



CSR REPORT 2019-20.

FOCUS AREA

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS



CSR REPORT

Our planet is under pressure and we feel closely involved. Our activities have a definite impact on the environment. We are therefore improving our environmental performances, step by step, out of respect for nature and our living environment. Both during the development and execution of our projects, we use our in-house experts to protect or improve ecosystems and use natural resources in a sustainable manner. Expertise, innovation and research are important lines of approach for this.

ORGANISATION

The Marine Environmental Department (MARED) is involved from the design phase up to the delivery of a project. This department makes an objective assessment of the impact of our projects on fauna, flora and ecosystems, based on monitoring campaigns before, during and after infrastructure works. The knowledge of one project forms the basis for the further development of other projects. MARED also participates in external work groups on innovative, environmentally friendly solutions.

The Project Development and Conceptual Design Department (PDCD) works on innovation every day. This department is responsible for the correct analysis of requirements, interfaces and preconditions and works closely together with experts from various disciplines. The PDCD team converts the knowledge of these experts into new ideas and innovative solutions. This is also how PDCD developed our Nature-Based Solutions: solutions tackling environmental and social challenges by having regard to the benefit of building with nature.

PROGRESS

- We have developed guidelines for protecting marine fauna.
- Together with external partners, we are working on several research projects:

Coastbusters performs research into a natural way to defend the coast against the impact of climate change. With the construction of biogenic reefs, we created new ecosystems that prevent coastal erosion. In October 2020, this project received the Blue Innovation Swell award for innovative cooperation from the Blue Cluster.

Its successor, **Coastbusters 2.0**, is working on the further development of the promising mussel reef from the first research project, 2 km off the Belgian coast.

Project United Belgian Pilot is part of a large-scale European research project that aims to use marine space as sustainably as possible. The research focuses on nature restoration and aquaculture, in combination with wind energy.

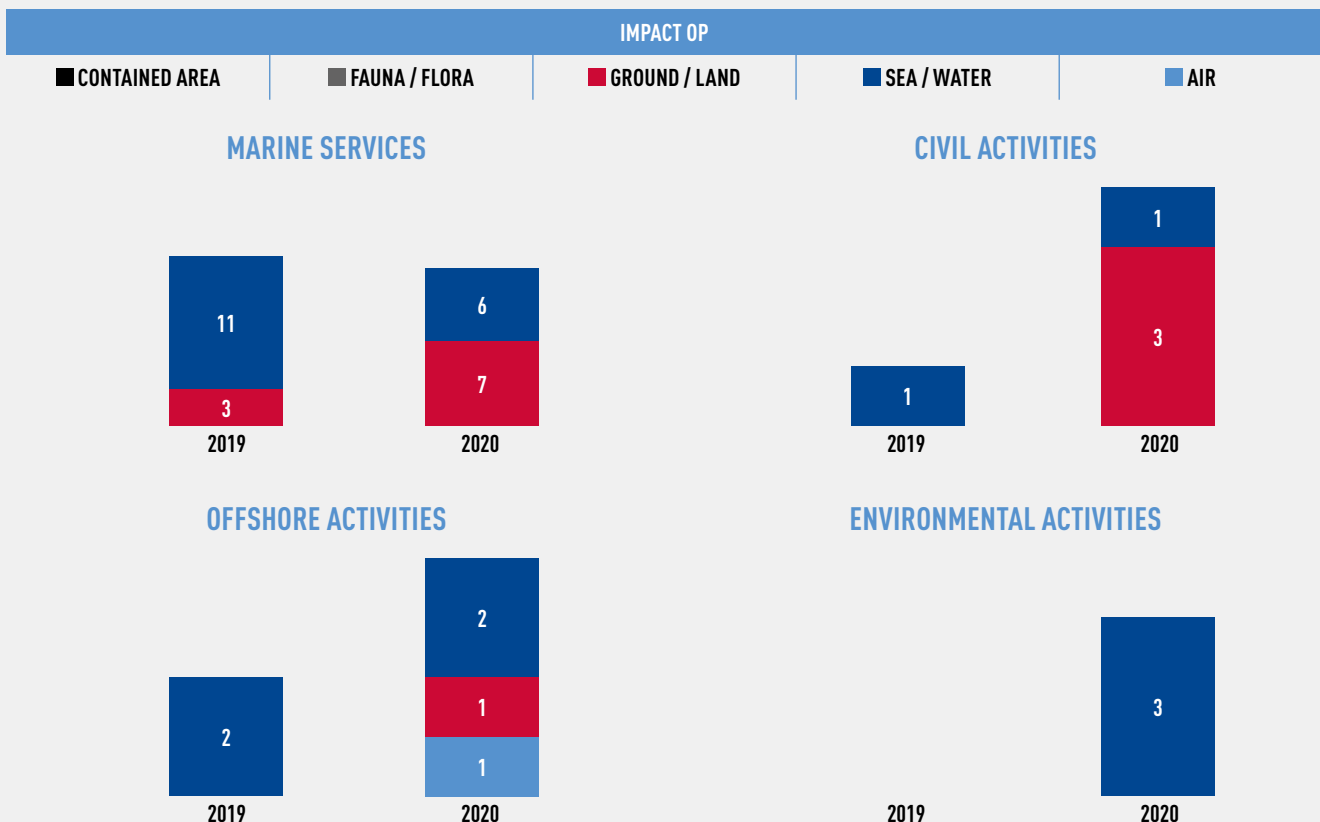
The **Tetra project** investigates bio-based materials as an alternative to conventional building materials in the civil construction sector.

Plant a million seagrasses (Plant ME) investigates the role of seagrasses for the sustainable protection of vulnerable coastal areas.

For the **RESANAT project** in Ghent, we placed innovative reactive mats in the river De Lieve, to tackle the historical pollution of soil and groundwater.

- We are working on various project-related initiatives, such as a pilot project for the reuse of drainage water on civil engineering projects; our involvement in various civil BREEAM sites; and our beach clean-up actions on various international projects.

REPORTED ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS THAT ARE RELATED TO ACTIVITIES OF JAN DE NUL GROUP



expressed in absolute figures