



## Concrete Chemistry and Sustainability

Guest Editors:

### Dr. Blas Cantero

Department of Construction,  
School of Engineering,  
Universidad de Extremadura,  
Institute for Sustainable Regional  
Development (INTERRA), 1003  
Cáceres, Spain

### Dr. Jose A. Sainz-Aja

LADICIM (Laboratory of Materials  
Science and Engineering),  
Universidad de Cantabria,  
Santander, Spain

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Concrete is the most widely used building material in the world. It is a major component of infrastructures and buildings. In recent years, the construction industry has grown considerably. Today, global concrete production has reached 27 billion tonnes and cement production has reached 4.1 billion tonnes.

During the clinker manufacturing process (clinker is the main component of cement), the use of huge kilns is required. These kilns consume large amounts of energy and emit great quantities of CO<sub>2</sub>. It is estimated that for every tonne of clinker used in cement production, up to one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted to the atmosphere. Several studies cite the cement industry as being responsible for 5–7% of all global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Some of the strategies proposed to reduce pollutant emissions and the consumption of natural resources derived from the production of cement and concrete are to incorporate alternative materials in partial substitution or addition to cement and/or aggregate. These alternative materials could include agroforestry waste, bottom ash, blast furnace slag, glass dust, construction and demolition waste, etc.





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## Editor-in-Chief

### Prof. Dr. Maryam Tabrizian

1. Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, QC H3A 2B6, Canada

2. Faculty of Dentistry and Oral Health Sciences, McGill University, 3640 Rue University, Montreal, QC H3A 0C7, Canada

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Materials Editorial Office  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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