

QUARRY LIFE AWARD

AKÇANSA CEMENT

TURKEY



OBJECTIVE

The company aims to raise awareness of the organic value of mining sites and to promote environmental education projects with focus on mining and biodiversity and to increase collaboration with external communities.

CONTEXT

Akçansa Cement, a joint venture of Sabancı Holding and HeidelbergCement, began to organize the Quarry Life Award, which was held by HeidelbergCement for the first time in 2011 in the countries where it operated, in 2014 in Turkey. Through the contest the company aims at increasing biodiversity in its quarries and enabling researchers and students to gain awareness on the issue. Students and researchers from the departments of ecology, biology, landscape architecture, environmental and mining engineering etc. of the leading Turkish universities and students studying at the level of formal education show great interest in the contest.

The projects aiming at the restoration of the areas degraded by mining activities, thus the ecological balance and sustainability, are evaluated by the juries selected among the expert representatives of the relevant Turkish governmental institutions, university professors, NGOs and industrial sustainability organizations, within the framework of the criteria of originality, applicability, environmental, social, cultural and economical effects, stakeholder participation and feasibility.

Since 2014, a total of 54 project proposals have been applied in the Quarry Life Award in which the projects entitled to the grand prize are implemented at the quarry sites and the winners are determined according to the results obtained in practice. In 2018, totally 16 projects from the high rank universities of Turkey and formal education were submitted to the contest of which the third was organized with a change in format. As a result of the jury evaluations conducted in two different categories, a total of six projects, three in the community stream and three in the research stream reached the final.

RESULT

The first place in the category of community stream was awarded to the project “A Brand New Approach to Plantation in Bozalan Clay Quarry” submitted by the Private Çakabey Schools. In addition to this success, this project was also awarded in the international competition in the category of student class project among the 23 countries. In the category of research stream, “The Biodiversity and Rehabilitation of Bozalan Clay Quarry Wetland Area Project” submitted by the Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University was granted the award.

The national ceremony was held on 18th December, 2018 at the Sabancı Museum in Istanbul.

The Quarry Life Award was awarded in Green Dot Industrial Awards organised by ÇEVKO foundation in 2015.

The Quarry Life Award, a first in the Turkish mining sector, was selected as one of the five stories inspiring of sustainability by TÜSİAD (Turkish Industry and Business Association) in 2017.



The winners of the Research Stream category



The winners of the Social Stream category

PARTNER

Business @ Biodiversity
Birdlife International

Contact: Çağlar Geven
caglar.geven@akcansa.com.tr