# Water stewardship in the cement sector

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Why water stewardship?

Case of study

What's next?

# Who we are?





Grinding facilities Ports / terminals

#### Central America and the Caribbean Region

<b>1</b>	6
Cement plant	Grinding facilities
14	<b>11</b>
Concrete plants	Ports / terminals

Argos is a cement, concrete and aggregates producer headquartered in Colombia and with operations across the country, Central America, the Caribbean region and **United States** 

# Why water stewardship?



#### Top 3 water risks in terms of impact





# Why water stewardship?

ARGOS

Proper water stewardship means taking care of a resource that does not belong to us and is needed for the daily life of neighboring communities and our operations. By carefully taking care of this resource, **we ensure long-term business viability and availability for stakeholders near our operations.** 

# Our goals: Water (L/t cement) 408 455 2016 2025

Water (L/m <sup>3</sup> concrete)	
235	216
2016	2025



#### **Consumption reduction:**

- Measurements
- Reduction plans

#### Water risk management

• Through the identification, evaluation and management of such risks.



# **Case of study**



- Measure and reduce the water footprint
- Promote the responsible use of water in surrounding communities
- Support the dissemination of the concept of water footprint



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



#### **Case of study -** Do we really are expose to water risks?









**Dam capacity** 1,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>

Water availability 224,000 m<sup>3</sup>

Average water withdrawal 300,000 m<sup>3</sup>



#### **Case of study -** Cleaning out the house



#### **Case of study – Evolution timeline**



#### **Case of study -** Reductions







#### Specific water consumption I/t cement (Blue water footprint)



#### Water Withdrawal m<sup>3</sup>

1.9



#### How to go beyond Water issues should How to make water an environmental be monetized risks visible? issue? Water Water must be management as an recognized as an economic good is a economic good. way to achieve Otherwise it has efficient use and led us to misuse United Nations 1992 promote its this resource. principle No.4 conservation.

#### **Case of study – Water Economic Valuation**



In 2016 the withdrawn water was 108,138 m3 less than the previous year which means savings of USD \$32,000

Almost 3 times the original investment

### Case of study -True cost of water











# What is next?







Through our water management strategy, we contribute to preserve the quantity, quality, and availability of this valuable resource for the ecosystem as well as neighboring communities.