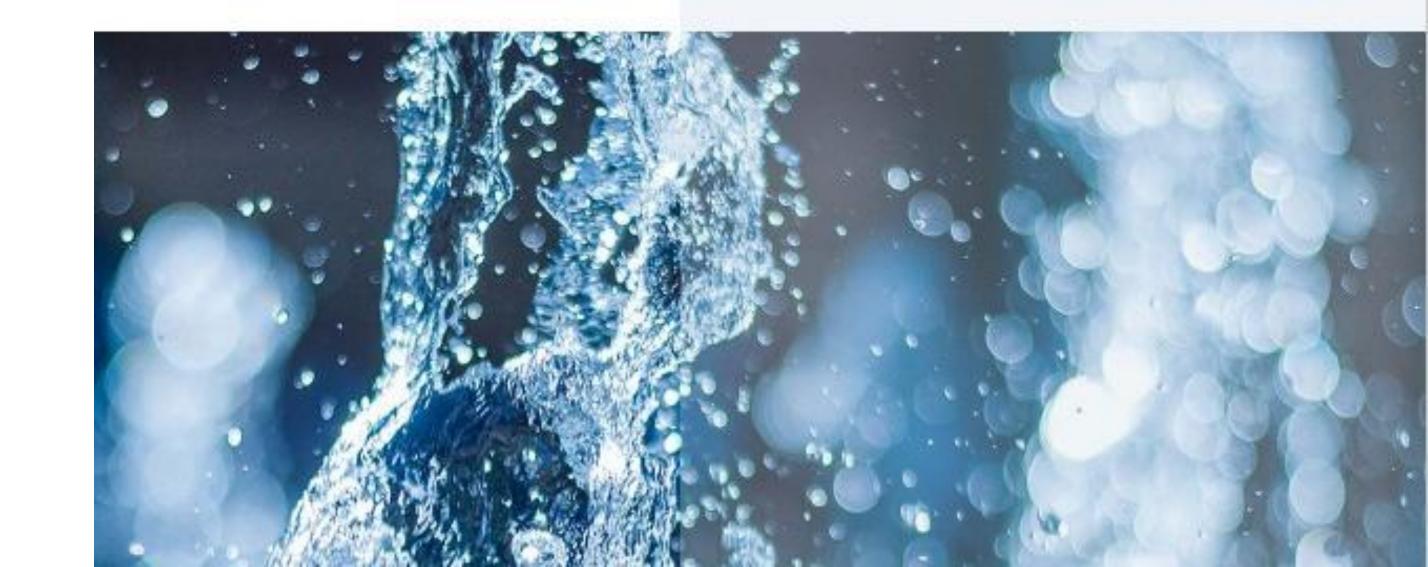


Eurogypsum's Water Roadmap



Towards Water Resilience with Gypsum

The European gypsum industry's journey towards reducing its water footprint



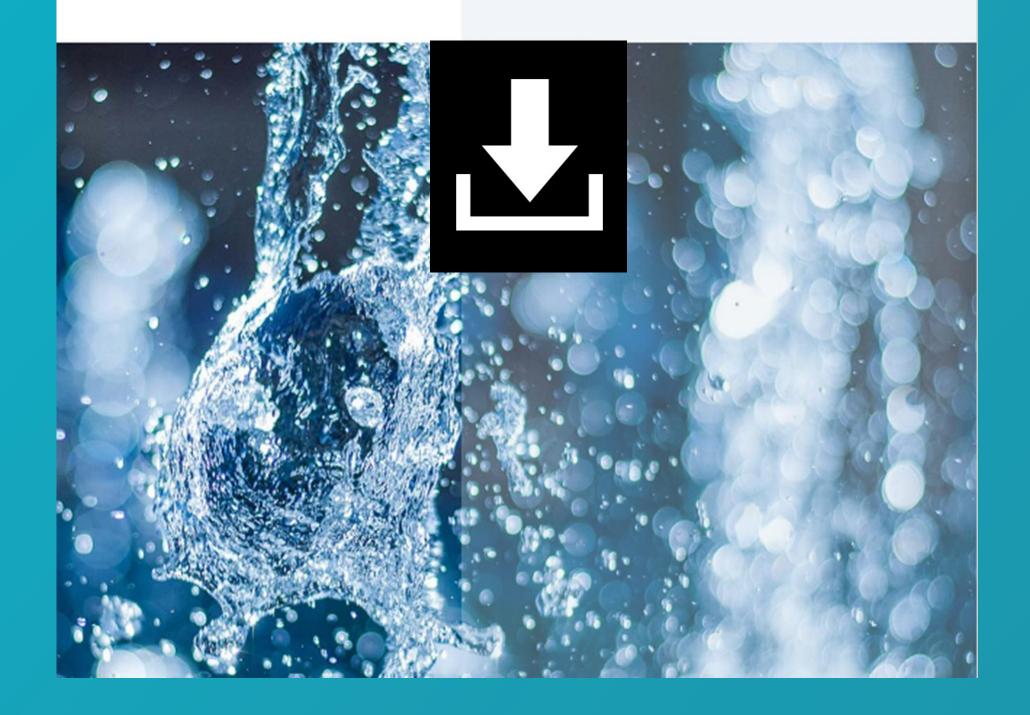


The gypsum industry's journey to improving its water footprint



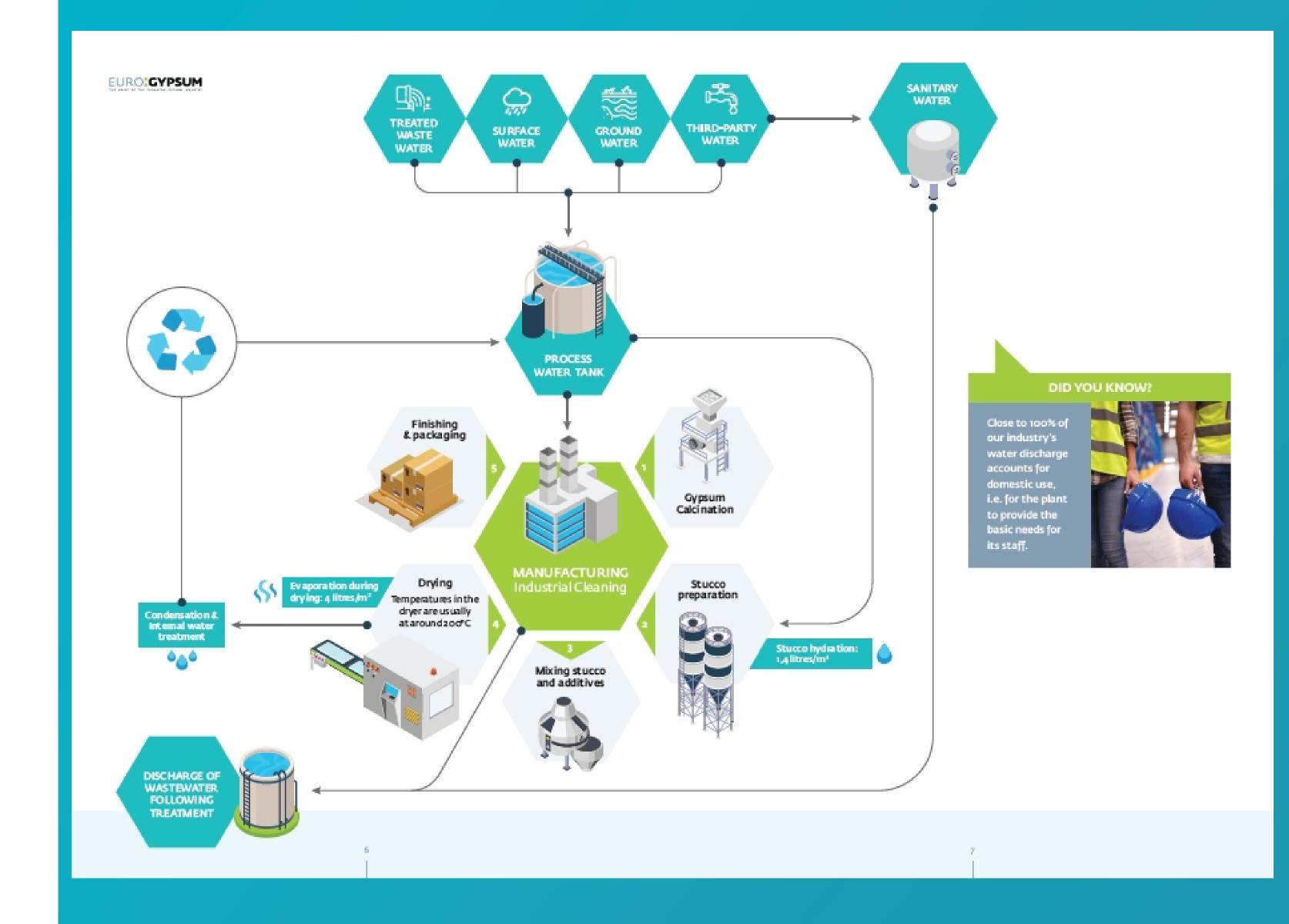
Towards Water Resilience with Gypsum

The European gypsum industry's journey towards reducing its water footprint





Mapping our industrial needs





Providing value to society

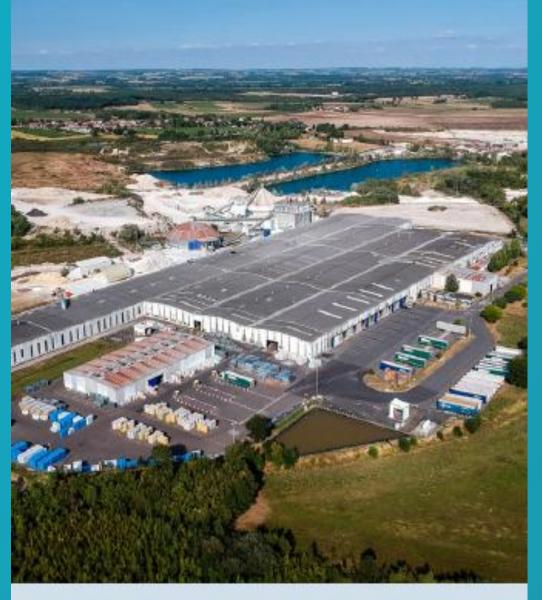
- 1. Avoid water withdrawals
 - 2. Circular use of water
 - A. Reuse water
 - B. Recycle water
- 3. Use of alternative sources



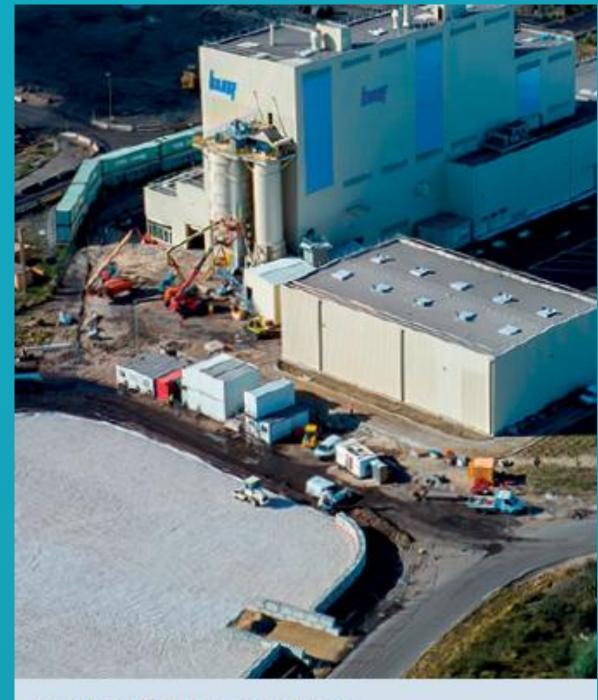
Case study of France:
application of best
practices



© Etex, Saint-Loubès



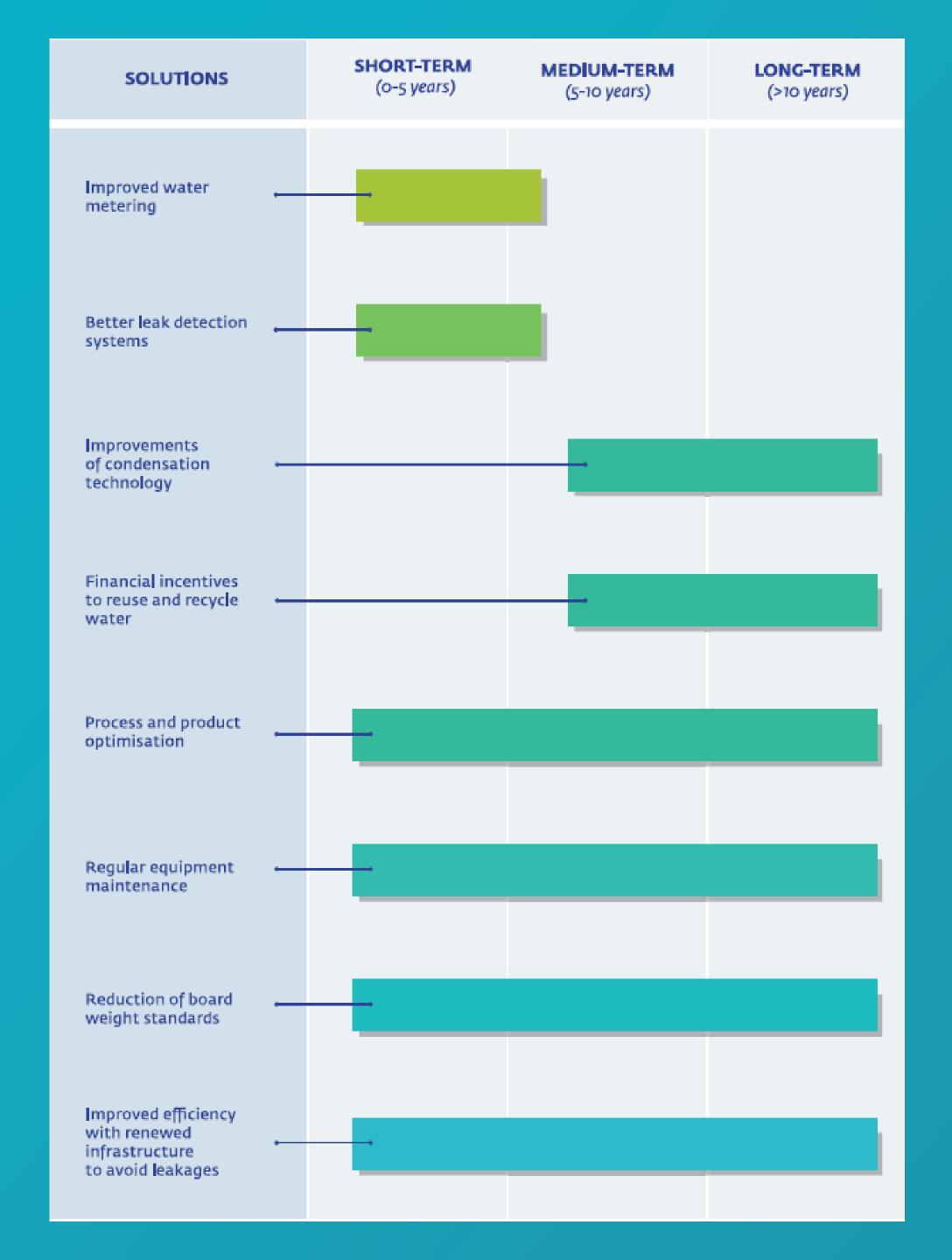
© Saint-Gobain, Val-de-Cognac



© Knauf, Fos-sur-Mer



Our solutions to efficient water management





Our policy asks

Lowering plasterboard weight standards

Dedicated funding to water infrastructure

Creation of and access to non-potable water networks

Innovation in technologies

Facilitation of industrial symbiosis

Higher priority to water efficiency



Q&A





Thank you!



Lunch break

DoubleTree by Hilton Brussels City

