

Private Sector Initiative actions on adaptation

Title of case study	Sustainable and climate resilient housing
Name of organization(s)	CEMEX
Business sector	Construction and Engineering
Region(s) relevant to case study	
Country(s) relevant to case study	Mexico (CEMEX headquarters)
Adaptation sector(s) relevant to case study	Business Education and training Food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries Human health Oceans and coastal areas Science, assessment, monitoring and early warning Terrestrial ecosystems Tourism Transport, infrastructure and human settlements Water resources Other (please specify):
Adaptation activity	CEMEX was founded in Mexico in 1906, and has grown from a local player to one of the top global companies in its industry, with close to 46,500 employees worldwide. Its operations network produces, distributes, and markets cement, ready-mix concrete, aggregates, and related building materials to customers in over 50 countries, and it maintains trade relations in approximately 100 nations. CEMEX invests in research to develop products, services and operations that have mutual mitigation and adaptation benefits. This includes efforts to develop and adopt equipment that reduces both energy and water resource demand. CEMEX is also actively working to develop

	more resilient and affordable housing for low-income communities, which are often the most vulnerable to climate change. In practice, however, it is difficult to segregate mitigation and adaptation in infrastructure. When constructing a new office tower, firms consider how to improve overall energy efficiency — a mitigation-related measure — but also think about how robust the structure will need to be to endure future climate impacts — an adaptation-related measure. This even goes down to a materials level: CEMEX does extensive research into how to reduce the energy required to manufacture its cement, but also looks at how its cement can be used to help make structures more resilient to extreme weather.
Cost-benefit	CEMEX's provision of building materials aimed at both satisfying the needs of a resource-constrained society and adapting infrastructure to climate change is in response to an increased market demand for these solutions.
Case study source(s)	Adapting for a Green Economy: Companies, Communities and Climate Change (UN Global Compact) Adapting to an Uncertain Climate: A World of Commercial Opportunities (UK Trade and Investment)
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