



Holcim Spain and the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Med) sign an agreement to develop initiatives for the protection of the environment and biodiversity

- **The objective of this cooperation agreement between the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Med) and Holcim Spain is to develop a series of short-term joint activities and to establish a future collaboration framework in order to begin new conservation and restoration projects of the natural surroundings affected by the industrial activities of the company.**
- **The primary aim of the agreement, which has been given a budget of 18,000 euro and is set for 6 months, is to advise Holcim as to how to adequately integrate ecological and social aspects when setting into action a Comprehensive Restoration Plan for the quarry of the cement factory in Torredonjimeno, located near Jaén. SPAIN**

Madrid, 23 March 2009 – The central theme of the cooperation agreement between Holcim and the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Med), whose headquarters are situated in Malaga (Spain), is to carry out activities for the protection of the environment and biodiversity in the natural surroundings of Holcim's operations.

The cooperation agreement between Holcim and IUCN-Med will be in effect for 6 months (from April until September 2009) and demonstrates IUCN-Med's commitment in advising Holcim as to how to adequately integrate ecological and social aspects in the final restoration process of the Torredonjimeno quarry situated in the town of Jamilena. The agreement has an 18,000 euro budget which will primarily go towards the technical advisory project for carrying out the Comprehensive Restoration Plan of this quarry.

In order to be able to realize this Plan, staff from IUCN-Med and expert partners will visit the Holcim quarry in Jamilena within the next few weeks to carry out field work. Following this, experts in the restoration of mining sites linked with IUCN-Med will propose courses of action for how to adequately integrate ecological aspects in order to guide Holcim in developing a General Restoration Plan which could serve as framework of reference for this work at the national level. The Plan also envisages carrying out surveys with people living in the towns close to the aforementioned quarry in order to find out what needs and worries/issues they have regarding the restoration of the surroundings. On the one hand, the final aim of all of these actions is to ensure that all parties involved in the restoration of this quarry are aware of the current and future process and participate in this to share their ideas and views on the matter. On the other hand, the agreement between Holcim and IUCN-Med also includes the collaboration of the latter in the publication of a book about *La Gravera El Puente in Seseña*



(Toledo), which analyses the work to restore the natural surroundings and the contribution to biodiversity which could be achieved if the mining sites are well restored and monitored.

IUCN

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. IUCN is made up of more than 1,000 government and non-governmental organizations, and almost 11,000 volunteer scientists and experts in more than 160 countries. This institution is supported by 1,000 professionals in 60 offices, and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world. The mission of IUCN is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

Holcim Spain

Holcim Spain is one of the national leaders in the production and distribution of dry, concrete and mortar cement. Holcim is developing its activities in the autonomous regions of Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Castilla y León, Galicia, Madrid, Murcia, Catalonia and the region of Valencia. With more than 2,000 professionals, Holcim has been present in Spain since 1980 managing various installations, amongst them several cement factories which have been serving their regions for almost 100 years. The Holcim vision is to provide foundations for tomorrow's society, whilst its mission is to be the world's most respected and attractive company in the cement industry, creating value for all of their clients, employees, shareholders, and the regions in which they work. In order to achieve this, it bases itself on its corporate values: Strength. Performance. Passion.

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