

ETEX BIODIVERSITY POLICY

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Conscious that the construction sector activities have a direct impact on the fauna and flora and on the ecosystems that they are part of, Etex wants to make biodiversity management a key focus for the group.

Biodiversity can be defined by the variability among living organisms, and the ecological complexes of which they are a part, including diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems. At Etex, we strive to offer sustainable products by investing in lightweight materials, thermal insulation, and modular building. Our [sustainability roadmap](#) will help us to limit our impact along our entire supply chain on climate change, atmospheric pollution and exploitation of natural resources, which are known to contribute to biodiversity loss.

But it is in our operations that our levers for action are the greatest to preserve, restore and enhance biodiversity.

To fulfill these objectives Etex is committed to:

- **prevent environmental accidents** and hence any impacts on local flora and fauna,
- **assess the risks and opportunities in terms of biodiversity** per site,
- **set up and implement biodiversity management plans** for relevant sites based on the assessment mentioned above,
- **further reduce the environmental footprint of our products** during their whole lifecycle and integrate biodiversity considerations in product development,
- **consider environmental performance and biodiversity** in the selection process of our suppliers and contractors.

More specifically to our gypsum quarries, Etex is committed to:

- **follow the principles detailed in the “[Extractive Sector Species Protection Code of Conduct](#)”** in our quarries. The document gives guidelines for biodiversity management during the whole lifecycle of quarries with a special focus on temporary habitat created by the activities,
- **use the [bioindicators](#) developed by Eurogypsum** to monitor their biodiversity status.,
- **perform flora and fauna inventories** to identify quarries with high biodiversity value and monitor species of interest (International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List), valuable habitats as well as invasive species. These inventories provide the basis to develop appropriate biodiversity management plans.

All employees and permanent contractors would be encouraged to contribute to the implementation and continuous improvement of this policy by notifying opportunities to improve or inconsistencies with the policy.



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