



CII-ITC Centre of Excellence
for Sustainable Development



Confederation of Indian Industry



Executive Summary

Biodiversity Risk Assessment

Dalmia Cement

Belagavi, Sundargarh and Meghalaya Operations

Executive Summary

Dalmia Cements recognizes that healthy ecosystems and natural resources form the foundation of resilient and sustainable business operations. As part of its commitment to responsible business practices and continuous improvement, the company has undertaken a comprehensive nature and biodiversity related risk assessment aligned with the **Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)**. **This assessment also reinforces the Dalmia cement's commitment, as a member of the India Business and Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI), to achieve its aspirational goal of No Net Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services by 2040.**

The study establishes a robust baseline for identifying nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities across the Dalmia Cement's operations. The key objectives included defining the assessment boundary, identifying operations with sensitive nature interfaces, assessing nature-related risks linked to ecosystem dependencies and impacts, and developing site-specific biodiversity management plans aligned with the company's biodiversity commitments.

The assessment followed a data-driven, sectoral and site-specific approach. **A total of 15 operations were screened using operational coordinates and a 10 km influence zone** to assess their interface with protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, forest patches, wildlife corridors, water bodies, wetlands and high conservation value species. Based on this screening, three operations, located at Belgaum (Karnataka), Rajgangpur (Odisha) and East Jaintia Hills (Meghalaya) were prioritised as nature-sensitive locations for detailed assessment and management planning.

The **methodology was aligned with the TNFD LEAP approach**- Locate, Evaluate, Assess and Prepare and supported **by recognised tools and datasets including DOPA, eBird India, Google Earth Pro, Esri Land Cover Explorer, WII ENVIS, Wetlands Portal of India, the IBBI Ecosystem Service Matrix Tool and ENCORE**. This enabled a structured evaluation of dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities, while ensuring alignment with global frameworks and emerging nature-related disclosure expectations.

The assessment confirmed that no operational site is located in close proximity to Protected Areas, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserve, National Parks or Ramsar wetlands. However, the 10 km influence-zone analysis identified broader landscape-level nature interfaces, including forest ecosystems, river and groundwater systems, elephant-sensitive landscapes, Key Biodiversity Area and habitats supporting high conservation value species. These findings provide a strong basis for adopting a proactive, landscape-based biodiversity management approach.

Across the three priority locations, the most significant nature-related dependencies identified were freshwater availability, land integrity, habitat connectivity and biodiversity. These dependencies are closely linked to responsible land management, water security, ecosystem health and operational resilience. The most material physical risks were linked to freshwater availability, land modification, ecosystem and habitat connectivity pressures. The study also identified opportunities to enhance ecosystem resilience through sustainable water management, habitat restoration, wetland conservation, river catchment restoration, conservation-led land development, wildlife monitoring and community-linked conservation initiatives.

Site-specific biodiversity management plans have been developed to translate the assessment findings into practical action. These plans combine common restoration measures with targeted interventions suited to each site's landscape context, including land restoration, native species plantation, greenbelt management, invasive species management, forest and habitat restoration, wildlife monitoring, human-wildlife conflict mitigation, wetland restoration, river catchment restoration and cave/karst ecosystem conservation.

Overall, the study provides Dalmia Cement with a science-based and forward-looking roadmap to strengthen biodiversity governance, integrate nature considerations into operational planning and demonstrate leadership in responsible cement and mining operations.

Biodiversity Management Plans – Focus Areas

- Enhancing avian biodiversity through habitat enrichment and conservation initiatives.
- Developing biodiversity-rich ecological hotspots.
- Converting designated areas into biodiversity zones through native species plantations, wherever feasible.