



## **Secondary use potentials of geomaterials used in construction**

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Annual extraction of geomaterials for construction from inorganic resources contribute to more than 70 % of total mineral resources production around the world. Any possibility to reduce input of materials from primary resources thus can be envisaged as acceptable contribution on how to cope with our reliance on primary mineral industries. This paper discusses possible scenarios of secondary uses of geomaterials used in construction specifically from the point of view of preservation of their key functional properties. Although having several different forms, the secondary use of materials is often identified as recycling, but in the case of geomaterials used in construction it possesses following meanings: (1) re-use of the material (i.e. finding new use to dismantled structural elements without necessity of its reprocessing); (2) recycling of the material (material from demolished structure is used as a raw material for production of a new construction material having similar functional properties as the original), (3) downcycling (secondary use of the material from demolished structure with lower functional value than was for the original).