

Mandatory use of recycled sand and gravels in Gandia City



Theme: Recycling and resource efficiency
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The city:

- Gandía is a municipality and Spanish city in the province of Valencia, in the Valencian Community. The town, located next to the Mediterranean Sea and capital of the La Safor region, is a tourist destination.
- The municipal term has a population of 74,562 inhabitants (INE 2019). 23.5% of the census population is of foreign nationality.
- Since the 60s an important beach tourist destination, mainly seasonal and from the interior of Spain.
- Gandía is also a university city. Polytechnic University of Valencia (from 1983), the University of Valencia (from 1984) the UNED (National University of Distance Education from 1987) and Catholic University of Valencia (2017) are based in the city.



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Construction and Demolition Waste (CDW)

Starting situation and problems to be addressed:

1. Uncontrolled dumping.

40% of the CDW are deposited in the environment or in the landscape illegally. A large part of the remaining 60% controlled ends up in landfill due to the lack of demand.

2. Lack of Control by the administrations (Municipalities and Regions)

Most of the cities in Spain have not incorporated into their municipal regulations the basic national legislation regarding CDW.

There is a lack of interest and will in Public administrations (responsible for the control and sanction of the production and management of construction waste) to solve the problem, besides they have few technical resources to carry out such work.

3. Lack of financial incentives for recycling

Very low CDW management price for proper management as there is a very cheap illegal market. Low demand for aggregates and recycled materials.

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Identified needs to improve CDW management:

- Require compliance with CDW legislation (bond system) by local councils.
- Control the destination of CDW from minor works (containers in the city).
- Unify certificates of correct management and reliable statistics at regional level
- Increase the price of landfill as an incentive to recycling.
- Awarding of works contracts introducing Green Procurement environmental criteria
- Mandatory recycling percentage in all public works.
- Stronger penalties for illegal dumping
- Encourage sectoral agreements for the marketing of recycled aggregates (sand&gravels).
- Restoration and backfilling with recycled materials, "NOT with waste".
- Declare if compliant + CE marking "End of waste status for recycled aggregates".

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What was done?:

- Incorporation of the obligatory use of recycled aggregates in municipal works (26th May 2020): This is an obligation that has begun to be introduced in all the bidding specifications of the Edificant Plan (Plan for the construction, enlargement and renovation of educational public buildings in the Valencia Region).
 - Refurbishment of the Neptuno promenade (October 2020): recycling of stones and pavement in aggregates
 - Construction of the new Les Foies school in Gandia begins (16 March 2021): The company awarded the contract for the works (Orther Servicios y Actuaciones Ambientales) has to comply with environmental requirements, such as the obligation to use recycled aggregates.
 - Other pilot experiences
- Publication of a new Municipal Regulation on the control of construction and demolition waste (Approved on 21 February 2021). The legislation defines the obligations of producers, holders and managers of construction waste, as well as the system of penalties in the event of non-compliance.

<https://normativa.gandia.org/Documents/ORDENANCESIREGLAMENTS/OrdRegResiCons.pdf>



Neptuno promenade works
Recycling of stones and pavements

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Construction of Les Foies school
Use of recycled materials, sand and gravels

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**Building constructed with recycled mortar
Saving 70 m³ (110 t) of sand from quarries**

Link with SDGs:

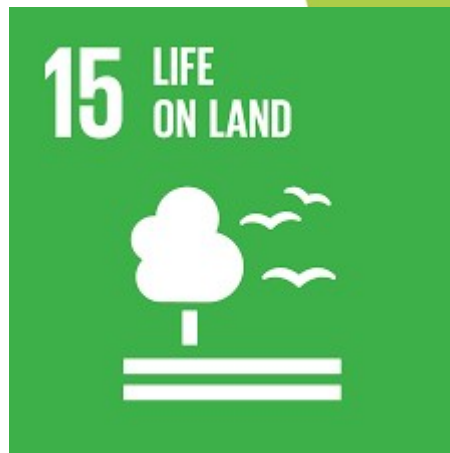
- SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns:
 - Target 12.5: Reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
 - 12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycle
 - Target 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable.
 - 12.7.1 Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION

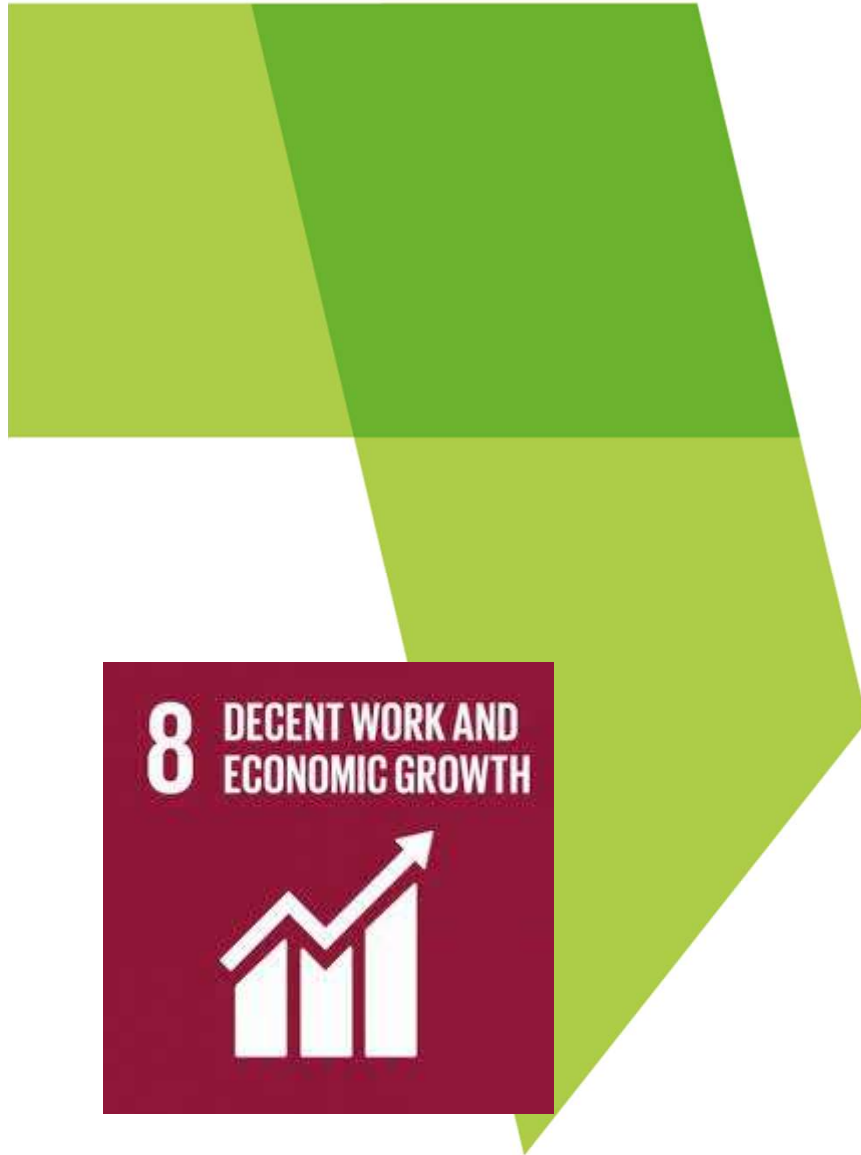


Link with SDGs:

- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss:
 - Target 15.3: By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world
 - 15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area



Link with SDGs:



- SDG 8: Good Jobs and Economic Growth:
 - Target 8.4: Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation,
 - 8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP
 - 8.4.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP



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Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

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