



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES PRODUCTEURS DE GRANULATS
EUROPÄISCHER GESTEINSVERBAND
EUROPEAN AGGREGATES ASSOCIATION**

The European Aggregates Association

Ensuring sustainable access to resources within Europe

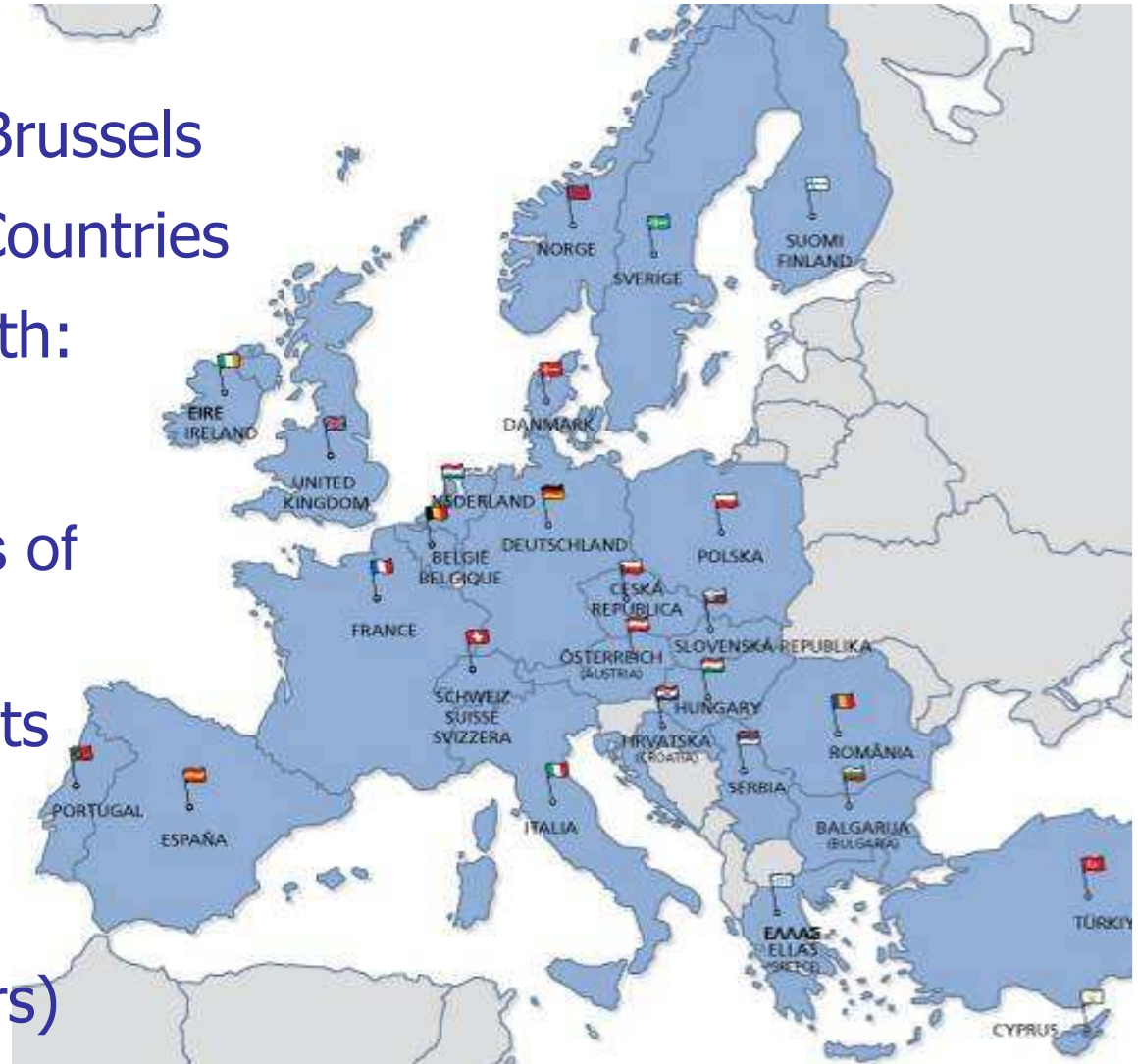
Dirk Fincke, Public Affairs Manager

**European Economic and Social Committee – Mini Hearing
Brussels, 28 April 2011**



Introduction to UEPG

- UEPG created in 1987
- General Secretariat in Brussels
- Now with 26 Member Countries
- Represents Industry with:
 - Sales of ~€20 billion
 - Over 3 billion tonnes of aggregates per year
 - 24,000 quarries & pits
 - 16,000 companies
 - 300,000 employed (including contractors)



Access to resources remains a political challenge

- Three pillars of the 2008 Raw Materials Initiative remain but are now headed by 10 pages addressing commodity markets.



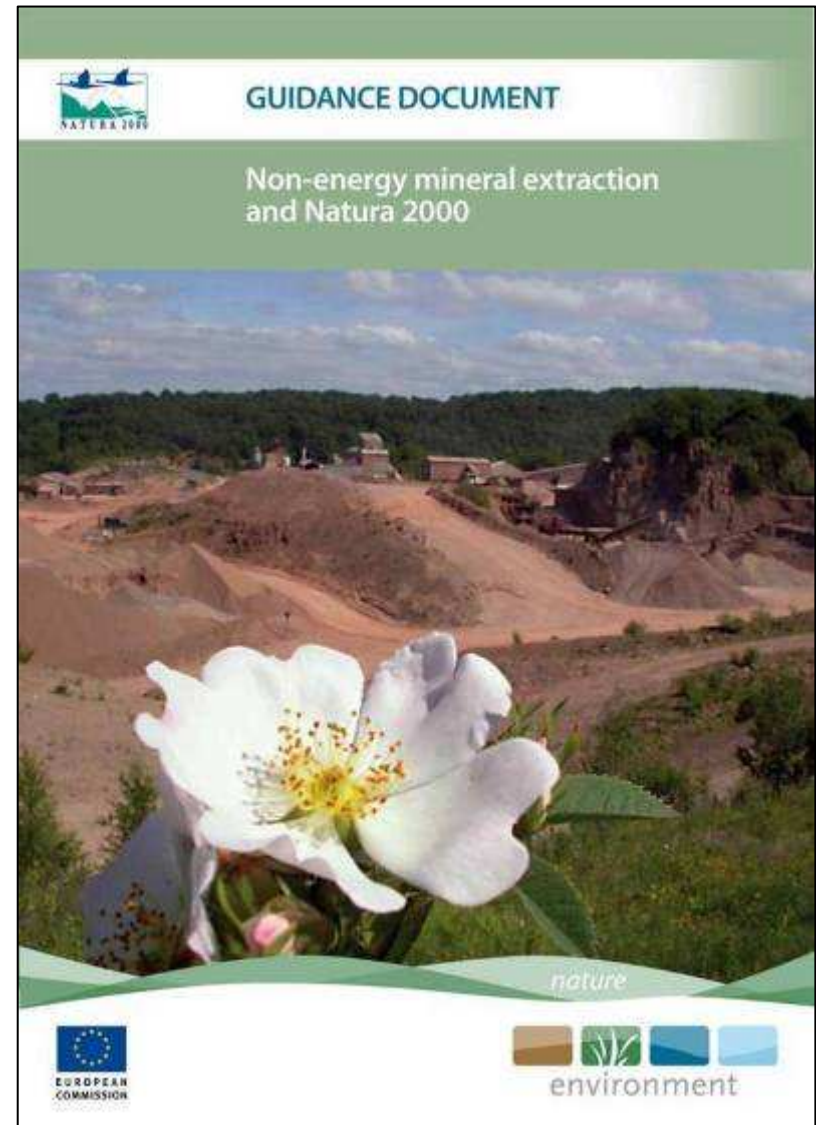
- Necessary to strengthen campaign on fostering sustainable supply within the EU – Pillar 2
- Subsidiarity principle

Contribution to Biodiversity



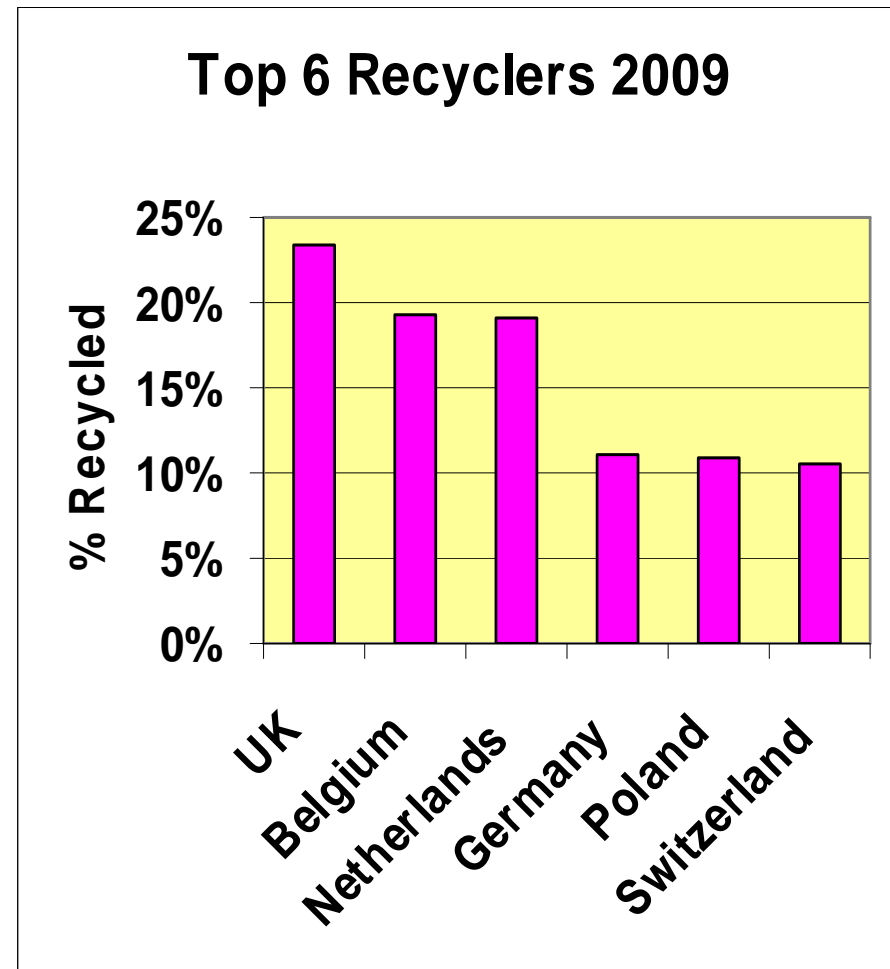
Extraction in Natura 2000

- Final version published
- Extractive Industry can indeed co-exist with Natura 2000 areas
- Furthermore, Extractive Industry can positively contribute to Biodiversity



Promoting More Recycling

- UEPG data:
 - 90% natural
 - 6% recycled
 - 2% marine
 - 2% manufactured
- UK, B, NL recycle 90% of C&D materials, that's only ~20% of total demand
- Overall 40% of C&D materials are recycled – 70% is EU target!



Way forward

- Way forward described in the new Communication focuses on commodity prices and food security
- Commission will hold regular public discussion through an annual thematic event
- Possibility of a European Raw Materials Yearbook
- Support national initiatives, e.g. Finnish Raw Materials Strategy, German Raw Materials Agency



UEPG supports EESC recommendations

- 1.9: Domestic supply among pillars of all raw material policies
- 3.7: Strong and competitive industry operating in Europe
- 3.10/3.11: Consistency/coherence with other EU policies
- 3.12: Medium and long term effects of EU policies on accessibility for basic raw materials
- 4.3.10: Compatibility of extractive activities and environmental protection

UEPG is calling for

- Good future local/regional access to aggregate resources
- Prioritised access to resources in minerals planning
- Simplified planning and permitting processes
- Recognition of the compatibility of extractive activities and environmental protection
- Removal of inappropriate barriers to Recycling



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***Thank you
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