

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

PROTECTING ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY



GRI 304-2; 304-3; 304-4

Even though Metinvest does not operate in any protected natural areas, and its activities do not affect the habitats of species on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List or national conservation list, the Group has a number of initiatives in place to preserve biodiversity. Metinvest also engages in land restoration in its areas of activity.

Ingulets GOK participates in mining and biological restoration of old overburden dumps. In 2019, it carried out technical mining restoration at one such dump, where it was able to reclaim an area of 10.46 hectares. In addition, biological reclamation was carried out on a total area of 3.68 hectares. This mining reclamation was performed in three stages, consisting of rough surface planning, application of a fertile soil layer, and final planning. Biological reclamation involved planting 670 young trees, 25 kilogrammes of grass seeds, and approximately 30 kilogrammes of chestnuts. Overall, from 2014 to 2019, Ingulets GOK's efforts to restore disturbed lands encompassed a total area of 26.38 hectares.

In addition, Ingulets GOK undertakes voluntary commitments to support the Vizirka wildlife sanctuary, which was established in 2001 at the asset's initiative on the territory of depleted open-pit mines in Dnipropetrovsk region. The goal of the sanctuary is to protect and renew natural landscapes, as well as to enhance the biological diversity of Kryvyi Rih.

Central GOK is working to re-cultivate quarry no. 2 by covering it with overburden. In 2019, the plant deposited 11 million tonnes of waste rock into the quarry. These measures allowed to both reduce overburden storage spaces in dumps and save arable land.



LET'S SAVE THE DNIPRO RIVER TOGETHER

The Zaporizhstal JV actively participates in projects to restore and protect the Dnipro River. Each year, the asset organises the “Let’s Save the Dnipro Together⁷ project”. Since 2012, more than 8,000 local citizens have taken part, planting more than 715 trees and collecting over 124 tonnes of garbage. In addition, volunteers have released approximately 160,000 fish into the Dnipro River and set up 8,600 spawning areas, 30 floating nests and 30 bird feeders.

In spring 2019, more than 1,000 artificial gravel nests were placed in the Gulf of Otradnensky, helping the local fish population to grow more quickly. More than 27,000 juvenile grass and silver carp, known as natural river cleaners, were released into the water.

“THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME MY FRIENDS AND I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS EVENT. IT REALLY HAS BECOME A GOOD TRADITION FOR US, ALLOWING US TO MAKE OUR CITY CLEANER.”

Oleksandra Tolchina, a worker at cold-rolling shop no. 1 at the Zaporizhstal JV

⁷ Metinvest’s Green Centre initiative has supported this project since 2019.