

**International SURF Groups and Partners**  
**17<sup>th</sup> July 2012 teleconference 1pm – 2pm (BST)**

**FINAL**

**Present:**

- SuRF-UK – Jonathan Smith: Chair
- SURF-USA – Karin Holland
- SuRF-Canada – Stella Karnis
- SuRF-ANZ – Garry Smith
- SuRF-NL – Laurent Bakker
- SuRF-Italy - Claudio Albano
- NICOLE – Sarah Mackay/Lucy Wiltshire
- SuRF-China – Menfang Chen
- Secretariat – Nicola Harries, CL:AIRE

**Apologies:**

SuRF-Italy - Alessandro Battaglia

SuRF-NL – Hans Slenders

SuRF-Brazil - Sander Eskes

**AGENDA**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic/Desired Outcome</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Welcome and objectives</li><li>■ Reiterate focus and desired outcomes</li><li>■ Based on the diversity of languages, ask participants to speak slowly and clearly</li><li>■ Agree agenda</li></ul>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Participant's role within SURF/partnering organization</li><li>■ Current key initiatives that their group is working on</li><li>■ What is your SuRF organization currently doing that others could benefit from?</li><li>■ What could be the most valuable initial initiative that different groups could collaborate on:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Informal contact and discussion?</li><li>■ A joint technical initiative?</li><li>■ An international meetings/webinar(s)?</li><li>■ A joint incentive program for students?</li><li>■ Other?</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Brainstorm on ideas provided by participants during their introduction:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Revisit popular ideas and explore these further</li></ul>

**Item****Topic/Desired Outcome**

- Discuss the value these ideas would provide to the remediation industry

**4. Next Steps**

- Agree preferred times for future calls;
- Collate contact information for all attendees;
- What should the group work on between now and the next quarterly meeting to make progress on the ideas identified during the brainstorming session?
- How should the group maintain regular communication with each other in between calls? Via emails? Via SharePoint? Through calls between subgroups?
- Determine roles and responsibilities and schedules

**5. Any Other Business**

- New ISO Standard on Sustainable Remediation
- Sustainable Remediation events

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Jonathan Smith (JS) welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for making the time to join the call. He explained the purpose of the call was to enable everyone who is working on sustainable remediation to learn from each other and to share the learning outcomes. This will hopefully drive consistency of approach between the different forums and lead to collaboration.</p> <p>JS asked as a way of introduction that everyone introduce themselves, the forums that they were representing, the key initiatives that they are working on and what they felt could the different groups benefit from collaboration on.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p>As chair JS started.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-UK</u></b></p> <p>JS explained that he works for Shell Global Solutions and is the Chair of SuRF-UK. SuRF-UK was established in 2007, as a small steering group which includes consultants, academics, problem holders and regulator. To date SuRF-UK has published a framework in 2010 which is aligned to UK legislation but is generic enough that other jurisdictions could adapt it. It has also produced two further indicator reports, one providing a review of sustainability indicators across a number of different industries that could have applicability to redevelopment (2009) and the most recent indicator report which is an annex to the framework which developed 15 headline indicators to be used in sustainable remediation assessment published in 2011. SuRF-UK is about to embark on Phase 3 of its work, which includes the publication of a series of case studies using the framework, developing guidance for assessors to help them undertake simple qualitative assessments and</p>	

develop guidance on generic best management practices that can be applied to remediation projects. These will be undertaken alongside stakeholder workshops to ensure engagement with the whole of the industry. Also as part of Phase 3, Shell and National Grid are supporting a number of MSc projects. This phase of work is for one year. All SuRF-UK information can be found at [www.claire.co.uk/surfuk](http://www.claire.co.uk/surfuk). CL:AIRE perform the secretariat duties for SuRF-UK. JS feels that the most useful collaborative work would be to identify opportunities to present at joint workshops and conferences and perhaps undertake joint training.

### **SURF-US**

Karin Holland (KH) explained that she works for Hayley and Aldrich and is the current President of SURF- US. KH explained that SURF-US was established in 2006, they had published a white paper in 2009 and a framework, a metrics toolbox and a life cycle assessment guidance paper in 2011. Their new technical initiatives include preparing a paper considering the integration of sustainable remediation and redevelopment , developing a sustainable remediation resource index, exploring the need for a sustainable remediation rating system and guidance on water re-use. The communications and outreach committee are looking to expand the membership and form relationships with other organisations and the academic committee is working with institutions and students. The next SURF meeting will be SURF 20 at Colorado State University. All information can be found at: [www.sustainableremediation.org](http://www.sustainableremediation.org)

KH feels that it would be most useful to work collaboratively on an international level such as the new proposed International Standard (ISO).

### **SURF-CANADA**

Stella Karnis (SK) explained that she works for CN Rail. SURF-Canada has recently formed and they have been established for one year. She has previously been involved in SURF-US. SURF-Canada is predominantly consultants and private industry and regulators at a federal level not provincial level.

To date SURF-Canada provided input to Environment Canada and Public Works Canada on a sustainable remediation strategy to be used in the management of contaminated Federal Facilities. SURF-Canada is developing a document outlining the context of sustainability remediation across Canadian environments and how this may be encouraged within the regulatory system.

SK is keen to develop closer working relationships with international initiatives and to develop further collaborations in all areas.

### **SURF-ANZ**

Garry Smith (GS) explained that he works for AECOM. SURF-ANZ was formed in 2009 as SURF- Australia but recently rebranded to SURF- ANZ to include Australia and New Zealand when they became a formal entity in March 2012. Garry is Chair of SuRF ANZ which currently has a voluntary membership of some 300. The Forum is hosted by the Australasian Land and Groundwater Association website. They were originally supported by CRC-Care. Their mandate includes staying in contact with international SuRF groups and sharing information where

possible. They are currently working on framework finalisation, tools, metrics (although those available are predominantly in imperial units). Further information is provided at [www.surfanz.com.au](http://www.surfanz.com.au)

SURF-ANZ is keen to be engaged in the activities of the wider SURF global network and to share knowledge and expertise.

### **SURF-Netherlands**

Laurent Bakker (LB) explained that he works for TAUW. He helps coordinate SURF-Netherlands with Hans Slenders of Arcadis. SURF-Netherlands has been established for 1 year. It is predominantly made up of consultants and they are expanding to local authorities. Their scope is broader than sustainable remediation, they are promoting sustainable soil management. They produced a White Paper in 2010 setting out their main objectives of setting up a group and writing documents. They have 3 workshops planned to promote SURF-Netherlands. They are currently writing up a series of case studies and have plans to make presentations at national conferences to raise the awareness of the work of SURF-Netherlands.

SURF-Netherlands feels it is key to present case studies to provide examples to non specialists. Keen to share case studies and learn from other more established networks.

### **SURF – ITALY**

Alessandro Battaglia (AECOM Italy) and Claudio Albano (CH2M HILL) are currently acting as technical supports of the voluntary and still informal working group which includes, in addition to CH2MHILL and AECOM Italy, also ENI-Syndial, Carus Corporation, Remtech, Unione Petrolifera Italiana (Italian Petroleum Association). Representatives from these organizations have formed a steering committee that is organizing a SuRF workshop day at the Remtech Expo and Exhibit (September 2012) and, following this event, planning the formal establishment of SuRF-Italy.

Current key initiatives that their group is working on include:

- 1) Informal meetings aimed at group enlargement and planning of public activities
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainable Remediation Workshop for National O&G Industries Association (Unione Petrolifera) as part of technical training event for the members on June 28 2012
- 3) Attendance to the present International SuRF appointment and support to next initiatives
- 4) Organization of large SuRF event at the next Remtech Exhibition in Ferrara (Italy) on September 20, 2012  
([http://www.remtechexpo.com/index.php?view=details&id=162:giornata-surf-trend-globali-per-la-qgreen-remediationq-e-il-risanamento-sostenibile-esperienze-da-us&option=com\\_eventlist&Itemid=191&lang=en](http://www.remtechexpo.com/index.php?view=details&id=162:giornata-surf-trend-globali-per-la-qgreen-remediationq-e-il-risanamento-sostenibile-esperienze-da-us&option=com_eventlist&Itemid=191&lang=en))
- 5) Preparation of a questionnaire to be announced at the SuRF Day at Remtech to attendants (industry, consultants, public bodies, public) for baseline understanding of sustainable remediation status in Italy and opportunities for developing an Italy Forum
- 6) Preparation of brochure to be distributed at the Remtech Expo

SURF-Italy welcomes interaction with other established SURF initiatives as they establish themselves. They feel that contacts with established SURFs could be useful to share information regarding the

main issues faced by them during the early phases of formation of the organization.

They feel it would be useful to develop a common framework that can be useful for different country SuRFs and broadly applicable across different national regulatory frameworks; development of common Best Management Practice libraries, guidelines on LCA; guidelines on Decision Making; guidelines on SuRF launch and stakeholders engagement (especially regulators).

They would also welcome more international meetings/webinars as is happening in Vienna 2012.

### **NICOLE**

Sarah Mackay from WSP and Lucy Wiltshire from Honeywell co chair the Sustainable Remediation Working Group in NICOLE, which is a European Network of service providers, problem owners and academic organisations. The working group was established in 2008 with the main output being a Road Map in 2010 which is independent of country specific legislation. The working group has recently published in 2012 three further publications on - Integrating Risk Assessment and Sustainable Remediation; Economics and Tools and Sustainable Remediation Indicators.

The working group is now gathering together and documenting how sustainable remediation principles are viewed across Europe and they are working with the Common Forum on a Joint Position Statement on Sustainable Remediation. They will be also be participating in the Sustainable Remediation Conference in Vienna.

All information is available on [www.nicole.org](http://www.nicole.org)

### **SURF-China**

Menfang Chen (MC) works for the Institute of Soil Science - Chinese Academy of Sciences. He confirmed that SURF-China is not yet established but he is introducing sustainable remediation concepts. The market in China is massive and currently there is no risk based framework to work with. MC is setting up a Chinese Soil and Groundwater Network and is seeking support from established networks such as NICOLE and CL:AIRE. It is really important that the Ministry of Environmental Protection introduces a risk based approach when dealing with contaminated land so sustainable remediation can be embedded. China has a lot to learn from others and they need to collaborate. MC is currently organising a 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference SOILREM and SITEREM in September where Paul Bardos – will be presenting the SuRF-UK concepts for the first time in China.

### **CL:AIRE**

Nicola Harries explained that she works for CL:AIRE and she would be performing the secretariat duties for the group. This is a continuation of the duties that she currently performs for SuRF-UK.

3.	<p><b>Brainstorm on ideas provided by participants during their introductions</b></p> <p>It was agreed that from the introductions of the different networks that there was a consensus that a regular telephone call between the different networks was popular. It also showed that there is already some considerable collaboration between some of the networks through conference, workshops and webinar presentations.</p> <p>It was welcome that there was the ISO being developed. It was felt that a greater educational role could be played by the SURF networks to ensure a greater uptake of sustainable remediation principles occurs across the globe.</p> <p>Perhaps an extension of sustainable remediation practices into urban renewal and brownfield remediation which would help influence other agendas. Need wider engagement with city planners to ensure that land is used better.</p> <p>It was agreed that case studies are a good practical help to extend sustainable remediation practices.</p> <p>The proposed new ISO on Sustainable Remediation needs to be extremely flexible otherwise it could become a hurdle as people's thinking develops with time.</p> <p>To improve education, it was felt that webinars are a great tool that should be used more as there is a great opportunity to reach out to many more people than attend conferences. This was reiterated by SURF-UK who had in excess of 200 people join one of their webinars, many more than a conference and many of these were regulators who have restrictions of travel.</p> <p>This is seen as something that could also be used in emerging regulatory systems such as China where there is a big market to educate. Webinars are seen as positive in places such as China however you do need a government that has bought into the concept. At present people in China need to understand the connections to risk based approach first.</p> <p>MC suggested that SURF run some simple workshops in China first to key scientists. He has already instigated a special session on SuRF-UK framework in September 2012 conference as a way of introducing the concepts of sustainable remediation.</p> <p>SURF-Italy is also running a similar event in Italy at the same time to try and effectively engage with stakeholders. The aim is similar, to try and introduce sustainable remediation to the regulators and to change the culture in Italy of the regulator.</p> <p>In summary – It was felt that there are four areas that need to be explored further by the SURF Networks on the next call.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Training/Webinars/Seminars</li> <li>2. Regulatory Advocacy – Stakeholder Engagement</li> </ol>	

	<p>3. Different Governance Models</p> <p>4. Conferences/Papers – collaboration</p> <p>5.</p>	
4	<p><b>Next Steps</b></p> <p><b><u>Preferred Times for Future Calls</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that calls should be quarterly (every three months) with a rotating chair for each call associated with the main relevant time zone. With the geographical spread of the different SURF networks it was proposed the following times zones would be used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Europe/America</li> <li>2. Far East/Europe</li> <li>3. Asia/America</li> </ol> <p>The next call will be for the Far East/Europe zone with the chair either SURF-ANZ (Garry Smith) or SURF-China (Menfang Chen). It will be up to those regions to decide on the chair and inform NH and their preferred time of call.</p> <p>It will also be up to the chair of that call to decide on the main topic of discussion with each network also giving a brief update on their work and what is key for others to know about. The chairs to co-ordinate with NH who will circulate times of call and agendas.</p> <p>NH will prepare a schedule of chairs, with dates and suitable times and circulate once she has received volunteers from all the regions.</p> <p><b><u>Contact Information</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that NH would collate contact information for all the networks and circulate for information.</p> <p><b><u>How to maintain regular communication between calls</u></b></p> <p>Different SURF Networks use different mechanisms to keep in touch with their subscribers. Some use LINKED-IN Groups which are open and closed systems.</p> <p>NH to investigate different systems and report back.</p>	<p>Garry Smith/Menfang Chen</p> <p>NH</p> <p>NH</p> <p>NH</p> <p>NH</p>
5.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ New ISO Standard on Sustainable Remediation It is understood that the ISO on Sustainable Remediation outline proposal has been approved by the British Standards Institute and is being submitted to ISO for consideration in September 2012.</li> <li>■ Sustainable Remediation Events It was requested that all notify NH with events that are being organised in their regions on Sustainable Remediation in the next 3-9 months, so that NH can circulate to all and then there may be opportunities to collaborate.</li> </ul> <p>GS asked what was happening regarding the joint workshop that is being organised for the Sustainable Remediation Conference in Vienna.</p>	

	NH agreed to find out and report back.  With no further business JS thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.	NH
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