

Xavier HUILLARD

CEO

https://www.vinci.com/vinci.nsf/en/sustainable-development/pages/biodiversity.htm

VINCI'S INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENTS IN actanature

Vinci designs, finances, builds and operates transport infrastructure and public facilities, which help improve daily life and mobility for all.

However, the group's companies conduct operations that have an impact on the natural environment, which needs to be considered right from the moment buildings and infrastructure are designed.

The priority to protect biodiversity is fully integrated into Vinci's business, especially when it comes to operations in quarries, transport infrastructure and building maintenance. As a result, the group formally signed up to France's National Biodiversity Strategy in 2012. Protecting biodiversity within Vinci's operations means the group has to adapt its methods and procedures across the entire life cycle of the infrastructure and buildings. This commitment is driven by a network of in-house specialists and external partners, such as the Ligue de Protection des Oiseaux (LPO, the French society for the protection of birds) and the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN, the natural history museum in France). It applies both in France and abroad.

Our commitment over the coming years are split across five actions.

Action n°1

Improving knowledge in biodiversity.

Group's companies have fully incorporated biodiversity protection into their activities. Thus, they have conducted environmental inventories and diagnoses, which comply with and go beyond regulatory requirements

Furthermore, for the last 10 years, Vinci has been involved in primary and applied research in this area led by Agro Paristech as part of the Chair for Eco-design of buildings and infrastructure.

Vinci is committed to:

• Taking part in experimenting new methods to monitor species within existing ecosystem restoration operations (offsetting measures, limitation strategies, etc.).

• Monitoring indicators related to biodiversity challenges specifically developed as part of VINCI's operations, as well as consolidating data for all subsidiaries within the group and setting multi-annual targets both in France and abroad. Sharing the indicators developed within the business lines, like the EQI indicator developed by Eurovia's quarry business.

• Continuing to update and create best practice feedback forms throughout the group, in particular on projects outside France.

• Supporting and developing the work of the Vinci/Paris-Tech Eco-Design Chair on taking biodiversity into account in development projects led by Agro Paristech, in particular in matters relating to ecological compensation, urban biodiversity and urban agriculture

Action n°2

Helping to share knowledge and best practice to protect biodiversity.

Vinci firmly believes in the importance of sharing feedback and knowledge among the Group and the industry.

Vinci is committed to:

• Integrating nature data collected through development projects into public data bases, both in France and abroad

• Sharing and promoting methods to monitor species across the group and with external partners

• Developing the practice of inviting the public onto the group's worksites and infrastructure to highlight issues relating to the protection of biodiversity

• Developing and sharing internal data management tools (e.g creation of a geographical IT system cataloguing the available ecological surveys carried out by Vinci companies across their scopes. Focusing on analysing Big Data collected by monitoring biodiversity in and around infrastructure sites

• Continuing to facilitate the group's in-house community of experts (technical days, corporate social network and working groups), increasing its visibility in order to meet the internal and external needs in matters regarding biodiversity.



Action n°3

Training and raising awareness among all employees on the matter.

Vinci companies have created a number of modules to train employees and raise their awareness about the importance of protecting biodiversity.

Vinci is committed to:

 Continuing and developing the biodiversity training and awareness raising campaigns established in the group's companies at all levels of management.

Developing training and awareness raising campaigns for our partners on methods and best practice relating to ecological engineering.

 Involving stakeholders in the training and awareness raising campaigns carried out and raising awareness among employees around the particular challenges of working with stakeholders on projects to protect biodiversity.

• Clarifying and distributing signage specifically focusing on challenges relating to biodiversity on worksites and the group's operations.

Action n°4

Developing new solutions in order to integrate biodiversity challenges into the group's business and operations.

Vinci companies are working on actively integrating biodiversity challenges into their operations, which drives them to develop specific techniques, methods and tools to reduce their environmental impact.

Developing the start-up Urbalia (a partnership between Agro Paristech and Vinci) has helped to include biodiversity considerations right from the design phase of development projects in and around city centres.

It has also made it possible to encourage clients to review their building and infrastructure projects in order to integrate elements promoting biodiversity. The group's companies have also enhanced their expertise in ecological engineering, in particular for Eurovia and for Vinci Construction Terrassement under the Equo Vivo brand. The investments made in infrastructure regeneration work is going a long way to develop the industry and expertise.

Since 2010, Vinci Autoroutes has invested over €150 million in this area, making it one of the main ecological engineering programme managers in France for ecological restoration projects.

Vinci is committed to:

• Promoting these solutions and developing the resources devoted to research and innovation on the projects. Developing partnerships around ecological engineering solutions, in particular with companies specialised in professional integration and innovative companies

• Strengthening the measures to combat pollution, especially light pollution in the infrastructure and buildings it operates

• Reducing the use of plant protection products in both the construction and operations business of the companies within the group

• Encouraging sub-contractors and suppliers to adopt biodiversity friendly methods (supplying locally grown plants, adapted construction and sanitation methods to certain environments, etc.).

Action n°5

Strengthening partnerships established with stakeholders in this area.

The group companies are working with local stakeholders throughout the design, construction and operation phases of projects in order to avoid and reduce their impact as much as possible.

They are also involved with many think tanks and decision-making bodies on the subject of biodiversity in France, (FRB, U2B club, CILB, special commissions within the FNTP, EGF BTP, etc.), which enables them to enhance knowledge and expertise among companies within the industry.

Vinci is committed to:

• Systematically involving experts from outside the group (organisations, consultancy firms, start-ups, teaching and research centres, etc.) in the implementation of measures to promote biodiversity.

• Involving these partners in the biodiversity training rolled out throughout the group to instil a culture of dialogue and consultation.

• Continuing and strengthening the presence of think tanks and local, national and international professional networks in order to communicate best practices among players in the construction industry.

All of these commitments are monitored for the purposes of the annual report and are subject to verification by a third party.



photo credit: Richard Nourry / Vinci