



# Needs and availability of secondary resources in the construction industry: scientific challenges

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Tongji University – online course  
April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# University of Liège in Belgium

Birthplace of  
Charlemagne

Witness of a millenary  
principality

Economic capital of  
Wallonia



# University of Liège in Belgium

Coal mining,  
steelmaking,  
weaponry

Aerospace, logistics,  
mechanics,...

Exceptional post-  
industrial and  
natural environments



# University of Liège in Belgium

A widespread campus  
in the heart of nature

26.863 students  
among which 22%  
foreigners

11 faculties (Science,  
Applied Science,  
Medicine,...)



# Department/research unit

Urban and Environmental Engineering research Unit (UEE) Architecture, Geology, Environment and Construction Department (ArGEnCo)

200 professors, researchers, technicians

11 laboratories

3 masters (civil, architectural and geological engineering)

316 students (Bachelor and Master degrees)

18.10<sup>6</sup> euros cash flow (March 2023)

89 PhD students (2023)

103 on-going research projects

# Master programs

## 3 civil engineer master degrees

Geology and Mining Engineering

Civil Engineering

Architectural Engineering

## 2 specialized master's degrees

Urban and regional planning

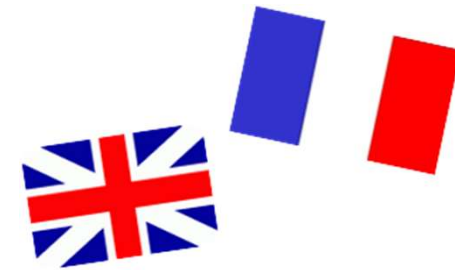
Transportation management

## Continuing education programs

Auscultation et réparation des ouvrages en

BIM

MOCC ConstruiREcyclers



Accredited at European level EUR-  
ACE Label & CTI



# International cooperation





# Construction industry context





# Global context



What to do?





# Global context

- ▶ We are living in a limited world
  - Energy
  - Raw materials
  - Space
  - Maximum capacity of resilience of nature
- ▶ Ascertainment → behaviour
- ▶ **Deposit ↔ market ?**



# Global context

- ▶ We produce wastes
  - Between **3.4 to 4 billions tons/year** or from 80 to 126 tons/second!
  - Each day, human activity is contributing for more than 10 billions kg wastes
  - Annual production of recycled aggregates accounted for 202 million tons in 2015
  - *Construction area is producing more or less than 40% of CO<sub>2</sub>*



# Global context

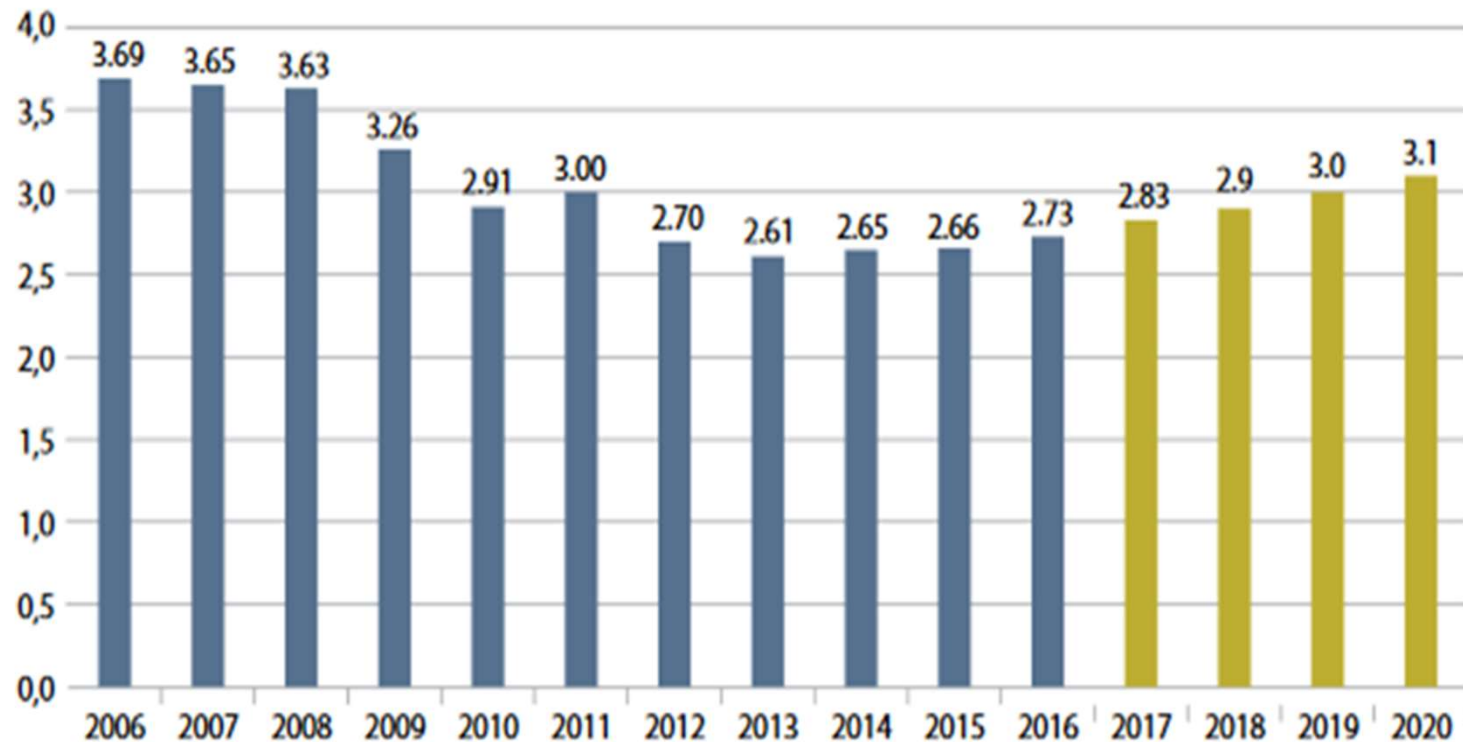
- ▶ We need construction materials
  - Cement: 4 billions tons/year (56% from China)
  - Concrete: 10 billions tons/year
  - Consumption of cement in kg/inh (2018)
    - China: 1704 kg/inh
    - EU: 309 kg/inh
    - USA: 287 kg/inh
    - BE: 550 kg/inh
    - AR: 270 kg/inh
  - Emission of CO<sub>2</sub> (2018): 5-8% world production



# Global context

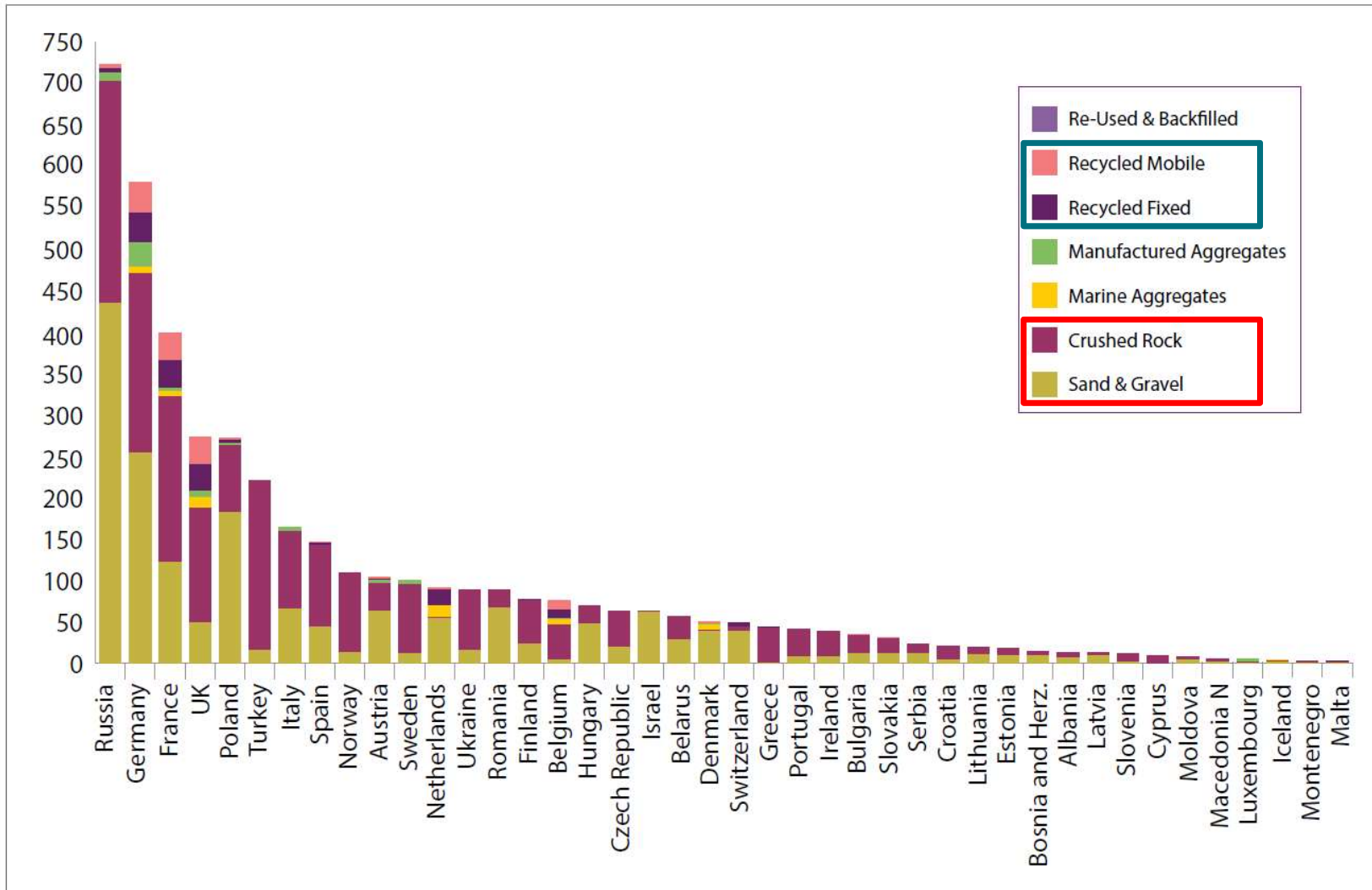
- ▶ We need construction materials
  - For the EU28 plus EFTA countries, the total 2019 **aggregates production** is estimated just on **3,00 billion tons**. The primary materials came from 26,000 quarries and pits, operated by 15,000 companies (UEPG, 2018, <http://www.uepg.eu/statistics/current-trends>)

# Global context



Trend in total EU + EFTA Tonnages (in billions of tonnes) for the production of aggregates

# Global context



2019 aggregates production in Europe in millions of tonnes by country and type



# Objectives

- ▶ 3R: Reduce, Reuse and **Recycle**
- ▶ Using CD&W as sub-base and base material in road construction (“less noble”)
- ▶ Meeting Sustainable Development Goals: recovery targets to **70%** of construction and demolition wastes (CD&W) by **2020** in European Union (**Directive 2008/98/EC**)
- ▶ Reducing use of natural aggregates (preservation of natural resources)





# Conditions for recycling: requirements, barriers, applications



# Conditions for recycling

## ▶ Possible restrictions

### ■ Transport

- Transport price =  $f(\text{quantity, distance})$
- Independent of the quality
- Interesting recycling if
  - Landfill far away
  - High dumping charge
  - Expensive raw materials and difficult supply

### ■ Standards

- *a material has not specification because it is new and not used*
- *a material is a few used because it is uncovered by specifications*



# Conditions for recycling

- ▶ Possible applications
  - *Filling materials*: low requirements, consumed in large quantities, for embankments but transportable over short distances due to costs;
  - *Aggregates*: high quality requirements to lead to finished products of quality identical to that of traditional materials;
  - *Binders*: very precise specifications, properties must remain constant over time;
  - *Activators*: small quantities, which can cause problems of collection, storage, distribution and regularity.



# Conditions for recycling

- ▶ Evaluation of the opportunity of recycling
  - Technique
    - Waste characterization
    - Durability
    - Consistency of the properties
  - Logistic et economic
    - Deposit and transport
    - Consistency of the production
    - Conditioning
    - Localisation



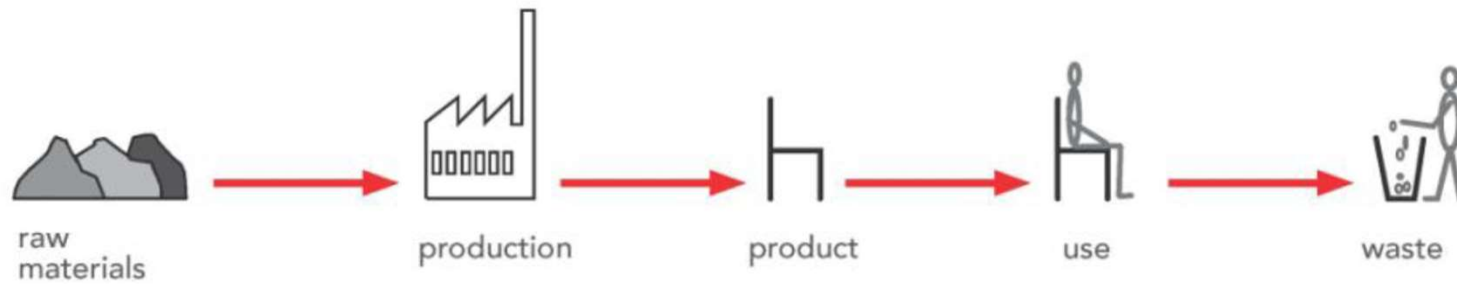
# Conditions for recycling

- ▶ Evaluation of the opportunity of recycling
  - Environmental et economic
    - Decrease of the quantities in landfill
    - Regulatory obligation to eliminate
    - Taxation

We don't recycle ...  
anything,  
anyhow,  
at any price.



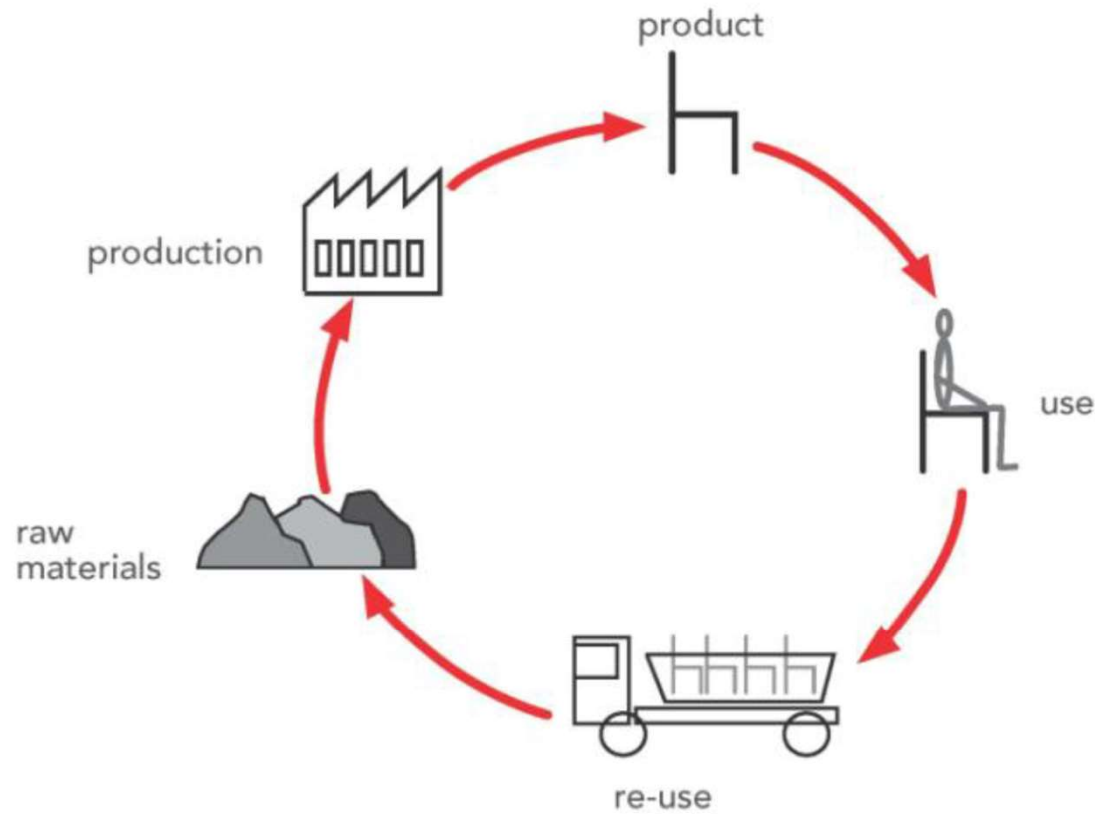
# Conditions for recycling



**OLD LINEAR ECONOMY - is about ownership**



# Conditions for recycling



## C2C - TECHNICAL NUTRIENT CYCLE



# Most significant challenges

- ▶ the lack of incentive to design for the end-of-life issues for construction products
- ▶ the low value of products at end-of-life (economic challenge)
- ▶ the construction industry's structure (fragmented supply chain)
  
- ▶ *a better recovery of material by means of viable take-back schemes*
- ▶ *higher value markets*
- ▶ *assurance schemes for reused materials*





# Materials processing

# C&DW recycling



## ► Transforming wastes ...



# C&DW recycling



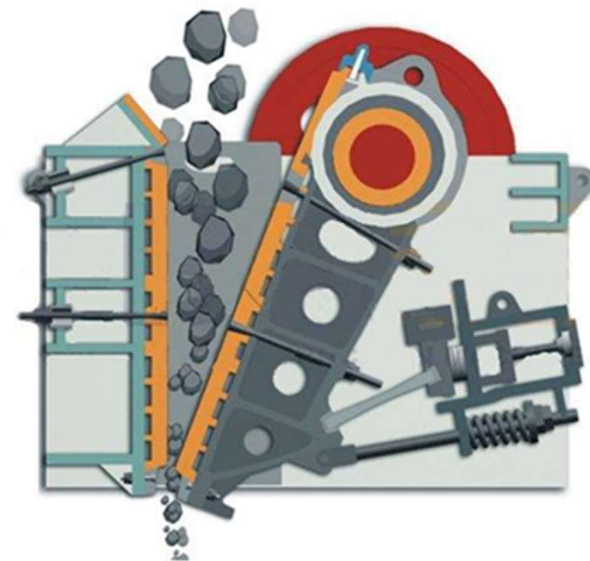
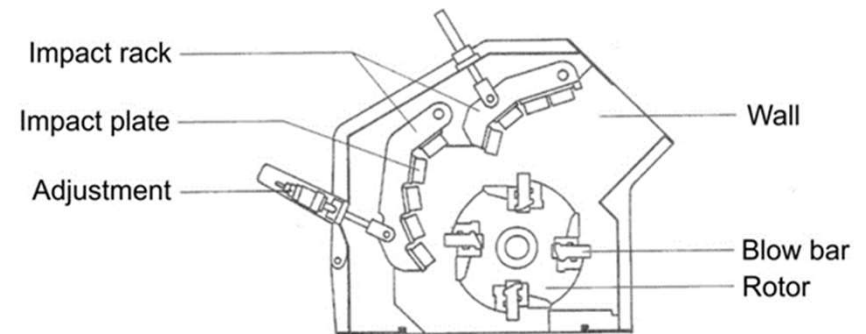
- ▶ ... into secondary resources





# Material processing

- ▶ **Impact crusher**
  - allows producing very fine fractions
  - induces the biggest wear
  - limited by the primary size of waste to be treated
- ▶ **Jaw crusher**
  - to treat bulky waste like concrete slabs
  - does not allow to produce very fine particles
  - generally requires a secondary crushing





# Material processing

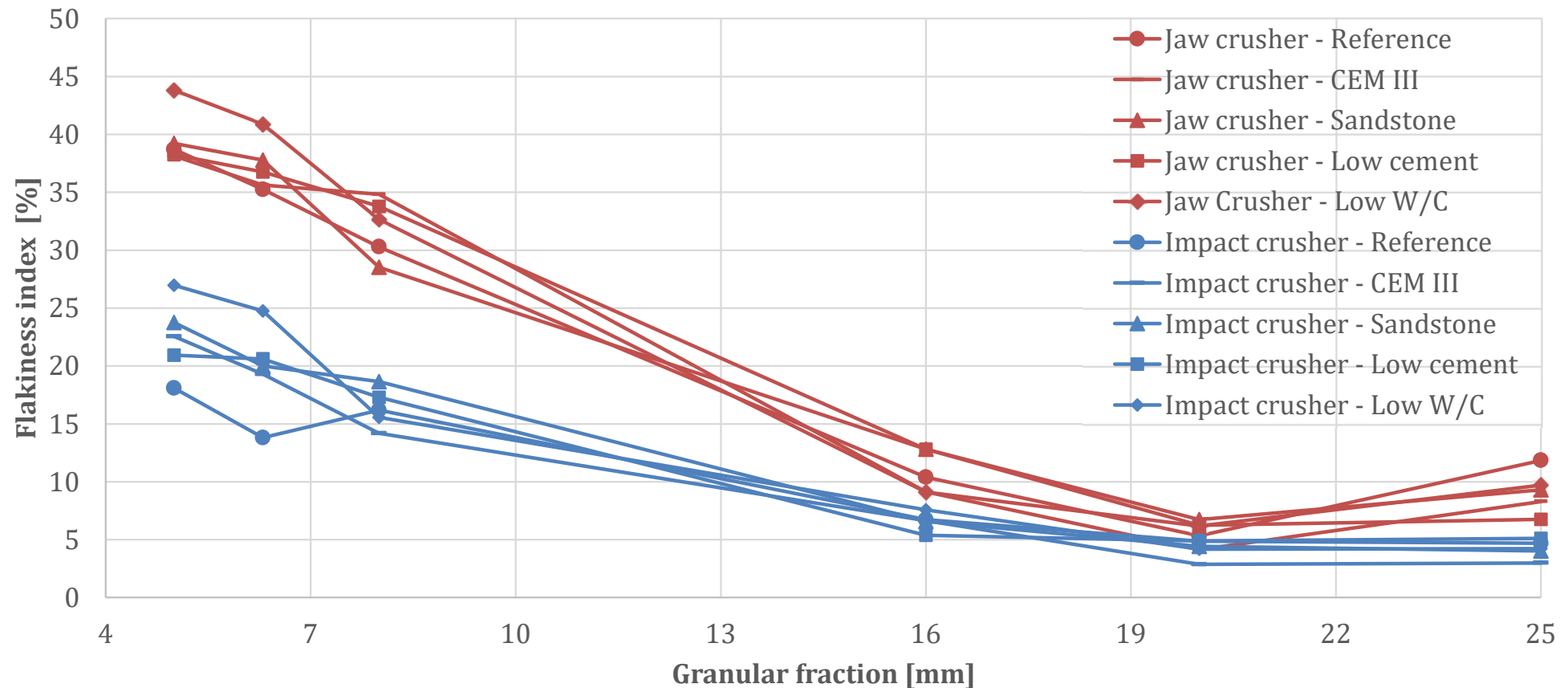
## ► Experimental mixes

Name	Reference	CEM III	Sandstone	Low cement	Low W/C
Aggregates nature	Limestone	Limestone	<b>Sandstone</b>	Limestone	Limestone
Aggregates 2/7 mm (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	368.8	368.8	368.8	405.1	367.1
Aggregates 7/14 mm (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	345	345	345	379	343.4
Aggregates 14/20 mm (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	433.5	433.5	433.5	476.2	431.5
Sand 0/4 mm (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	604.9	604.9	604.9	664.4	602.1
Cement type	CEM I 52.5	<b>CEM III 52.5</b>	CEM I 52.5	CEM I 52.5	CEM I 52.5
Cement quantity (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	400	400	400	<b>320</b>	452
Cement paste volume (dm <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> )	351	358	351	282	351
Efficient water (kg)	224.2	224.2	224.2	180.6	207.1
W/C ratio	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	<b>0.46</b>
Superplasticizer (g/kg cement)	0	0	0	6.8	3.3



# Material processing

- The flakiness index decreases with increasing granular fraction and the jaw crusher produces flakier aggregates
- No influence of the concrete composition

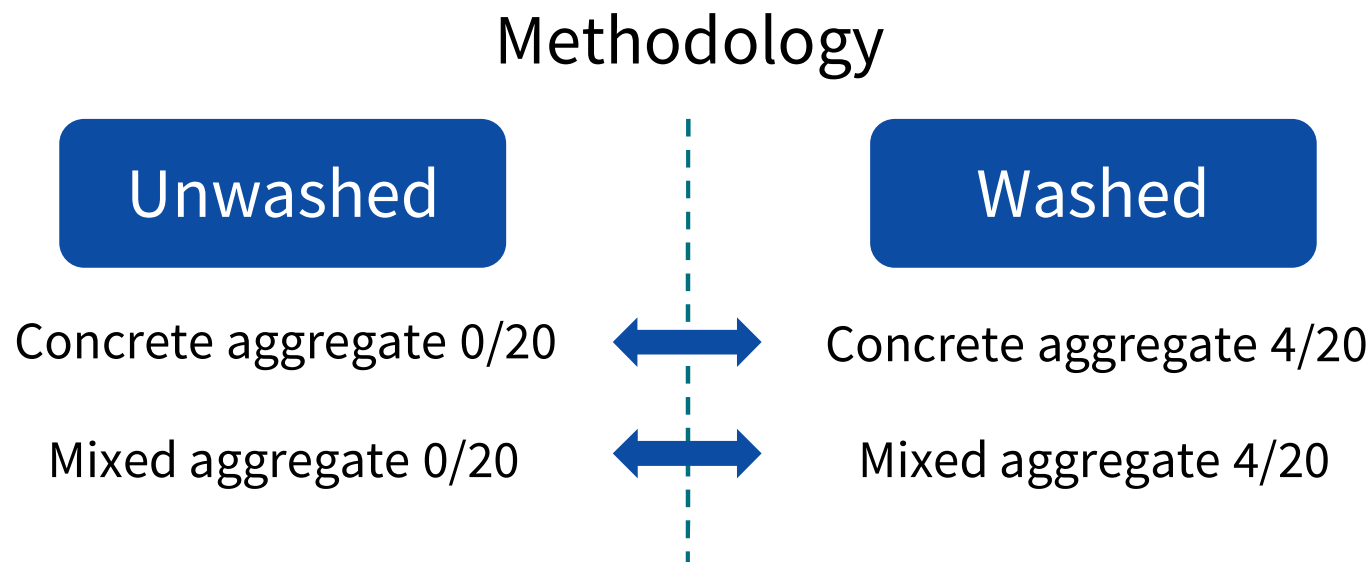




# Effect of washing

## Expectations of washing aggregates:

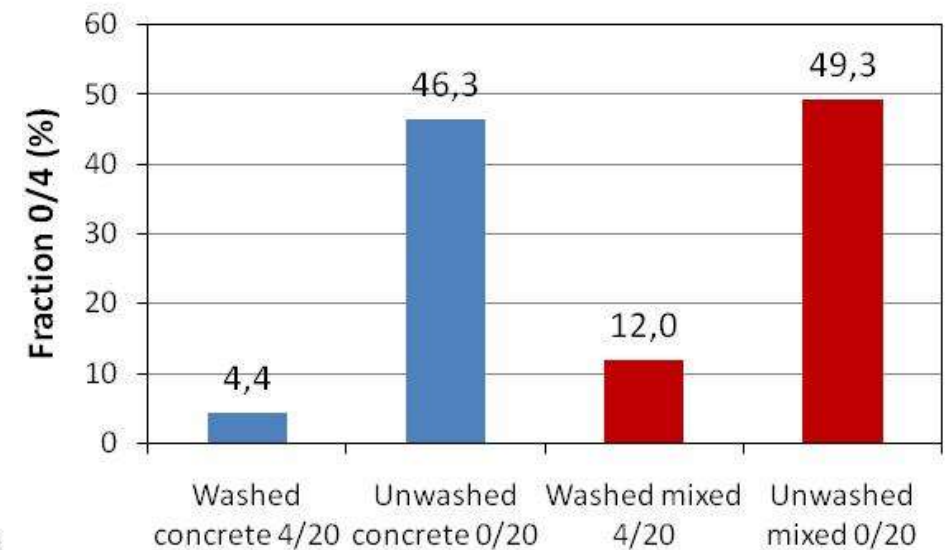
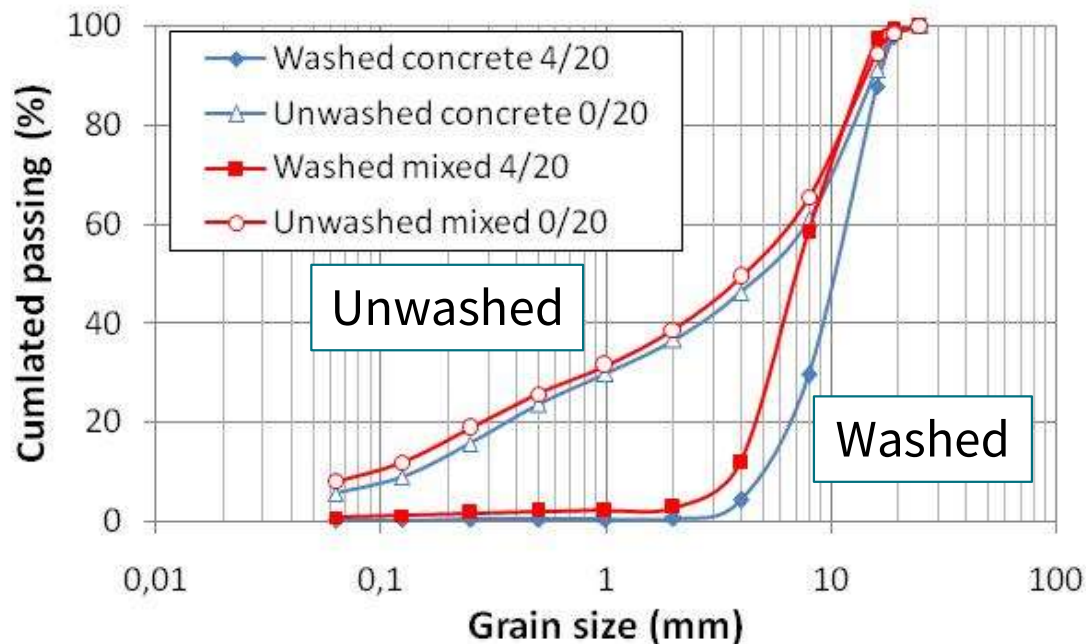
- ▶ Constrain grain size distribution
- ▶ Decrease fine content
- ▶ Decrease the quantity of unwashed components (floating, clay, plaster...)
- ▶ Increase resistance to fragmentation





# Grain size distribution - aggregates

- 0/4 fraction comprises nearly 50% of the unwashed aggregates composition
- 0/4 fraction a bit higher in mixed aggregates
- Washing significantly reduces the sand fraction of the aggregates

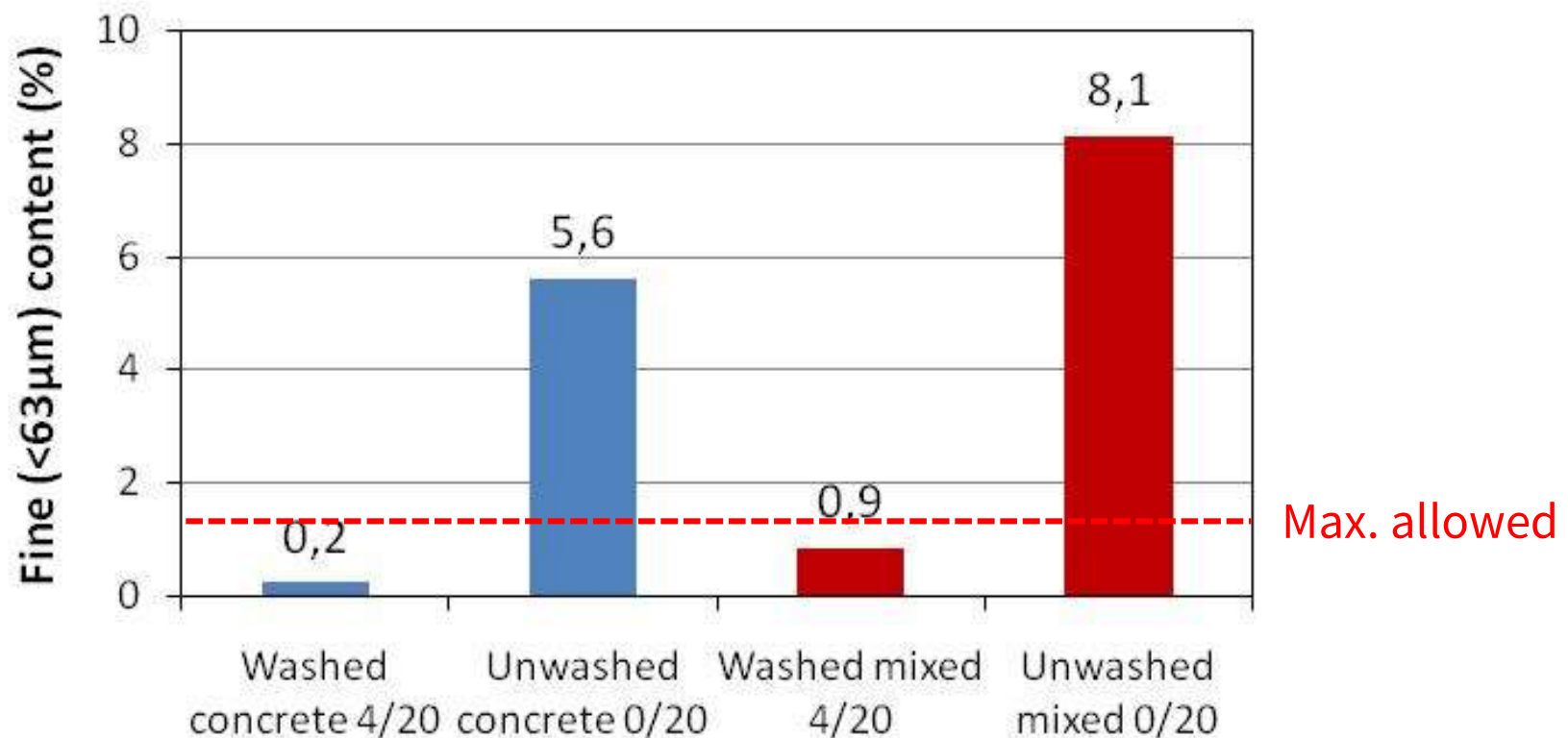






# Grain size distribution - aggregates

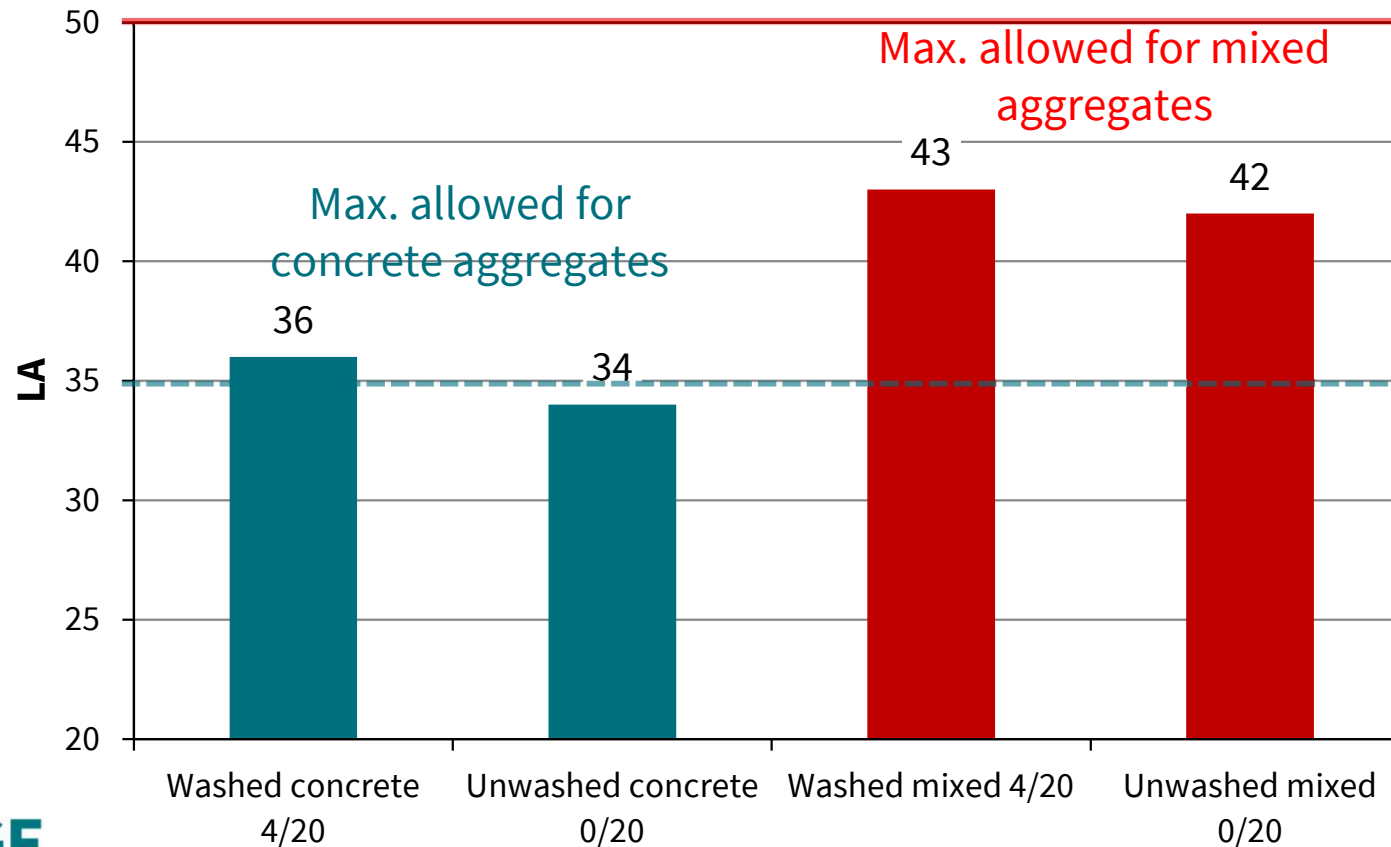
- Fine content ( $< 63\mu\text{m}$ ) higher in mixed aggregates and significantly reduced by washing
- Fine fraction higher in mixed aggregates
- Washed aggregates respect regulations in all considered countries





# Resistance to fragmentation

- Concrete recycled aggregates have better resistance to fragmentation than mixed aggregates
- No effect of washing





# Conclusions

## Expectations of washing aggregates:

- Constrain grain size distribution
- Decrease fine content
- Decrease the quantity of unwashed components (floating, clay, plaster...)
- Increase resistance to fragmentation



# Characterization of Recycled Concrete Aggregates



# Flow sheet for material processing





# Flow sheet for material processing



# Standardization

## Standards NBN EN 206 and NBN B 15-001

- Annex E (NBN EN 206) gives recommendations for using recycled aggregates
- Two types of aggregates are defined ( $d > 4\text{mm}$ ):

Type A : concrete aggregates



Type B : mix aggregates



# Belgian context

Belgian norm NBN B 15-001 defines criteria for **A+ recycled aggregates** :

- $d \geq 4 \text{ mm}$  et  $D \geq 10 \text{ mm}$ ;
- Composition
  - $Rc_{90}, Rcu_{95}, Ra_{1-}, XRg_{0.5-}, FL_{2-}$
- Physical and chemical properties
  - $FI_{20}, f_{1.5}, LA_{35}, SS_{0.2}, A_{40}$
- Minimum density :  $2200 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ;
- Maximum water absorption :  $10\% \pm 2\%$ .



Categories based on NBN 12620 :

Rc : concrete

Ru : natural stone

Ra : bituminous material

XRg : glass

FL : floating materials

FI : flakiness index

f : fine content

LA : Los Angeles coefficient

SS : soluble sulfate

A : setting time modification

Can be used in concrete with a resistance class of up to  $\leq C30/37$



# Belgian context

Belgian norm NBN B 15-001 defines criteria for **B+ recycled aggregates** :

- $d \geq 4 \text{ mm}$  et  $D \geq 10 \text{ mm}$ ;
- Composition
  - $R_{C50}, R_{Cu70}, R_{a5}, R_{b30-}, X_{Rg0.5-}, FL_{2-}$
- Physical and chemical properties
  - $FI_{50}, LA_{50}, SS_{0.2}, A_{40}$
- Minimum density :  $1700 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ;
- Maximum water absorption :  $15\% \pm 2\%$ .



Categories based on NBN 12620 :

Rc : concrete

Ru : natural stone

Ra : bituminous material

XRg : glass

FL : floating materials

FI : flakiness index

f : fine content

LA : Los Angeles coefficient

SS : soluble sulphate

A : setting time modification

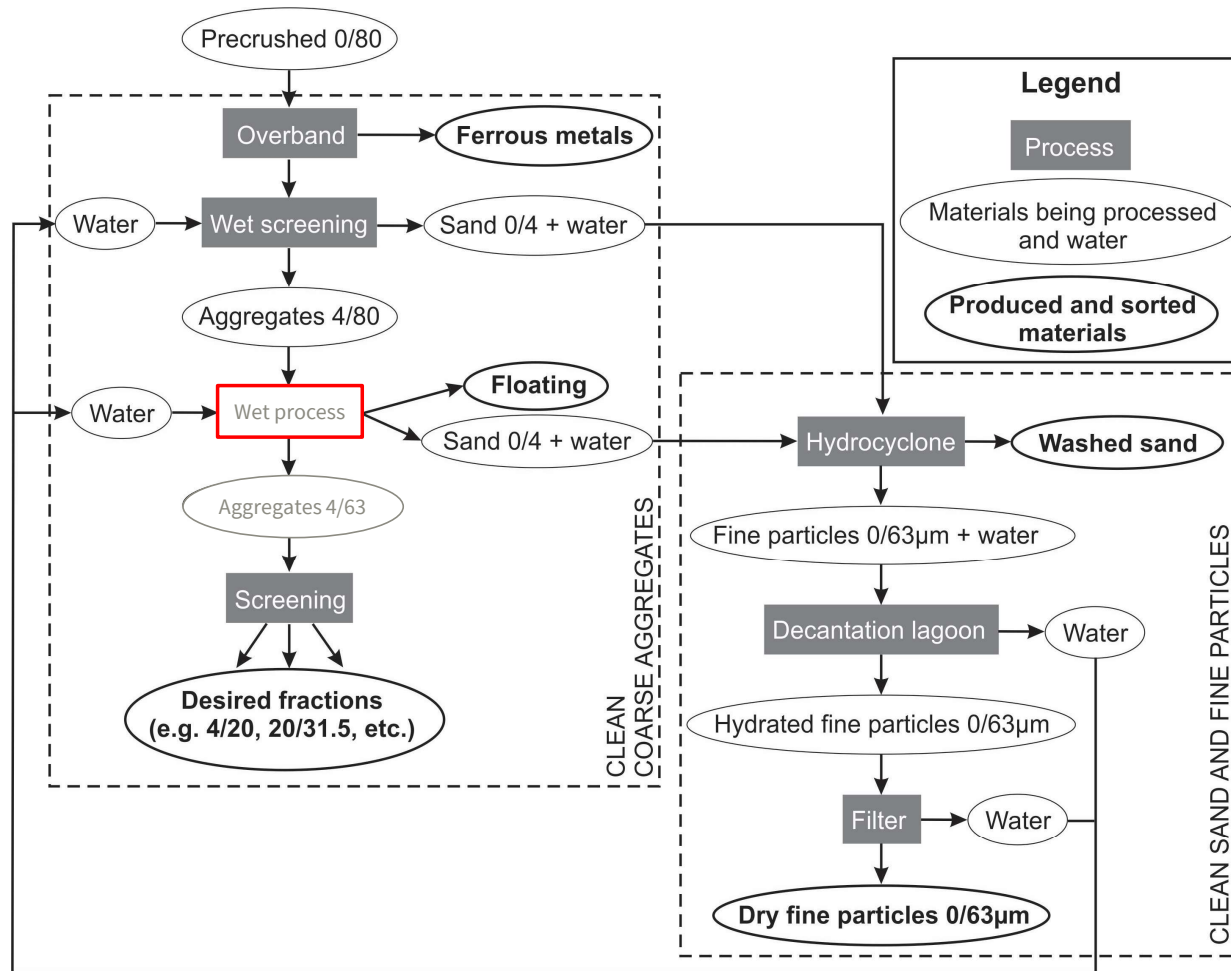
Can be used in concrete with a resistance class of up to  $\leq C25/30$

# Production of recycled aggregates

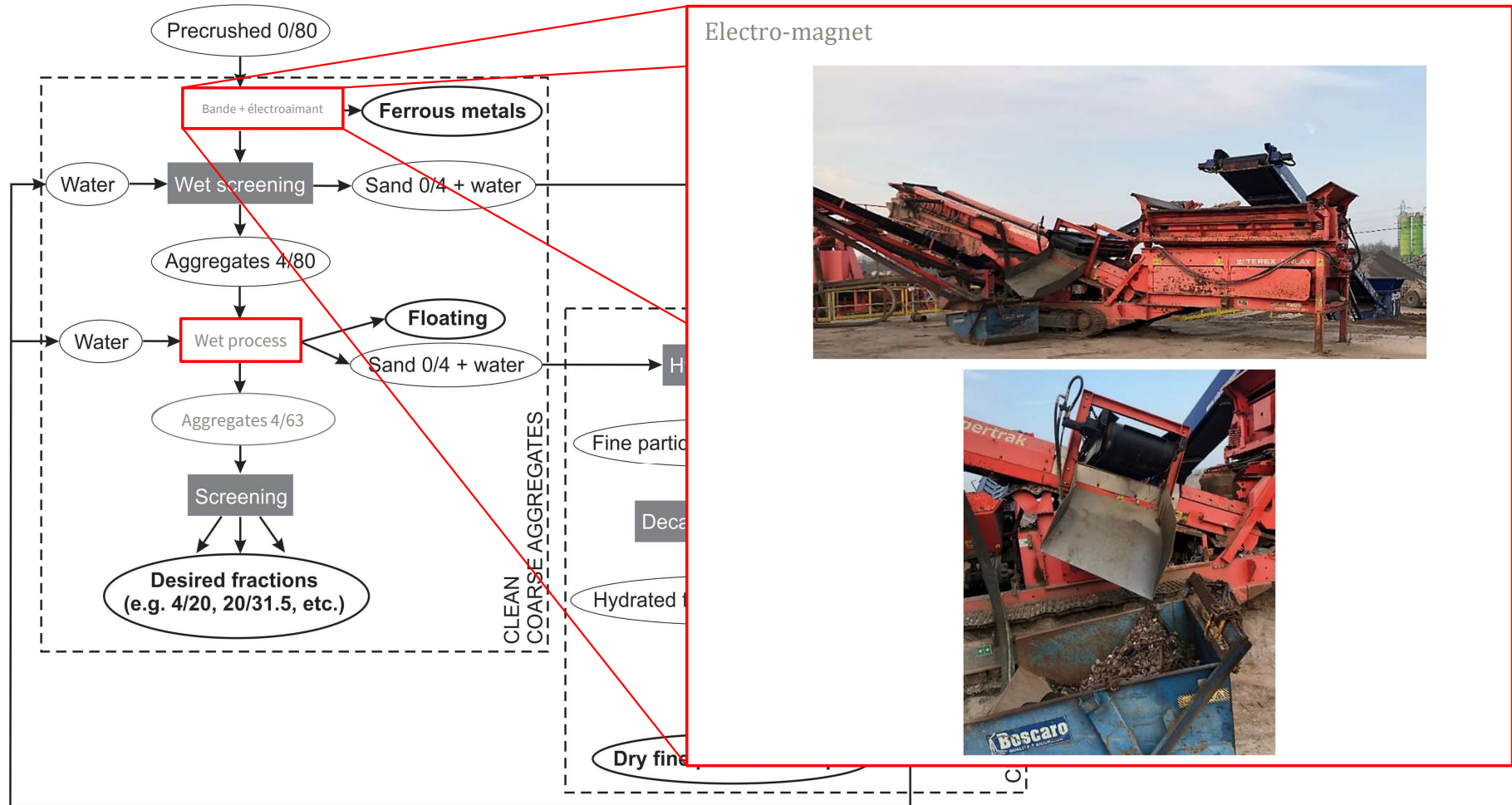
“SeRaMCo recycling plant” (Tradecowall)



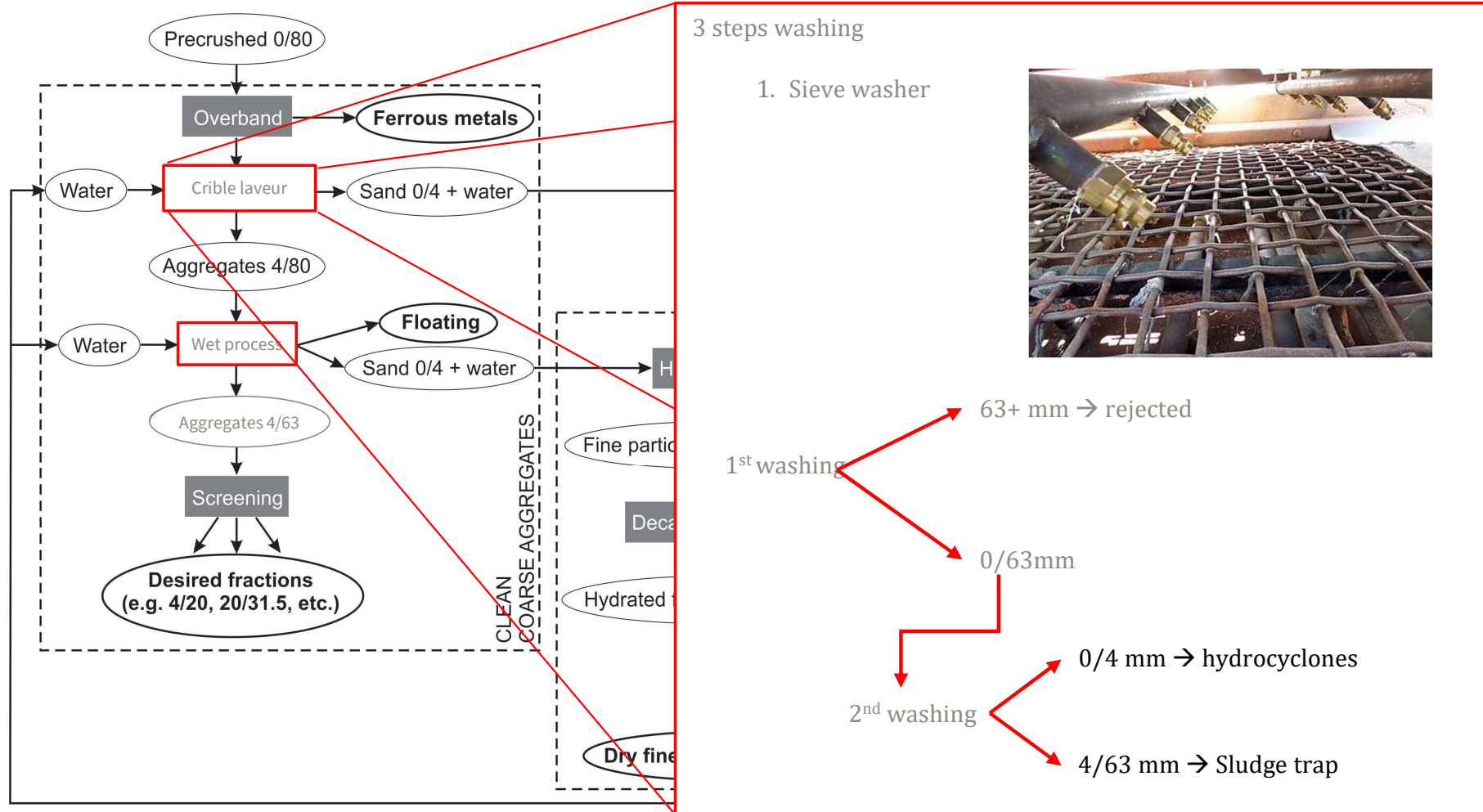
# Production of recycled aggregates



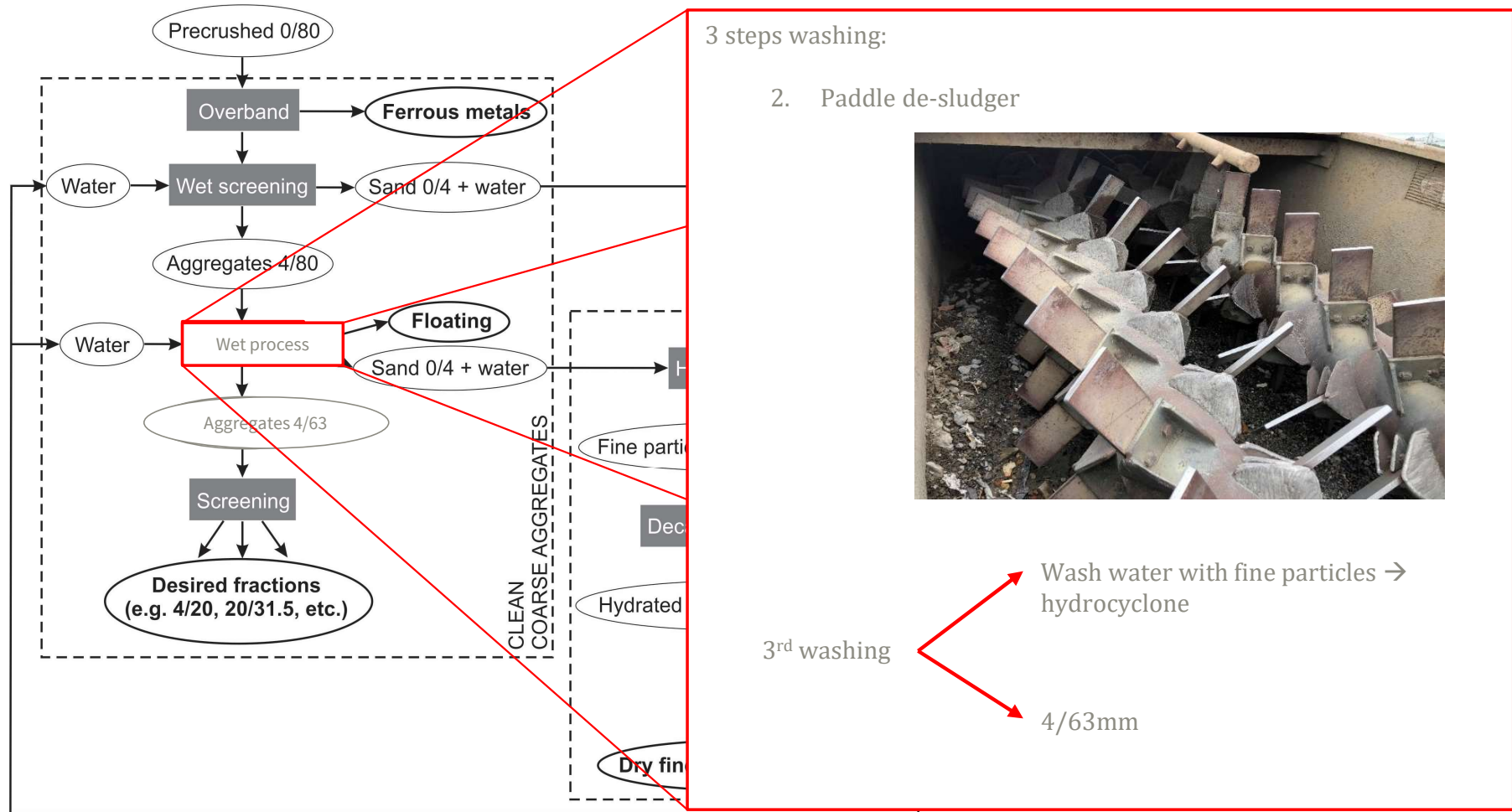
# Production of recycled aggregates



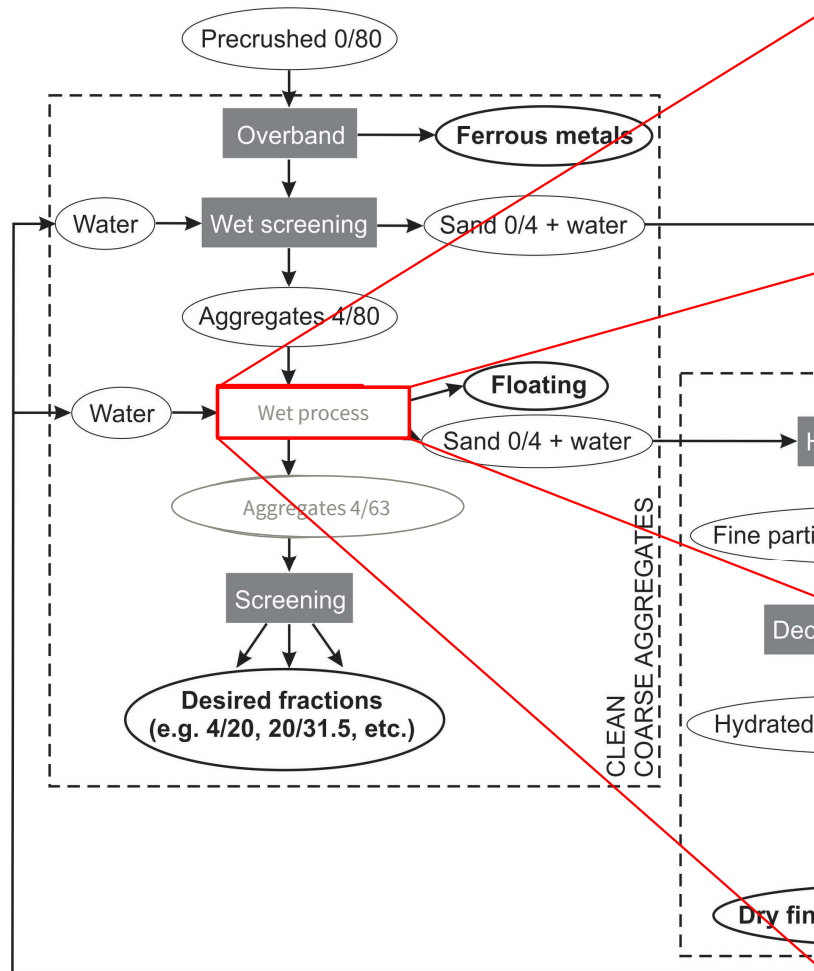
# Production of recycled aggregates



# Production of recycled aggregates



# Production of recycled aggregates



3 steps washing:

1. ...
2. ...
3. Mogensen screen flusher

The photograph shows a Mogensen screen flusher, a piece of industrial machinery used for washing aggregates. It features a large rotating drum with internal screens and water spray nozzles.

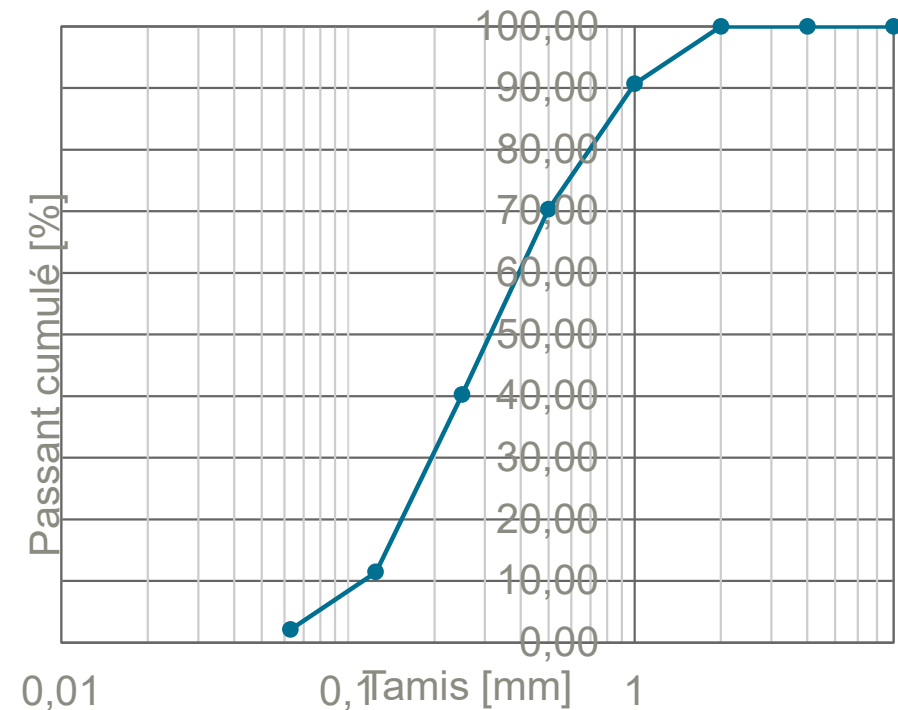
4<sup>th</sup> washing

- 0/4mm → hydrocyclone
- 4/63mm

# Production of recycled aggregates

Recycled concrete fine washed sand 0/4 (semi industrial screening process 0/2)

- Sieving curve → 2.5 % fines

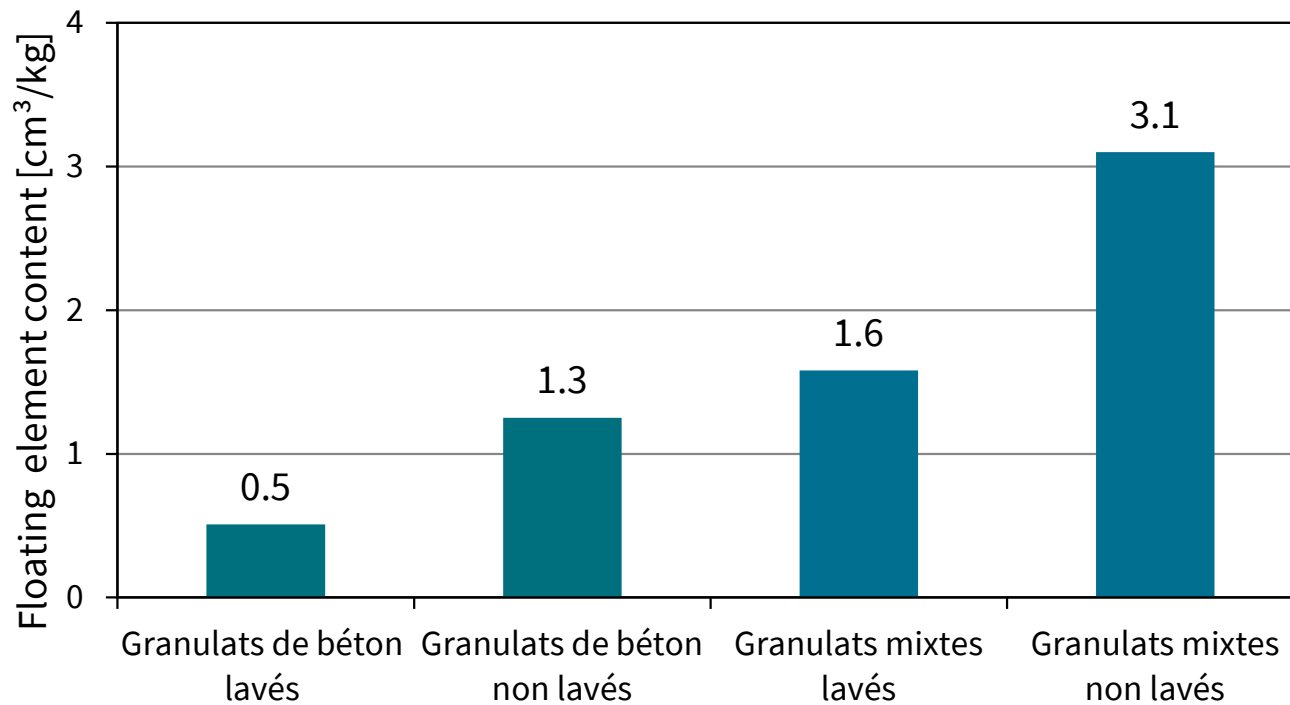




# Production of recycled aggregates

Recycled concrete fine washed sand 0/4 (semi industrial screening process 0/2)

- Floating particles → 50 % reduction



# Production of recycled aggregates

Recycled concrete fine washed sand 0/4 (semi industrial screening process 0/2)

- Other properties



	Water absorption [%]	Density [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Cement paste content [%]
Recycled sand 0/2	4.65	2230	2.83



# Properties of concrete blocks made with recycled concrete aggregates: from block wastes to new blocks

# Materials



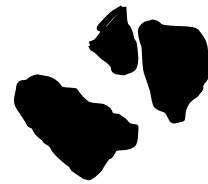
- ▶ RCA manufactured in laboratory
  - Old concrete from block wastes (C8/10 from Prefer Company)
  - Crushing (jaw crusher in laboratory, opening  $\approx 10\text{mm}$ )
  - Separation of RCA by sieving (0/20mm)
    - Four granular classes: 0/2 - 2/6.3 - 6.3/14 - 14/20



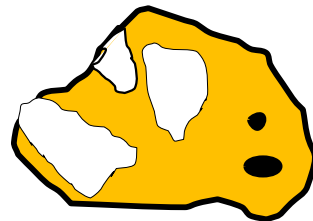


# Properties of RCA

- ▶ **Hardened Cement Paste Content (CPC) of RCA**
  - Principal soluble and insoluble phases in salicylic acid and methanol dissolution (*Zhao et al., 2013. Journal of Sustainable Cement-Based Materials 2,186-203*)



**Quartz, Dolomite, Calcite**  
**Insoluble** in salicylic acid



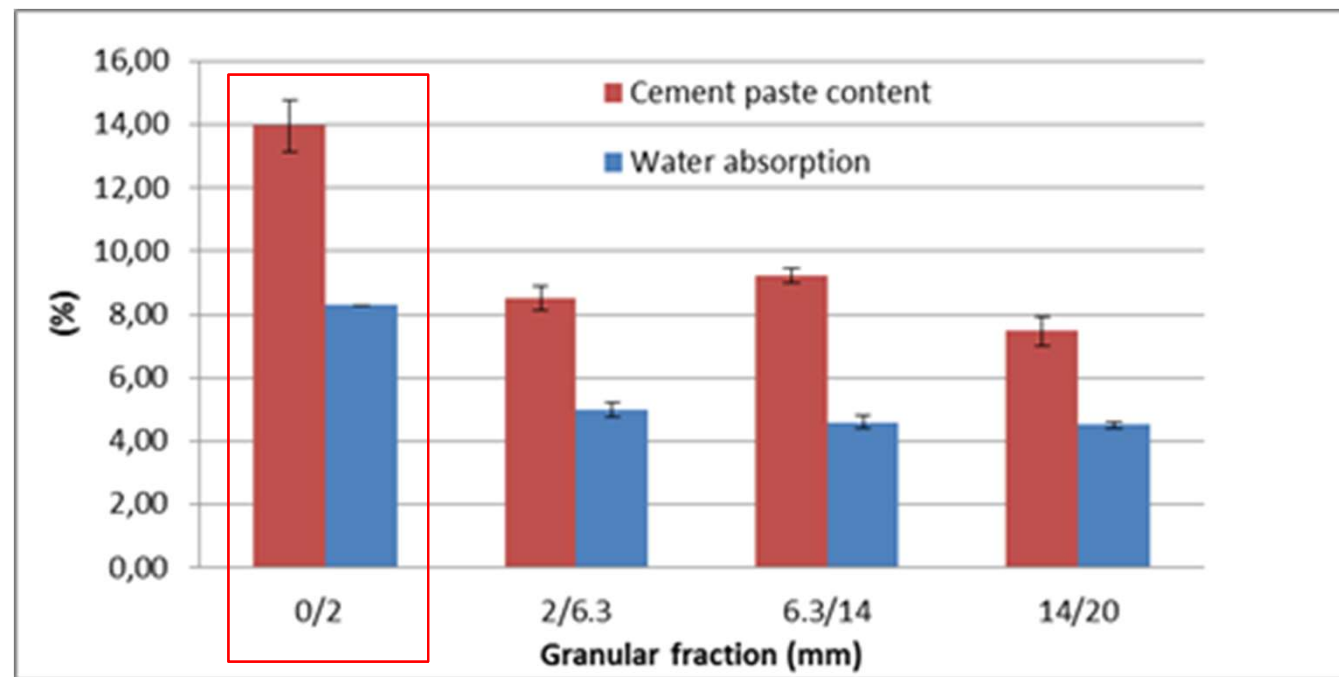
**$C_2S$ ,  $C_3S$ ,  $Ca(OH)_2$ , C-S-H, Ettringite**  
**Soluble** in salicylic acid

**Insoluble** in salicylic acid  
 **$C_4AF$ , AFm** → **CEM I**  
**Calcite, Slag...** → **CEM II, III**



# Properties of RCA

## ► Water absorption $W_A$ (EN 1097-6)



- CPC and  $W_A$  of 0/2mm fraction larger than three coarse fractions
- Recycled sand presents higher CPC and  $W_A$  than CRCA



# Materials

## ► Mix design

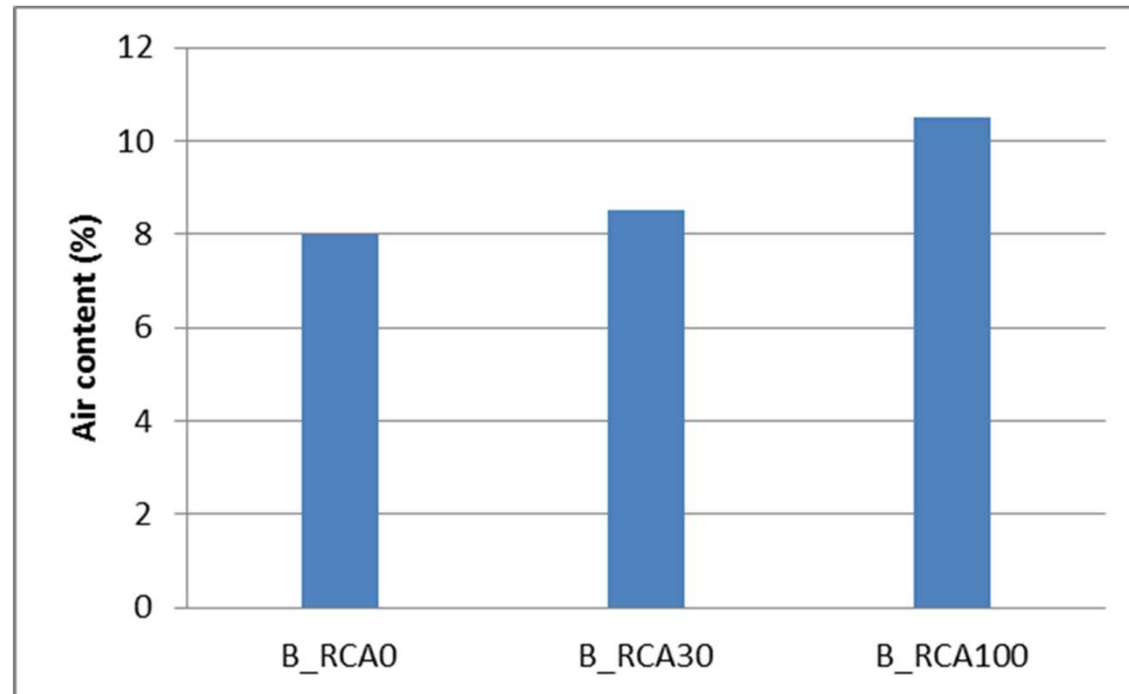
	<i>B_RCA0</i>	<i>B_RCA30</i>	<i>B_RCA100</i>
NA 2/7 (kg)	1080	754	0
RCA 2/6.3 (kg)	0	302	1008
NS 0/2 (kg)	825	825	825
Cement (kg)	150	150	150
Efficient water (kg)	105	105	105
Absorbed water (kg)	13.12	26.00	56.20
$W_{\text{eff}}/C$	0.70	0.70	0.70

- Different substitution rates of NA 2/7 by the same volume RCA 2/6.3 (0, 30, 100%)
- Same  $W_{\text{eff}}/C$  ratio - cement CEM III/A 42.5
- Pre-saturation of aggregates in the mixer **5 min** before the addition of cement by half of total water



# Properties

## ► Fresh properties of concrete (zero slump)



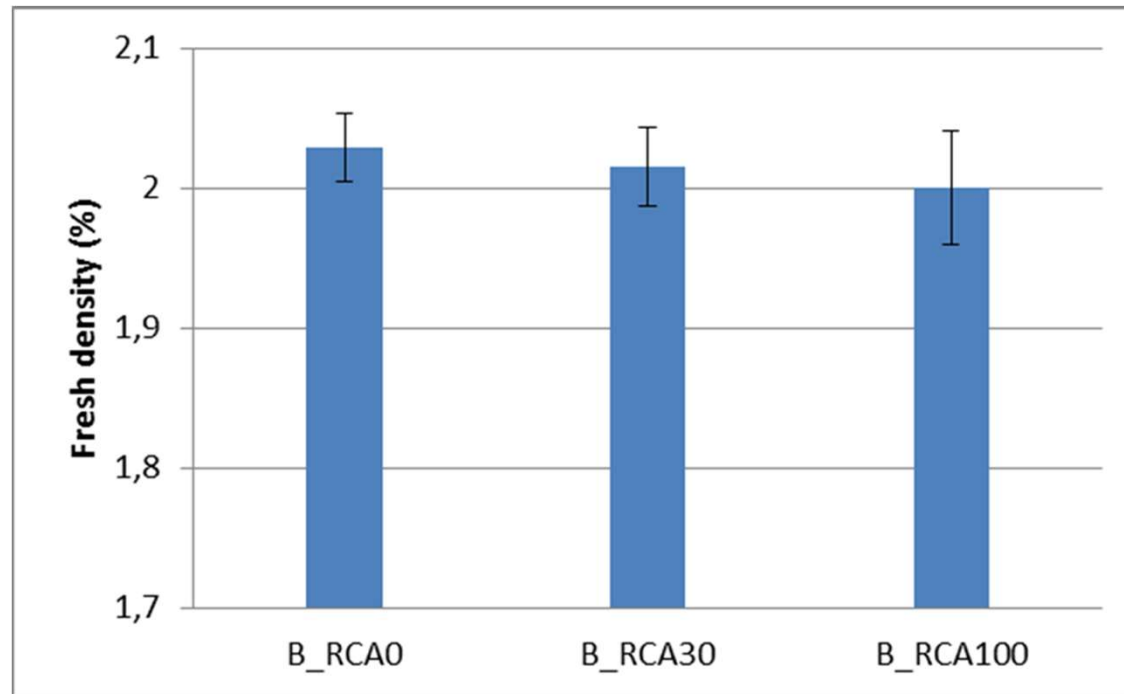
- The air content of concrete increases when the substitution of recycled aggregates increases





# Properties

## ► Density of fresh concrete

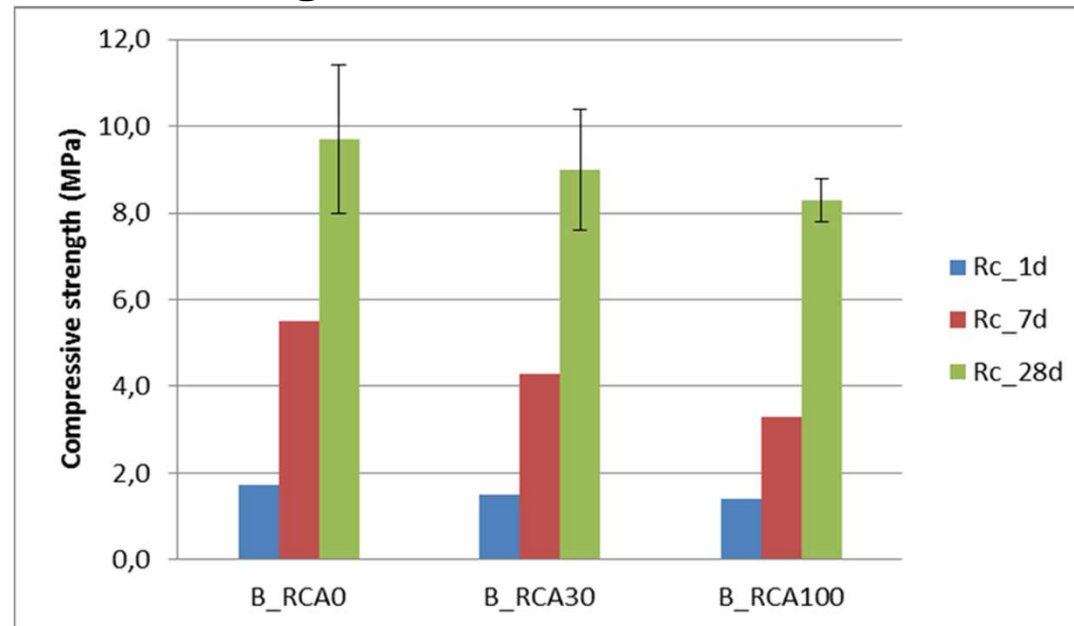


- The density of fresh concrete slightly decreases when the substitution of RCA increases



# Properties

## ► Compressive strength



- Compressive strengths of concretes with RCA are slightly lower than those of concrete with natural aggregate
- Compressive strength of concrete made with 100% RCA at 28 days is 8 MPa (14.4% decrease)



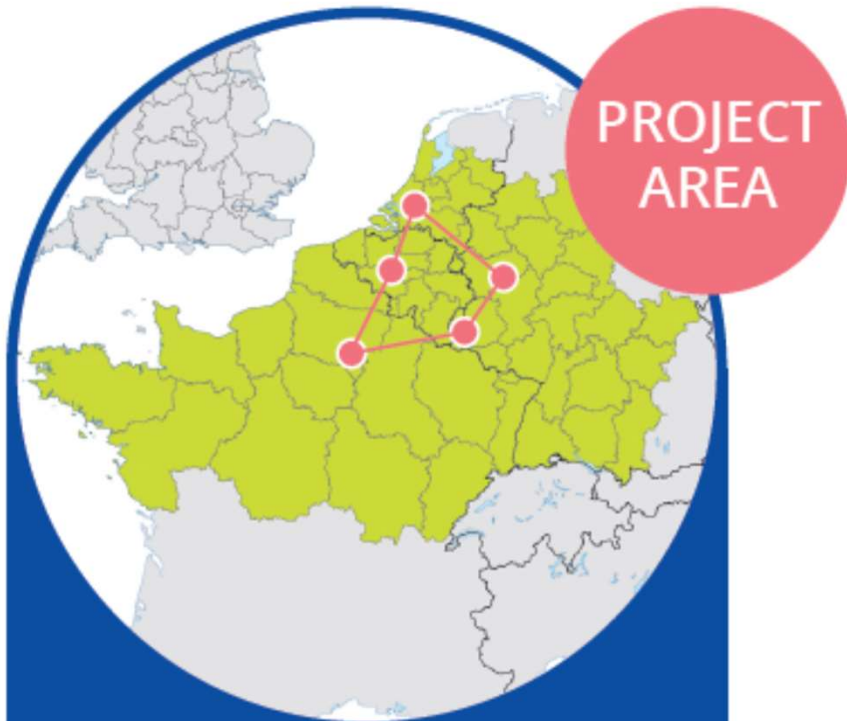
# Conclusions

- ▶ Feasibility of using RCA obtained from old concrete block wastes in the new concrete blocks
  - Recycled sand possesses significantly higher cement paste content and higher water absorption than coarse RCA
  - Compressive strength of concrete blocks slightly decreases as the substitution of RCA increases;
  - $R_c$  of B\_RCA100 could reach 8 MPa after 28 days without increasing the cement content of the concrete mix





# Construction and Demolition Waste: SeRaMCo project



**Duration**

March 2017 - September 2020

**Budget**

Total: € 7.28 million

EU funding: € 4.37 million

**Partnership:**

11 Partners

3 Sub-Partners

3 Associated Partners

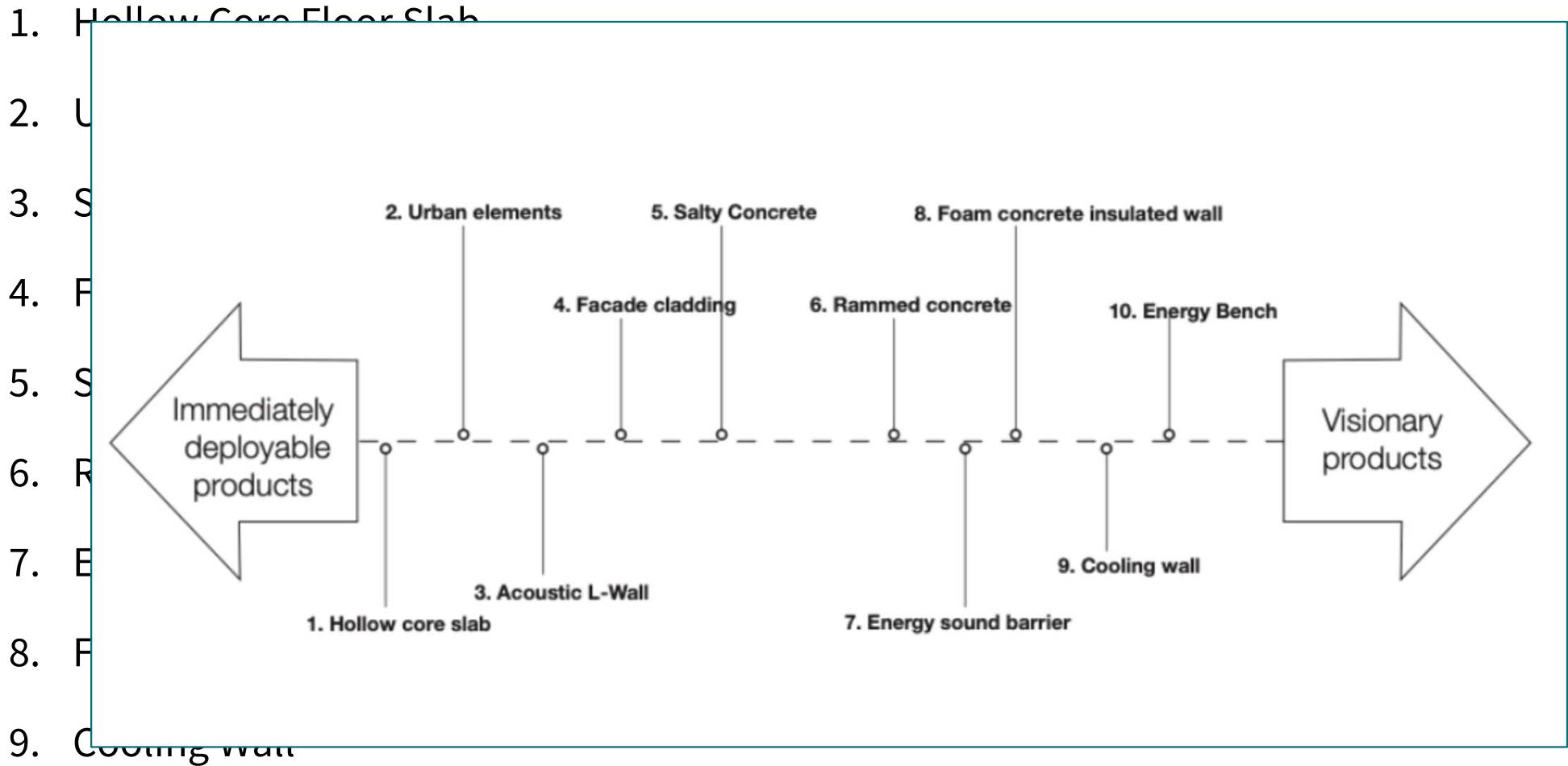
17 Partners from 5 EU countries (Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg)

**Objective:** prefabricated concrete elements with recycled concrete aggregates

# 10 Product designs

1. Hollow Core Floor Slab
2. Urban SeRaMCo Elements
3. Sound Absorbing L-Wall
4. Façade Cladding
5. Salty Concrete
6. Rammed Concrete
7. Energy Sound Barrier
8. Foam Concrete Insulated Wall
9. Cooling Wall
10. Energy Bench

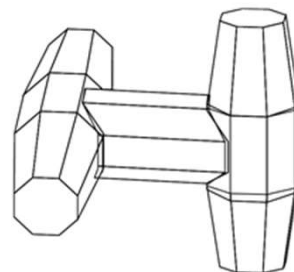
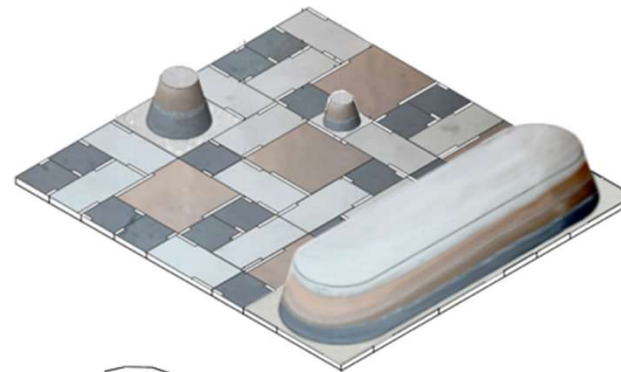
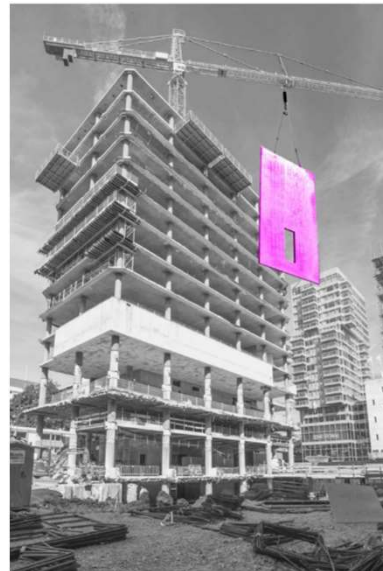
# 10 Product designs



10. Energy Bench

# 10 Product designs

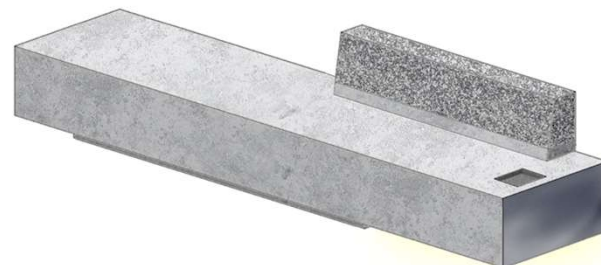
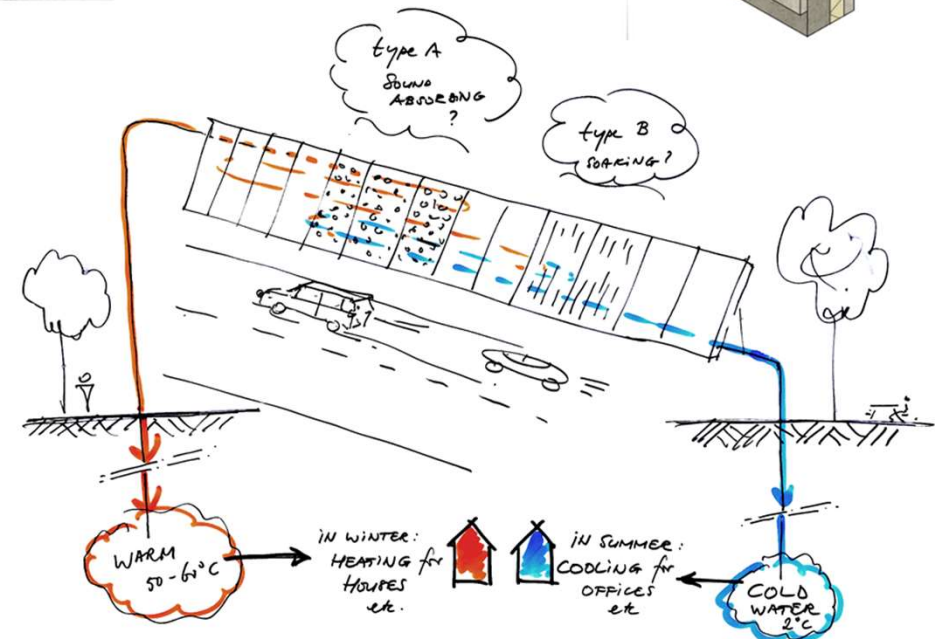
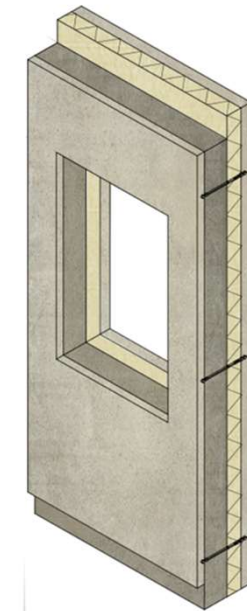
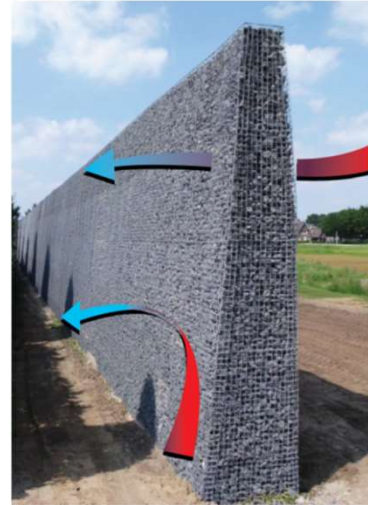
1. **Hollow Core Floor Slab**
2. **Urban SeRaMCo Elements**
3. **Sound Absorbing L-Wall**
4. **Façade Cladding**
5. **Salty Concrete**
6. **Rammed Concrete**
7. **Energy Sound Barrier**
8. **Foam Concrete Insulated Wall**
9. **Cooling Wall**
10. **Energy Bench**





# 10 Product designs

1. Hollow Core Floor Slab
2. Urban SeRaMCo Elements
3. Sound Absorbing L-Wall
4. Façade Cladding
5. Salty Concrete
6. **Rammed Concrete**
7. **Energy Sound Barrier**
8. **Foam Concrete Insulated Wall**
9. **Cooling Wall**
10. **Energy Bench**



# Parkour Park



# Parkour Park





# Construction and Demolition Waste: CiRMAP project



## Objective:

Circular economy via customisable furniture with Recycled Materials for public Places

## Partnership:

17 partners and sub-partners from 5 European countries :

- Germany
- Belgium
- France
- Netherlands
- United Kingdom



**Interreg NWE**

**Durée : 2020-2023**

**Budget : 4.22 M€ ERDF  
7.03 M€ total**

# CIRMAP project : challenges

3D printing:



Design opportunities



Environmental impact



Siam Research and Innovation Company - Triple S (2017)

# CIRMAP project: objectives

Design and production of 3D printed urban furnitures with recycled fine aggregates

THEMATIC PRIORITY



RESOURCE AND  
MATERIALS EFFICIENCY



# CIRMAP project: organization

WP T1	WP T2	WP T3
Material flow, market and life cycle analyses	Development of methodologies and process for the 3DP of mortars containing RFA	Industrial feasibility
 The image is split into two parts. The top part shows a large industrial pile of light-colored sand or cement under a clear blue sky, with conveyor belts visible. The bottom part shows a person's hands holding a large quantity of multi-colored Recycled Fine Aggregate (RFA) particles, which are small, dark, and angular.	 A vertical 3D printed mortar structure is shown. It has a textured, wavy surface and a hollow interior. A metal rod is inserted into the top of the structure.	 The top part of the image shows a robotic arm in a laboratory or industrial setting. The bottom part shows a 3D printed mortar component, which is a curved, wavy shape, resting on a grassy surface.





## Granular materials :

Natural sand:

- St Bonnet quarry natural sand (France)
- Crushed limestone sand
- Screened at 2 mm

Recycled Fine Aggregates (RFA):

- Tradecowall RFA – RECYMEX recycling plant at St-Ghislain (Belgium)
- Washed recycled concrete sand (95%+ concrete)
- Screened semi-industrially at 0/2 by the CTP

## Hydraulic binders :

Cement:

- Vicat cement: Performat®, CEM I 52.5 N

## Admixtures :

Liquid superplasticizer (SP):

- Chryso®Fluid Optima 100

Viscosity modifying admixture (VMA):

- Chryso Belitex® Addichap



**RFA mortar formulation** : developed and tested with IMT Nord Europe using the extrusion pistol method. This formulation had been successfully printed at the lab scale multiple times (see pictures below).

RFA 0/2 Tradecowall [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Vicat cement Performat CEM I 52.5N [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$E_{\text{eff}}/C$	SP [% SP/C]	VMA [% VMA/C]
995.6	905	0.29	2.50	0.2





**Reference mortar formulation** : developed to present similar rheology to the RFA (Tradecowall) mortar. The rheology was evaluated using the flow table test and slump test

The mortar is poured inside the conical mold. The mold is and the height of the mortar is measured using a caliper (slump test). The mortar is then subjected to 10, 15 and 25 jolts with the flow table (to a maximum of 25 jolts). After each sequence, the mortar's spread is measured using a caliper (2 perpendicular measurements are taken)



	Sand	Comment	Mean height after mold removal [mm]	Mean diameter after 10 jolts [mm]	Mean diameter after 15 jolts [mm]	Mean diameter after 25 jolts [mm]
#1	Natural crushed limestone sand	St-Bonnet Quarry 3 mixes tested	45.4	118.6	124.8	134.1
#2	Natural silica river sand	Rhine sand 1 mix tested	40.2	116.8	122.8	131.7
#3	Tradecowall RFA	Washed concrete RFA 3 mixes tested	43.4	120.8	128.0	139.1

The mortar mixed with the St-Bonnet crushed limestone sand presents closer rheological properties and has been chosen as reference mortar with the following formulation (same composition with less WAI24 water) :

Natural 0/2 crushed limestone sand [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Vicat cement Performat CEM I 52.5N [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$E_{eff}/C$	SP [% SP/C]	VMA [% VMA/C]
995.6	905	0.29	2.50	0.2



## Three points bending tests and compressive strength:

- NBN EN 196-1 :
- Tests at 2, 7, 28, 56 and 91 days
- 3 samples (4x4x16 cm) for each test
- Casted samples with 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity curing/water curing
- Casted samples with 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity curing
- Printed samples with 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity curing
- Reference mortar and Tradecowall RFA mortar

## Capillary absorption tests :

- NBN EN 13057
  - Samples were cured in water at  $T=20 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 28 days, dried in an oven at 40°C for 7 days, and stored in a controlled environment at  $T=20 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $\text{RH}=60 \pm 10\%$  for 7 days.
- NBN EN 480-5
  - Two sets of samples were stored directly in a controlled environment at  $T=20 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $\text{RH}=60 \pm 10\%$ , one set is for testing at 7 days old, and another set is for testing at 90 days old.
- Reference mortar and Tradecowall RFA mortar
- Casted and printed samples



## Porosity tests :

- NF P18-459
- Tests at 2, 7, 28, 56 and 91 days
- 3 samples (4x4x4 cm) for each test
- Casted samples with 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity curing/water curing
- Casted samples with 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity curing
- Printed samples with 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity curing
- Reference mortar and Tradecowall RFA mortar

## Drying Shrinkage:

- NF P18-427
- Tests measurement is frequent after demolding (every 2h) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, followed by the everyday measurement for 2 weeks.
- 3 samples (4x4x16 cm) for each test
- Casted samples with 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity curing
- Storing ambient is 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity
- Reference mortar and Tradecowall RFA mortar



## Direct tensile tests :

- NBN EN 1542
- Tests at 2, 7, 28, 56 and 91 days
- 3 samples (d=50 mm and h= 50mm) cores drilled for each test
- Only for the printed samples with 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity curing
- Only for Tradecowall RFA mortar



## Blending sequence (total duration: 15 min – Mixing paddle: Hook) :

No pre-saturation of the RFA

33% ( $W_{\text{eff}} + W_{\text{abs}}$ ) + 33% cement + 33% RFA

Blending

33% ( $W_{\text{eff}} + W_{\text{abs}}$ ) + 33% cement + VMA + SP + 33% RFA

Blending

33% ( $W_{\text{eff}} + W_{\text{abs}}$ ) + 33% cement + 33% RFA

Blending

Casted samples (4x4x16 cm prismatic samples are casted)



Printed samples (4x4x16 cm prismatic samples are extracted from S shaped printed éléments)





## **Samples casting (according to a method derived from standard NBN EN 196-1)**

Metallic molds are used, each mold presenting 3 prismatic indents

Each prismatic indent is half-filled with the mortar

The mold is fixed to a jolting table and the first mortar layer is compacted by applying 60 jolts

The other half is slightly over filled and 60 jolts are applied

The excess mortar is removed using a metal spatula

## **Samples conservation and curing**

Right after casting, the filled molds are stored at 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity. After 24 hours, the samples are demolded to recover the 4 x 4 x 16 cm prismatic specimens.

A set of prismatic specimens are stored at 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity and another set are stored directly in a room with 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity curing. They are kept in these conditions for the required duration before testing (2, 7, 28, etc. days).

## **Printed samples**

S shaped elements are printed at the IMT Nord Europe in Douai. The printed layer is around 6 cm wide and 1 cm thick. 6 layers are printed.

Two hours after printing, roughly 20 cm long segments are cut using a sharp metallic object (knife, ruler or trowel). They are covered with a plastic sheet and left to cure for the night.

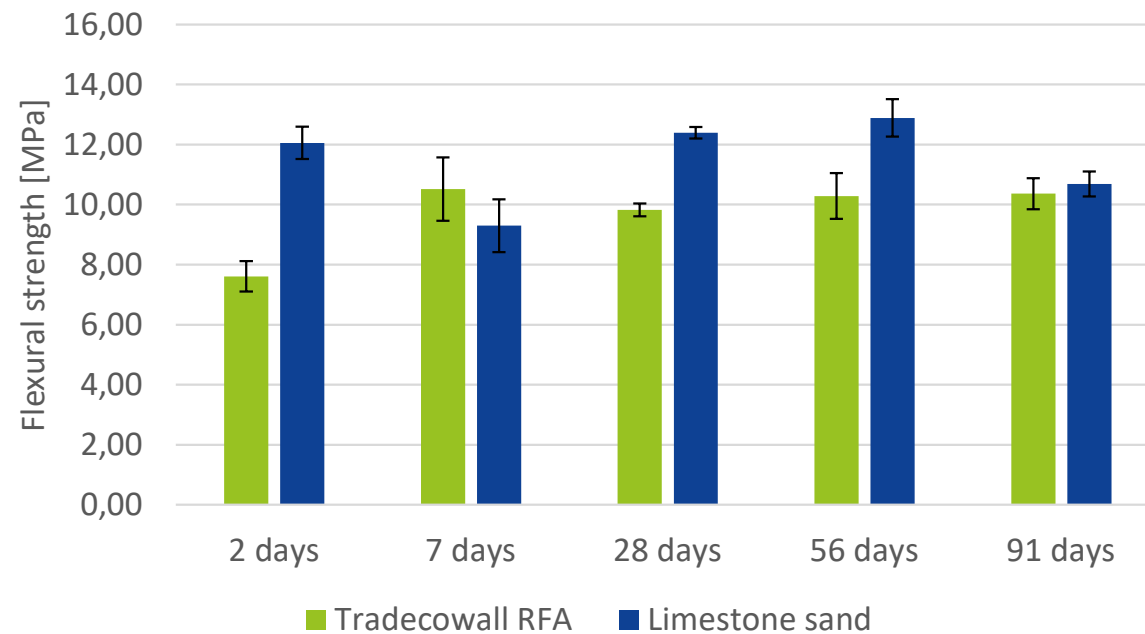
They are then transported to Liège in closed bags or covered with plastic sheets and stored at 20°C and 95±5% relative humidity. They are kept in these conditions for the required duration before testing (2, 7, 28, etc. days).





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

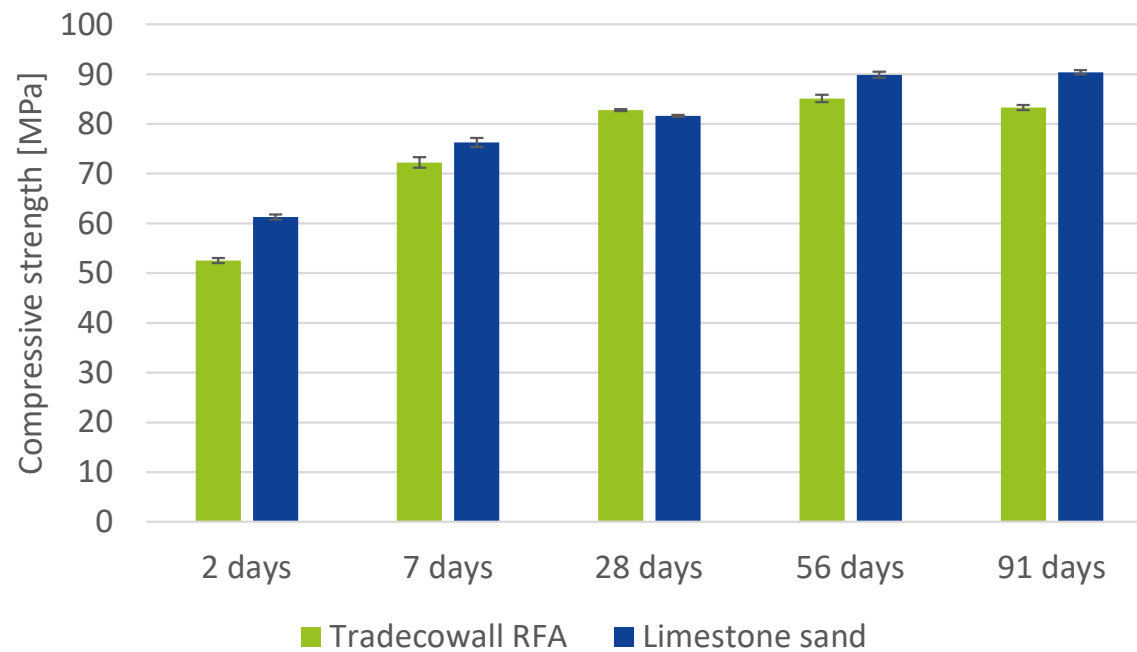
- Influence of the **type of sand** (natural crushed limestone sand vs concrete RFA)
- Flexural strength
- Water curing (20°C and 95±5% relative humidity)





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

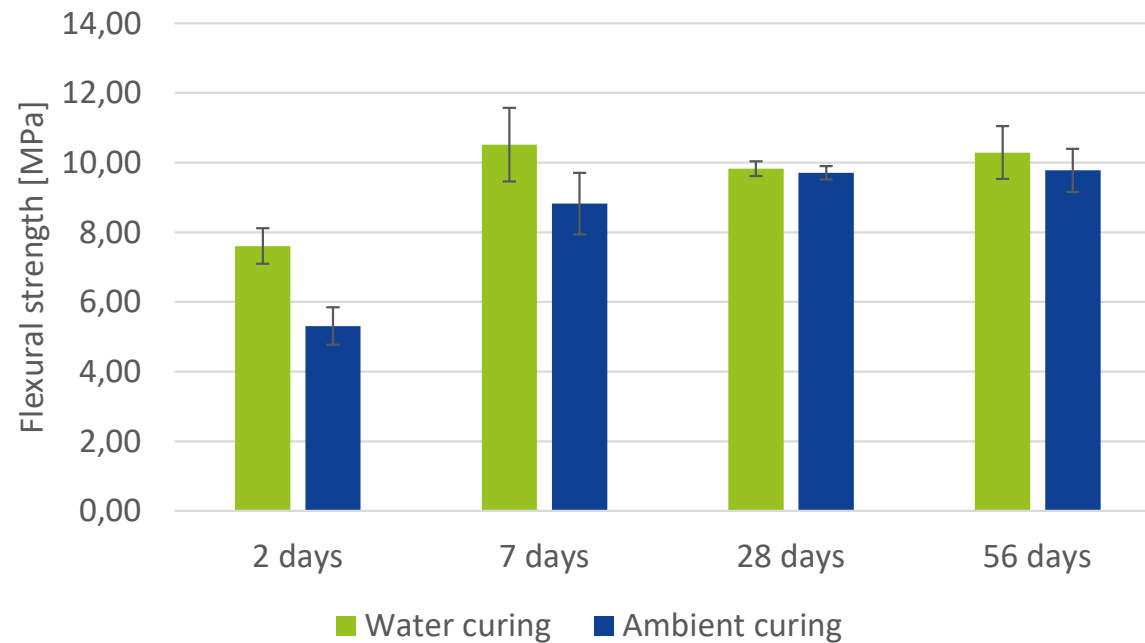
- Influence of the **type of sand** (natural crushed limestone sand vs concrete RFA)
- Compressive strength
- Water curing (20°C and 95±5% relative humidity)





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

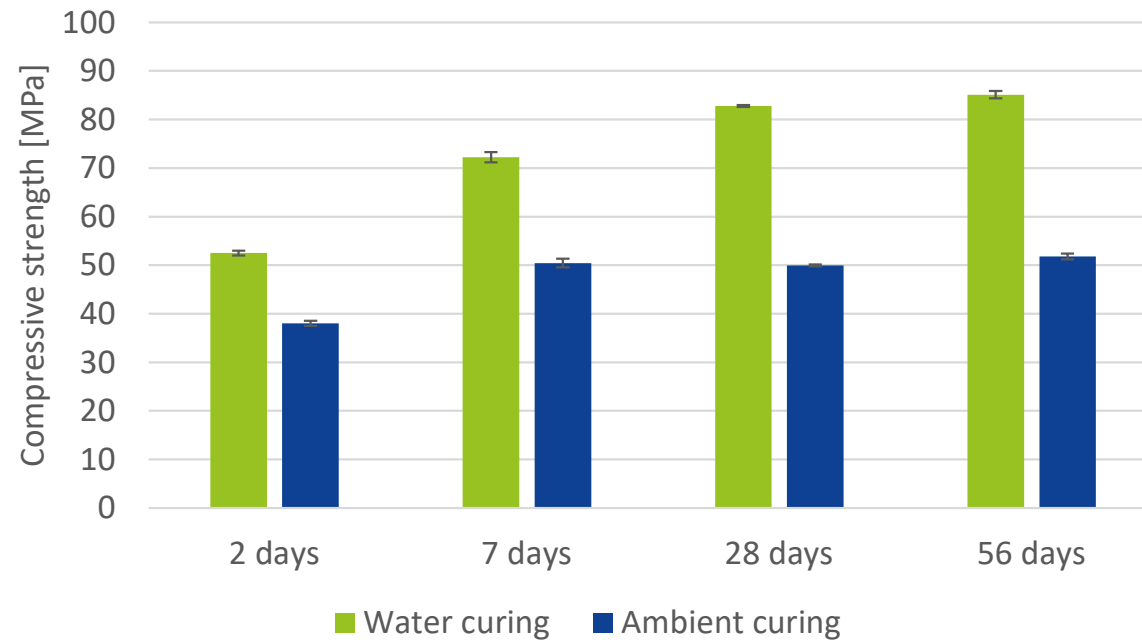
- Influence of the **curing conditions** (20°C and 95±5% relative humidity vs 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity)
- Flexural strength





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

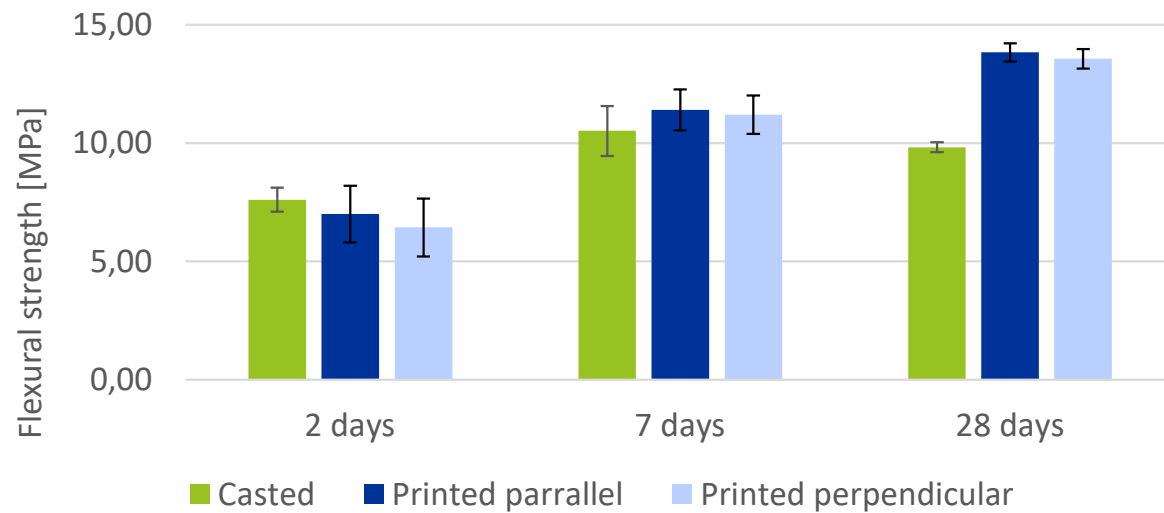
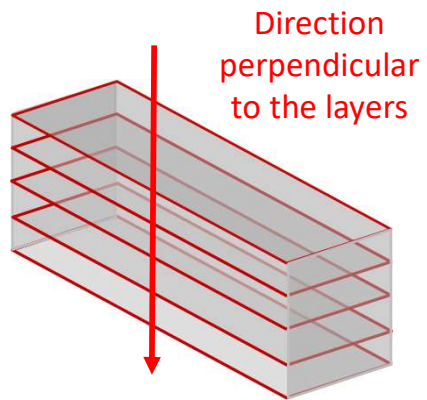
- Influence of the **curing conditions** (20°C and 95±5% relative humidity vs 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity)
- Compressive strength





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

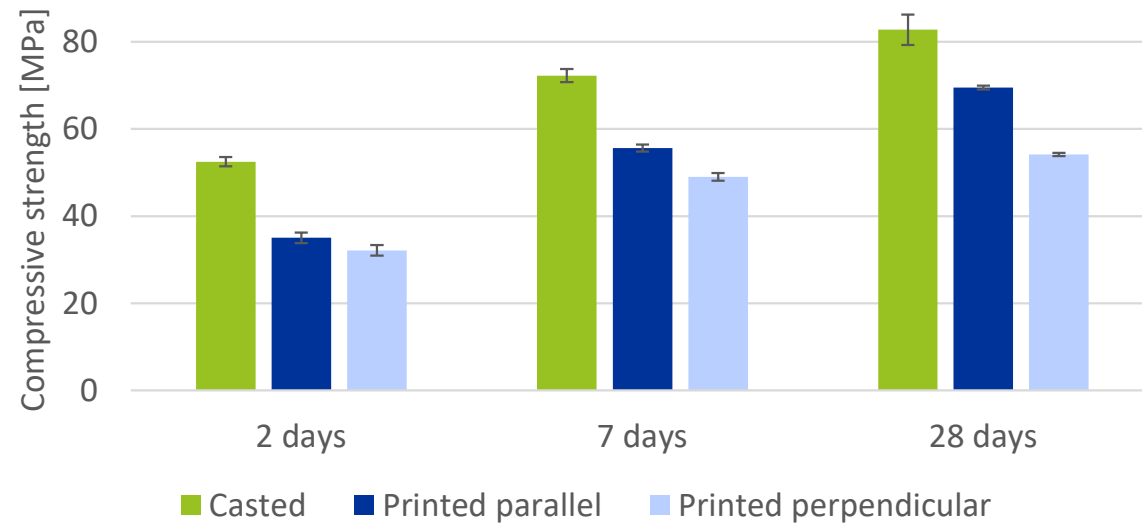
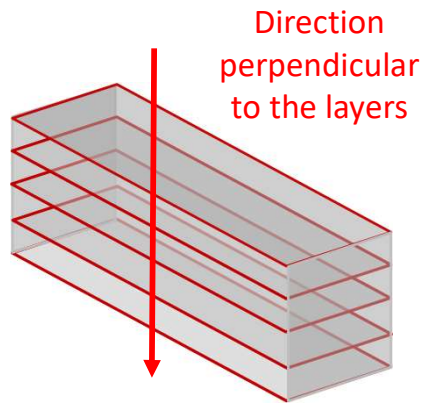
- Influence of the *printing process* (casted samples vs printed samples)
- Flexural strength





## Three points bending and compressive strength :

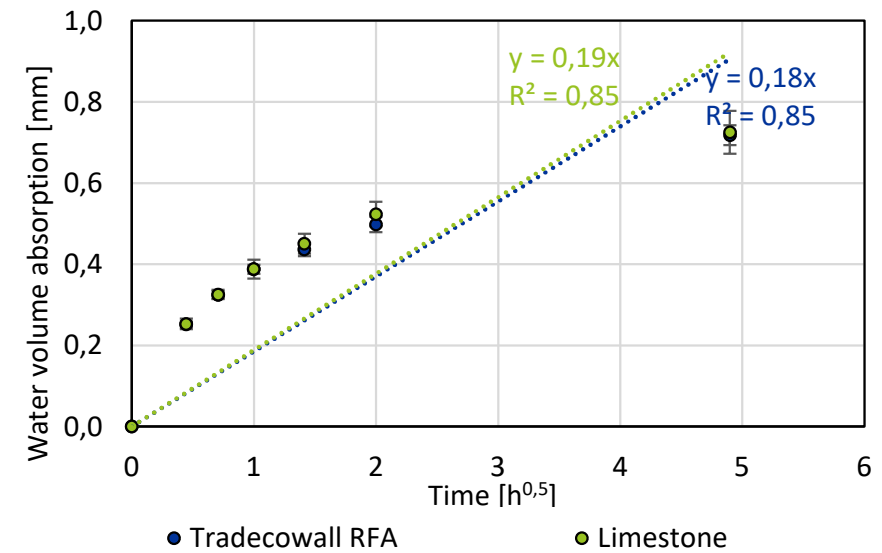
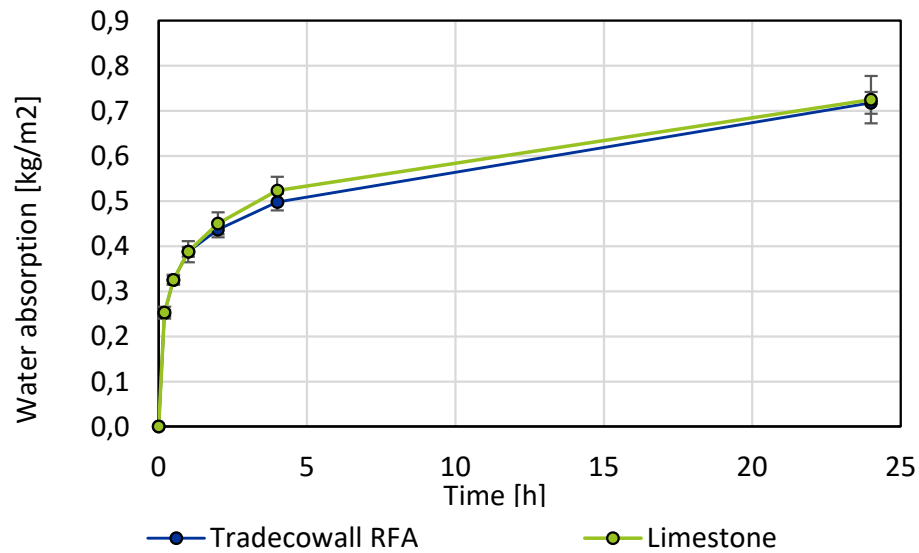
- Influence of the **printing process** (casted samples vs printed samples)
- Compression strength





## Capillary absorption tests NBN EN13057:

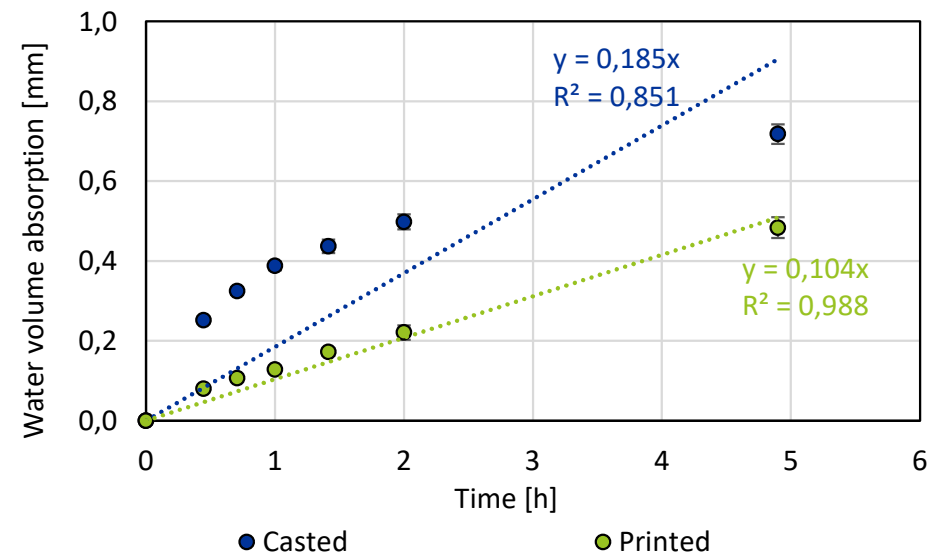
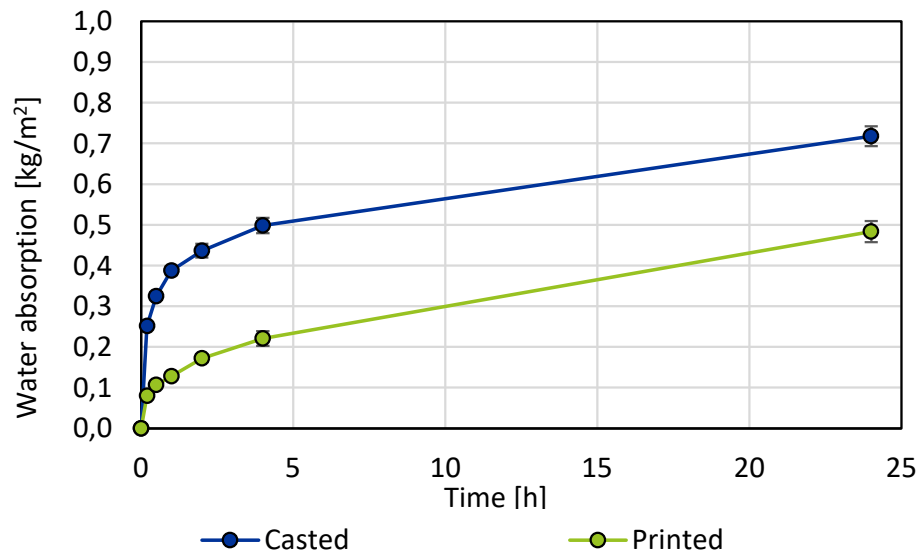
- Influence of the **type of sand** (natural crushed limestone sand vs concrete RFA)
- Water absorption in [kg/m<sup>2</sup>] and absorption coefficient [mm/h<sup>0,5</sup>]





## Capillary absorption tests NBN EN13057 :

- Influence of the **printing process** (casted samples vs printed samples)
- Water absorption [kg/m<sup>2</sup>] and absorption coefficient [mm/h<sup>0,5</sup>]

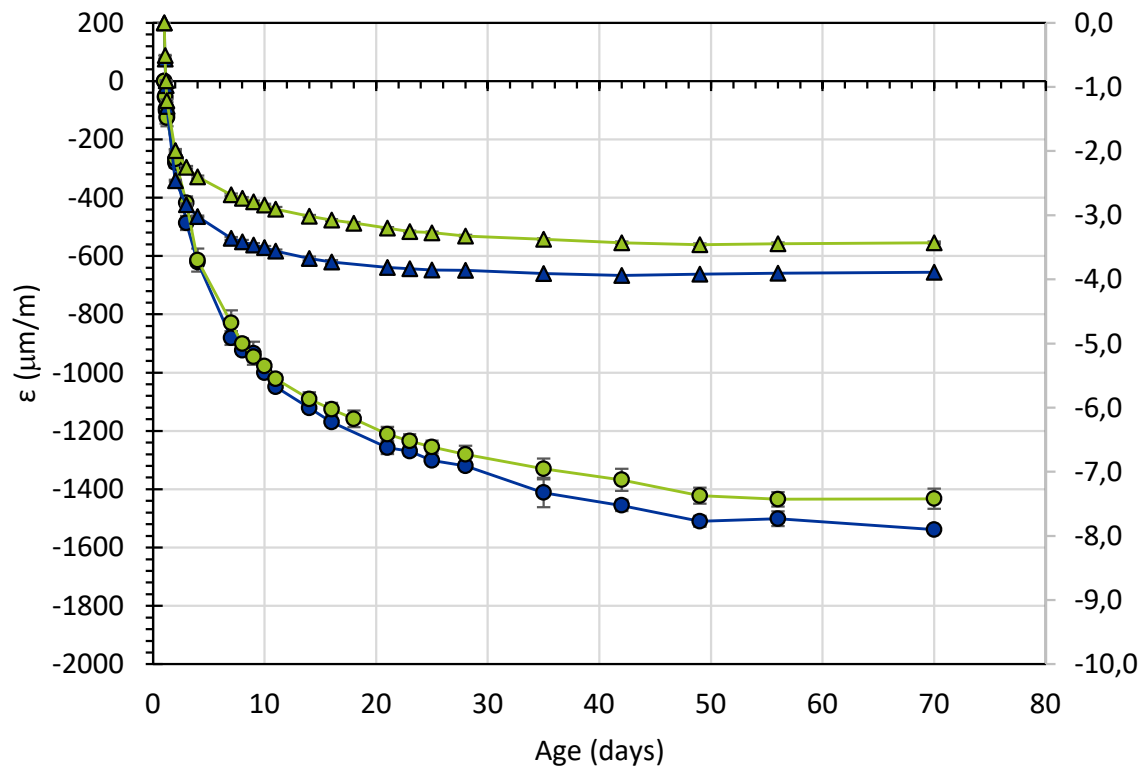






## Shrinkage measurements :

- Influence of the **type of sand** (natural crushed limestone sand vs concrete RFA)
- Shrinkage/ longitudinal deformation [ $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$ ] and mass loss [%]



● Shrinkage (Tradecowall RFA)    ● Shrinkage (Limestone sand)  
 ▲ Mass loss (Tradecowall RFA)    ▲ Mass loss (Limestone sand)

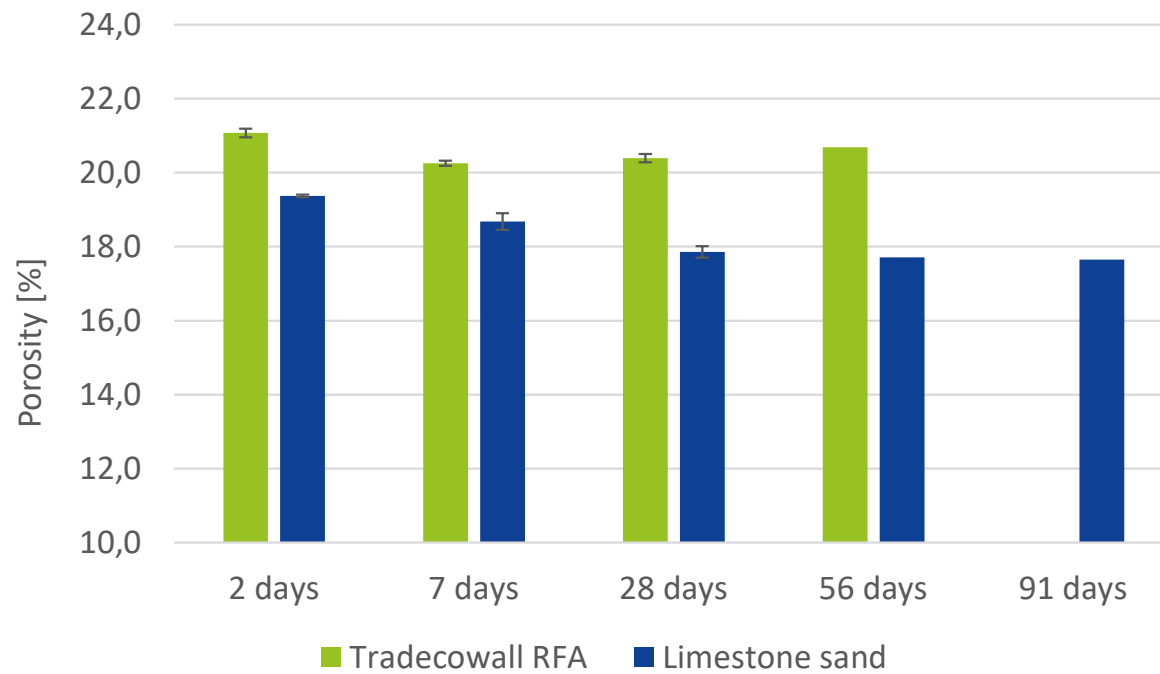
Sand type	Age [days]	$\epsilon$ [ $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$ ]	Mass loss [%]
Tradecowall	2	-279.8	-2.46
	7	-881.3	-3.36
	28	-1319.8	-3.86
	56	-1501.5	-3.90

Sand type	Age [days]	$\epsilon$ [ $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$ ]	Mass loss [%]
Limestone	2	-267.3	-1.99
	7	-829.0	-2.68
	28	-1280.1	-3.32
	56	-1434.6	-3.44



## Porosity:

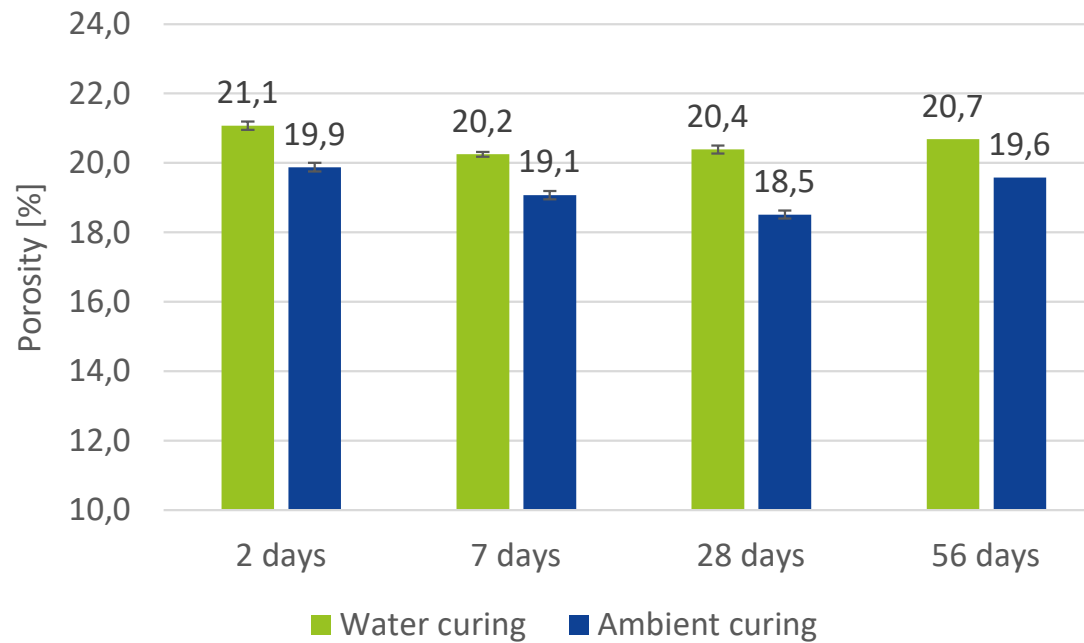
Influence of the **type of sand** (natural crushed limestone sand vs concrete RFA)





## Porosity:

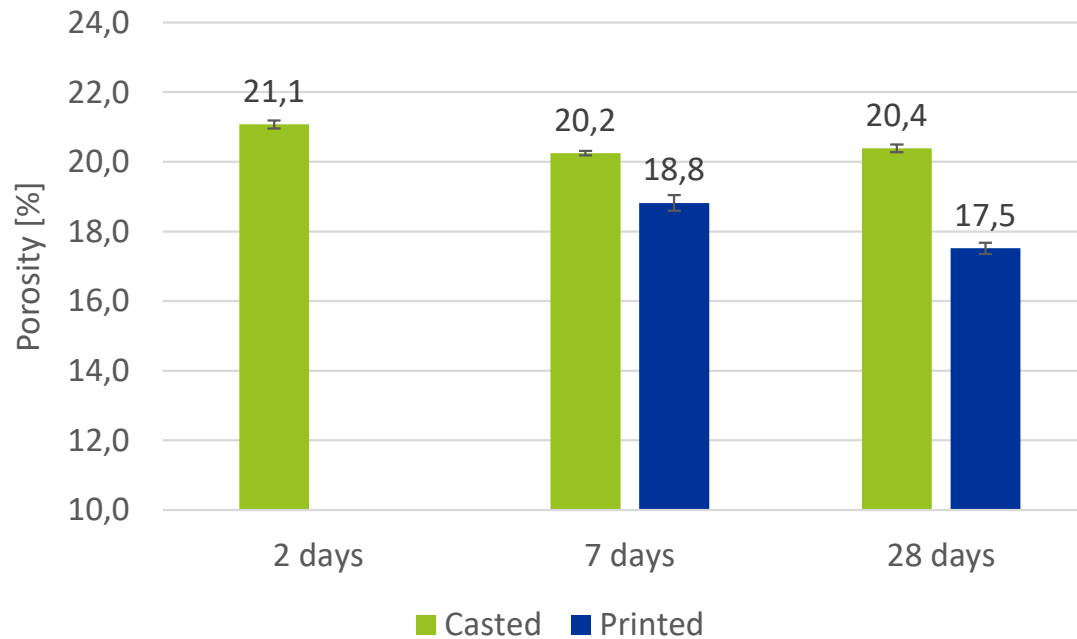
Influence of the **curing conditions** (20°C and 95±5% relative humidity vs 20°C and 60±5% relative humidity)





## Porosity:

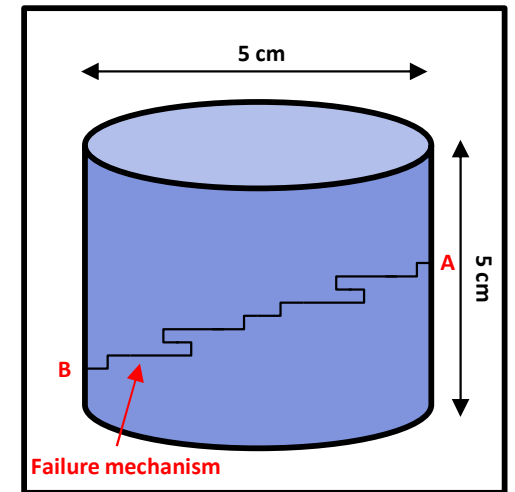
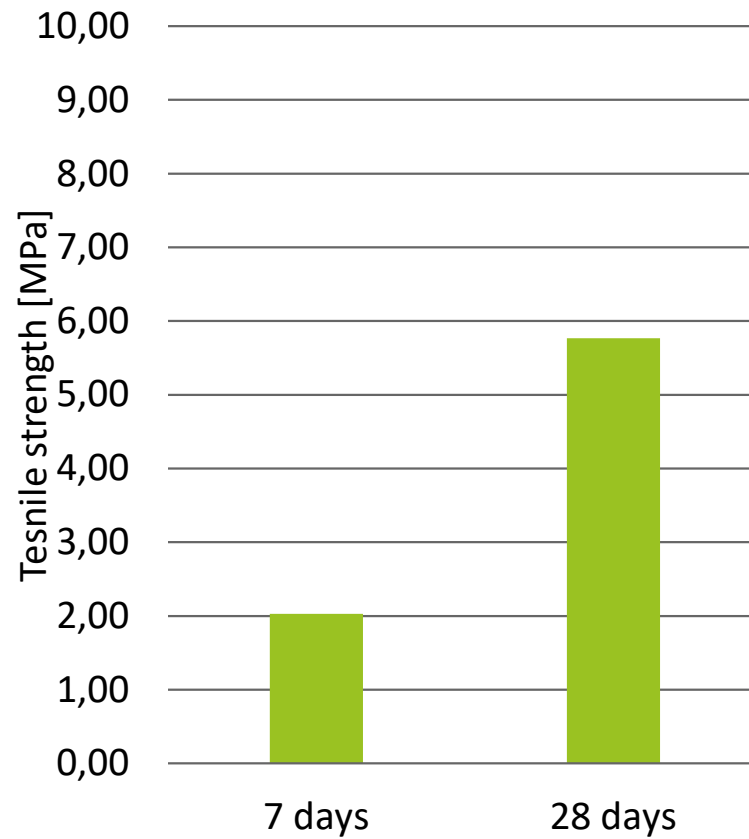
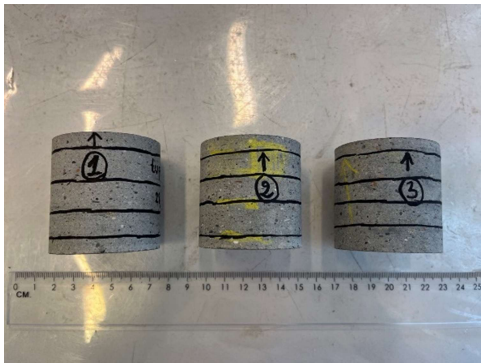
Influence of the *printing process* (casted samples vs printed samples)





## Direct tension test :

Layer adherence – potential delamination





## Influence of the type of sand

Small decrease of compressive strength (max 8%)

Decrease of flexural strength

Increase of the porosity > durability



Low impact because of the level of performances

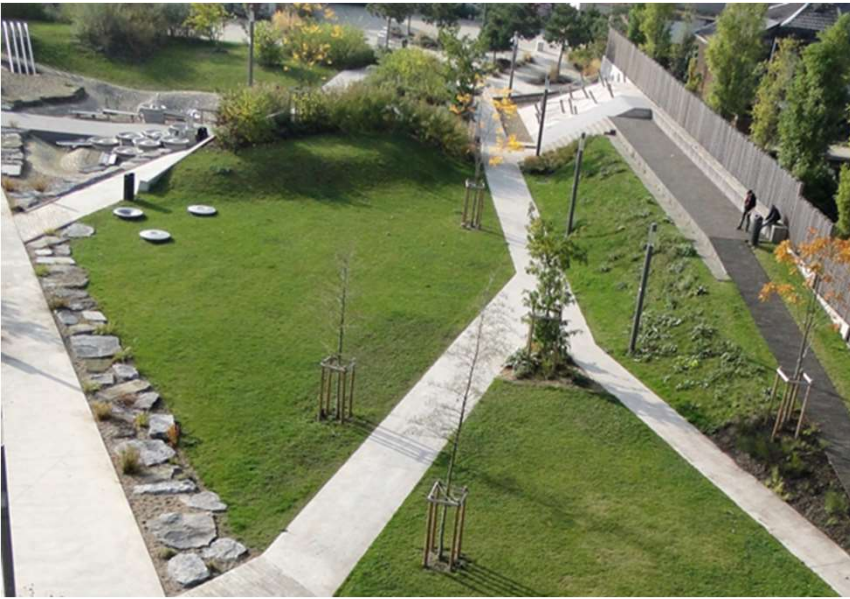
## Influence of the *printing process* (casted samples vs printed samples)

Major impact on strength when curing in ambient conditions due to lower hydration rate

3D printing: very homogenous material (more than expected)



## Urban furniture Bernard Serin park in Seraing





# Construction and Demolition Waste: other ongoing projects





# Other projects

- GreenWin ReMIND CARBOC (2022-2025): accelerated carbonation of municipal solid waste aggregates
- GreenWin ReMIND CIBER (2022-2026): prefabricated structural elements for cladding with recycled concrete aggregates
- GreenWin MonoCrete (2021-2024): very thick road concrete road structure with recycled aggregates and alternative binders
- GreenWin Mineral Loop (2021-2024): capture and sequestration of industrial CO<sub>2</sub> by mineral residues carbonation
- SARE4BE (2022-2024): valorization of recycled sands for concrete production
- BeXTRUS (2022-2024): 3D printing for refractory concrete
- Déchets-ressources. Prefabricated rammed concrete
- ARES CCD PRD HaBiMo – Bio-climatic and modular houses with compressed earth bricks in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)

# Conclusions

Prefabricated concrete



Rammed concrete



Parkour park



3D printing



Concrete blocks



# Recommendations

- ▶ Enhance public procurement through the introduction of **mandatory percentages** of recycled aggregates in large civil engineering projects;
- ▶ Develop reuse/reclaimed products programme of **support and promotion** (e.g. reuse percentage target);
- ▶ Introduce end-of-waste criteria for recycled products;
- ▶ **Develop standards for recycled materials** for various utilization for waste that did not meet end-of-waste criteria;
- ▶ Facilitate material content **traceability**;
- ▶ Introduce applications for recycled non-aggregates;
- ▶ Encourage the construction products and materials supply chain to have **much greater provision** for taking back and incorporating recycled materials into new products;
- ▶ Deploy **financial incentive** to use recycled aggregates.



# Acknowledgment (谢谢你)

- ▶ Tongji University
- ▶ CiRMAP INTERREG NWE project
  - “Circular economy via customisable furniture with Recycled MAterials for public Places” -  
[https://www.uee.uliege.be/cms/c\\_4843025/fr/cirmap](https://www.uee.uliege.be/cms/c_4843025/fr/cirmap)
- ▶ SeRaMCo INTERREG NWE project
  - “Secondary Raw Materials for Concrete Precast Products (introducing new products, applying the circular economy)” -  
<http://www.nweurope.eu/seramco>
- ▶ Wallonia Brussels International