

Glossary

Biodiversity

Biological diversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources, including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (as defined by the UN, 1992). (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

BNG is an approach to embed and demonstrate biodiversity enhancement within a development. It involves first avoiding then minimising biodiversity loss as far as possible, and achieving measurable net gains that contribute towards local and strategic biodiversity priorities (Source: CIEEM). A metric for Biodiversity Net Gain accounting has been developed by Natural England.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂)

A naturally occurring gas, CO₂ is also a by-product of burning fossil fuels (such as oil, gas and coal), of burning biomass, of land-use changes (LUC) and of industrial processes (e.g. cement production). It is the principal anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) that affects the Earth's radiative balance. It is the reference gas against which other GHGs are measured and therefore has a global warming potential (GWP) of 1. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Circular Economy

In short, a circular economy is based on the principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems. It represents an alternative to the traditional 'linear' economy where the flow of materials follows a 'take-make-dispose' pathway, often to the detriment of nature.

Climate change

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Article 1, defines climate change as: 'a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.' The UNFCCC thus makes a distinction between climate change attributable to human activities altering the atmospheric composition and climate variability attributable to natural causes. (Adapted from: IPCC Glossary)

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-eq or CO₂e)

The amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission that would cause the same integrated radiative forcing or temperature change, over a given time horizon, as an emitted amount of a greenhouse gas (GHG) or a mixture of GHGs. There are a number of ways to compute such equivalent emissions and choose appropriate time horizons. Most typically, the CO₂-equivalent emission is obtained by multiplying the emission of a GHG by its global warming potential (GWP) for a 100-year time horizon. For a mix of GHGs it is obtained by summing the CO₂-equivalent emissions of each gas. CO₂-equivalent emission is a common scale for comparing emissions of different GHGs but does not imply equivalence of the corresponding climate change responses. There is generally no connection between CO₂-equivalent emissions and resulting CO₂-equivalent concentrations. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Community (our)

The people and environment outside of Wienerberger that are impacted, both positively and negatively, by our processes and actions. Mostly this will be in the close vicinity of our manufacturing sites, but may include people and places connected to us by factors other than geography.

Community assets

A building or other land is an asset of community value if its main use has recently been, or is presently used to, further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future (Source: MyCommunity.org). Wienerberger's charitable donations focus on improving community assets, which are typically educational, healthcare, cultural, and/or recreational buildings or land.

Decarbonisation

The process by which countries, individuals or other entities aim to achieve zero fossil carbon existence. Typically refers to a reduction of the carbon emissions associated with electricity, industry and transport. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Embodied carbon

Embodied carbon (also known as Embedded Carbon or Embodied Energy) means the total greenhouse gases emitted in the construction of a development OR manufacturing and production of product. This includes those emissions caused by extraction, manufacture, transportation and assembly of every element of the development OR product, as well as in-use emissions (such as maintenance and repairs) and the emissions related to deconstruction and disposal at the end of a development's OR product's service life. It does not include emissions related to the operation of a development OR product. In short, it is possible to consider embodied carbon as the emissions 'locked in' by decisions made at the development's OR product's design stage. In relation to the lifecycle stages according to CEN/TC350, embodied carbon includes modules A1-A5, B1-B5 and C1-C4. Therefore, modules B6-B7 and D are excluded.



Equality

A principle that ascribes equal worth to all human beings, including equal opportunities, rights, and obligations, irrespective of origins. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Innovation

We define an innovation as something that creates new value and/or captures value through actions that are novel to the company.

Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

Compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product or service throughout its life cycle. This definition builds from ISO 14044. (Adapted from: IPCC Glossary)

Natural resources

Naturally occurring assets that provide use benefits through the provision of raw materials and energy used in economic activity (or that may provide such benefits one day) and that are subject primarily to quantitative depletion through human use. They are subdivided into four categories: mineral and energy resources, soil resources, water resources and biological resources. Natural resources can be renewable (can return to their previous stock levels after exploitation by natural processes of growth or replenishment) or non-renewable (will become exhausted after exploitation). (Source: OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms)

Nature-positive

The concept of being nature-positive represents a fundamental shift from the long-held viewpoint that human society should minimise its impact on the natural world. Instead, a nature-positive approach is one that seeks to enhance ecosystems. A nature positive approach enriches biodiversity, stores carbon, purifies water and reduces pandemic risk. As a result, it enhances the resilience of our planet and our societies. (Source: World Economic Forum)

Net zero emissions

Net zero emissions are achieved when anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are balanced by anthropogenic removals over a specified period. (Adapted from: IPCC Glossary)

People (our)

Predominantly Wienerberger's employees, including where relevant their families and dependents.

Partners (our)

The network of customers, suppliers, academics, investors, charities and others who represent 'interested parties' defined in Wienerberger's ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. With these stakeholders we form partnerships.

Resource scarcity

When the demand for natural resources outstrips supply, they become difficult to procure. This can apply to both renewable and non-renewable natural resources.

Social Value

Social Value is an umbrella term for the conscious efforts made by organisations to contribute to the long-term wellbeing and resilience of individuals, communities and society in general. An account of social value is a story about the changes experienced by people. It includes qualitative, quantitative and comparative information. Some, but not all, of this value is captured in market prices. It also considers environmental changes in relation to how they affect people's lives. (Source: Social Value UK)

Sustainability

A dynamic process that guarantees the persistence of natural and human systems in an equitable manner. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

Science Based Targets

Targets are considered 'science-based' if they are in line with what the latest climate science deems necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to well-below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. (Source: ScienceBasedTargets.org)

Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with an organisation are classified into three scopes. Scope 1 consists of emissions arising directly from operations that are owned or controlled by the reporting company. Scope 2 emissions arise indirectly, from the generation of purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heating, or cooling consumed by the reporting company. Scope 3 consists of all indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions. (Source: GHG Protocol)

Wellbeing

A state of existence that fulfils various human needs, including material living conditions and quality of life, as well as the ability to pursue one's goals, to thrive, and feel satisfied with one's life. Ecosystem wellbeing refers to the ability of ecosystems to maintain their diversity and quality. (Source: IPCC Glossary)

